

14.5.21

Grange First Weekly News



Dear families

I need to start this week's newsletter with an update on COVID. Things are definitely getting better and rates have dropped considerably in Newcastle. Unfortunately, the guidance for primary and first schools hasn't really changed so we are continuing with current procedures until half term when we will review them again. There have been a number of cases in Newcastle schools over the last couple of weeks and classes have been sent home. If you or any of your family develops any of the symptoms, then we still need you to get tested. This is the only way to stay on top of the virus and to stop the number of cases rising.

On a brighter note, I have had a wonderful week visiting classes to find out more about the work your children are doing in English and maths. In Maple Class, I was blown away by some talented mathematicians whose ability to manipulate and add amounts of money together mentally was tremendous! In Elm Class, they were describing a jungle setting using a short video of 'The Jungle Book' to inspire them. Michael wrote: *Thump! Mowgli landed on the cool forest floor. In the trees, colourful birds sang loudly. Overhead, twisted trees jostled.*



I also visited Year 1 to find out about their wonderful story writing skills. They are working hard to innovate their own story based on Not Now Bernard! by David McKee. I hope the Monster doesn't end up eating Miss Tutt or Mrs Stubbs! When they were reading their stories to me, their fluency and expression was fabulous although I did find their cross voices a bit scary!

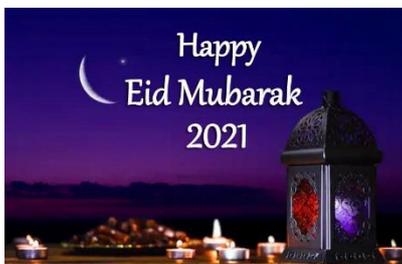
Year 2 interviewed me this week about being a leader- it felt like my Headship interview all over again! I might employ them to write the questions for the teacher interviews we have coming up after the half term holiday!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS TEDDY IS?

I left my office to be interviewed by Year 2 yesterday and when I returned, this is what I found..... a giant teddy bear was sitting in **my** chair, using **my** computer, reading **my** emails! What a cheek! He then caused chaos in the PPA Room. I've told him he is too big to live at Grange anymore so now he's decided to rampage around the school causing havoc! If you see him, please let me know immediately.



Happy Eid!



Many of our families have celebrated Eid this week. We hope you have all had a wonderful time breaking your fast and sharing this special time with your family and friends.

Gosforth Central Middle School

I have had a few emails and conversations with Year 3 and 4 parents about wrap around care at GCMS. I have spoken to the acting Head, Mrs Smith this week. She totally understands how important this is for parents and is working really hard to find a provider. I will keep you informed of any updates I receive.

Mrs Usher met our Year 4 children on Thursday and had a meeting with Mr Carr and Miss Johnson. She was very impressed with the behaviour and friendliness of our pupils- well done Year 4!

Child care during May half term and the summer holidays

Chill Out will be open during half term and for 4 weeks in the summer holiday. Please contact Naomi if you would like to book a place.

Lee Sterry is running multisport camps and football camps during the half term and summer holiday.

Multisports will be at Cochrane Park. All sports: Tennis football, archery, mini golf, dodgeball, kiwi cricket, circuits ball games, rounders and lots more fun multisports games.

Football is at Gosforth Academy: Fun games and skills, competitions individual player technique development. Small sided mini soccer games- strong emphasis will be based on fun and enjoyment and player understanding. All bookings to be made on www.ls-sc.co.uk

Governor Elections

Please remember to return your ballot slips to the school office by Tuesday 18th May.

Attendance

Last week, Oak, Maple and Willow classes achieved 100% attendance. Well done!

Art Competition

Over 100 children have taken part in the PTFA competition to create a picture for my office. We have really enjoyed looking at them all as they have appeared on the display in the hall. Today is the deadline so judging will begin in earnest next week. The winners will be announced next Friday!



PTFA



CALLING ALL BOOK LOVERS!

Do you have some unwanted children's books? Is your child's bedroom in need of a sort out?!

The PTFA are organising a fundraising book sale which will take place in individual classrooms during school hours on **FRIDAY 28th MAY 2021.**

Children will be given the opportunity to choose one book from the sale, for a donation of any amount - a reminder to bring money on the day will be sent closer to the time.

The aim of the sale is to raise funds for the PTFA to put towards resources in school, and to encourage children to find a new book that they love.

To enable this event to go ahead we need lots of books!

Could you please bring in your good quality children's book donations during the week of 14th-21st May. Books can be handed in at the school office.

All books will be quarantined for at least 48 hours prior to the sale.

Many thanks for your help with this.

Grange Frist School PTFA Team