



Grange First School.
Norham Road, Gosforth.
Newcastle upon Tyne. NE3 2NP
Tel: 0191 2852954

Email: admin@grange.newcastle.sch.uk
www.grange.newcastle.sch.uk

@grange_first 

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Dear families

I would like to start by reassuring you that this week's newsletter won't be 3 pages long! Thank you for taking the time to read it last week. Some families did contact me to relinquish their child's place in school or to reduce the number of days they attended. However, the numbers are still high and I am receiving further requests for places where **both parents are critical workers**. I am therefore moving to requesting additional information from all parents with children currently attending school.

School Website

We have reviewed our school risk assessment and this is now on the school website under the 'COVID Information' tab. Last term, we worked with Julian Hughes from Gem Education to produce a video and virtual tour of Grange First School. This will be uploaded on to our website later today but here is a link if you can't wait! Annie and Zak will show you around Grange.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJxiY5pd_Q0&feature=youtu.be

Home Learning

Thank you for everything you are doing at home. Do your best but if learning becomes stressful, take a break. We need to be safe from the virus but we also need to be emotionally healthy.

I am trying to spend some time every day looking at the work being produced by our staff and children on Tapestry and Seesaw. The children have certainly impressed me with their work so far. The staff are working incredibly hard to produce work for our children at home and school; I hope the children are enjoying the daily videos and that they are helping to engage them in their learning. Please drop me an email to let me know of anything that is working particularly well or if there any issues.

If you are struggling with home learning because you don't have devices to view and upload the work, please contact the school office by phone or email as we may be able to help. Most of the work we set, doesn't require you to have a printer at home as you can write or type directly onto the Seesaw App. However, if you would like a pack of maths and English work printing out each week, please contact the school office.



School Learning

The children in school have adapted very quickly to the new routines, the classes they are working in and the rotation of teachers. It is great to see everyone working so hard and I am beginning to learn names and to get to know them. We have had some very wet, slushy weather this term. Please make sure your child comes to



school in appropriate footwear; wellies or boots for rain and snow, and school shoes for drier days. If your child has grown out of their school shoes, they are allowed to wear trainers during lockdown. Velcro trainers are the best if your child can't tie their own laces. Our staff are trying to maintain a 2m distance whenever possible and it's impossible to do this if they have to tie laces throughout the day. P.E. lessons will be starting again next week either in the school hall or outside; most of these will be in the hall during January and February as it is just too cold to be out. Children should come to school in their PE kits (Grange blue PE t-shirt, dark coloured leggings/joggers and their school sweatshirt) on the following days:

Monday: Reception

Tuesday: Year 2

Wednesday: Year 1 and Nursery (nursery don't need to wear PE kit but might want to come to school in their trainers on a Wednesday)

Friday: Year 3 and Year 4

Clothes

If you need any support to provide clothes for your children, please contact Dan Tolan on 07400898698 or the school office.

We need spare clothes in school in case children have accidents. Currently, we require school trousers, underwear, socks and tights. If you have any donations, please send them in to school.

Healthy Snack

Just a quick reminder that during lockdown, children in school can bring a piece of fruit or a healthy cereal bar (NO NUTS) to eat as a morning snack.

Friday Challenge!

I have recorded a video message for everyone in school which includes a Friday Challenge. I have loaded it on to Tapestry for our younger children and it is on Seesaw as an 'announcement'. Please send photos for the challenge to Tapestry, Seesaw or to my email address: clare.clougher@grange.newcastle.sch.uk



Have a good weekend everyone. If we all stay safe and stay at home whenever possible, we will get through this quicker. I can't wait to have a full school.

Mrs Clougher

