

Welcome to...Grange Federation Newsletter
Edition 48 : 21 March
2016

"Being the best I can be, learning together,
thinking for myself"

www.grangefederation.co.uk

Dear Parents, Friends and the Community of Grange Federation

It has certainly been very busy since my last Newsletter, especially at the Junior School! As you can imagine it was quite an intense few days when Ofsted visited us, and as always our children were a credit to us all. Thank you to all who took the time to feedback to Ofsted either on the playground or via the parent questionnaire. We now await the final report which will of course be shared with you all.

Children from the Junior School took part in the Junior Music Festival at the Oasis on Thursday 17th March. The children once again thoroughly enjoyed the festival experience, which was well attended. Our thanks to Mrs Leat and Mrs Martin who spent so much time practising with the children. Our grateful thanks also to the volunteers who helped chaperone the children at the venue.

Junior School Kitchen Update: Building works to upgrade the kitchen at the Junior School from a receiving kitchen to a fully operational kitchen continue to make good progress. Floor, wall, electrical and drainage works have all be successfully undertaken and works are on schedule for the major fitting to be carried out through the Easter Holidays. Thank you for your patience and support during this interim period.

Work to re-roof the kitchen is due to start this week (beginning 21st March). THERE WILL BE STRICTLY NO ACCESS through the car park main or side gate. This is to comply with Health & Safety regulations. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sport Relief

A huge thank you to everyone who supported 'Sport Relief' at the Junior School. By wearing a fabulous array of sportswear we raised £316.00. The children took part in a variety of different sporting activities throughout the day, including football on the 4G pitch at Grange Leisure. Fun was had by all.

Sports for Champions

Also a huge thank you to everyone who supported 'Sports for Champions' at the Infants School. The children really enjoyed the assembly led by Harry Owen, a GB International gymnast and we managed to raise over £1200, which we are going to spend on active play equipment for the children.

Sports for Champions also received a percentage of the sponsorship money which goes towards helping young, unsponsored GB athletes.

As a Federation, we are thinking of moving towards a cashless school office and giving parents the facility to be able to make payments for school dinners, visits and residential trips on-line, using a debit or credit card. We are still very much at a consultation stage and would appreciate your feedback and comments on the proposal.

Please write or e-mail office@grangefederation.org.uk
We value your opinion and look forward to your comments.

The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations!

To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday on 21st April 2016, the community centre is hosting a tea party. They would like to invite any 90 year old (or older) residents of the community along to join the celebrations.

If you know of any community residents who are aged 90 or above, who you think may be interested, please contact Stratton Leisure on 01793 825525.

Parking at the Leisure Centre

We have been contacted by Stratton Leisure to remind parents of the need for considerate car parking when using the leisure centre car park at the beginning and end of the school day. Some parents have been using the disabled parking bays, which causes a great deal of inconvenience for those with a genuine disability wishing to use the centre. There have also been issues with parking along the access road.

We have been informed that the centre will be shortly undertaking a Parking Management Strategy, which may make the recommendation to pay for parking at the centre in the future.

I know it is a small minority of parents who park without thought for the safety of others, but please do not use the parking bays marked for disabled persons unless you are a blue badge holder.

Please park with safety and consideration for others or we may lose the privilege of being able to use the centre car park.

Similarly I have dealt with a number of complaints from residents in the immediate vicinity of both of our schools, about inconsiderate parking. If you drive a car to pick your children up or drop them off, give consideration to local residents who need to be able to access their homes at all times.

Re-surfacing work at Leisure Centre Car Park

Please be aware that work to re-surface the Leisure Centre car park will shortly be undertaken. It is hoped that the work will take place during the school holidays. I will endeavour to keep you updated.

School Library

Please remember the Junior school Library is open before and after school and you are most welcome to accompany your children to help choose and re-new library books. If there are any titles we don't have that you would like to see in the Library, please let our librarians know.



Diary Dates

Thursday 24th March

Easter Celebrations -themed school lunch.

Thursday 24th March

End of term. The Infants School closes at 3pm and the Junior School closes at 3:20pm as usual.

Monday 25th April

School dinner themed day at the Infants and Junior school to celebrate St George's Day.

Monday 25th April & Thursday 28th April

EYFS 'Make a Noise' concerts 2pm

More information to follow.

Monday 11 April 2016

Term 4 begins.

School opens 8:30am (Infants), 8:45am (Juniors)

Thursday 14th April

Year 3 Swimming lessons start for 10 consecutive weeks.

Saturday 14th May

Summer Fayre

FOGS NEWS

Mother's Day and Junior School Disco

The last couple of weeks have been busy for the FOGS group. They have had a huge success running both the Mother's Day keyring activity and Junior School disco. Both were very well attended. We have received great feedback from the children, teachers and parents. And the effort was worthwhile having raised £377 and £745 respectively. Thanks to all those who were involved in these great events.



May Fayre

Please join us at our annual May Fayre event on 14th May from 11am – 2 pm at the Infants School. This years' event is set to be a great day, with plenty of fun activities including Jumping J's bouncy castle, gladiator duel, face painting, raffle, talent show, brass band and much more for the whole family to enjoy. We have ordered the sunshine so please save the date for 14th May.

FOGS Facebook Competition

We want to reach 700 likes!! Simply like and share our page from now until 11 April to be in with a chance of winning a superb prize! Details revealed on the page and winners will be announced at the May Fayre. Just search 'Friends of Grange Schools' – FOGS to find it

If you would like to find out more about how you can be involved in the great work that the FOGS' committee does, then please contact Lynda Gillingham on gillinghamlynda@gmail.com

We always like to celebrate our children's achievements, including those out of school. If you would like your child to be considered for inclusion in a newsletter for an achievement such as a sports award or learning a new skill, please email Miss Wilson at ewilson@grangefederation.org.uk for Infant children and Mr Russell at drussell@grangefederation.org.uk for Junior children. Where appropriate, we will try to include a mention in the next newsletter!

Amazing pupil achievements

Erin Parker (5L)

Erin has been swimming for Swindon Dolphins for nearly 5 years. She trains very hard swimming nearly 25 miles every week in training. Last weekend she went to Cardiff International Pool for the Tiger Bay swim meet and in the four races she was in she won two gold and two bronze medals and got four personal best times.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and relaxing Easter and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Best wishes

Louise Seavill and the Grange Team