

Welcome to...Grange Federation Newsletter

Édition 51 21st July 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

Dear Parents

As we draw to the end of another academic year, I cannot believe how quickly this year has passed. It has indeed been an eventful year with change and consolidation across the Federation. Our children have all worked really hard and I am proud of their achievements both in and out of school.

This is a time of change during the school year. We say goodbye to children in Year 6 who move on to their new secondary schools. This year our children will be moving to no less than eight different schools! We wish everyone one of them success and happiness in their new school.

Children in Year 2 will leave the Infant School and join our team at the Junior school, moving to the next stage in their education perhaps gaining a little more independence and increasing their confidence on their journey to becoming successful adults.

We say goodbye to Mrs Hamilton, who will be retiring from Grange following 14 years working at our school. We wish her a long and happy retirement with her family.

Mrs Miller our SENCo/Pupil Manager will be sadly missed as she takes up a new post at Orchid Vale Primary School. We wish her every success in her new role.

The Infant school will be saying a sad goodbye to Miss Charnock and Mrs Staines, both will be taking new teaching posts in September.

Mrs Constable also leaves at the end of this academic year as she begins her maternity leave. We wish her every happiness and look forward to seeing her new addition in the Autumn Term.

May I extend grateful thanks from us all, for their hard work and contributions towards the success of our school. They will be missed by staff and pupils alike.

I should also like to say a huge thank you to you all for your support throughout the year – I strongly believe the very best education comes from a partnership of schools and parents working together. Your help and support is very much appreciated.

Thank you also to my staff, governors and volunteers all of whom have played their part in helping to move our schools forward in the delivery of a broad and balanced education for all the children in our community.

We look forward to welcoming new our two new Heads of School in September, Mrs Louise Dance, at the Infant School and Mrs Tracy Knight at the Junior School.

Enjoy the Summer Holidays! Rest, relax, re-charge and stay-safe ready to start a new school year in September.

Year 6 Football team

We would like to say a big well done to the Year 6 football team for all of their hard work this season. All 14 of them represented the school excellently, both on and off the field. The team went on a fantastic cup run beating numerous schools before losing to the eventual winners Lawn in the semi-finals. Their league form was even better though as the boys were crowned East League champions and finished unbeaten all season. Well done again to all involved!

Car-parking in the community

Could we again ask parents to park safely and with consideration for other road users, pedestrians and residents of our community who live near to our schools.

We have received a number of complaints from residents regarding parking at the end of the school day. The local PCSO, SBC traffic enforcement officer and parish council have been informed.

Please help us to be a good neighbour.

New Healthy Schools Award

After much hard work we have now been awarded the Bronze Healthy Schools Award at both schools. Congratulations to all the staff and children. We are now going for silver!!



ON-LINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

As you will be aware, from September School Meals will be able to be booked and paid for through "School Money", along with any school trips or after school clubs. You should shortly receive a text with details of the link to the school money site and a password to enable you to log onto the system. It is very important that mobile telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are kept up to date on your child's record. Please notify the relevant school office with any details of change or update.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant school office who will be able to assist you with your enquiry.



'Creative Play' development

Work is continuing at great speed in the construction of the outside play equipment at the Junior School. The development has been made possible through the fabulous fundraising efforts of our FOGS team led by Linda Gillingham. Plans for the finished project have been displayed in the Junior School Foyer. From September our children will have use of this fantastic resource. When children play they are:

- Building friendships
- Developing physical skills
- Problem solving
- Enhancing self esteem
- Having fun
- Getting fresh air and exercise

Our grateful thanks to the FOGS Committee and to you for your generous support of their fundraising events.

Tag rugby competition - 13th July

27 children from Years 3, 4 and 5 represented our school in the Supermarine Tag Rugby tournament against numerous other schools across Swindon. Our Year 3's and 4's both narrowly missed out on the final while our Year 5's gave a great account of themselves against some strong and organised opposition. All three teams should be extremely proud of their efforts as many of the children were only beginners and had not played before! Our Tag Rugby club will continue in September and we hope that more people will be interested in joining. Thanks to all the parents for their support and we hope to organise more fixtures and tournaments in the future. If any children would like to join a weekend rugby club, we will soon be sending out some fliers for Supermarine, so please look out for those.

Aladdin – Year 6 'trod the boards' last week with two fabulous performances of their production of 'Aladdin'. The cast raised the roof with rousing renditions from the score including 'You ain't never had a friend like me' and 'A whole new world'.

Many thanks to parents who once again pulled out all the stops supplying amazing costumes to compliment outstanding performances. Thanks also to the myriad of volunteers who helped with scenery and stage make-up.

Well done to Mr Williams and the Year 6 Team who worked so tirelessly to make the show such a success. Every year just seems to get better and better!



Year 2 Leavers Concert

Wow! The Year 2 children performed a fun filled concert on Monday 18th July. The singing was amazing and it looked like they were really enjoying themselves. A huge thank you to all the parents and friends who came to support them. We wish them well as they move onto their chosen Junior Schools.

Well done to the whole Year 2 Team!

KS 2 & EYFS Sports Days

Thank you to everyone who came along to either our Early Years Foundation Stage or Junior Sports Days. Despite the weather on both days they were really enjoyable events and the children did brilliantly. The winners for the Junior events

were:

1st place – Blue Team

2nd place – Red Team

3rd place – Green place

Hopefully Sports Day for Years 1 & 2 will take place on Thursday 21st July.

PENCIL CASES IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

We are finding an ever increasing range of gigantic pencil cases being brought into school- we are running out of room on our tables! To avoid problems in the future, from September, we have decided to provide all children with the pens and pencils they need. Pencil cases will no longer need to be provided.

TD Days 2016-2017

Thursday 1st September 2016

Friday 2nd September 2016

Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Monday 5th June 2017

Tuesday 6th June 2017

QUAD KIDS CHALLENGE
County Final Championships

On Wednesday 6th July 2016, 10 Year 6 pupils: Lucas, Ben, Ethan, Sam, Ollie, Sophie, Amy, Lily, Grace and Daniella took part in the Quad Kids County Final Championships. They had to compete in 4 events: a standing long jump, a 600m run, a vortex howler throw and a 75m sprint. All children demonstrated a positive attitude, great team work and achieved an amazing joint first place with Shaw Ridge. What a fantastic achievement! Well done Grange!!

Homework

Thank you for all of your responses to our online homework survey. Details of the new homework, and how to complete it, will be provided in the first week back in September. A sneak preview of our new homework activities for Term 1 is now available on our website, to give you some idea of the topics the children will be studying next year. **We are not expecting that any of these tasks be completed over the Summer Holidays.** The children will be given new homework books to record some of these tasks in when they return to us in September.

Diary Dates

Thursday 21st July
KS2 World Music Roadshow

Thursday 21st July
Year 6 Pizza Party

Friday 22nd July
Fun and Fit Day – come to School in Sports Kit
End of Term 1.15 p.m. at the Infants
1.30p.m. at the Juniors

Next Academic Year 2016-2017

Thurs 1st September

T D Day (Children not at school)

Friday 2nd September

T D Day (Children not at school)

Monday 5th September

New term begins for children

8.30 am for Infant School

8.45 am for Junior School

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

THE BIG Friendly READ

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2016

bigfriendlyread.org.uk

Looking for ideas to keep the children occupied this summer?
 Why not take them to your local library for some exciting, adventurous, mysterious and wonkalicious reading?
 Children just need to read or listen to six books during the summer to earn their Big Friendly Read certificate and medal, and they'll be collecting fabulous limited edition collector cards along the way.

Please encourage your child to sign up to Big Friendly Read and see the difference it makes to their reading over the summer.¹
 Find a range of recommended summer reads (graded by Interest Age and Reading Age levels) and more at: swindonlibraries.wordpress.com

It's FUN!
 It's FREE!
 It's LOCAL!

Illustrations: © Quentin Blake, 2016

DOWNLOAD THE APP sol.us/read

Grand opening of Swindon's Newest Station!

Sunday 31st July at 12 lunchtime at [Richard Jefferies Museum](#) Coate Water.

Think Railway Children, flags and bunting! We would like you to join us at the Richard Jefferies Museum for the grand opening of the Richard Jefferies Halt and the opening of the Coate Water Miniature Railway's brand new extension,

This family day will see the first official train stop at the new station with a ribbon cutting and an unveiling of the new sign to mark the official opening of Richard Jefferies Halt. Children's activities at the museum, a brass band and a steam traction engine to keep you entertained. The museum is situated on the edge of the beautiful Coate Water County Park which houses the miniature railway and its just 2 minutes from the [Arkells Brewery](#) Sun Inn family pub. A corner of Swindon perfect for families - Come along to the museum and bring a picnic!