

Welcome to...Grange Federation Newsletter

Édition 52 26th September 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

A huge welcome back to everyone as we begin a new and busy academic year! We especially welcome new members of the Federation, those in Early Years who are just beginning their school journey and those who have joined us from other schools to continue their learning journey. We welcome you all and hope you will enjoy being part of our Federation family.

As you will be aware from my recent letter, we welcome Mrs Louise Dance and Mrs Tracy Knight as Head of school to the staff. Mrs Dance will deal with the day-to day running of the Infant School and Mrs Knight will look after the day-to-day running of the Junior School.

We also welcome Nicola Ballmann who will be teaching in Year 1, Daisy Savage teaching in EYFS and Kirsty Ford teaching in Year 2. Mrs Booth and Mrs Dyer have also joined us as Teaching Assistants and Mrs Stringer and Mrs Clarke as lunchtime Supervisors, all at the Infant School.

Over the summer holiday a considerable amount of work has taken place in both schools. At the Junior School new fencing has provided more security for our children using the schools outside environment. The new playground activity equipment and outdoor staging is proving immensely popular! A huge thank you to FOGs and parent contributions for making this possible.

The lower school playground has had a makeover with thermoplastic playground markings and a large storage shed for play equipment.

On the upper school playground new block paving and planters have been installed in front of the new gazebo and a path trail in the process of being completed with Volunteers to enhance this area.

The guttering and downpipes of both schools have been cleaned and repaired.

New IT equipment has been purchased and installed in the IT suite, school hall and staff room at the Junior School and in the staff room at the Infants.

At the Infant school new Wi-Fi has been installed across the school site. On the front playground the outside shelter has a new roof!

The school kitchen is now fully complete and operational on the Junior School site. Meals are being freshly prepared and enjoyed by children and staff across the federation. The school dinner menu is rotated on a three week basis and details can be found on the school website.

Tea and Toast

It was lovely to meet so many of you last week at the Tea and Toast event at the Infant School. We hope that this event helped to take the sting out of leaving your child at school for the first time – such a big jump for all concerned!

School Value

Our school value across the Federation for this term is 'Responsibility'. Please help us to encourage your child to take responsibility for their belongings and their behaviour and actions. At school we will encourage children to be more thoughtful and considerate, accountable and reliable at school, home and in the wider community.

School Cash office

A huge thank you for all those parents who have successfully navigated the new on-line payment system and have successfully placed their school meal order. There have been a few teething problems but hopefully most have been resolved with the help of the school offices. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further problems.

Children Arriving Late to School Please remember if your child arrives late to school they **MUST** come into school via the school office to be signed in.

School Nurse

We have a new school Nurse, Claire Dewar. Claire is contactable via school offices and is happy to help with any healthcare concerns you may have or advice you may need regarding your child.

We will shortly be updating our Asthma Register in school. If your child suffers with Asthma, please ensure that they have the correct medication either in their classroom under the care of their teacher or with them at all times.

Office News

If any of your contact details have changed, please remember to let the appropriate school office know in order that staff may update your child's file.

Please be advised that the Junior school office is staffed from 8.30 am – 3.30 pm (Monday to Thursday) and 8.30 am – 1.30 pm (Friday) to help with enquiries and that the Infant school office is staffed from 8.00am -4.00pm (Monday to Thursday) and 8.00am – 1.30pm (Friday). It may be more helpful for you call into the school office prior to collecting your child. Many thanks.



Please can you ensure that your child has their named P.E. kit with them every day in school to ensure that they are able to take part in PE lessons.

Mobile Phones in School

Please remember mobile phones should not be brought into school under any circumstances. Please ensure your child leaves their phone at home. Many thanks.

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.

Please help us to be a good neighbour. A polite reminder – parents should not come into the school car-parks to park or drop off their children at the beginning or end of the school day unless prior permission has been obtained from the Head of School. Please help us to keep all our children safe. Many thanks.

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Wednesday 19th October at both Schools. On this occasion we will again be supporting the work of the Swindon Foodbank, who provide local people with food and support when they need it most - helping to avert greater disaster and even greater poverty.

We hope you will help us to support this worthy charity by donating an item of food as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations. A list of suggested items will be sent out shortly. Thank you in advance.

E-safety

A quick reminder about safety!

- Remember never to give out your personal details on any social media sites.
- Don't accept friend requests from people you don't know.
- A teacher will never try to contact via social media. If this happens or if you find anything else upsetting tell an adult and if possible take a screen shot.

Some useful information can be found at:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Thank you to Aldi

A huge thank you to Aldi who have donated boxes of notebooks, pencils, 4 Tennis sets, some sticker books & some t-shirts, to the Infant School. The pencils & notebooks have been shared between all classes for writing areas and the Tennis sets will be used for PE and lunchtime activities.

Best Wishes

Louise Seavill and the Grange Team

Diary Dates

Monday 12th September
After School Clubs begin at the Junior and Infant School

Monday 19th September – Friday 23rd Sept
KS2 Year 6
Residential Trip to Little Canada IOW

Wednesday 21st September 6.00 p.m.
Foundation Stage Workshops for parents

Monday 26th September 7.00 p.m.
FOG's AGM @ Infant School

Friday 30th September
Macmillan Breakfast & Coffee Morning both schools

Saturday 8th October
Family Photographs at the Infant School

Tuesday 11th October
School Photographer will take individual/sibling photos at the Infant School

Tuesday 11th October
EYFS Parents Evening

Thursday 13th October
EYFS Parents Evening

Saturday 15th October
Family Photographs at the Junior School

Thursday 20th October
Firework Event at the Infant School

Friday 24th October
HALF TERM

Tuesday 1st November
KS1 & KS2 Parents Evening

Wednesday 2nd November
KS1 & KS2 Parents Evening

