

# Welcome to...Grange Federation Newsletter

February 2018

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

[www.grangefederation.co.uk](http://www.grangefederation.co.uk)

*Dear Parents, Friends and the Community of Grange Federation*

Another busy term is coming to an end and we are already half way through this academic year. Where does the time go?



We have enjoyed science week and storytelling week across the Federation, this term. We enjoyed sharing stories, our books and the plays we created with our adults.



Since our launch, it's been great to see how many children are accessing Times Table Rock Stars. Some of the children's times are amazing! If you have any questions please come and see Miss Castle or Mr Fannin.

### A Fond Farewell

We sadly have to say good bye to Mrs Spackman this term. She has decided to retire after 20 years of working at Grange Infant School. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well. We will welcome Mrs Rachel Spirti in year 2 after half term.

### Phonic and Year 2 and Year 6 SATs meetings

A big thank you, to all the parents who supported our Phonics and SATs meetings. If you missed these meetings all the information is on the website and teachers are available for further advice and questions.

### Swindon Dance Festival

This year some of our year 1 children performed a dance routine at the Wyvern Theatre in front of a large audience. They did an amazing job and made us feel very proud.

### A makeover for the rainbow room at the Junior School

Following furniture donations last term the Rainbow Room at the Junior school is in the process of having a makeover. A team of volunteers from Thames Water came into school for the day and painted all the walls vibrant colours. It's starting to look amazing!



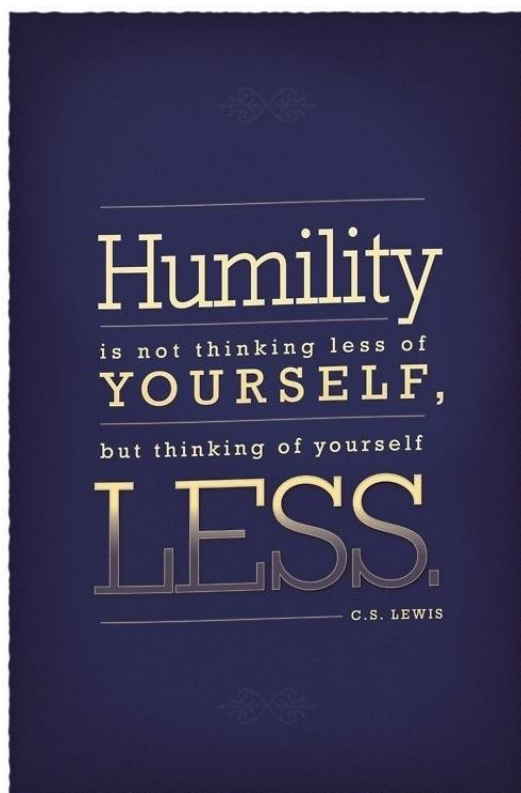
### Children's Champion

I wrote to you earlier this term about a new Children's Champion at the Infant School. Mrs Tracey Jackson is very experienced and has worked across other schools in Swindon. She will be running courses for parents soon and is available at coffee mornings and stay and play for a chat and advice. Our next coffee morning at the Infants is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

## Values

Our value for Term 4 is

### **Humility**



At home you could talk about how humility is:

- being able to encourage and praise other people when they have done something really well or tried very hard
- listening carefully to others and valuing their opinions as much as our own
- asking for help rather than thinking that we always know what to do and how to do it

#### **West Ham Ladies V Swindon Ladies Football**

As you know, we are very fortunate to have a member of our staff, Miss Austin, playing for West Ham Ladies team. On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February they are actually playing Swindon Town Ladies at Fairford Town FC. Kick-off is at 2pm. Please see the West Ham website for details.

## The School Offices

Please leave all reply slips and other correspondence with the class teacher. The offices are struggling with the amount of enquiries first thing in the morning.

**Reminder:** Please use the website to check for dates and times of activities and events.

### Board Games

Our Butterfly and Rainbow groups which run at lunch time are in need of board games. All donations would be greatly received.

### Special Dinner Dates

**Book early for our theme diners!!**

Taste of Italy-Thursdays 22nd March

St George's Day - Mon 23rd April

Build A Burger Day - Thurs 17th May

American Independence Day - Weds 4th July

### Newsletters

Following parent feedback we have decided to send out printed copies of diary dates at the start of each term and to put a newsletter on our website at the end of each term to update you on all the lovely things your children have been doing.

### Safety

We are experiencing a number of complaints from local residents about how parents park in the roads at the beginning and end of the day. Can we ask that you all park respectfully and avoid the yellow lines and roundabout?

**Reminder:** No bikes or scooters should be ridden on across either school site.

### Gates

Please, please, please can you close all gates behind you if you are coming into the school grounds?

Our children's safety is paramount.

## School Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance is essential if students are to make the best of all the educational opportunities offered by the school. We know that there are some occasions when your child being absent from school is unavoidable and children who are unwell should obviously stay at home, but their absence should be reported to the office each day that they not at school, and a reason given for their absence.

In certain circumstances to ensure that our registers are accurate and comply with Government guidelines the school may request medical evidence of a child's absence. This may apply to extended periods of absence, or periods of absence immediately prior to, or after, an official school holiday.

Wherever possible, medical /dental /optical appointments should be made outside of school time. If this is unavoidable a copy of the appointment letter should be given to the school office. Children should leave school as close to the appointment time as possible and return to school immediately following the appointment.

As you will be aware school attendance is monitored very closely across the Federation. If your child's attendance falls below 95%, as a school we are obliged to inform you, even though you may have already informed the school of a valid reason for their absence.

### Lates

This term we have seen the number of lates double at the Infant School! 53 hours of learning time have been missed and 171 learning sessions interrupted by children arriving late. Please arrive on time or speak to Tracey Jackson our children's champion or Mrs Dance Head of School if you need support.

### Premier Sports After School Clubs

There are details for term 4 clubs available at book schools on line.

Please book on-line only at

[www.premiersport.org](http://www.premiersport.org)

For information please contact

[aturner@premier-education.com](mailto:aturner@premier-education.com)

**Reminder:** Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day and if your child wears glasses that they bring them into school every day too. We have noticed a number of children without them.

### Flu - We have been asked to circulate the following information to parents

"In view of the increased cases of Flu this year, NHS England have taken the decision to extend the vaccination programme and make more vaccine available. Therefore there will be unexpected extended opportunities for your child to be vaccinated in community clinics; this is for those who have not already been vaccinated and are in the eligible cohort Year R, 1, 2, 3 or 4. This is regardless of whether you filled in a negative consent form in the first instance.

If you would like to take up this opportunity please contact the immunisation team on: 0333 234 1125 to book into a community clinic. Please note that this will be offered in first come/first serve basis until vaccine has run out, therefore early contact is advised."



### Opticians check-ups

Did you know it's recommended that children have regular eye tests at least once every two years? These tests can be done at a high street opticians and are free for all children under 16 years old (and those under 19 years old in full-time education).

## Year 6 News

It's the start of a busy few months for Year 6. A **big thank you** in advance, to **Mr English, Mrs Rabbetts and Mr Fannin** who are leading a SATs club during half term to help Y6 children be as successful as possible during SATs week. The club will reinforce and enhance the children's learning of the required curriculum for Year 6, in addition to their on-going work in class. We are delighted to be in a position to offer them this unique opportunity to revise and practise all areas of learning.

All the children in Year 6 are invited and encouraged to come along and we really hope that all the children will be able to attend as this will complement and enhance what they are doing in school. We want them to feel part of a team, support each other and all have the same chance of success.

**Best Wishes**

**Mrs Seavill and the Grange Team**

# FOOTBALL

DEVELOPMENT CAMPS



**ST JOSEPH'S  
COLLEGE**



**February 2018:**

**TUESDAY 13th  
WEDNESDAY 14th  
& THURSDAY 15th**

9.30am - 3pm everyday

**ONLY £49.50**

Add the Friday for only **£10**

- Learn new skills and tricks
- **WIN** trophies and prizes
- Different football activities everyday
- For girls and boys aged **5-15**



Visit Soccer Schools website and book on today!  
[www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stfitc](http://www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stfitc)

If you are experiencing any difficulties with this new system please do not hesitate to give us a call on:

**01793 421303**

**swindon**  
STFC Football in the Community Trust

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## Kids Valentine's Disco

.....  
16 February 2018  
18:30 – 20:30  
5 – 11yrs

£6.00 per child, which  
includes a choice of a  
meal and a glass of  
squash.



**Tickets only available from Grange Leisure Reception**

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council, Grange Drive, Swindon, SN3 4JY - Tel: (01793) 825525