



## Grassington CE Primary School

Hebden Road, Grassington, BD23 5LB  
Co-Headteachers: Mrs E Besharati & Mrs C Boxall  
Base Leader: Mr A Scott  
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*Be the Light*

## Friday News 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you managed to enjoy the half term break and were able to spend valuable time together as a family.

The second half of the autumn term is always very busy with lots happening in all of our schools, especially with the lead up to Christmas. We have included diary dates at the end of the newsletter; dates do change and are added to as we progress through the term, so please keep referring to them so that you know what is happening in school.

This term is when we experience a higher volume of children and staff being ill. This is amplified currently owing to the current increase of positive Covid cases in our communities. We urge all of our school communities to remain vigilant and we reinforce the messages on good hand and respiratory hygiene, including regular hand washing with soap and water, using hand sanitiser, and promoting "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it" messages.

We all know that regular attendance at school is important for children to make good progress, especially after the disruption children have had over the past few years. We ask parents to continue to follow guidance around LFT and seeking PCR tests if your child is displaying symptoms of Covid. We ask that parents keep school fully informed of your situation. Children no longer have to self-isolate if another member of their family has tested positive, but we consider each family's case/concerns/views when you contact us.

We would like to give you an update upon the COVID situation within the federation. We have had no new cases among pupils since the start of half term. We have spoken to PHE about our risk management plan who confirmed we are doing all the right things to try to minimize the spread. Staff who have tested positive are isolating and cover has been arranged.

Thank you for your continued support with this, it continues to be a very challenging time for all of us.





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#### Science Days

Next week all Key Stage 2 children will be joining together, on Wednesday and Thursday, for our science days. They will be working with all the other children in their year group from across the Federation, on specific age related science units, which they do not cover elsewhere in the science curriculum during the year. Year 3 children will be exploring light; year 4 sound; year 5 properties and changing materials and year 6 will be studying evolution and inheritance. Year 3 and 4 will work at Burnsall and Y5 and 6 at Grassington. All transport and lunch arrangements are in place.



#### Upper Wharfedale Pre School

We recently surveyed the parents of our preschool children asking them questions about the setting and how their children and they perceived how we are doing. We are pleased to say that we had a good and very positive response. Parents were asked: -

- If their child felt safe at pre-school
- If their child was well looked after by staff
- If teachers and leaders responded to any concerns raised
- If the teaching team helped their child to progress
- If there is a good range of activities that their child enjoyed and found interesting

To all of these questions parents said that they strongly agreed.

Parents either agreed or strongly agreed that their child was happy at the setting.

Overall parents felt they were well informed as to how their child was progressing. We will work to ensure that all parents feel well informed about progress made by their child





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Everyone agreed that they would recommend the setting to others. This is a good testament to all the hard work and dedication put in by our staff. We thank all parents who completed the survey and for the continued support, they give us. It is very evident in our visits to the classroom that children are happy, engaged and grow in confidence over the weeks.

### **Swimming**

The children from Year 4 really enjoyed their swimming session on Tuesday, They will spend the next few weeks advancing their swimming strokes and techniques as well as thinking about water safety. May we remind parents and children, that earrings should not be worn and need to be taken out for health and safety reasons.

### **Shakespeare workshop**

To finish our study of Romeo and Juliet with a bang, on Friday 12th November those children who have been studying the text this half term will be taking part in workshops run by the award winning theatre company Finding the Will. All the activities will take place at Grassington Primary School and everyone should come in PE kit as they normally do on Fridays. This will be a really exciting experience for our children, where they can try their hand at acting and playwriting, whilst thinking about the play we have been studying, and the Bard of Avon more widely.



### **Election of parent Governor**

We are delighted to inform you that Harriet Wills was successfully voted as the new parent governor for the Upper Wharfedale Primary Federation of Schools. We welcome her to the governing body and look forward to working with her in the future.

### **Kanga after School club**

Kanga after school club will continue to run this half term. We have had a number of parents requesting that the club runs on a Friday too. Parents will be able to book children in to the club from the Friday 12th of November. In order for this to be





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successful, we urge parents to book their children in if they are interested. If there is insufficient interest then we will have to consider the viability of Friday sessions.

### **Gold Healthy Schools Award**

We are thrilled to receive the gold award as we have worked really hard to embed the principles of maintaining a healthy lifestyle across all that we do in all of our federation schools. Our children know that a healthy body contributes to a healthy mind. We prioritise mental health and wellbeing across the schools as we acknowledge that children and staff need to feel safe and happy before they can be ready to learn and do their best. We are very proud of our achievement.





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#### Learning Heroes

**Class 1 - Imogen West** for taking the lead in her work onomatopoeia

**Class 2 - Georgina Hodgson** for always showing pride in her work

**Class 3 - Amelia Cooke** for the use of good listening and speaking skills, especially in our topic work.



#### Shine awards



**Class 1 - Ralph Whitworth** for careful writing work  
**Lily Clarke** for her constant kindness towards her classmates

**Class 2 - Ronan Mullan** for pride in his careful painting  
**Aaron Tywang** for independence shown in writing

**Class 3 - Charlie Ludlam** for his thoughtful and careful work in English this week, which produced accurate and well presented writing



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This week class 2 and 3 had a lot of fun putting together rockets with a special 'Blast off' session with Yorkshire Dales National Park as part of the Dark Skies Festival. Class 2 also worked hard to produce some wonderful watercolours based on the work of J.W. Turner.





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**10th and 11th November** - KS2 Science days

**12th November** - KS2 Shakespeare Workshop

**Week beginning 15th November** - Friendship week



**Saturday 4th December** - Christmas carols in Grassington town square

**Saturday 11th December** - Christmas carols in Grassington town square

**Week beginning 13th December** - Class 1 nativity performances

### THANK YOU FROM ANNE VETCH & THE SCHOOL

We were delighted with, and overwhelmed by the amount of winter clothing donated across the community in our churches and schools for the refugee collection. We were able to take two full minibus and three full car loads to PAFRAS and YORKSHIRE AID in Leeds. Very many thanks to all who donated or helped in any way at all.

Anne Vetch