



Grange Lane Infant Academy

Newsletter January 2022

We wanted to start our newsletter by thanking all the parents & carers for carrying out those extra covid checks during a time of high cases in our school and the area. Although we are seeing a slow in the number of cases, we do still keep getting new cases in each year group. We have noticed that some of the positive cases have had symptoms not typical with those mainly advertised such as: upset stomach, diarrhoea, headaches & sore throats so it is always worth doing a test just in case. If you have symptoms of covid it is still advisable to get a PCR test.

If you do not have any LFT and require some, please call the office as we have been donated plenty by Doncaster Council to hand out to families.

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Our new telephone number 01302 651038



Our telephone system has now been updated which unfortunately means we have a new telephone number, please update your mobiles with 01302 651038. We would also like to thank Olivia & Nathan for our super new telephone greeting!

Eco Warriors meet Ikea



Last term, Grange Lane Infant Academy were invited by Ikea to enter their Eco School's Project. So, Mrs Heyes met with our Eco Warriors and discussed what we could do as a school to become more environmentally friendly. At the time it was the COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference so there was a lot of talk about how vehicles are polluting the climate.

The children gave Mrs Heyes lots of ideas to put forward for the Ikea project and we submitted a presentation on how a bike/scooter shelter would help to encourage families to leave their car at home and bike, walk or scoot to school.

We were delighted to be short listed for the Dragon's Den round where the Eco Warriors had to present their idea to the Ikea team and we are eagerly waiting their decision - cross your fingers everyone!

Clubs



We apologise for the cancellation of extra curricular clubs this half term, this was due to the high number of covid cases affecting numerous factors. Everyone who had a club place this half term will be transferred over to the same club after February half term. We will not be charging for the additional week on this occasion. A letter has already been sent out to those people this affects. If you did not get an extra curricular afterschool club place and was hoping for one after half term, please call around to the office and we can check if any places have come available in the meantime.

Parent Governor Vacancy



Would you be interested in becoming part of the Academy Advisory Board (AAB)? The Academy Advisory body meet once a term to discuss the running of the school and are looking for another parent member.

The AAB in conjunction with the Principal is responsible for setting strategic priorities for the academy, overseeing development planning and evaluating impact against identified priorities. The AAB works with the Academy Senior Leadership Team to improve the whole life of the academy and its impact on the community. Academy Advisory Bodies have specific duties to provide support and constructive challenge in the areas of:

- Educational Standards
- Safeguarding
- Staffing, Recruitment and HR

- Facilities, ICT and Estate
- Community and local issues
- Finance and legal

If you would be interested in applying for parent governor, you can either download the application form [Letters - Grange Lane Infant Academy \(gliacademy.org.uk\)](https://gliacademy.org.uk) on our website or please call at the office for the application.

Doncaster Primary Careers



Doncaster Local Authority have asked Grange Lane to become involved with their Primary Careers Hub. Primary Careers is about embedding careers-related learning in the primary setting along with raising aspirations of our children. A small grant has enabled us to purchase role play resources and career themed books but also to book visitors focusing on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, The Arts, Maths) projects. We shall be talking about people who help us, from those in the emergency and care services to those key workers delivering our goods and services. It would also be great for the children to meet people working in various different sectors within our community, so already we have Doncaster Major Ros Jones, Nick Fletcher MP and a Sports Coach coming to talk to the children about their jobs but we would like to know if anyone in our school community would be willing to come in during our careers week too! If you would be happy to come and tell the children about your job during our careers week (week commencing 13th June) then please let your child's teacher know.

Big Garden Birdwatch



Our year 2 children took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch on Friday and reported in all the birds they saw in our playground. This is their reply to their data!

'Thank you for telling us what you saw and taking part in Big Garden Birdwatch. Your findings help us build up a picture of how garden birds are faring. Sadly we know that nature is in trouble across the UK. Over the last 50 years, we've lost 36 million birds from our skies and even garden favourites including house sparrows, greenfinches and song thrushes are on the UK Red List for Birds, marking them as birds of highest conservation concern.

Our conservation scientist are now busy working through the findings. Be sure to look out for the results of this years Big Garden Birdwatch in April'

Enhancing the Curriculum



We want our curriculum to excite and engage the children, we also want it to be enriching and varied. To enable us to do this we have sourced, applied and paid for different external providers to visit us this year. We are keen to ensure that families are not impacted by the cost of these provisions where at all possible.

Below is a list of some of the added extras we have already and I am sure more will be added before the end of the academic year.

- Doncaster Arts (music, drama, art) from main nursery upwards
- Rainbow Connections (singing) for KS1
- Worry Wizard from reception upwards
- Taekwondo for KS1
- Samba Bamba Music workshop for all our provisions
- Mini First Aiders from main nursery upwards

- Panto from main nursery upwards
- Festive Petting Zoo for all our provisions
- Big Foot Literacy Workshops from main nursery upwards
- Dream Big with Estell Lauder for year 2
- Live Music now for all provisions
- First Access Recorders for KS1
- Science Week for all provisions
- Careers week for all provisions
- Arts week for all provisions
- Enterprise week

Trips



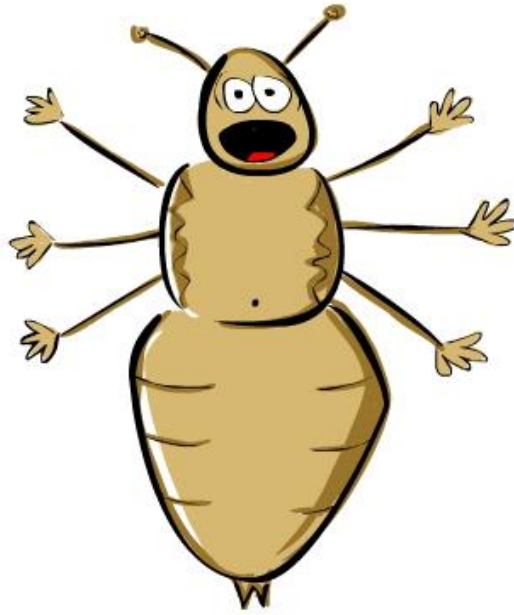
Covid permitting we have booked trips for Reception, Year 1 and 2 for this academic year. The trips are linked with the topic current to their year group at the time and where possible the academy will subsidise the cost to make it as affordable as possible to families. We are noticing a substantial increase in the cost of transport and is one of the reasons why we are focusing more on bringing enhancements into school rather than us travelling out for them. We shall send out letters closer to the time but brief details are as follows:

Reception - Boston Park Farm - 23rd March

Year 1 - Austerfield Study Centre - 13th May

Year 2 - Dallowgill - 21st March

Headlice



We have had quite a few reports of headlice so please could we check and treat if needed. Don't forget to check again approximately 8-10 days later as any eggs that might have been missed will have hatched so further treatment might be necessary.

Dogs on school grounds



We know that many of our staff and parents are animal lovers, dogs in particular. However, this is not the case for some people and many young children can find dogs quite scary. This along with the potential for mess on the school grounds and risk of someone being hurt are some of the reasons why dogs are not allowed on the school grounds. It has been pointed out that we seem to be having a lot of people bringing their dogs at drop off and collection, please can we ask that they are not brought onto the school grounds from now on. Thank you for your understanding.

Diary Dates



- Wednesday 2nd February - Big Foot Literacy with year 2 (Hansel & Gretel)
- Wednesday 2nd February - Doncaster Arts starts working with main Nursery
- Thursday 3rd February - Dream Big with Estell Lauder Yr2
- **NSPCC Numbers Day - We are asking for children to come to school in non-uniform with a number on. A voluntary contribution for NSPCC charity would be welcomed. See posters around school.**
- Tuesday 8th February - Live Music Now
- Wednesday 9th February - Big Foot Literacy with Reception & Nursery (Three Little Pigs)
- **14th-18th February - Half Term**
- **Monday 21st February - Training day whole school closed to pupils**
- Wednesday 23rd February - Big Foot Literacy Year 1 (Superheroes)
- **Monday 25th February - Year 1 Superhero Day - children can come dressed in fancy dress costume**
- **Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book or comic character.**
- **Friday 4th March - Big Yellow Friday for Children's Liver Disease. From a parent request we invite children to come to school in non-uniform with a yellow theme. A small donation for this charity would also be appreciated.**
- Tuesday 8th March - Bag2School Collection - Further details to follow on how your unwanted clothes can help raise money for school.
- 14th March - 18th March - Science Week

- Wednesday 16th March - Maker Move visit for Science week
- Thursday 17th March - Sam's Safari visits nursery and Grangers for science week
- Monday 21st March - Year 2 trip to Dallowgill - further details to come
- Wednesday 23rd March - Reception trip to Boston Park Farm - further details to come
- 28th March - 1st April - Enterprise week
- Friday 1st April - Easter Bonnet Competition
- **Monday 4th April - Monday 18th April (return on Tuesday 19th) - Easter break**

How we stay in contact



There are many different ways of how we keep in contact with you and how you contact us.

The main way school news is shared is through School Gateway. We would greatly appreciate it if you would download the School Gateway app through the app store. Using the Gateway means sending messages to you costs the school nothing (whereas if it has to text you, it will cost the school each time). You can send message back too and communicate with the school office.

Creating account is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes

- Register using the same email address and mobile number held by the school
- School Gateway will send you a text with your pin

- Login, you are ready to go!

If your child is in nursery (Grangers or Main Nursery) or our reception, then teachers can share information with you through Tapestry. This can include photos of what your child has been learning and enjoying in class. You can also do the same back! Its a fantastic 2-way communication system - please ask your child's teacher if you do not already have information about setting this up.

In Year 1 & 2 teachers can send messages and share information about your child's Do-Jo achievements. (Do-Jo's are like reward points or a virtual sticker). They can also communicate through Purple Mash too! Purple Mash is a really good educational software package that the children use in school but can also access at home. If you are not aware of how to access these great resources, please check with your child's teacher.

Academic Calendar 2021-2022

Please note that holidays during term time are strongly discouraged and can only be approved for exceptional circumstances only.



Contact us

If you need to contact us, you can do this via the details below or for your child's teacher through your child's class do-jo or tapestry account. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or you need help with a situation.

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[Visit us on the web at www.gliacademy.org.uk.](http://www.gliacademy.org.uk)