



# TRACTOR TIMES

Autumn Term  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
2018

Grassington CE (VC) Primary School  
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Dear Parents/Carers

## Children in Need

It was very good to see and hear about the different Children in Need events that have been taking place in the schools today. Well done to the children (and thanks to parents who have helped) with the fantastic costumes, fancy dress and make-up. You all looked great! And, of course, it is very important that our children are taking part in this national event which supports so many children and families who are experiencing an enormous range of challenging circumstances. Thank-you, everyone, and well done!



## Other school events

Next week, we are continuing with our provision of joint activities that enable the children in the different schools to take part in shared learning experiences. All the Year 6s are joining together for a Maths and English day at Burnsall on Monday, and later in the term there will be similar events for other year groups.

We are now also in the season of School Open Days – Kettlewell's was on Monday this week, and next week Cracoe (on Thursday morning) and Burnsall (Friday afternoon) open their doors, with Grassington holding their Open Afternoon the following week on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>. We would like to invite and encourage you to visit one of the **other** schools in the Federation (i.e. one that your child does not go to) so you can see the learning that takes place there. No appointment is needed – just turn up!

## School Administrators

As you are aware, Mrs Briggs and Mrs. Hardaker will be leaving their respective roles as School Manager at Kettlewell and School Administrator at Grassington at the end of this term. The position regarding these posts in January (as it stands at present) is as follows:-

- At Grassington, Mr Chris Davey, who currently works there as School Administrator on Fridays, is going to work in the school office for 25 hours per week, each day from 8:00/8:30am to 1:00/1:30pm. This is a temporary arrangement until Easter, so during next term, we will be looking to establish a more permanent position for the summer term onwards.
- At Kettlewell, we have just "gone public" with an advert to recruit a School Administrator, also for 25 hours per week, from 8:00am to 1:00pm each day. We are aiming for this appointment process to be completed by early December.
- The class teachers at Kettlewell, Mrs Helen Newey and Mr Andy Scott, are going to share the Kettlewell Base Leader role.

- There will not be any change in school administrators at Burnsall and Cracoe.
- From January, Mrs. Val Berry is going to be the Schools' Business Manager for the whole Federation. Mrs. Berry currently works in some schools in the Federation as School Bursar, so she knows our context very well. She will spend 2 days per week in the Federation handling all the finance work and also other work such as procurement, contract renewal, oversight of policies.
- We have started the process of up-grading the telephone systems within and between each school so that contact between sites is much easier.

We will keep you informed of significant developments as they develop, and decisions as they are made. Please do, though, ask us if there is anything that you are unsure about.

Mrs C Boxall & Mr C Norris  
Executive Co-Headteachers

### **Regular Activities and Events**

**Every Friday** 3.00pm Praise Assembly – All welcome  
**Every Monday** 3.30-4.30 pm Federation Choir, KS2 Children only

### **November Diary Dates**

**Monday 19 November** Yr 6 Maths & English Day at Burnsall School: **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**  
**Wednesday 21 November** PTA Meeting 8.00pm Devonshire, Grassington  
**Friday 23 November** 6.30- 8.00pm PTA Disco at Grassington Devonshire Institute  
**Monday 26 November** 4.00-5.00pm Y5/6 Basketball at UWS –turn up & play  
**Wednesday 28 November** 1.30-3.00pm School Open Afternoon  
**Friday 30 November** Dickensian Character Day (in preparation for Grassington Dickensian Festival)

### **December Diary Dates**

**Saturday 1 December** Grassington Dickensian (PTA Fundraiser)-rota sheet on main school door.  
**Monday 3 December** 4.00-5.00pm Y4/ 4Basketball at UWS – turn up & play  
**Wednesday 5 December** Federation 'Christmas Big Sing' Rehearsal and Class 1 visit to Santa's Grotto at Devonshire Institute  
**Thursday 6 December** Whole School Visit to **Jack & The Beanstalk Pantomime**-Harrogate Theatre  
**Saturday 8 December** Grassington Dickensian (PTA Fundraiser)-rota sheet on main school door.  
**Monday 10 December** Federation 'Christmas Big Sing'- 2.00pm & 5.45pm at Devonshire Institute  
**Wednesday 12 December** Class 3 visiting Grassington Lunch Club to sing at Devonshire Institute

<b>Friday 14 December</b>	Y5 Rewind to Christmas at Netherside Hall
<b>Wednesday 19 December</b>	2.00pm Whole School Christmas Service at St Michael & All Angels Church, Linton
<b>Thursday 20 December</b>	'Wear your Christmas Jumper Day' in aid of Save the Children Christmas Dinner Christmas Parties
<b>Friday 21 December</b>	9.00am Praise Assembly 3.30pm School Closes for Christmas

### **Grassington School PTA Facebook Page**

The PTA have created a new Facebook Page in order to publicise our fundraising events as well as to utilise as a communication tool for parents and to promote our friendly, caring school to prospective new parents. You can like and follow our page and share our events and information using the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/GrassingtonSchoolPTA>

### **Dickensian Character Day**

On Friday 30 November, 2018, (in preparation for Grassington Dickensian Festival), children can dress in Victorian dress, as chimney sweeps (but no soot please), in waistcoats and flat caps, white pinafores and long skirts, shawls, or other similar costumes.

### **Dickensian (PTA Fundraiser)**

The PTA will be serving refreshments from School on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December as part of the village's Dickensian event. This is always a fantastic opportunity for our little school to earn substantial funds to be used to enhance our children's experiences in school. We will shortly be displaying a rota for each Saturday for parents/grandparents to help. We usually ask for just an hour of your time, please volunteer to help if you can. If you can't access the rota please contact the PTA via the Facebook page or e-mail: [grassingtonschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:grassingtonschoolpta@gmail.com)

### **Open Afternoon**

We know what a wonderful school we have but we need to let new and prospective parents know about us! Please spread the word that on 28<sup>th</sup> November the school will be holding an Open Afternoon from 1.30-3.00 pm. There is no need to make an appointment; parents can just drop in to see the school in action. Parents can also join us in the school hall to enjoy a tea or coffee with some of the PTA, Parents and Governors, talk to them about their own experiences and ask any questions they may have. If people can't make this date they can just give school a call to arrange a time that's convenient for them.

If you know anyone who has children of pre-school age please make them aware of the Open Afternoon (there will also be an event to share on the Facebook Page shortly). We also look forward to welcoming pre-school age siblings of existing pupils to what is sure to be an exciting and fun afternoon!

As you will be aware it's nearly time for the Dickensian coffee mornings. These are a great fund raising opportunity for the school and as usual we are looking for volunteers to help out on the two Saturdays of the weekends (1st and 8th Dec). We really appreciate the support from parents with this. We would also welcome donations of mince pies and some lovely home baking to sell on the day.

### **Next PTA Meeting**

The next PTA meeting is on 21.11.18 at 8pm in the Devonshire, Grassington. All parents are welcome; we'd love to hear your thoughts on what you feel would benefit the school and children.

### **Grassington Festival Dickensian Calendars for sale £5 proceeds shared**

The Festival organisers have produced a Christmas Calendar made up artwork from children in local schools. We have some for sale from the school office. The Calendar costs £5 and some of the proceeds will come to the school.

Well done to Phoebe & Fred in Class 3 and Oscar in Class 1 whose beautiful pictures appear as part of the calendar.

### **Turn up and Play - Basketball**

Mrs Willets has asked us to let you know about two new sport-taster sessions at Upper Wharfedale School which are designed to encourage children to try different sports:

- Monday 26 November: from 4.00 - 5.00 pm for children in Years 5 & 6
- Monday 3 December: from 4.00 - 5.00 pm for children in Years 3 & 4

### **This Week's Award Winners**

This week's award winners are:

#### Class 1

Isla - For her independent writing  
Reception - For their Maths story

#### Class 3

Maggie – Mathematician of the Week, for her expert knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.  
George - For beautiful presentation of his work.

#### Class 2

Evie - For her fantastic acting in performance poetry.  
Joe - For successfully using inverse operations to check his calculations

### **Class 1 News**

In Literacy we have been discussing the differences and features of fiction and non-fiction books. We have identified the contents page, index, glossary, paragraph, illustration and many more. When sharing books at home, please discuss with your child whether the book is fiction or non-fiction and

discuss the different features.

We have also been learning about the alphabet and the names of the letters. The National Curriculum says that KS1 children need to be able to:

*“name the letters of the alphabet:*

- *naming the letters of the alphabet in order*
- *using letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound.”*

We are sending home the alphabet mat for the children to practise at home. We suggest writing each letter on a piece of paper/card, muddle them up and then ask your child to put the letters in the correct alphabetical order.

In Science we have been discussing animals and their babies, how baby animals grow and which animal group they belong to. In R.E. we have been learning about Diwali, making diva lamps and mehndi patterns. We discussed the similarities and differences between how Diwali and Christmas are celebrated. The children listened to the traditional Hindu story of Rama and Sita.

Have a lovely weekend together.

Mrs Tulley, Mrs Buckley, Mrs Naisbitt and Mrs Middleton

## **Class 2 News**

This week we've settled back into our routine a bit and we've been working very hard!

In Maths we've been looking at using inverse operations to check our calculations and using this knowledge to solve worded problems. We've started practising our times tables in preparation for our multiplication and division unit (starting next week) and we've been using a rock CD and a new rhyming method to help us remember the trickier tables.

In English we've started a poetry unit and we're combining this with recital, drama and prose. We'll be looking at descriptive imagery poetry, some World War 1 poems (to link with our topic) and some nonsense poems, too.

In Science we found out about upthrust and gravity, looking at objects which floated or sank in water tanks and then we used balloons to build something that would help a dense object stay afloat - a bit of a wet afternoon!

By the time you read this, we will have enjoyed our Children in Need day, wearing our onesies and pyjamas, eating cake, hunting for Pudsey and many more fun things and we'll all be ready for a rest.

If you have any empty plastic bottles (water, fizzy drinks, not milk bottles) please could we have them? Any size is OK, the cylindrical ones would be best.

Don't forget - spelling test on Monday! The spellings went home last Monday, with a fridge list and tips to help with the learning, so please support your child as much as you can.

Have a lovely weekend together  
Mrs Pettavel

### **Class 3 News**

The children have all enjoyed dressing up in their PJ's and onesies in aid of Children in Need. A big 'THANK YOU' to all the children in School Council who helped to organise this event and to all the parents/children who provided cakes for the stall.

Thank you.

This week in Maths we have been working on multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000, 10,000 and 100,000. We have become fluent in this and have been solving challenging reasoning problems. In Literacy we have started reading '*Goodnight Mister Tom*' by Michelle Magorian. We have read the first four chapters finding out about the characters. We have answered comprehension questions which helped us understand the inferences in the text. We have also done some grammar and spelling work on the text too, looking at subordinating conjunctions in particular.

On Wednesday we had workshops run by Corum Life on making decisions and puberty. The children did some great thinking and took part in discussions.

We have also made Diwali lamps which we have painted ready to put on display.

As it is Children in Need (Pudsey Day) we have done a colouring competition too.

Have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Harrison and Mr Willis