

Spring Term

Friday

8th February

2019

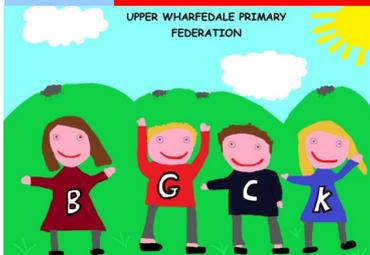
Grassington CE (VC) Primary School



GRASSINGTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tractor Times

UPPER WHARFEDALE PRIMARY
FEDERATION



Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday 4th February, our Year 5 pupils braved the cold and took part in an Upper Wharfedale Cluster Schools outdoor day, led by the team at Bewerley Park. They had an amazing time, rock scrambling at Brimham Rocks and walking up through Troller's Gill.

Although these are relatively local landmarks, it was a new experience for many of our children and a valuable opportunity to learn about their environment - an experience magnified in value by being with their peers. The children loved finding out about the rock formations and the flora and fauna specific to the area. They climbed and squeezed their way through cracks in rocks, really pushing themselves to their limits and feeling the sense of achievement when they conquered their fears.

Walking up through Troller's Gill, knee and waist high in water was an experience that they will remember for a long time. It is these experiences that we give children that shapes, moulds and ignites their enthusiasm for life-long learning.



Friends

I met with the Chairs of each our 'Friends' groups this week to discuss the different fund raising activities that go on in each of our four schools. We have a committed school community and I am keen for Friends to continue to help support us with our school projects. Once each of our schools has drawn up a 'wish list' we will share this with Friends so that you have an idea of what projects we are currently working towards.

The Chairs of each Friends groups are hoping to organise a fun day for the whole federation – details to follow.

Communication Strategy Group

We would like to form a new group within the federation. A group of people who could help in promoting the schools and federation so that current parents have a clear idea of what is happening in school and also to attract prospective parents. The aim is for the group to meet once every half-term, ideally in the morning, and to have one parent representative from each school and possibly two governors. If you have a background in marketing, PR or IT then these skills would greatly benefit this group. If you are interested in being part of the Communication Strategy Group then please leave your name with the school administrator.

Compass Buzz

Myself and Mrs Gibbons attended a 'Compass Buzz' conference this week to learn more about a new project that aims to improve mental health and wellbeing of children in schools across North Yorkshire. This new project works with North Yorkshire schools to increase the skills, confidence and competence of staff dealing with children's emotional and mental health concerns. We are pleased to be taking an active part in the project, with the federation being the host hub for staff training in the summer term for all neighbouring schools.

Breakfast Club at Grassington

We still need someone to cover Breakfast Club from 11th February until 16th July from 7:45 – 8:45am, Monday and Tuesdays only . If you are interested in then please contact Mr Davey, the Administrator at Grassington Primary.

The Executive Leadership Team
Mrs Besharati, Mrs C Boxall and Mr C Norris

Federation Dates

The following dates show when pupils or parents across the Federation have opportunities to come together. Dates relating to individual schools are below. Details of each of these events will be provided nearer to the time.

Date	Details	Location
Monday 4 February	Cluster Y5 Day	Bewerley Park
Monday 18 February	Y5/6 Space Author Visit	Cracoe Village Hall
Wednesday 20 February	Swimming Gala	Upper Wharfedale School
Monday 18 March	Y5/6 Netball	Upper Wharfedale School
Wednesday 10 April	Parents Evening	Except Burnsall Primary
Thursday 11 April	Parents Evening	All schools

Regular Activities and Events

Every Friday 3.00pm Praise Assembly – All welcome
Every Tuesday for six weeks 3.30 pm—5.00 pm Primary F1— at school after sports
FEDERATION CHOIR IS CANCELLED UNTIL HALF-TERM. IT WILL RESTART AFTER HALF-TERM

February Diary Dates

Friday 22 February 3.30pm School Closes for Half-Term Holiday

March Diary Dates

Monday 4 March 8.55 am School reopens

Federation Choir

Mrs Turvey apologises but, for personal reasons, she has had to cancel Federation Choir for the rest of this half-term. It will restart after half-term.

PTA Coffee Morning

The PTA Coffee Morning in Church House will be on Saturday 23rd February. It would be wonderful if you could volunteer to help for one hour (or more) on that morning, or if you could bake cakes for the Coffee Morning. Please can you let a member of the PTA know if you can help with either element of this event? **Alternatively you can sign up on the chart in the entrance lobby.**

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 22nd February, the day before the Coffee Morning, and instead of money we are collecting prizes for the tombola / raffle at the coffee morning. Please bring the prizes into school.

The next PTA meeting will be on 13th February, at 8 pm in the Devonshire—everyone is welcome.

This Week's Award Winners

This week's award winners are:

Class 3

Fred – Mathematician of the Week—for your simplifying fractions work – excellent spotting!

The Indoor Athletics Team— For courage, communication and teamwork.

Class 2

Layla-May — For an excellent first week in Class 2, settling in well and making lots of new friends.

Frank — Mathematician of the Week—for his work on $1/2$, $1/4$ and $3/4$ turns, clockwise and anti-clockwise.

Class 1

Isla — For working independently to create a repeating pattern using the pirate stickers and confidently explaining her learning to the class.

Ronan — For working hard in your phonics lessons, sounding out and blending carefully and accurately.

Charlie H, Eddie & Hannah— For fantastic pictogram problem solving.

Class 3 News

This week has been a busy one. On Monday, Y5 went to Bewerley Park to do outdoor learning. They had a great time and should have been shattered when they came home from all the climbing and trekking they did at Brimham Rocks and Trollers Gill. The skills they develop from team work and communication to developing confidence and courage are invaluable to their learning experience.

In Maths, Y5 have been working on changing improper fractions to mixed numbers and Y6 have been simplifying and making equivalent fractions. We have moved on to comparing and ordering fractions, putting them on a number line.

In English, we have written our fact files on our fictitious South American animal. They've come up with some amazing features – all highly believable.

In Topic we have found out about life cycles in mammals and the process of reproduction. We have also finished our giant Mayan masks using papier-mâché and painting them to produce unique creations.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Harrison and Mr Willis

Class 1 News

In English, we have begun to learn the story of the Jade Emperor and the Chinese Zodiac. We have sequenced the race the animals took part in. We have also performed a poem about the Chinese New Year. Reception are creating a dragon so we can create our own dragon dance as part of our celebrations of Chinese New Year.

Reception children have been learning about the Numberblock 7, creating their own number table. Year 1 have been learning how number bonds for 10 can be related to the number bonds to 20. We have concentrated on using the Numicon to show how to make the number bonds. Year 2 have been learning about collecting data in a tally chart and then using that information to make a pictogram.

In Science, we have been discussing the properties of different materials, using scientific vocabulary to describe materials, such as transparent, opaque or absorbent. As part of our Science work your child has a home learning activity to complete for next Friday in their book. In Art the children have been weaving using paper, investigating weaving from around the world.

Thank you and have a fun weekend together,
Mrs Tulley, Mrs Naisbitt, Mrs Middleton and Mrs Buckley

Class 2 News

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on perimeter and area, counting squares and reasoning and problem solving. We've looked at clockwise and anti-clockwise turns, using compass points and clock faces and we're now learning about angles and how we can use them to measure turns.

In English, we've looked at evidence in our book "*Rain Player*" to help us make character notes and the illustrations to create setting descriptions in preparation for writing our own versions of the story next week. We've also worked in teams of 6 to re-enact the story, using our script writing skills as well as our talent for acting.

In Topic, we learnt about Mayan gods and how they had good and bad sides to their characters. Two of the gods we looked at feature in the story "*Rain Player*", so that helped us develop our re-enactments. We read about Mayan religious practices and festivals and compared them to our own.

In art we started on the illustrations for our "*Rain Player*" writing display and in science we learnt about seed dispersal. Unfortunately, our beans haven't germinated yet, so we couldn't take any root or shoot measurements. Hopefully we'll be able to see some growth next week!

Have a lovely weekend together
Mrs Pettavel and Miss Crosby

STOP PRESS NEWS

Sportshall Indoor Athletics—Craven Finals

Grassington Y5 & Y6 pupils had a very successful event yesterday, coming second overall in the Craven Finals at Upper Wharfedale School.

We are so proud of their marvellous achievement. We have some really talented athletes.