

Spring Term

Friday  
8<sup>th</sup> March  
2019

Grassington CE (VC) Primary School



GRASSINGTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Tractor Times

UPPER WHARFEDALE PRIMARY  
FEDERATION



Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write this letter there is a real buzz here at Grassington – I can hear hammering, cutting, singing and potion-mixing! It has been wonderful to see all of the children come together for World Book Day, dressed as their favourite book characters. Children took part in a range of workshops: making hanging art sculptures with artist Sam Makin, a poetry workshop with poet Gill Lambert, storytelling with Keith Donnelly (Settle Story-tellers), mini book crafts, weaving, rainbow fishes as well as measuring potions to make George's marvellous medicine. The children have had a fantastic day and I was so impressed with how well they organised themselves as they moved around school to enjoy each of the workshops.

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, the day is in memory of a parent at Kettlewell. We would like to thank the family and friends of Max Leefe, who have kindly donated her memorial fund to make this day happen. An anthology of the children's poems will be put together over the next few weeks and published for parents to purchase.



## Grassington Administration

As you know following the retirement of Mrs Hardaker in December, Mr Davey agreed to take on the school administrator position until we were able to appoint. We had a high number of applicants for the post and were pleased to appoint Mrs Wall, who will start at Grassington after the Easter break. I hope that everyone will make Mrs Wall feel welcome and feel part of our school. She has already been into school and joined our federation administrator's team meeting.

## Yoga Club

We are thinking about running an after school Yoga Club at Burnsall Primary School, subject to pupil numbers. The Yoga Club will start after Easter and will be on a Thursday evening 3:45 – 4:45pm. The cost of the club is £4 per child. If your child is interested in taking part in Yoga Club then please email Mrs Whyte at [admin@burnsall.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@burnsall.n-yorks.sch.uk).

## Breakfast Club

Mrs Roddis, who is currently helping out with our Breakfast Club, has suggested that a team of parents may be interested in helping out once a week so that we can extend our Breakfast Club offering to more than two days a week. If you are interested in helping out one morning a week (7:45 – 8:45am) please let Mr Davey know in the school office.

## **Children's Attendance**

We always like to celebrate children's excellent attendance at school, and having recently undertaken a major review of this, we are delighted to recognise and congratulate the following 37 children on their 100% attendance in the Autumn Term:

**Grassington** – Angus, Amelia C, Finley, Phoebe, Charlie H, Emma, Tamsin, Rosa, George.

**Burnsall** – Daniel, Grace, Carys, Thomas, Alexander, Millie, Paige, Hector.

**Cracoe** – Felicity, Ralphie, Jamie, Lauren, Sylvan, Alfie, Elenya, Lilia, Bethany, Carter, Gibson, Evie, Alice, Shea, Isaac, Lucinda.

**Kettlewell** – Ellie, Sophie-Rose, Thomas, Olivia.

That means one-quarter of our children had 100% attendance. Well done to you all!!

Three-quarters of our children had attendance which was better than 95%, and overall, our average across the Federation was 96.8%. This compares very well with the national primary school average of 96%.

As part of our review, we do also look into reasons why children have been absent, and contact parents particularly if there are patterns of absence or if any child's absence falls below 90%.

We look forward to the children's attendance being at least as equally good this term and, in the near future, we will be introducing various rewards and incentives to promote this further.

## **Timetable**

A timetable was sent out at the start of this term that states when a headteacher is on site at each of the schools. It is difficult to stick to a timetable that is pre-planned so far in advance because as you can appreciate things often crop up the following week and I need to be at a certain school. We will print a timetable in our weekly newsletter for the week ahead:

| Week beginning<br>11 <sup>th</sup> March | Mrs Besharati |             |             | Mrs Boxall                            |  |
|--|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
|  | Monday        | Tuesday     | Wednesday   | Thursday                              | Friday                                   |
| AM                                       | Burnsall      | Grassington | Cracoe      | To be confirmed<br>(All Headteachers) | Attending<br>Headteachers'<br>Conference |
| PM                                       | Kettlewell    | Kettlewell  | Grassington | Kettlewell                            |  |

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

### Message from Anne Vetch Chair of Governors

What a fantastic day the children had on Wednesday of this week, when world book day was combined with a day packed full of different experiences of the arts! Mary Poppins, Alice in Wonderland, Two little Women, Harry Potter and Willy Wonka to name but a few, joined together from all our schools.

Tapestry making, crafts of various sorts, poets, storytelling, marvellous medicine making were just some of the activities on offer from Federation staff and those specialists we had been able to buy in, thanks to the generosity of the Weber family.

The donation in memory of Max Leefe made all of this possible and on behalf of the Governors I would like to thank her family and Rebecca Ward – Dooley for allowing us to be part of this wonderful tribute to Max.

### 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.

#### Diary Dates

| <b>Date</b>                   | <b>Details</b>        | <b>Location</b>         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday 18 March               | Y5/6 Netball          | Upper Wharfedale School |
| Thursday 21 March             | Swimming Gala Finals  | Craven Pool             |
| Wednesday 10 April            | Parents Evening       | Except Burnsall Primary |
| Thursday 11 April             | Parents Evening       | All schools             |
| Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April | Staff Training Day    | School closed           |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May   | SATs Week (Y6 pupils) | Every School            |

#### Regular Activities and Events

**Every Friday** 3.00pm Praise Assembly – All welcome

#### **March Diary Dates**

#### Year 5 & Year 6 Tag Rugby

Class 3 children will need their PE kits on Fridays for Tag Rugby for the rest of this half-term. Please can you ensure that children have their PE kit and sports footwear with them every Friday?

#### Class 1 News

In English, this week we have been learning how to perform tongue twisters to an audience. Together we discussed what we need to ensure a good performance of a poem. We have also written our own tongue twisters by making a list of words that begun with the same initial sound or feature the same vowel sounds. The children then used the collection of words to create a tongue twister.

In Maths, Reception have been creating their own patterns. Year 1 have been using the part whole model to find a missing number in addition or subtraction sentence within 20. Year 2 have been learning about the vertical and horizontal lines of symmetry on 2D shapes.

The children all looked wonderful on our World Book Day. On Wednesday afternoon they took part in different activities with children from all the Federation schools, including creating a sculpture and listening to a visiting storyteller.

This week Year 2 have a Maths activity to complete in their Maths book, pages 58—65 inclusive. Year 1 have common exception words to practise in their home learning book.

Thank you and have a great weekend,  
Mrs Tulley, Mrs Naisbitt, Mrs Middleton and Mrs Buckley.

### **Class 2 News**

Class 2 have had a busy first week back!

The main event this week was World Book Day and what a busy day it was! Everyone looked fabulous in their costumes, so thank you for all your efforts with this. All the children in the federation met up again and took part in poetry, storytelling, art, weaving, measuring and book making activities and everyone had a fantastic time!

As well as celebrating World Book Day, we have worked very hard, continuing with our diary writing topic, looking at how we can include chatty language in our work, which is not usually allowed in our English books! We've looked at an example from Diary of a Wimpy Kid and we're now writing our own diary entries.

In Maths, we have started our work on fractions, looking at unit and non-unit fractions, adding fractions to make wholes and identifying equivalent fractions (numbers and shapes). We've been spotting patterns and seeing which times tables we can use to help us.

In Science, we have started our topic about how to look after ourselves and we've revised the 5 main food groups and their role in keeping us healthy. Our beans and herbs are growing well and hopefully we'll be able to get a few more measurements so that we can make line graphs.

Don't forget the spelling test on Monday and the new times table test, too! Keep practising!

Have a lovely weekend together,  
Mrs Pettavel and Miss Crosby

### **Class 3 News**

In Maths, we have continued adding fractions, using mixed numbers and solving mastery questions. We have started to learn how to multiply and divide fractions.

In English we have been learning spellings from the statutory Year 5 and 6 list. We have also been revising the different types of verbs and their use within sentences.

In Science, the children tested and modified their Formula 1 cars. Many of the groups improved their times from previous models.

On Wednesday, we had a super morning celebrating World Book Day. The children took part in various workshops and showed just how creative they are.

This afternoon our Year 5 and 6 School Council members have helped to organise the Fairtrade Café.

#### **HOMEWORK –**

**Y5 and Y6 - Science Life cycles project to be handed in on 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Y6 SATs Practice – Synonyms and antonyms to be in on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March.**

Have a lovely weekend,

#### **PE & Swimming Kit**

Mr Baines would like to remind everyone that all children **must** bring their PE kit with them on Tuesdays and KS2 need to remember to bring their swimming kit as well.

#### **PTA NEWS**

##### **PTA Coffee Morning**

A massive thank you for all the terrific Tombola/Raffle prizes that we received into school on the Friday before half term and then for all the baking donations and help provided by volunteers for the Coffee Morning the day after at Church House. We had a successful morning raising just under £400!

More importantly it was a lovely way to spend the morning, with so many of you supporting us in the spring sunshine! Many thanks again.

##### **New Playground Markings**

It was great to come back from the half term break and see that the new markings and other work to the playground had been completed during the holiday. All the children were excited about getting outside and exploring – there is a new running track which is a mile long if you complete 16 laps, a mirror-mirror game, new chalk board and new hop scotches to play on amongst other things. Proceeds raised by PTA activities funded the improvements to the playground and it is rewarding to see the children enjoying themselves and benefitting from the update.

There will be a “Grand Opening” later this half-term—details to follow.

The next PTA meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm in the Devonshire.

#### **High Adventure Charity Comedy Night**

A High Adventure Charity Comedy Night, in aid of Multiple Sclerosis Society and other local charitable beneficiaries, is being held at the Rendezvous Hotel on Friday 17th May 2019. Please contact Kristy Kelly, a parent at Burnsall for tickets on 07768595956 or email - [Kristykelly@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kristykelly@hotmail.co.uk)