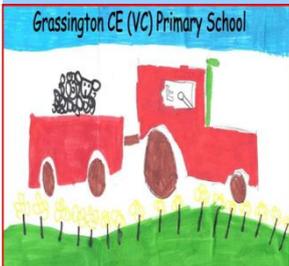


Autumn Term 1
Friday
6th September
2019



GRASSINGTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tractor Times



Message from the Executive Headteachers

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you have had a wonderful summer holiday and that the children are feeling refreshed for the start of term. This newsletter has a lot of important dates and information in so please take time to read the letter and update your diaries!

We welcomed our new reception children into our schools this week. They all looked so grown up in their uniform. It was lovely to see the older children in the class supporting and guiding them as they settle in.

In addition to our reception children we welcomed three pupils at Burnsall. Cain in Year 2, Elodie in Year 3 and Cyrus in Year 5.

All our staff came together at Kettlewell Primary School on Monday for our staff training day. The morning was spent looking at our curriculum vision statement and how we will be going about making this reality this term. We spent some time looking at how we will be incorporating metacognition lessons into our curriculum, more of this on next week's newsletter. In the afternoon, our specialist leaders in English, maths, RE and SENDCo delivered workshops.

Kettlewell Ofsted inspection

Kettlewell Primary had an Ofsted inspection on 10th July and the report was published this week. We are delighted with the report, which recognises Kettlewell as a 'good' school. Many of the strengths of the school were highlighted in the report along with the many benefits of being part of the federation. A copy of the report was sent to all families at Kettlewell on Wednesday. If you would like to read the report it will be published on the Ofsted website by Monday.

Monday Afternoons – Class 1

On Monday afternoons, all Class 1 children from each school come together at Cracoe Primary School. The children will be taught in their own year groups i.e. reception children together, Year 1 together and Year 2 together. Children in key stage 1 will have access to specialist teachers in Music (Mrs Turvey) and PE (Mr Baines). All of the children will be familiar with the teachers as they taught them last term. Reception children will spend the afternoon in our Class 1 classroom and outdoor area with Mrs Braithwaite and Mrs Naisbitt, who are both experienced early years practitioners. This will give our youngest children an opportunity to play and learn alongside a wider range of children their own age.

All Class 1 children, including reception children, will need to come in their full PE kit every Monday. The school's PE uniform is black shorts, white t-shirt, trainers or pumps. Please note that children should not be wearing items of clothing with sports logos or lettering on them apart from trainers.

Tuesday Afternoons – Key Stage 2

On Tuesday afternoons, all Class 2 (and Class 3 at Grassington) from each school will come together at Grassington Primary or Upper Wharfedale Secondary to access specialist teachers in Music (Mrs Turvey), PE (Mr Baines), French (Madame MacLean), Swimming (Mrs Allen).

All Class 2 and Class 3 children will need to come in their full PE kit every Tuesday. Again; please note the school's PE uniform policy as stated above.

Your child will access swimming sessions every fortnight, so will need their swimming kits of the following dates:

Tuesday:	10 th Sept	17 th Sept	24 th Sept	1 st Oct	8 th Oct	15 th Oct	22 nd Oct
Year 3 and		✓		✓		✓	
Year 4							
Year 5 and	✓		✓		✓		✓
Year 6							

Parent Volunteers

If any parents (or grandparents) have some spare time and would like to help in one of our schools, then please let us know. We often need an extra helper to come on the bus with us on Monday/Tuesday afternoons, or help with gardening, library; DIY...we could go on. Please fill in the slip at the bottom and indicate if you have some time, even if only ad-hoc. Next week, you will receive a curriculum overview for the term, if any parent, grandparent has an area of expertise or knowledge which will enhance our children's learning, please contact school and speak with the base leader to see if your skills and knowledge would be of use to us.

Communication

Every Friday you will receive a Newsletter which will give an overview of the week and reminders of anything coming up. In addition to the Newsletter, each school has its own Facebook page where they share learning highlights and events that are happening in school. We have our own Upper Wharfedale Primary Federation page which is updated with whole federation activities and information; please follow both pages if you use social media. Any urgent messages will be sent out via text message, if you change your mobile phone number please ensure that the school office know so that you receive these messages.

Our Communication Strategy Group are a team of parents (representatives from each school) who meet with Mrs Besharati once a half term to discuss how we communicate with parents and promote our schools in the wider community. If you are interested in joining the group, please indicate on the slip at the end of this Newsletter.

If you have any queries or concerns our class teachers are always around at the start or end of the school day and should be your first point of contact. If you feel that you need to discuss things further, then please make an appointment to see the Base Leader who can be contacted by emailing the school office – admin@grassington.n-yorks.sch.uk. If this does not meet your needs, then please arrange an appointment to see one of the executive headteachers.

Friends

Each of our four schools have a 'Friends' or 'Parents Teacher Association Group' (PTA). Friends are instrumental in supporting our schools by organising fundraising activities throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the Friends Group or can offer support in our fundraising days, then please again indicate on the slip at the bottom and the Chair of Friends will contact you.

Breakfast Club

We are currently advertising for a Breakfast Club Worker at Grassington Primary School. The job is to work Monday to Thursday from 7:45am – 8:45am, if you know anyone who is interested please contact Mrs Wall, our administrator at Grassington who will provide more details.

After School Care

We are delighted that as of Monday 9th September, we will have an after-school provision for the federation based at Grassington Primary School. This is provided by an external provider, Awesome Owls. Details of Awesome Owls after school care are attached. Transport to Grassington will be provided by school, parents will need to sign to agree to their child(ren) being transported by school to Grassington.

Timetable

Week beginning 9 th September	Mrs Besharati		Mrs Besharati & Mrs Boxall	Mrs Boxall	
	Monday	Tuesday		Thursday	Friday
AM	Cracoe	Kettlewell	Burnsall	Grassington	Kettlewell
PM	Cracoe	Kettlewell	Burnsall	Grassington	Cracoe

We will be hosting a phonics evening for parents of children in Reception and Year 1 but still awaiting confirmation of the date from the trainer.

Mrs E N Besharati and Mrs C Boxall

Message from the Chair of Governors – Mrs Anne Vetch

The Governors are absolutely delighted with the recent OFSTED report for Kettlewell School which was published earlier this week. It is a fair reflection of all the hard work that goes on by everyone associated with our school – children, staff, parents, and Governors. It is a great way to start a new yearand it now makes four in a row since we Federated. Well done everyone!

Federation Diary Dates

Monday 16 th September:	Upper Wharfedale Cross Country Event (KS2) After School, details to follow.
Tuesday 24 th September:	Open Classroom Evening at Burnsall, Cracoe & Kettlewell, 4:00pm – 5:00pm.
Wednesday 25 th September:	Open Classroom Evening at Grassington, 5pm – 6pm
Wednesday 25 th September:	Year 6 Residential Information Session at Grassington, 6pm. All Year 6 parents across the cluster of schools invited.
Thursday 26 th September:	UCI Championships, coming through Burnsall & Kettlewell.
Friday 27 th September:	Macmillan coffee afternoon at Kettlewell, 2:15pm. All parents across the federation invited.
Sunday 29 th September:	UCI Championships, coming through Kettlewell, Grassington & Cracoe.
Tuesday 1 st October:	Open Morning at Cracoe for prospective parents, 9:30 – 11:30
Wednesday 2 nd October:	Open Morning at Grassington for prospective parents, 9:30 – 11:30
Tuesday 8 th October:	Open Morning at Kettlewell for prospective parents, 9:30 – 11:30
Wednesday 9 th October:	Open Morning at Burnsall for prospective parents, 9:30 – 11:30
Thursday 10 th October:	Year 5/6 Cluster Football Tournament, Details to follow
Wednesday 16 th October:	Parents Evening at all schools
Thursday 17 th October:	Parents Evening at Grassington & Cracoe
Wednesday 16 th October:	World Food Day, Details to follow
21 st October:	Science Week
Thursday 24 th October:	Big Sing Event at Grassington Town Hall, Performances at 2pm and 6pm.
October Half Term:	Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November
Monday 11 th November:	Friendship Week
Wednesday 13 th November:	Learnology Workshop for parents 9:30am at Burnsall and 5pm at Cracoe.
9 th & 10 th December:	RE Days around the theme of 'Light'
Week commencing 16 th Dec:	Class 1 Nativities & Christmas Festivities, see school dates below for individual schools
School Closes:	Friday 20 th December

School Diary Dates

Thursday 12 th September	Grassington in Bloom – Flower Meadow Creation (1pm)
Friday 13 th September	Individual & Sibling School photos – Tempest photography 9am
Saturday 14 th September	1940's weekend, Grassington – meet @11:45, Parade at 12pm. Dressed as Evacuees
Sunday 15 th September	1940's Weekend, Grassington – meet @12:45, Parade at 1pm
Thursday 26 th September	Rivers 2U Bus
Thursday 3 rd October	Harvest Festival (Theme: World of Water), details to follow
16 th & 17 th October	Parents Evening
Thursday 21 st November	NSPCC Assemblies for KS1 at 9:30am & KS2 at 10am. Followed by a workshop for Y5/6
Monday 25 th November	Change4Life Festival (PM) Boyle and Petyt Details to follow
Thursday 19 th December	KS1 Nativity Play (2pm and 6pm)
Friday 20 th December	School Christmas Party

Attachments

Please complete the attached forms: Final Privacy Notice, New Photo Consent, Consent for Rolling Visits and NYEVAS consent; and return to the School Office.

School Meals

School meals are £2.50 per meal and can be paid for through ParentPay. We ask that payments are made at least weekly in advance.

School Clubs

Breakfast Club

If you would like to utilise the Breakfast Club this term, please contact Mrs Wall in the School Office to register. Do you have any spare time? The Breakfast Club Needs You!! Volunteers required to support the Breakfast Club between 07:45am and 08:45am Monday through to Friday. Please contact Mrs Wall in the School Admin Office or Lisa Roddis for further details.

Awesome Owls After School Club

The cost will be £8 per child per day. An exciting and wide range of activities will be on offer including Crafts, Circus Skills, Kanga Sports, Tae Kwon Do, Movie Nights and much more! Should you require any further information, please contact Liz Tayler on 07946 560280 or email: twittwoeducation@gmail.com

Gardening Club - Creation of Flower Meadow Opposite School to be part of a B-Line from Leeds to Lancaster

Grassington in Bloom have invited school to help turn the patch of land at the bottom of Springfield Road (across the road from school and opposite the Royal Mail Sorting Office) into a wild flower meadow to attract bees and be a part of a B-line that is being established between Leeds and Lancaster.

B-lines are a series of pathways weaving through the country, along which many conservation organisations are creating habitat stepping-stones. These lines will link existing wildlife areas together by creating and restoring wildlife patches that are rich in wildflowers.

The creation of the flower meadow will also be supported by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's Bee Together project. The Bee Together project aims to create an unbroken network of habitat for pollinators through both the countryside and urban areas across the country.

Next Thursday (12th September) the children will be visiting the patch of land to walk in the flower seed and plant plug plants. **Please could children bring in suitable footwear (ideally wellies) and a coat for this activity.**

We will keep you updated on how the creation of the flower meadow progresses throughout the course of the year!

PTA NEWS

The PTA AGM will be on the 24th September 2019 at 8pm at The Devonshire Pub. All parents welcome. Please join us and get involved with the planning for next year!

Reply Slips

Reply slip: Parent volunteers

I would like to be a parent volunteer for

Monday afternoon on the bus.....

Tuesday afternoon on the bus.....

May have time occasionally to help with gardening, library, DIY or other.....

Reply Slip: Communication Strategy Group

I would be interested in joining the communication strategy group

.....

Reply slip: Friends

I would be interested in joining the Friends Group.....

I would be happy to help at fundraising events.....

If any of the above is of interest, please sign and print name on the one/ones relevant, add a contact number and hand back into the school office. Many thanks in advance.