

Autumn Term 2  
Friday  
29<sup>th</sup> November  
2019

Grassington CE (VC) Primary School



GRASSINGTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tractor Times

UPPER WHARFEDALE PRIMARY  
FEDERATION



## Message from the Executive Headteachers

Dear Parents / Carers

On Thursday evening girls in Year 5 and 6 came together to form our first Federation sports team. In previous years, girls in Year 5/6 have struggled to compete in the football tournament because there are not enough girls to make one team in a school. However, for the first time we were allowed to enter as a Federation – the girls were thrilled.

*'It's great we get to take part this year' - Alice*

They all played really well last night and enjoyed the event. They came fourth against some very tough competition.



### STEM

Technology is constantly evolving, and more jobs and careers are heading towards the likes of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM), engaging children from a young age to take an interest in these essential sectors and subject areas are becoming an increased focus within education. Last year, The Upper Wharfedale Primary Federation started running Formula 1 after school clubs for Year 5 and 6 pupils in an attempt to give pupils a deeper understanding of STEM in an interactive and fun project. This culminated in a successful F1 day held at Upper Wharfedale Secondary School at the end of the summer.

Since then, Mr Willis, who started F1 club has used his expertise and passions to deliver STEM lessons as part of the curriculum. This term Mr Willis has been spending an afternoon at Grassington Primary School and Cracoe and Rylstone Primary School designing and making bridges to cross the River Wharfe.

*Josh, Year 5 - It was fun when we loaded our model bridges with weights until they collapsed; and I liked finding out what shape of pillars was the best. The best models we made were the bridges with trusses.*

*Amelia, Year 5 - I really liked building the bridges because it gave me a challenge to work on and it was also really interesting. Testing how much weight the bridges could hold was really fun because they collapsed in different ways, either sideways or flopping in the middle!*

Next term Mr Willis will spend an afternoon at Burnsall then Kettlewell.



### People who help us

As part of Class 1's topic which explores people who help us, the children at Burnsall had a visit from PC Brittain. All the children in Class 1 managed to fit in PC Brittain's car! The children had a wonderful morning asking lots of questions to find out about what the police do to help us.



### Christmas Jumper

One in four Christmas jumpers bought last year was thrown away or is unlikely to be worn again, according to new research which reveals that most novelty sweaters will only ever be worn once. The Ellen MacArthur foundation recently exposed the scale of the waste generated by the fashion industry, and how its throwaway culture generates greenhouse emissions of 1.2bn tonnes a year – more than international flights and shipping combined.

We are therefore encouraging families not to go out to buy a new jumper for our Christmas jumper day. If you already have one that can be reused then by all means wear this, otherwise bring an alternative jumper that you don't mind being altered and we will decorate it at school with lots of Christmas sparkle!

Christmas jumper day is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### **PE and Swimming Timetable**

Children in KS2 will continue to access swimming sessions every fortnight, so will need to come to school in their PE kit **and** bring their swimming kit on the following dates:

Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 3 & 4	✓		✓		✓		✓
Year 5 & 6		✓		✓		✓	

Year 5 & 6 also need to come to school in their PE Kit every Wednesday.

**A reminder that children should wear plain navy / black shorts or joggers for PE lessons. These should not have any sports logo or branding.**

### **Learning Power!**

Our learning power that we have been focusing on in our Learnology sessions is independence.

### **Awesome Owls**

The club continues to be a great success, with many of our children attending from across the Federation....there is always space for more!

Many parents have been asking about accessing funding for childcare costs. As Ms Taylor has registered the club with all the necessary bodies' parents may be able to access funding through:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs>.

### **Attendance**

Our school attendance this week is **97.2%**

Our school target is **97%**

### **Timetable**

Week beginning 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2019	Mrs Besharati		Mrs Besharati & Mrs Boxall	Mrs Boxall	
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Grassington	Kettlewell	Cracoe	Out	Grassington
PM	Burnsall	Kettlewell	Burnsall	Cracoe	Grassington

Mrs E N Besharati and Mrs C Boxall

### **Federation Diary Dates**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

**School closes**

**School re-opens**

Y5/6 Athletics – Time and venue TBC

KS2 Swimming Gala at UWS (**morning**)

RE Week

Internet Safety Day

Federation BIG SING Performance, Grassington Town Hall (**2pm & 6pm**)

**School closes for half term**

### School Diary Dates

Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Dickensian Day Festival
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Reception pupils Height / Vision screening <b>am</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Y5 Rewind to Christmas, Netherside Hall, Threshfield <b>09:30am to 11:30am</b>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School - Panto – ‘Snow White’ at Harrogate Theatre <b>2pm</b>
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Dickensian Day Festival
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils to Town Hall to sing at Lunch Club
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity, <b>2pm</b> and <b>6:15pm</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school - Christmas Service, St Michael & All Angels Church, Linton <b>10:30am</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Lunch
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Party
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>School Closes</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Staff Training Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>School re-opens to pupils</b>

### School Clubs

**Breakfast Club** - We still require Volunteers to support the Breakfast Club between 07:45am and 08:45am Monday through to Thursday. If you can spare some time, please contact Mrs Wall in the School Admin Office or Lisa Roddis for further details.

### Gardening Club –



Grassington in Bloom have now drawn up a plan of activities for the After-School Gardening Club and is due to start on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March when the soil is warming up! Further information to follow nearer the time.

**Primary Formula 1 Club –** At Grassington Primary School for Y5/6 on the following Thursdays from 3.30pm to 5pm:

>12<sup>th</sup> December

### Accordion Club



Accordion Workshops will be on the following days during school hours:

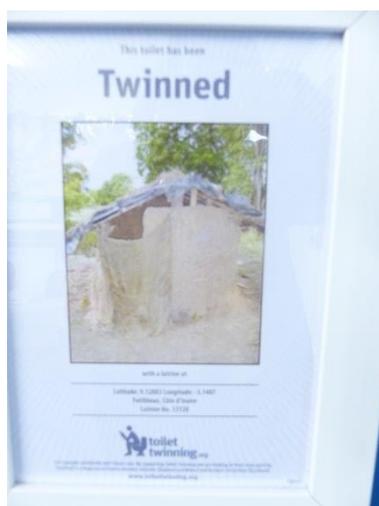
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

### Communication Folders

The children now have a Communication Folder which is placed in their bags when there are letters / forms to be sent home to parents. **Could we please ask that any reply slips are placed back into the folders and returned to school? Thank you.**

### Message from The School Council

Our toilet at Grassington School has been twinned with a latrine in Cote D'Ivoire, West Africa and we received our certification this week!



### ParentPay Accounts

Could you kindly ensure that your ParentPay Account is up to date by **Monday morning every week or monthly if preferred**. Non-payment for items may affect the quality of service we are able to offer to the children therefore we need to ensure that all accounts are up to date. If you have any queries, please contact the school office to discuss this further.

### Praise Assembly

Next Praise Assembly will be on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm.**

### PTA News

As is the usual tradition, there will be a torchlit procession around the village at 4pm ending with community carol singing in the Village Square. Children are invited to meet outside Reverend David's house (follow driveway directly opposite school's main entrance, but no parking available) at approx. 3.45pm to dress in nativity costume (provided) and lead the procession round the village with the donkey, calling at the pubs to

see if there is 'any room at the Inn'? Unfortunately, numbers have been quite low in recent years, if you can come along it is a lovely experience for everyone involved and a great way to get into the Christmas spirit!

### **Dickensian Festival 2019**

Taking place tomorrow – Saturday 30th November and then the following Saturday, 7th December.

### **Volunteers!**

**Can you help???** We are in need of parent volunteers to help serve refreshments to visitors. The rota for tomorrow is short of people between 12-2pm and 2-4pm and we also need volunteers to help tidy up from 4pm. The rota for next Saturday has gaps 10-12pm, 12-2pm and 2-4pm as well as volunteers to help tidy up.

If you have just a spare hour of your time, partners' time or grandparents' time we would be incredibly grateful. You will be directly contributing towards your child/children's experience at school by helping us raise valuable funds that go towards paying for transport for school trips to make them more affordable (e.g. The Deep, Pantomime), for projects like the recent refurbishment of the library and repainting of the playground and to purchase equipment and resources to benefit the children's learning experiences.

We know it is a busy time of year, but if every family could give an hour of their time to ensure we have enough pairs of hands for the event to run smoothly it would be greatly appreciated – on average we raise approx. £2,000 over the two Dickensian Saturday's for school!! We don't want to cancel either Saturday because of insufficient volunteers and lose out on these funds this year.

The rota for both days is up at the entrance in school. If you cannot get to school but can help please message a member of the PTA, Mrs Wall in the school Office or send a message to the school's Facebook Page.

### **Baking & Tombola**

Another way you can help is to donate home baked cakes (or shop bought)! These can be taken to school on the Friday before the Dickensian Days or on the Saturday morning of the event. We would also like to put a tombola together. If you have anything lurking in your cupboards suitable as a tombola prize, then please think of us when you have your pre-Christmas clear out! Please bring into school or pass to a member of the PTA.

### **Next PTA Meeting**

Next PTA meeting will be held in the New Year, date to follow. All welcome.



## Christmas Dates

### **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Year 5 'Rewind to Christmas'**

Year 5 will travel to Netherside Hall, Threshfield by coach. Pick up is at 09:00am and they will return to school at 11.30am in time for lunch. Mr Willis will accompany the children. Please return parental consent slips. Thank you.

### **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Panto – 'Snow White' at Harrogate Theatre 2pm**

Whole school trip to see 'Snow White' at Harrogate Theatre. The children will have an early lunch before walking to Colvend Car park to meet our two coaches at 12.30pm. The Pantomime starts at 2pm and lasts approx 2.5hrs including the interval. We will arrive back at Colvend Car Park at approx 5pm. Parents are to collect their child/children from Colvend Car Park. If the coach is going to be late a member of staff will send a text out to parents via Teachers2parents. All members of staff will be accompanying the children. Voluntary contributions of £6.50 towards each child's ticket, in order to make the visit viable can be made via the Parentpay account. Please return parental consent slips. Thank you.

### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper**

This year we would like the children in **Class 2 and 3** to bring in a jumper that they don't mind being altered and they will decorate it at school with lots of Christmas sparkle! They will then take them home to wear on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Jumper Day.

### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Pupils to Town Hall to sing at Lunch Club**

Class 3 pupils will have an early lunch and then walk over to the Town Hall to sing Christmas Carols to the Lunch Club. They will be accompanied by Mrs Harrison.

### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December - KS1 Nativity**

KS1 will be performing their Nativity Play - 'The Bossy King' in the School Hall. There will be a 2pm and 6:15pm performance. All welcome.

### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day**

Children to come dressed in their Christmas Jumpers.

### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Service, St Michael & All Angels Church, Linton**

The children will walk to the church accompanied by members of staff. Service will start at 10:30am. More details to follow.