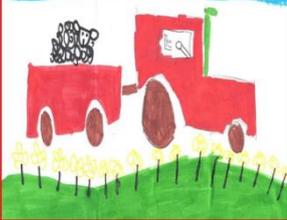


Spring Term 1  
Friday  
17<sup>th</sup> January  
2020

Grassington CE (VC) Primary School



GRASSINGTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tractor Times



## Message from the Executive Headteachers

Dear Parents / Carers

We had two very successful stay and play sessions at Kettlewell and Grassington. Kettlewell hosted their first stay and play on Friday, where families enjoyed meeting staff and mixing with the younger children. Teachers felt that this was a positive way of forging links with our new families and hope to make this a regular event at Kettlewell – the last Friday of each half term.

At **Grassington**, a teddy bear's picnic was organised with staff; some older pupils engaged in a range of activities for the younger children to explore and enjoy. Again, both parents and staff felt this would be great to have a regular session for families in the area with young children. We are hoping to establish a weekly stay and play session at Grassington like we have at Burnsall.

Burnsall Beehives has been a great success, thank you to May and Clover, both parents at Burnsall for volunteering to run this session. If any families with children under 5 would like to come to Burnsall Beehives, it is open to anyone, regardless whether you come to our school or not. Burnsall Beehives is every Tuesday from 1:30pm.

### Welcome

A warm welcome back to Mrs Kellett. Mrs Kellett taught at Kettlewell School last academic year and has agreed to job-share with Mrs McGee until the end of July. It is great to have someone come back to the federation who was part of all our training and work around the curriculum last year – welcome back!

### Mr Willis

We would like to congratulate Mr Willis on his new post – although it will be sad to see him leave as he has been a fantastic asset to all of our schools, we know that he will be amazing in his new role at Upper Wharfedale School. Mr Willis will be leaving on 3<sup>rd</sup> February but will continue to run F1 Club for the foreseeable future at Grassington Primary. Mrs Blair, who has been teaching at Grassington Primary, will step into part of Mr Willis's role and until we appoint a Teaching Assistant, we have Mrs Campbell, a qualified teacher, working full time at Grassington alongside the class teachers to offer additional support.

### Hello and Goodbye

We said goodbye to Charlie in Year 1 at Burnsall at the end of term. Charlie will be moving up the Dales when he returns to England...but good news for us, his parents want him to stay within the federation and will return as a pupil at Kettlewell at the start of February! Charlie already knows the Year 1 children at Kettlewell from his Monday afternoons with them. I am sure he will settle into life at Kettlewell quite quickly.

### Shine Awards

Our Friday fortnightly 'Shine' Assembly is to reward the children for their hard work and Learning achievements in school. Starting this week, there will be two 'shine' certificates awarded for each class. The 'shine' certificate identifies those children who do just that - 'shine', in school whether it be for learning or helping others for example; the list is endless! Please see below for 'Shine' Award nominations.

## Learning Hero

We introduced a new 'Learning Hero' this term. Rosie Ready has four learning powers. For the past two weeks we have been focusing on the power of 'contributing'. What does contributing mean? Why is it important?

The children and staff voted for the person in the class who they think has shown this power over the last two weeks. Please see below for the 'Learning Hero'.

## Collective worship

The theme for our collective worship this half term is forgiveness.

*'Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others'* – Colossians 3:13

## Attendance



At the beginning of every term, we like to remind parents/carers that in the Upper Wharfedale Primary Federation, we believe that attendance at school is very important for all of our children. This enables them to make good progress and reach their full potential. Absence can lead to poor progress and poor attainment thereby preventing children from achieving their full potential. Parents should inform the school office before 8:50 of the first day of a child's absence. A letter from parents confirming the reason for absence is required on the child's return. If the parents do not make contact with the school by 9.20 am regarding a child's absence, the school will make contact by telephone to establish the child's safety. It is very important that children are punctual and arrive in school on time.

We also request that whenever possible; every effort should be made to arrange medical and dental appointments outside of the school day. If it is necessary for a child to be out of school for this reason, the child should return to school directly after the appointment. Medical appointments will be recorded as "authorised absence" in the register. We also appreciate that in some circumstances this is not possible.

## Parental Requests for Holidays during Term Time

Families taking holidays during term time is a cause of absence, which has been highlighted nationally as a disruptive factor in child's education. Schools are required to implement government regulations regarding the taking of Leave of Absence in term-time. The law gives no entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Parents who feel there are exceptional circumstances for their child being absent from school, must obtain the school's permission before making any arrangements for leave, otherwise the absence will be recorded as "unauthorised". Details of which can be found on the website. A form (available from the school office or via the

school website) requesting leave of absence should be completed by the parent/carer and returned to the school as far in advance as possible and preferably at least 6 weeks before the first date of the period of leave being requested.

Headteachers and governors, monitor very closely attendance, e.g. persistent absence, recurring patterns of absence, frequent lateness, on-going attendance which falls below 90%. All of our schools actively promote and support children’s attendance by:

- Ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum that provides children with the best possible learning opportunities and experiences;
- Providing a welcoming, safe and caring environment in which each child is valued and supported;
- Building and maintaining effective partnerships between the school and its parents, external support agencies and the wider community.
- Acknowledging good attendance.

We hope that you will be supportive of our school policy.

**Attendance**

Our school attendance this week is **97.59%**

Our school target is **97%**

**PE and Swimming Timetable**

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

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Jan</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>
<b>YR 3 &amp; 4</b>	✓		✓		✓	<b>No swimming or PE (Children will be practising for BIG Performance Concert)</b>
<b>YR 5 &amp; 6</b>		✓		✓ <b>No Swimming as Cluster swimming gala but pupils will still do PE</b>		

**Timetable**

<b>Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020</b>	<b>Mrs Besharati</b>		<b>Mrs Besharati &amp; Mrs Boxall</b>	<b>Mrs Boxall</b>	
	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>AM</b>	Grassington	Cracoe	Burnsall	Cracoe	Kettlewell
<b>PM</b>	Grassington	Grassington	Burnsall	Cracoe	Burnsall

Mrs E N Besharati and Mrs C Boxall

### Federation Diary Dates

Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	KS2 Swimming Gala at UWS 1pm – 3pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	RE Week
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Athletics Final at UWS (after school)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Internet Safety Day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Swimming Finals at Skipton (Time TBC)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Federation BIG SING Performance, Grassington Town Hall (2pm & 6pm)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half term

## What's happening next week?

### School Diary Dates

DATE	During School	After School
<i>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January</i>		
<i>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January</i>		
<i>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</i>		
<i>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</i>		
<i>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January</i>		



The children will be having regular exercise sessions at school.  
Class 3 (Years 5 & 6) will have weekly sessions on Monday afternoon.  
Class 2 (Years 3 & 4) daily morning exercise. The children do not need to bring their PE kit in for these sessions. Please note however, that they will need PE kit for the regular Tuesday PE / swimming sessions mentioned earlier.

### 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.

**After School Club** – The After-School club is now run by Kanga Sports. There will be a range of sporting activities for the children to participate in. They will also do craft and creative activities. Also, children who prefer, will be able to have some quiet time in the library. A snack will be provided for them.

**Accordion Club** - Accordion sessions continue after lunch on Wednesdays.

**Gardening Club** - Will commence in March. More details to follow.

## STAR AWARDS

### Class 1

1. **Eddie** – for always getting on with his work sensibly.
2. **Freddie** – for working well as part of a group to build Percy the penguin a home.

### Class 2

1. **Layla-May** – showing courtesy by introducing Eleanor to others in school.
2. **Nuala** – showing determination and perseverance to improve her handwriting in her final draft of instructions.

### Class 3

1. **Emma** – showing how polite and caring she is and what true friendship means especially to her 'buddy' Eleanor.
2. **Ben** – showing commitment, drive, resilience and determination in his learning, especially in Maths.

## LEARNING HEROES

The Learning Hero is awarded to a member of the class who is recognised by their peers, using the 7 C's to guide them in their choices.

### Class 1

1. **Angus** – contributing some very good ideas during lessons.

### Class 2

1. **Layla-May** – always being ready for learning!

### Class 3

1. **Areeb** – working hard, concentration and never giving up!

## Sportshall Athletics

Class 3 went to Upper Wharfedale School on Thursday afternoon to participate in the Cluster Sportshall Athletics Competition. A BIG well done to all the children who took part. They had a fantastic time and displayed so much determination, teamwork and sportsmanship. Grassington was 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. **Well done Class 3, you are a credit to Grassington Primary school and yourselves!**



### 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.**

### 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 31<sup>st</sup> January at 3pm. All welcome.**

### PTA News

Next PTA meeting will be held at the Devonshire Pub, Grassington on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 8pm. All welcome.

### Coffee Morning

The annual Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 14th March at Church House. Could we kindly ask for helpers on the day and donations of cakes? Thank you.