



# GRAPPENHALL HEYS NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL

December 2021

## Emotional health and wellbeing - Mindfulness

On 10<sup>th</sup> November the whole school took part in a **mindfulness and yoga day**, which started with an assembly and then each class had the opportunity to take part in guided yoga with Ms Ball. The children really enjoyed the sessions and we want to send our thanks to Ms Ball and Mrs MacCrory who organised the day.

## Online Safety Virtual Assembly Monday 29 November

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who attended the online safety session, we hope that you found it informative. Many thanks to Miss Yau for organising and leading the session.

## Friday 5 November – own clothes day in exchange for £1 – British Hedgehog Preservation Society. We raised £205.65, well done to everyone and thank you!

**Children in Need 19 November** – we raised £200.14 thank you to everyone who donated.

**Christmas Markets planned for Friday 10th December will not take place.** Instead there will be a mini market of the EYFs playground on Thursday 9th December and Friday 10th December from 3.15 – 3.45. This will consist of three stalls selling the goods that have been made in preparation for the markets so that they are not wasted. Please bring along correct change to minimise the handling of cash.

Stall 1 - Grappenhall Heys baubles £2

Stall 2 - Hot Chocolate cones £2

Stall 3 - Mini Xmas puddings £3 and Santa hats £1

## Wear something Christmassy Friday 03 December in exchange for a donation to Warrington Food Bank:

- Long life milk, cream crackers and cup a soups
- All non-perishable items (tins, packets, cartons, jars etc.)
- toiletries and cleaning products
- carrier bags, lifelong bags for us to transport the donations please

## A plea for help!

In the New Year, we will be looking to **recruit a Midday assistant** to join our wonderful team. The post will be temporary from January to April to cover a staff absence. If you, or anyone you know is interested, please keep a lookout on the Warrington Borough Council and school website.

We are also looking for **volunteers to support the day to day work in school**. Ideally we would be looking for someone who could commit to coming into school from 9:00 -9.30 daily **to support the Early Years team in preparing snack** (training would be provided) as this would allow the staff to focus on settling the children for the day. **We are also looking for adults who could maybe give a couple of hours each week to listen to children read**. Each class would ideally love approximately 3-4 helpers to listen to selected children read regularly. The class teacher will select pupils for you to read with and discuss the text. From past experience, our volunteers get enormous pleasure from seeing the difference that a few hours of their time can make to a child's reading ability, confidence and enjoyment. Listening to children reading regularly and discussing books has a huge impact on a child's academic achievement. Our staff capacity is stretched and finances do not allow us to add capacity to the team. We have a great team of volunteers currently who make a big difference to our children and school and enable our staff to focus on teaching and learning, prioritising recovery emotionally and academically from lockdowns. So, if you are interested, please let the office know.

## Forthcoming events

### Autumn 2 2021

#### Thursday 02 December

Y4 Swimming – in school for 8.30am pick up at 8.40am

#### Friday 03 December

Sports Crew Training 8.20am

Wear something Christmassy for donations for the Warrington Food Bank

#### Monday 06 December

Warrington Wolves Rugby Assembly

#### Wednesday 08 December

Nativity Dress Rehearsal and filming

#### Thursday 09 December

Y4 Swimming – in school for 8.30am pick up at 8.40am (last one)

9.30am Show around for prospective parents of children starting Nursery and Reception Sept 2022

Friends mini Christmas market 3.15-3.45pm

## After school clubs finish

#### Friday 10 December

Christmas Jumper Day  
Sports crew training 8.20am  
Friends mini Christmas market 3.15-3.45pm

#### Monday 13 December

9.15am Nativity Performance (N-Y2)

#### Tuesday 14 December

1.30pm Nativity Performance (N-Y2)

#### Wednesday 15 December

9.15am Nativity Performance (N-Y2)

#### Thursday 16 December

Christmas lunch (see menu attached)

#### Friday 17 December

Carols around the Christmas Tree  
2.30pm  
School closes

### Spring 1 2022

Thursday 06 January School opens  
Monday 10 January After School Clubs start



# GRAPPENHALL HEYS NEWSLETTER

## NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL

**Eco Team** have made an interactive website for hedgehogs.

The Eco Team are really excited to show everyone - click here to look at it <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1gzPmDVI6iwCTrQhyGJn423CIC-btM8e02uiQDsdm2c4/present?usp=sharing>

You can view our wildlife camera (we've seen a badger on KS1 playground!) as well as go on a virtual trip to a hedgehog hospital. The Eco Team have made a video of their top tips too.

### WOW Tracker Walk to School Challenge

In November we awarded 160 badges across Reception to Year 6, which represented a total of 69% actively travelled to school. Remember that to qualify for a WOW badge each month, a child needs to actively travel to school (Walk, Cycle, Scooter, Park and Stride) one day per week to qualify. The aim being to reduce the amount of car traffic/pollution in and around the school during drop off and pick up and encourage active travel to school.

November's Class of the Month: Year 4 with 83% total active trips - Congratulations!

### Parking on Witherwin Road

Just a reminder to parents who are parking on Witherwin Road, please ensure that you do not park in front of the drop down curb and barriers as this causes an obstruction to pedestrians who need to cross the road. We do appreciate that the parents are helping to reduce the congestion around the school by parking and striding. We really do appreciate everyone's efforts but we just want to ensure that everyone is kept safe. Thank you!

### Families at Christmas – Norman Thomas at imagine8

A former parent of the school, Norman Thompson is hoping to provide support and help to families in Warrington at Christmas again this year, please see the attachment sent out with this newsletter for more information and contact details should you wish to help.

The following children have are celebrating their birthdays in December and have received or will be receiving their birthday pencil and sticker...

Aya A-R	Delilah C	Casima C	Jacob D	Jessica F
Isaac G	Poppy G	Isabelle G	Aaryan J	Oliver K
Max M	Hettienne P	William R	Poppy R	Mika T
Jacob T	Harry W	Jinyu W	Alice W	Cicely W

### A Very Happy Birthday to you all!

**Raring to go** are running a Book Bundle Competition in this edition. There are some great quality, educational and fun books for children across your age range to read. Wouldn't it be great if you win it? Entering is easy, all you need to do is just click on the advert on page 27! <https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/warrington/winter/>

### Friends News

#### 100 Club – Autumn 1 Winner K Sykes and S Chapman

At the friends AGM in September, £11000 was donated to school from funds raised last year. This has enabled us to purchase another class set of IPADs. Our current set of 30 are 6 years old! Our ambition is to raise further funds for another set to give more flexibility to teachers enriching the curriculum with technology. We are also focusing funds on developing the outdoor space so please do all you can to support the fundraising efforts this Christmas.

**Thank you for all your support this term. Wishing you All a very Merry and Peaceful Christmas!**

### Attendance

**Our school target is 96%.**

**For the year our current attendance is 96.1%**

#### Week ending 26 November 2021

Year	Attendance (%)
Nursery	91.3
Reception	98.2
1	96.3
2	95.7
3	96.2
4	97.9
5	97.3
6	93.2

### Well Done Reception!