

Grange CE Primary School Report

I am delighted to have joined Grange CE primary School this term as the new Headteacher. Over the past two weeks I have met many people from the Grange community who are associated with the school in some way and would like to thank them, and of course the child, Staff, Parents, Carers and Governors for their warm welcome and offers of continued support for Grange Primary.

The first week back proved rather challenging due to the high winds and heavy rain, but this did not detract from the enthusiasm of the children at the start of their new term. Eager, happy smiling faces greeted us all on the Wednesday morning and all the children settled back happily into their classes.

We are looking forward to an exciting term with many projects and opportunities for the children, such as the Titanic project for the older classes, a science week with the theme of boats and the installation of some new outdoor play equipment in March.

I look forward to sharing more of our work with you in the future.

Phillippa Summers

Cartmel Priory CofE School

Pupils launch healthy vending machines

In January Miss Brown and the SNAC (school nutrition action committee) group from Cartmel Priory C of E School launched two new healthy vending machines to their fellow classmates. The pupils involved in planning the project - designed the machine and have chosen which items will be sold. The project is part of by the British Heart Foundation's (BHF) Food4Thought campaign, a campaign which aims to encourage pupils to eat healthier snacks and meals during the school day.

Emily Barker said: "We learn about the importance of eating fruit and vegetables and healthy food, but it's often easier and quicker to grab a bag of crisps and bar of chocolate. With this new vending machine we will only be able to get healthy snacks and drinks so it will help us to eat the right foods during the day and make it easier for us to put what we learn in the classroom into practice."

Cartmel Priory School is one of just 30 schools selected to be part of the pilot project. Pupils in the 30 selected schools will play a key role in deciding how the BHF develops the use of these vending machines in the future, with one school winning a prize at the end of the school year. If the pilot is successful the BHF hopes other schools will use their model to set up their own healthy vending machines in the future.

Miss Brown, PSHE Coordinator said: "We're delighted to pilot the healthy vending machine. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed working on the project - designing the machine and choosing the items to be sold, and have been looking forward to the machine arriving. We think it's a great idea and are confident the pupils will embrace it and enhance their daily school diet. We really hope it will have a positive impact on all of our students and are really grateful to the British Heart Foundation for giving us this opportunity. It has really shown how our whole school can work together to produce something fantastic."

Is your driving fit?

At this time of year many people review their lifestyle by resolving to get fitter, lose weight, stop smoking etc. Very few people, however, consider reviewing their driving. If you have been driving for a number of years, have you kept up your skills to handle changing road and traffic conditions? You may have lost confidence after a crash, or through not driving regularly. Local driving school "Drive to Arrive" offer driving assessments, confidence building etc as well as teaching learner drivers. For a health check of your driving, contact Peter or Donna on 35983 (or see advert on back page).

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Flookburgh CE School News

Spring term has begun in earnest with a hectic first few weeks. The Children have quickly settled back into their school routine. We are delighted to be able to temporarily increase teaching assistant support, in the main school and we welcome Mrs Mills and Miss Robinson.

Nine music students attended a performance by the Northern Sinfonia's string section, at Kendal Town Hall on Wednesday 11th January. The children were able to extend their musical knowledge and experience live classical music.

Nursery and Reception classes enjoyed a Fairytale day with the learning focus of speaking, listening and creative development. Three retired teachers supported the class teachers, in delivering an imaginative approach to learning, with role play, exploring nursery rhymes and fairytales. Classes 1 and 2 took part in the Lion King Dance workshop, run by Mrs Baddiley and two dance teachers.

Our year two children enjoyed a local walk with an emphasis on road safety, environmental awareness and working together. The whole school revisited road safety, with the support of staff and a visit from PCSO Howard Firth. Year 5 have commenced Cyclewise training, so please look out for children on bikes!

Strong links continue with Cartmel Priory School and our students have taken part in science and athletics activities supported by CPS.

Some of our interesting work for this term includes: Nursery / class 1 - Fairytales and China. Class 2 - Electricity and "Where I Live". Class 3 - Electricity, Light & Shadow and Kenya. Class 4 - Gasses & Dissolving and "The Titanic".

Class 4 will be joining other children from the peninsular on a visit to Liverpool, as they study the history of the Titanic 100 years on.

On Sunday 29th January the Christingle service at St John the Baptist Flookburgh will take place. The children have been making candles, learning about the significance of Christingle and raising money for The Children's Society.

Finally the Children, Staff and Governors would like to wish you a Happy New Year and all the best in 2012.

Allithwaite CE School

The children and staff have returned to school refreshed after the Christmas break and are all very excited about the new topics they are covering including The Jurassic Forest and Titanic - more news of this next month. The big news for January has to be Singing Squad's trip to Manchester to take part in the Young Voices concert at the MEN Arena.

On Monday 23rd, Janet Davis took 38 children from ranging from year 2 up to year 6 to sing at the event alongside 6,000 other school children from the North West. It was a fantastic experience for the children, rehearsing in the afternoon with all the other children and top Irish band The High Kings and BGT finalist Connie Talbot. Our children were in fine voice and showed off their moves in what was an amazing concert. Janet Davis said she was "incredibly proud of the children and impressed by all the hard work they had put in". The children had learnt 11 songs for the event and had also taken part in a concert in St Mary's Church on Monday 17 January, singing some of the numbers from the show, to raise money for the coach. Mrs Davis would also like to thank Katie Hodgson who helps teach Singing Squad and Andrew Purvin for their invaluable help. Janet intends to take Singing Squad to the Young Voices event every 2 years. Singing Squad will next appear at the Brewery Arts Centre in Kendal.

Grange Pre-School

Come and join in the fun at Grange Preschool. We have paint, glue, sand, construction toys, roleplay, songs, stories etc to keep you entertained.

In January we celebrated Chinese New Year creating dragons, lanterns and Good Luck banners as well as receiving 'lucky envelopes.' Check out our new Facebook page to keep up-to-date with events we will be holding, such as a Children's fancy dress Disco in February and Pre-Mothers' Day Pamper in March. We have sessions for children from 0-4 years, accompanied by an adult until they are 2 1/2 years, when they can be cared for by our qualified, experienced staff.

We are a charity registered with Ofsted and affiliated to the Preschool Learning Alliance. We have been serving the Grange community for over 40 years.

Call Nichola on 58414 for further info.

Ist Grange Brownies

Ist Grange Brownies have written a report as part of their Writers Badge. Each Six will be submitting a round up of what we have been doing over the next few months, it would be great if you would be able to print it for them.

This months report is from the Foxes.

"We are the Foxes and we want to tell the grange now readers about us and what we have been up to. In our Six there are four Brownies, Emily, Hannah Louise, Tess and Big Lucy. There are two Lucy's in our Brownies unit and we tell them apart by calling the older Lucy 'Big Lucy' and the younger Lucy 'Little Lucy'. We all play games that our leaders Little Owl and Wol run, Big Lucy and Emily really enjoy these. We have been taking it in turns to teach the unit a new game it has been great fun! We also enjoy craft and that is Hannah Louises favourite. Tess is great at dancing, we all think the best thing about Brownies is making new friends. Thank you for reading."

Katie Hodgson, Little Owl

Ist Grange & Cartmel Scout Group

Christmas Fund Raising Coffee Morning

We would like to thank everyone who helped with, or supported, our Coffee Morning in Grange Methodist Hall before Christmas. This was a very busy and happy event. Special thanks to Mandy Barnsley for organising it. The coffee morning made £456 for Group funds.

Christmas Quiz and Cards

Our best year ever for selling the Quiz! Our thanks go to Grange Town Council for providing the paper and printing facility for the quiz and to Dorothy Stublely of the Hazelmere Cafe, Grange for allowing the young people to sell for 4 Saturdays from outside her cafe (and for keeping us warm with hot drinks and eats!). This year the Larch Tree in Cartmel gave us permission to sell outside their shop which was a new venture and worked very well. Several other businesses in the area were also very supportive and sold quizzes or cards on our behalf. The congregation of St Paul's church Grange liked the cards showing the clock tower and their church and kindly bought several packs.

The winner of the quiz was Rachel Godwin from Backbarrow. The Group are delighted to say that we have again increased the amount of money raised from the quiz and this year our total is £950. Our card sales have produced £600. Thank you to all who have supported us.

If anyone would like to join our Scout Group as a Beaver, Cub or Scout or would like to volunteer to help in any way then please contact Barbara Leader (015395 33270).

Lindale Village Playground

Fund Update

Thanks to the hard work of local people and the support of various organisations, the Fund has reached the halfway mark in its efforts to completely refurbish the children's play area on Lindale's recreation ground.

Last July saw the first of three phases of new equipment installed on the playground, and the Fund is now halfway towards its target for the second phase, to be installed this summer. Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising so far. Much hard work remains to be done, and we have a busy year ahead as we seek to complete our fundraising for the second and third phases of equipment. Dates for your diary include Saturday 24 March, when we will be holding a special Pudding Night in Lindale Village Hall with a competition for the evening's best one.

A group of supporters will be walking off the effects of the Pudding Night on the 40-mile Keswick to Barrow walk on Saturday 12 May seeking sponsorship in return for their exhaustion. We are also hoping to organise an event to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4 June, and a sponsored cross-Bay walk later that month. Another way to support the Fund's efforts is via our 100 Club with an annual contribution to the Fund of £10. We are delighted to receive contributions and from anyone who would like to get involved with our efforts.

The Fund is hugely grateful to generous support in grants and donations from the following local organizations, charities and companies: Allithwaite Upper Parish Council, Booths, Charles Godwin Trust, Cumbria County Council's Grange & Cartmel Neighbourhood Forum, Cumbria Foundation Trust, Furness Building Society, Hadfield Trust, Harold and Alice Bridges Charity, Marsdens Building and Maintenance Contractors, South Lakeland District Council's Local Area Partnership and Community Grant Aid scheme and the Taylor Newton and Hibbert Trust.

For any more information please contact Tom Holman on 015395 35978 or tomholman87@hotmail.com.