



# Grange Lane Infant Academy Newsletter May 2021

In this month's newsletter:

- **Mental Health First Aider**
- **Clubs**
- **Parking on Yellow Zig Zag lines**
- **Just Different**
- **Captain Tom 100 Challenge**
- **Our chickens**
- **Grange Lane's Defibrillator**
- **Annual Parent Questionnaire**
- **Goodbye & best wishes**
- **DIARY DATES**
- **2021-2022 Academic Year**



Since the pandemic, we are all even more aware of the importance of our mental health. All our staff have had access to mental health training and Kay Shaw has now completed training to become our mental health first aider and able to offer support to all our school community. Well done Kay and thank you!

## Clubs



Although it seems like the covid restrictions are easing and everything is almost back to normal, schools have had to continue to monitor bubble mixing, cross over of staff and limiting use of rooms across different bubbles and enhanced cleaning of used areas. This means we have not been able to fully offer everything we can 'normally'.

This is what we have done:

- Made 7:30am club available - made possible with year group specific ventilated areas,
- Made FREE breakfast club available - again made possible with year group specific ventilated areas,
- Offered a FREE Kixx afterschool club to reception, year 1 & year 2 one night per week per year group,
- Offered film club to years 1 & 2 who sit in year group bubbles in the ventilated hall,
- Introduced breakfast, breaktimes and lunch sports groups with Kixx outdoors, again year group specific.

This is what we have not yet been able to offer:

- 4pm/5pm club - this is because demand for the club (most likely due to people's working patterns changing) has been almost nil. We have had a couple of parents ask these past few weeks but to make 1 or 2 children from different year groups socially distance from each other and from staff who are not part of their bubble, we felt was difficult and really not that nice. There's also the affordability issue if demand is too low. Hopefully, after half term when more restrictions ease demand for the club may increase and we can hopefully look to restart this. We apologise to those parents who may have needed the club during this time of restrictions.
- Extra - Curricular Afterschool Clubs . Normally these are offered across main school with different classes and year groups mixing. Bubble restrictions mean we cannot do this presently. In the past, even by offering to all main school, places for these clubs often don't get filled and we subsidise the cost using school funds. If we offered year group specific afterschool clubs then more of school funds would be used in paying for the staff or the provider. Until we are able to fully mix children, clubs like these will most likely start in September.

We hope that you will agree considering the restrictions we have tried our best to provide as much as possible.

## KEEP CLEAR!



Again, we are having numerous complaints by concerned parents that people are parking on the double yellow zig zag lines outside of school . We all know, even if you are not a driver, that you cannot park there! We have sent out text messages politely requesting for it to be stopped but it has continued so we have now contacted the police. If you are that person ask yourself - do you want to be responsible for a child getting knocked down?

The staff carpark should also not be used as a short cut nether, as it is overcrowded, used by deliveries, visitors, taxis and staff working a different times.

**JUST DIFFERENT**  
learning about disability and difference



Year 1 & 2 welcomed Toby a very special visitor from Just Different this month. Just before his first birthday Toby was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a condition affecting the ability to control muscles. Toby is unable to talk and uses a speech synthesiser to communicate; he also uses a motorised wheelchair to get around. He lives independently employing full time support assistants to help him with his everyday needs. He joined the class discussions via zoom and below are some of the questions Owls class asked along with his answers!

The class found out Toby likes Skiing (he's actually reached Black Run standard on his sit -ski) so they asked *why does Toby like skiing?*

*He said that he liked skiing because he can go really fast like lightning and he can be free.*

They also found out along with his skiing he loves to go on holiday especially to far -flung places so the class wanted to know *how does he get on a plane in his wheelchair?*

*Toby said he has to get the plane early and has help, he has to get on his small wheelchair, which fits down the aisle and then he is transported into a normal plane seat like everybody else and then his chair goes into the luggage compartment under the plane.*

Miss Drury said the children certainly got a better understanding of how disabilities can effect everyday life but Toby told them that no matter what your disability or ability get out there and try things! You may have to find a different way to do something but if you want it enough you will find a way!

## Captain Tom 100 challenge



We were really excited to be taking part in the Captain Tom 100 challenge on the 30th April to celebrate Captain Sir Tom's amazing achievements. Reception did a 100 steps around the playground and year 1 did a 100 steps on the spot - which got a like on our twitter page by the Captain Sir Tom Moore's Foundation Page!

## Our chickens

We were delighted when 9 out of the 10 eggs in our incubator hatched with 5 girls and 4 boy chickens. Its lovely to watch the children's awe and wonder as they excitedly watch them wriggle from their shells and then fluff up into these noisy little chicks. The majority were born on the Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning but one little girl didn't join us until Friday and was a little weaker than the rest but with a little love, April (we decided to call her) is doing great and has a new home with a friend of the school.





## Grange Lane Infant Academy has a defibrillator



We sent an enquiry to David from ABC training about how much a defibrillator will cost as we wanted to put this year's Easter fundraising and next years fundraising towards one.

So, on the 20th April you may have noticed lots of training dummies laid out on the grass - this was because when David realised we didn't have easy access to one, he brought us one (in advance of our fundraising) and gave us all training on how to use it!

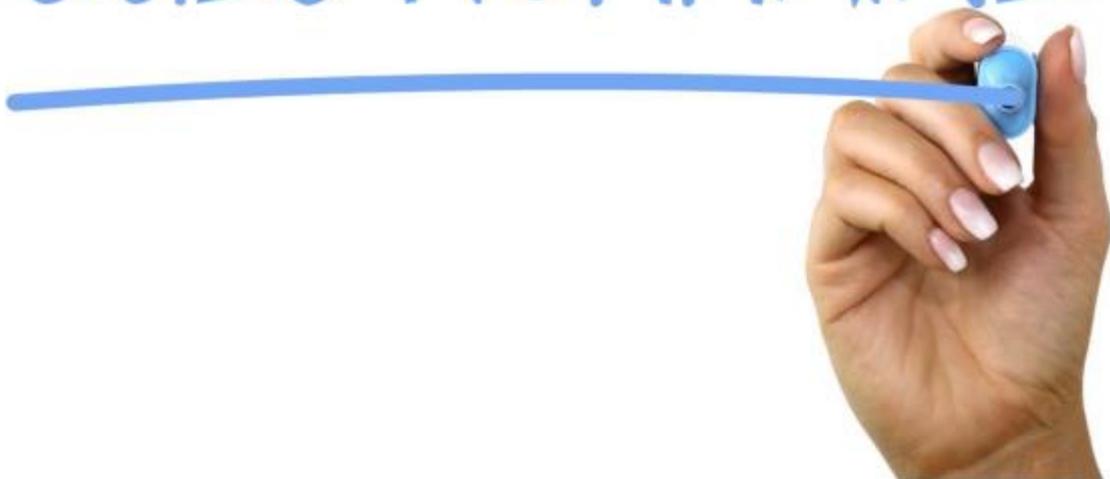
Our defibrillator is registered with the Ambulance service and Heart so they will also be aware of a local machine available for use too.

We hope that you will agree that this is definitely a worthwhile cause for fundraising, and we hope that you will either during the summer or in the new academic year in raising just over a £1000. We shall let you know as soon as we can what we have planned.



Annual Parent Questionnaire

# QUESTIONNAIRE



Each year we give our parents the chance to comment on the school in general via our parent questionnaire, normally handed out at parents evening. However, as the parents meetings are via telephone again due to the Covid situation we ask if you could kindly complete the survey below.

Your answers can be kept anonymous if you wish but we would rather be able to support or answer any issues raised if necessary.

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their support, understanding and hard work during the Covid lockdowns.

Questionnaire accessed via this link <https://forms.office.com/r/eZ7XmpSv93>

*Good Luck!*

## & goodbye to Mrs Parkinson

Please join us in wishing goodbye and best wishes to Mrs Parkinson who will be leaving us to join part of Doncaster's Parenting and Family Support Services. Mrs Parkinson has been a big part of our Early Year's Department, massive help during the Covid lockdowns (responsible for our lockdown Dance Monkey video - thank you Mrs Parkinson!) and one of the most creative staff members! We hope that we will see her in school or in the local community in her new role soon!

### ***Dates for your Diary***

#### **Monday 10th May**

Year 2 Parents Telephone meeting.

If not already booked, you can via this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/QfBsnABQ9x>

#### **Tuesday 11th May**

Ladybirds Parent Telephone meeting.

If not already booked, you can via this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/jh91iascQ0>

#### **Tuesday 11th May**

Nursery (those due to move to reception in Sept) Parent telephone meeting.

If not already booked, you can via this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/6KgRt9WSSK>

## Wednesday 12th May

Year 1 Parents telephone meeting.

If not already booked, you can via this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/AnYhmnKhpK>

## HALF TERM WEEK

MONDAY 31ST MAY - FRIDAY 4TH JUNE

## TEACHER TRAINING DAY

MONDAY 7TH JUNE

School will be closed to students

## CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

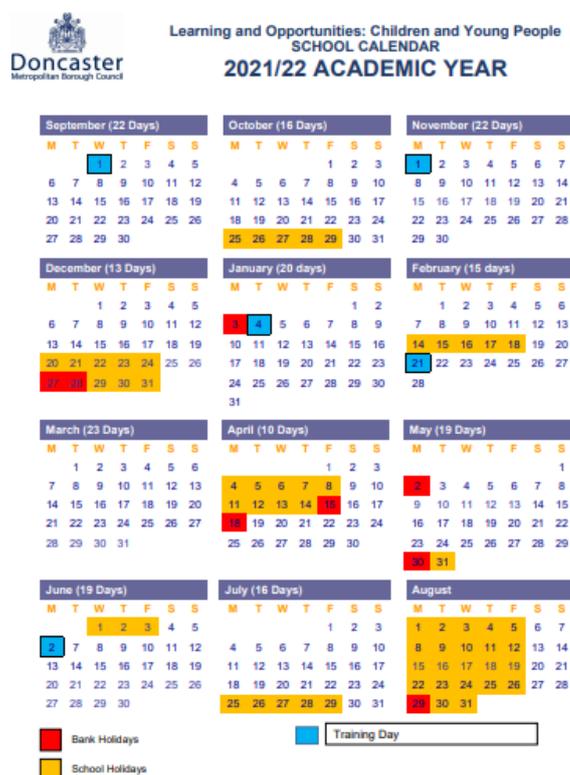
TUESDAY 8TH JUNE

Where your child's class photograph is taken with their teachers

## Last day of term

Friday 16th July is the last day of school before we break for the summer

## School holiday pattern for next academic year 2021-2022



## Contact us

If you need to contact us, you can do this via the details below or for your child's teacher through your child's class do-jo or tapestry account. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or you need help with a situation.

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