

Rainbow Room Newsletter

Autumn - 2025

Welcome back! It only seems like five minutes ago I was writing the Autumn 2024 newsletter! I hope you have all had a fantastic Summer break and are ready to get stuck into a busy first term at Grange.

This term we will be learning all about our emotions through our hands on and sensory based curriculum. Our key learning themes this term will be driven by our 'I Wonder?!' questions: 'What emotions can you feel? And 'What makes us special?'

We will be using your children's small steps plans to work towards their individual targets and using a range of 'hooks' to develop the children's engagement and interaction skills. See below for some of our termly key focus texts.



Snack Talk Intervention

At Grange, we are always looking at ways to improve our practice and as part of a new initiative, we would like to introduce an additional snack time in the afternoon to help support the children's development of their communication and interaction skills. Research by Gauvreau (2019) and Thomson (2012) shows that structured interventions which use visual prompts and conversational cards during mealtimes significantly increase peer interactions and communication among school children, including those with SEND. These interventions promote:

- Initiation and response in peer conversations
- Engagement in topics beyond food
- Generalisation of social skills across settings

To help support this new initiative, we kindly ask for a **£1 weekly contribution**, paid in advance at the start of each term.



For the upcoming half term, the total contribution is **£7.00**. We truly appreciate your support in helping us maintain this valuable part of the children's daily routine. Please hand cash in a labelled envelope (Rainbow Room and your child's full name) to the school office. If you have any questions or need assistance with payment arrangements, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Our Intent:

At Grange Primary School, we believe that all children should be encouraged and supported to reach their individual potentials. We also recognize that children who find learning difficult or those who have additional needs, should be taught in a way that is appropriate to their stage of development.

The Rainbow Room at Grange is an intervention space which is used primarily to meet the needs of children who need to have their interventions delivered away from the distractions of a class environment.

Children are able to access structured play opportunities which are delivered by specialist TA's. Activities are specifically designed to meet children's individual needs and build on prior knowledge.

Mrs Riley oversees the planning and provision of the Rainbow Room and alongside the child's class teachers, is responsible for ensuring each individual child's needs are met.

Staff Structure for 2025

This year Mrs Wheat and Miss Langham will be working each afternoon in the Rainbow Room. Miss Stott, Miss Legg, Mrs Leese and Miss Hodgeson will also be working in the Rainbow Room throughout the week, offering one-to-one support for specific children as and when needed.

Look out on the school website for additional important dates for the Autumn term.

As always I am happy to meet with any parents who feel they will like to discuss their child's SEND.

To make an appointment please call the school office on

0115 9734956 - Mrs Riley :)

Snack Talk Information

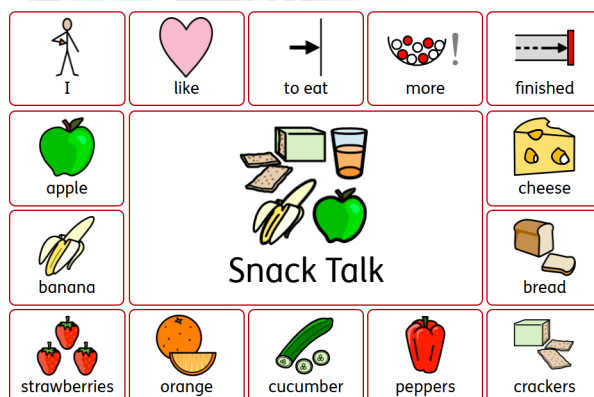
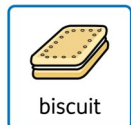
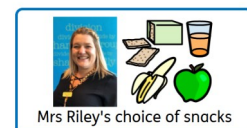
Inclusive early childhood programs strive to provide the necessary support for all children with SEND to be successful alongside their typically developing peers.

Children with SEND are at risk for not engaging and fully participating in social routines with peers and require modifications and adaptations to fully access instruction.

Mealtimes are one routine that can be extremely challenging, yet also provides a natural structure for engaging in social communication. Given the importance of mealtimes in school settings and the positive nature of mealtimes for most children, this intervention is an outstanding example of how to support the development of children's social communication skills.

"Snack Talk" can be an effective way to increase child engagement and lead to social interactions, full participation, and authentic engagement for all children. Modifying mealtime routines by encouraging children to be "in charge" of items and by creating and teaching children how to use "Snack Talk" to converse with their peers will positively promote inclusion, engagement, and independence for all children.

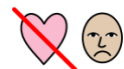
A range of communication boards and individual Snack Talk cards will be used during each session to promote effective language, communication and socialisation skill development.



My favourite snack was



I didn't like



Something new I tried



Please ensure we have up to date information regarding any allergies and intolerances your children may have.