

SRB Grandin Newsletter



Spring 1



Half Term Focus

Friendship Terrace

This half term we have begun an intervention group which follows the approach called 'Friendship Terrace'. This is a speech and language strategy, which encourages positive social communication through a collection of stories from each character living on the terrace.

Each week, we focus on a new friend, listening to a story and answering questions about it. This also promotes the children's progression in reading comprehension.

The vocabulary we use around friendship terrace is:

Friendship Builder—someone who is being a kind friend e.g. kind words, helpful, taking turns

Friendship Blocker—someone who is not being a kind friend e.g. always wanting to win, unkind words, hurting others.

Dear Families,

What a fantastic Autumn Term we had in the SRB! The pupils have been enjoying our daily Sensory Circuits every morning, supporting them to get into the green zone ready for their day of learning. We have also begun Attention Autism sessions, Friendship Terrace and Blank Levels of Questioning to support us with a range of key skills including our focus, comprehension and social communication. Our highlight of this term has to be having family members come to the SRB to join us for an Attention Autism session during our Christmas Fun Afternoon. We hope to invite you back into school soon to participate in more exciting learning opportunities alongside your children!

Drop off time for the SRB is at 8.40am at the entrance of the Main Hall. We will work together to follow our school rules as usual. They make our learning environment safe and protective for everyone.

- 1) Praise. No put down.
- 2) Hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- 3) Follow instructions.
- 4) Talk quietly, stay on task.

In the upcoming term, we will continue to thrive both in our SRB activities and in our year group classrooms.

Please ensure you check the Year Group Newsletter relevant to you, for key information including the Forest School and Swimming allocation for this term.

School Value

This half term, we will focus on the school value of 'aspiration'. We will be thinking about what we aspire to achieve this term and beyond. Focusing on our strengths, we will be aware of our personal targets and how we can achieve these.

Blank Levels of Questioning

As part of our whole school priority in reading, we have been using Blank Levels of Questioning to support our pupils with their reading comprehension.

The approach outlines four levels of questioning, increasing in complexity as you work through them. Receptive language is a key skill to work on for all children, as this supports them to not only understand what they are reading, but also the wider world around them.

Blank Levels of Questioning can be used when reading with a child, but also in a range of ways across the curriculum. For example: when looking at photos, watching videos and recalling information and events.

On the Grandin Class website page, you will find some resources relating to this approach, including the visual prompts we use in school and some related games and activities



Home Learning

Check your Year Group Newsletter for any home learning that might apply to you.

In the SRB we are going to focus on a different life skill each half term that you can practise at home.

Skill of the term—Social Meal Times

After such a successful joint Christmas lunch in the SRB, every Friday we are going to sit together to have a social meal at lunchtimes for those children who eat lunch in the SRB classroom. The children enjoyed talking, telling jokes and listening to music during the shared meal.

Other Ideas

Handwriting

Practise your name, surname and letter formation for those letters you might find tricky! Sensory trays are a fun way of making this multisensory e.g. flour, sand, shaving foam!

Sumdog

Use this website to practise your maths skills
Sumdog: www.sumdog.com/en/

Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read every day, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, starting a new page each week. Each time they read, a section of the reading record should be filled in to reflect this. When you read with them please ask questions to check for comprehension and understanding of the text.

Important Dates

Wed 4th Jan— Return to school

Thurs 9th Feb— Family Quiz Night

Remember to check your Year Group newsletter for other dates that apply to you!

A look at our learning so far...

Look at the Grandin Class page on our school website to find out more about our learning so far!



School Councils and groups

Play council has been conducting a play review through the use of a questionnaire to gather children's opinions and reflections on their play, in school and elsewhere. We will be analysing the results to give feedback to the play committee to improve play for all. Our current focus is how to improve play opportunities in wet weather.

Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement.

Grandin Class merits this year: 603

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website.

To see the secret students for last half term, visit:

<https://drake-infant-school-and-nursery.secure-primariesite.net/secret-student/>

Attendance

The attendance expectation attendance at Drake Primary School is 100%.

We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

Grandin Class Attendance this year: 86.32%

Pupil voice

'I like being able to use Clicker 8, it helps English become my favourite lesson!'

'Yay it is time for Attention Activities!'
(a frequent comment from our pupils!)

Safeguarding Notice

Keep Warm and Well this Winter

At all Norfolk Libraries

Visit your local library to pick up FREE bags of winter essentials

Keep Warm and Well Bag (adult or child)

A bag contains: Gloves, socks, scarf, blanket, hot-water bottle and hat.



Thermal vests on request in a range of sizes to fit adults and children.

Toiletries Bag

Adult bag contains: Deodorant, bodywash, shampoo, toothpaste. Toothbrushes on request.

Child bag contains: Shampoo, bodywash, bubble bath, toothpaste. Toothbrushes on request.



Tricky Period

Bag contains: 1 x pack of regular pads and 1 x pack of super or night pads.



If you can't see what you need, please ask a member of staff.
We will also have free hot drinks available during staffed library hours.

borrow discover connect

Norfolk County Council

The website is a fantastic window into learning at our school.

Keep a look out in the days and weeks ahead for an updated SRB website page and new information regarding the SRB <https://drake-infant-school-and-nursery.secure-primariesite.net/grandin/>

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office, we will either email you or arrange a time to call you.

Miss Burke and the SRB Team

Tel: 01842 762055 Email: office@drake.norfolk.sch.uk

Parent Support Adviser Email: psa@drake.norfolk.sch.uk