

The Grange Gazette

Official Newsletter of The Grange School



Thoughts From The Headteachers Desk

A very warm welcome back to the second half of our Autumn Term. I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable break.

The first half of our Autumn Term was slightly longer than we are used to and we managed to include a great deal in a relative short space of time.

It is always rewarding to see the fruits of the time spent on transition when we welcome Year 7 to The Grange School, and they enter, not only recognising familiar faces but with the confidence to embrace the challenges of a new school. This year we held their traditional team building day on-site and they not only met new friends but had a great time on the massive inflatables, challenging each other and their Year Leaders to races on the assault course. This followed on from the rescheduled rewards afternoon, where students from all year groups had time out of lessons enjoying a range of different activities and the obligatory pizza!

Year 8 saw a day visit to The Black Country Museum, whilst Year 13 experienced a day visit to the University of Hertfordshire to gain insight and experience into campus life. Part of what we do is to offer experiences to students that have the potential to challenge their thinking for the future.



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Fieldwork is often associated with Geography and approximately 130 Year 11 students experienced their GCSE Physical Fieldwork at the Amersham Field Study Centre. Educational visits are an important aspect of school life and we have to both encourage them but also balance this against the demands of the school and curriculum as a whole.

September saw two very busy Open Evenings for the school and as always a host of students gave up their time to support the events and show their school off to prospective parents and pupils.

We continually strive to develop the evenings to make them informative and interesting and for me, I greatly appreciate the involvement and insight that our students bring to the evenings.

The last half-term also saw the school welcome our new Member of Parliament for Aylesbury, Laura Kyrke-Smith and on a different occasion Buckinghamshire's Director of Education and Inclusion, Michael Jarrett MBE to our school. It is important that we open our doors to policy and decision makers. The Grange is a large Non-Selective Upper School providing a good education and offers a wide range of services that go beyond what happens in the classroom. We are more than a school and it is important to share that message. We play our part in supporting and educating our community but offer challenge when it continually goes beyond what is reasonable for a school.

One part of our WE CAN strapline is 'N', New Horizons, and as such Year 11 experienced an College and Training Provider Day, where we invited interested parties to come along and speak to our students. Our 6th Form provides for many of our Year 11 students and it remains important to us to ensure that our students are suitably informed of the alternatives open to them at the age of sixteen. I was very impressed with the level of engagement both from our students and the providers.

In concluding, a highlight for me was the Duke of Edinburgh presentation evening where many successful students turned up with their parents and carers to receive their Bronze Awards. It was fantastic evening and a tribute to the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make the Award possible. It has been an ambition for the school to offer a sustainable Duke of Edinburgh experience and it is only fitting that we host and an evening to celebrate the achievement and service that is associated with the Award.

We look forward to the second half of the Autumn term and know that it will continue to be action packed.

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FUNDRAISING

Friends of The Grange School Update

Our wonderful school PTA, The Friends of The Grange School work tirelessly all year round raising money for the school. Their fantastic events which they both plan and host, are well attended and valued by our whole school community and in addition we are always grateful for their support at our own in school events.



Recently, the team organised the fabulous Quiz Night which took place on Friday 18 October. The event hosted by our very own Mr Haycock, raised an incredible £800 of profit. The very worthy winners were team Coffee and Cake. A fabulous night which was really enjoyed by everyone who attended.

The next big event for the academic year will be the amazing Christmas Market! There will be lots of lovely items available to buy to get your Christmas shopping started! Tickets are available to book now via School Gateway and under 16's go free. We do hope you and your families can join us for some festive fun!



This half term we will be looking to host another of our popular pre-loved uniform sales. More details will follow in the first edition of the Parent and Carer Bulletin on Friday. As per our 'Wanted' poster in this edition, we welcome any items of clean, good quality uniform items (with the exception of shirts as we have an ample supply). Your children can take these straight to the team at reception who will sort and organise the items. Thank you in advance for your support with this initiative which supports our families and raises vital funds for the school.



pta@grange.bucks.sch.uk



Get your tickets now! Under 16's go free!

CHRISTMAS MARKET

with puddings & bubbles

7-9pm, Friday 29th November 2024.



Parents can pay via School Gateway. Tickets are also available via the Sumup store.



BUY NOW

WANTED



All items of school and PE uniform are now being collected at reception for our PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale.

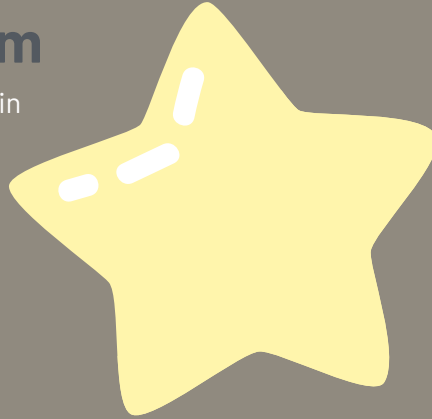
Star Of The Half-Term

The final week of assemblies for students in Year 7 and 8 saw us announce our much awaited Stars of the Half-Term.

This impressive accolade is awarded to students who have really stood out throughout the half-term.

Our Form Tutors for each Form Group in Year 7 and 8 carefully select one student in their Form Group for the award and share their reasons why in assembly as they announce the deserving winners.

Our stars of the half term receive a certificate from Mr Murray, a special badge on Satchel One and a delicious bag of goodies! A huge well done to all of the stars for Autumn Term 1.



"This impressive accolade is awarded to students who have really stood out throughout the half-term."

Year 7

7D - Tori C
7I - Evie T
7S - Shahaan A
7C - Deanna V
7O - Rosa H
7V - Suhail J
7E - Dino I
7R - Noah S

Year 8

8D - Husna S
8I - Aubrey H
8S - Tommy S-S
8C - Ravish G
8O - Jasper R
8V - Abi B
8E - Marshall D
8R - Leon S





Duke of Edinburgh

We were so very pleased and proud to present our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award students with their well-deserved certificates at our recent Celebration Evening on Thursday 10 October.

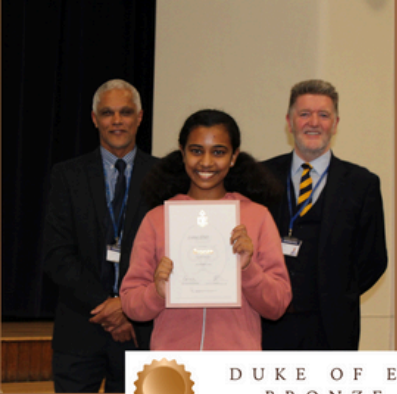
The students worked tirelessly throughout the year developing their self-confidence and self-reliance, a sense of achievement and of responsibility and deepening their leadership and communication skills and abilities.

Thank you once again to the awesome Mr Dharsey for leading the Duke of Edinburgh scheme in school and of course to all of our other wonderful staff members who so kindly give up their free time to support the project.

Huge congratulations once again to all of our amazing students for completing their Bronze Award, you are all absolute super stars!

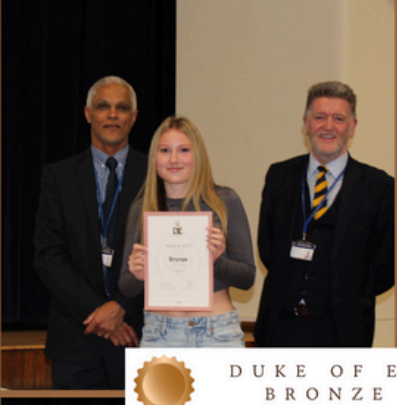
Excitingly, our current cohort of Year 9 students can sign up now to take part! [Full details are in our most recent letter home.](#)





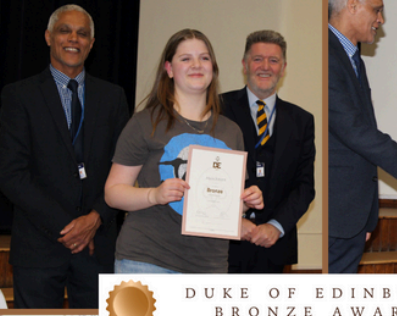
DUKE OF EDINBURGH
BRONZE AWARDS
CELEBRATION EVENING

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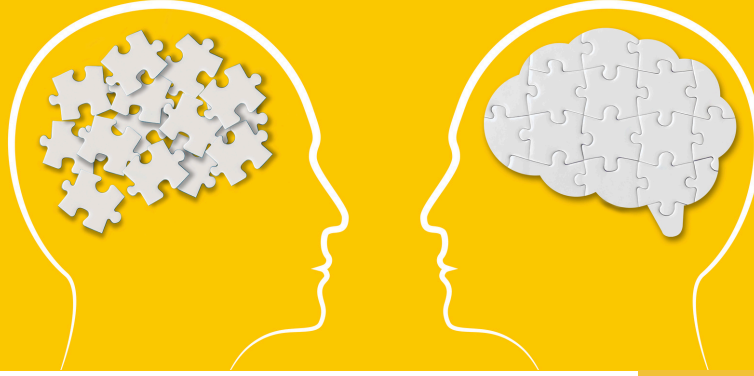
DUKE OF EDINBURGH
BRONZE AWARDS
CELEBRATION EVENING



Congratulations!

Congratulations!

Bronze
October 24
Congratulations to all our Bronze Award holders



Hello Yellow!

On Thursday 10 October staff dressed in some super sunny outfits as part of the #HelloYellow campaign led by Young Minds as part of World Mental Health Day. Young Minds are a charity who support young people facing mental health challenges.

Throughout the course of the week leading up to the event, students were reminded of all the things we do to offer support if they find themselves struggling with their mental health. In school, students can talk to any member of staff, Mrs Bradley to request a peer mentor or pop to Stapleton House to get support. Mrs Jackson, Assistant Headteacher is our Designated Lead for Mental Health.

The yellow student help button on the home page of our school website also directs students to lots of resources.

Thank you once again to all of our staff who embraced Hello yellow, you all looked fabulous!

"What a wonderful display of sunny outfits as our staff embraced #HelloYellow!"



Mrs Jackson, Assistant Headteacher and Designated Mental Health Lead





Music Department Update

It's been another jam packed half-term for our wonderful music department! Here's what we've been up to:

Instrumental Tuition

We have teachers visiting us every week for students to learn Classical Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Piano, Violin, Clarinet and Trumpet. We will soon be adding a singing teacher.

If you would like to learn a musical instrument sign up at <https://www.bucksmusic.org/book-lessons-2/>

For Classical guitar, please contact Mrs Kirk at akirk@grange.bucks.sch.uk)

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are offering a wide range of extra-curricular groups this year. All of these groups are open to musicians of every level. Students can speak to their music teacher to find out more.

"We offer a wide range of extra-curricular groups this year. All of these groups are open to performers of every level. Speak to your music teacher to find out more."

AUTUMN TERM 2 EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC TIMETABLE

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	YEAR GROUPS	LOCATION
MONDAY	GUITAR/UKULELE CLUB	LUNCH B	YEAR 8, 10, 12 AND 13	MUSIC BLOCK
	CHOIR	3.00PM -3.45PM	ALL YEAR GROUPS	MUSIC BLOCK
TUESDAY	THEORY BREAKFAST	8.00AM - 8.25AM	ALL YEAR GROUPS	MUSIC BLOCK
	ORCHESTRA	3.00PM -3.45PM	YEAR 7, 8 AND 9	MUSIC BLOCK
WEDNESDAY	GUITAR/UKULELE CLUB	LUNCH A	YEAR 7, 9 AND 11	MUSIC BLOCK
	SENIOR CHOIR (INCLUDING STAFF)	3.00-3.45PM	YEAR 10-13	MUSIC 1
	KEYBOARD CLUB	3.00PM -3.45PM	ALL YEAR GROUPS	MUSIC 2
THURSDAY	HIT IT! (PERCUSSION CLUB)	LUNCH A	YEAR 7, 9 AND 11	MUSIC BLOCK
	TECH CREW/PRODUCTION	3.00PM - 3.45PM	ALL YEAR GROUPS	MUSIC BLOCK
FRIDAY	HIT IT! (PERCUSSION CLUB)	LUNCH B	YEAR 8, 10, 12 AND 13	MUSIC BLOCK



Congratulations to Teddy in Y10 who successfully auditioned for the County Youth Orchestra and is now playing violin in this high level ensemble. Well done Teddy!



BBC Prom Trip

GCSE Musicians and a number of staff started off the school year with a trip to the Royal Albert Hall to hear the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment play Mozart Symphony No 1, Farrenc Symphony no 3 and Beethoven Symphony No 3. There were a lot of questions from all attendees, staff and students, about the original instruments that were being used and the differences between them and their modern equivalents. Students really enjoyed the trip, a first chance to visit the RAH and to hear an orchestra performing live for most of them.

"GCSE Musicians and a number of staff started off the school year with a trip to the Royal Albert Hall to hear the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment play Mozart Symphony No 1, Farrenc Symphony no 3 and Beethoven Symphony No 3!"



Upcoming Music Events

Sunday 8 December, 5.00pm -7.30pm,
Carol Fest, St Mary's Church
Aylesbury Choir

Tuesday 17 December, 2-3pm
Carol Singing, Byron House Care Home
Choir

Wednesday 18 December Performance, 7pm
Christmas Concert, Main Hall
All groups

*Save
The
Date*





Student Skipper Team Progress!

As it is the start of a new academic year, we have seen some changes amongst our Student Skipper Team. We have a brand-new team of 15 x Year 8 Skippers as well as a big Year 8 Extended Skipper Team. Congratulations to you all. Our Year 9 and Year 10 teams have some new additions too – well done to Rosie J 9R, Malaika H 9S, Ayan P 9D, Alice T 9D, Daisy H 9D, Tobiasz F 9D, Millie B 9E, Paige H 10S, Sophie B 10V, Zayyan J 10D and Sam B 10I. Our new Skipper Team comprised of 45 students across Years 8, 9 and 10 have been introduced to their peers formally during assemblies and are identified by wearing their badges proudly in and around our school community.



THE GRANGE
SCHOOL

Student Skipper Team

"Our new Skipper Team comprised of 45 students across Year 8, 9 and 10 have been introduced to their peers during assemblies and are identified by wearing their badges proudly in our school community."

	Pastoral e.g. behaviour for learning, rewards, safety	Equalities & Culture e.g. LGBTQ, FAB, racism, gender	Sports & Extra-Curricular e.g. clubs, teams and events	Curriculum e.g. subjects areas, schemes of work, GCSE options	Community and Events e.g. charity events, theme days
YEAR 7 STUDENT LEADERS	Form Reps	Form Reps	Form Reps	Form Reps	Form Reps
YEAR 8 STUDENT LEADERS	Khloe C 8I Charlie B 8E Amilia P 8E	Georgie P 8O Tommy S-5 8S Enver H 8O	Aubrey H 8I Ellie B 8V Aamina K 8E	Ahmed A 8I Sienna C-5 8I Amera H 8R	Neve C 8O Matthew R 8E Abi B 8V
YEAR 9 STUDENT LEADERS	Rosie J 9R Malaika H 9S Ayan P 9D	Isabelle H 9S Sofia H 9S Alice T 9D	Lily A 9I Freya P 9V Ruby G 9I	Antonio T 9C Daisy H 9D Ellie-Mai B 9D Tobiasz F 9D	Anabelle C 9C Inayah J 9S Millie B 9E
YEAR 10 STUDENT LEADERS	Ava-Rose B 10S Ajay C 10S Daisy H 10D	Felix L 10S Bethan E 10D Paige H 10S	Imogen A 10S Sophie B 10V Zayyan J 10D	Hayley F 10I Caitlin B 10V Sam B 10I	Zelda G 10O Tafari R 10C
YEAR 11 STUDENT LEADERS	Prefects	Prefects	Prefects	Prefects	Prefects
6TH FORM STUDENT LEADERS	Leadership Team	Leadership Team	Leadership Team	Leadership Team	Leadership Team

This half-term has already been a busy one for our Skippers. Here's a breakdown of what they've been getting up to!

24 Sept 2024 – A full Skipper meeting was held to introduce new members of the team and discuss plans and opportunities for the half term. Skippers then completed a survey indicating their desire and availability to be involved in forthcoming opportunities.

1 October 2024 – As a communication tool, the Skipper Team use Microsoft Teams to communicate with each other and share ideas. Skippers attended a mini-training session on how to use Microsoft Teams.





3 October 2024 – Skippers were introduced to something new to their roles this year – a Skipper Activity log. This is an electronic document located on Microsoft Teams where Skippers are able to log all their time spent on their Skipper roles demonstrating their commitment. Activities include attending meetings, helping at an event or running a club for example.

14 October 2024 – 24 of our Skippers plus some of the extended team volunteered their time after school to help Mr Salmon and other staff members to decorate the school pink in preparation for The Grange School’s Breast Cancer Awareness Day (see pictures)

15 October 2024: As part of a teacher training programme, our Skippers are often allocated a trainee teacher who accompanies them to their lessons for an entire day so they can gain experience from a student’s perspective. Our Skippers have been very accommodating in making this happen.

18 October 2024 – 32 of our Skippers offered to help Mrs Kittles and Mr Sabin in the organising and running of this year’s training provider Day for Year 11. This involved chaperoning our external visitors and guests as well as helping set up and provide refreshments.

21 October 2024 – 30 Skippers attended the first initial meeting regarding a return of Culture Week 2025.

23 October 2024 – 9 of our Pastoral Skippers took part in a Student Panel Interview for a potential new staff member.

25 October 2024 – 10 of our Curriculum Skippers took part in a Student Voice Conference with our Chair of Governors and the Head of English – Mrs Zehra.

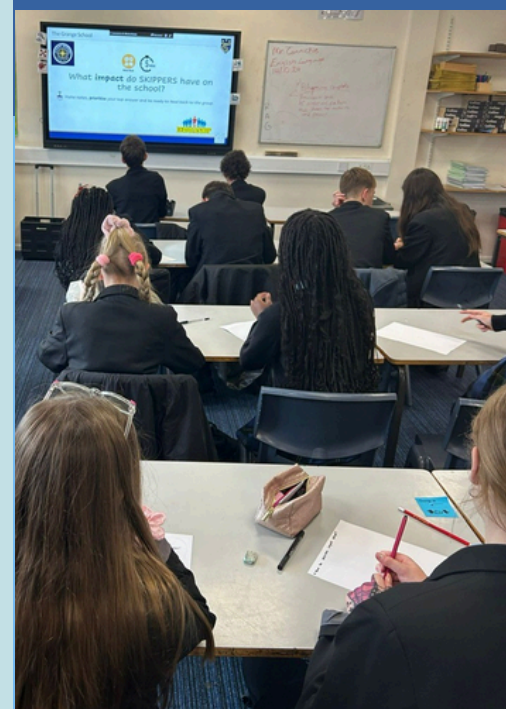
Leadership Training

On Tuesday 15 October 2024, 25 of our new Skippers were invited to a Leadership Training session. During this session, students discussed their roles and responsibilities as well as the impact they could have on their school.

Below are some of the roles our Skippers came up with having looked up to their older peers in this prestigious role over the past year:

- “My role as a Skipper is to make everyone feel equal and included” Georgie P Y8*
- “My role as a Skipper is to make sure every student feels well-respected, safe and that their voice is heard” Sienna C-S Y8*
- “My role as a Skipper is to make a difference in our school environment and make sure every student’s voice is heard” Ruby G Y9*
- “My role as a Skipper is to help make sure everyone has a good environment to learn in” Lily A Y9*
- “My role as a Skipper is to be a role model for the years below” Ahmed A Y8*

“24 of our Skippers plus some of the extended team volunteered to help Mr Salmon and other staff members to decorate the school pink in preparation for Breast Cancer Awareness Day.”



LEADERSHIP

Skippers also discussed 'How do Skippers impact the school?' Here's what our students had to say:

"Build trust between staff and students" Caitlin B Y10

"To create a better environment for all" Khloe C Y8

"Makes the school unique" Daisy H Y9

"To give direct feedback from students to staff through the Skippers" Enver M Y8

"For everyone to feel their voice counts" Amara H Y8

"To bring ideas to reality" Tobiasz F 9D

Following this training, the Skippers are primed and ready to start putting some of their ideas into action. We are excited to see what they bring to the role.

Looking ahead into next term our Skippers will be asked to give up some time to help at school events including some parent's evenings for our Year 7 and Year 11 parents. Skippers are continuing to help start up and lead new Extra-Curricular Clubs which students are eager to be a part of e.g. MFL Film Club and Warhammer Club. Skippers have additionally been tasked with creating both a person specification and a job description for their roles for future Skipper applications.

We will keep you updated on their progress!

"Skippers impact the school by bringing ideas to reality."





Careers Update

We have had a busy and exciting start to this academic year in the careers department. Here's some of our highlights so far!

Year 13 University of Hertfordshire Trip

Our Year 13 students had an inspiring tour and talk at The University of Hertfordshire, looking at all things university and inspiring them for their next steps.

Linkedin Workshop

Our Year 12 students had the opportunity to hear from industry experts about LinkedIn and how to create a linkedin account.

Training Provider Event

Our Year 11 students attended an in-house training provider event to help them understand the different pathways available to them. You can read the full article on page 26.

Work Experience!

Year 10 have begun thinking about their work experience placements which are set to take place from the 12- 23 May 2025 .

Increasing Uptake for Speakers for Schools!

Each week our careers team send out different talks and opportunities from Speakers for Schools. These are self sign up for students to do in their own time. Check out the latest opportunities here: [Unlock Exciting School Work Experience Opportunities!](#)

To keep up to date with everything careers and the different opportunities please check out our school LinkedIn Page.

Careers Fair

Planning is in full swing for our annual Careers Fair which is set to take place on the 23 January. More information will be communicated regarding this event to parents, carers and students during the second half of our Autumn Term.



"Planning is in full swing for our annual Careers Fair which is set to take place on the 23 January 2025."



Year 13 student visit to the University of Hertfordshire.



Happy Birthday

70th BIRTHDAY

School Celebrates 70 Years!

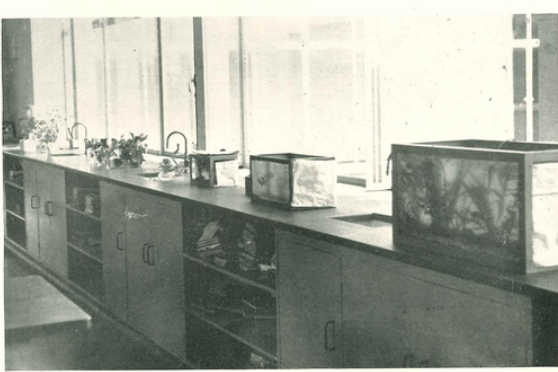
Happy 70th birthday to us! On Monday 4 October 1954 at 2.30pm The Grange County Secondary School was officially declared open by J.F. Wolfenden Esq.

We were delighted to find the original programme of the opening ceremony among our archived documents which featured some wonderful photos of the school as it was then. Detailed on the school staff list for the event was a Miss D.I. Stapleton who our student support building Stapleton House was named after.

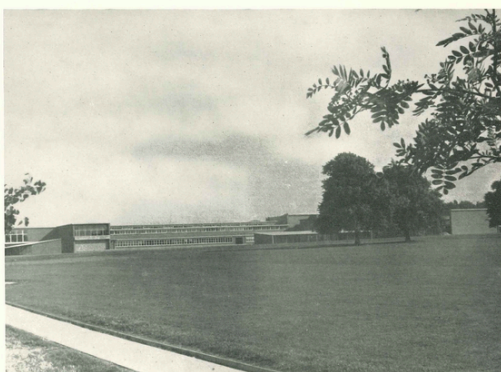
The school officially opened it's doors to students on the 29 April 1954 with then 607 children on roll contrasted to our numbers today of 1422.

It was a pleasure to share the photos across our social media accounts with several original students comneting with their memories of the school as it was then.

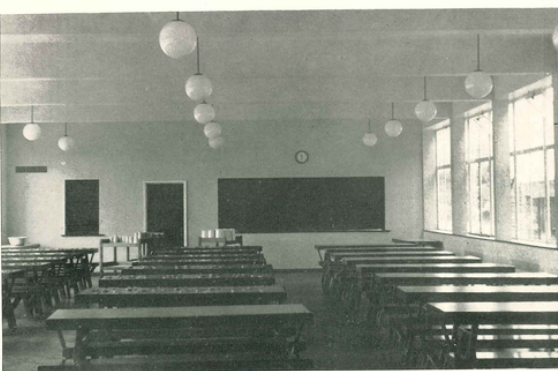
"We were delighted to find the original programme of the opening ceremony which featured some wonderful photos of the school as it was then."



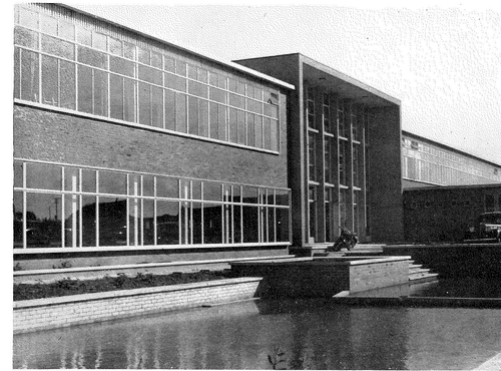
One of the Science Rooms



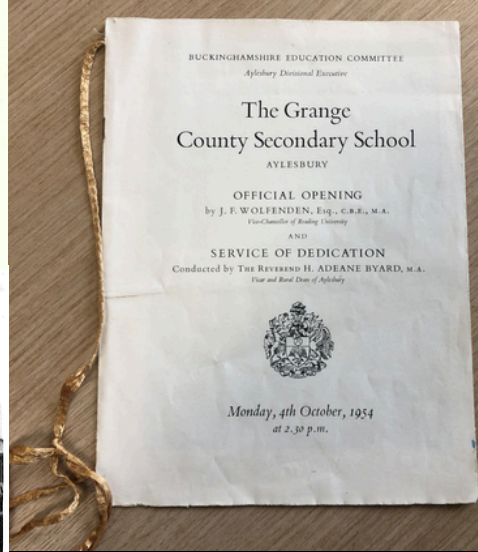
A General View across the Playing Fields



The Canteen Dining Room



The Main Entrance





Year 8 History Trip to the Black History Museum

On Monday 16 September we were able to take 120 Year 8 students to Dudley to visit the Black Country Living Museum. The focus of the trip was to explore the industrial history of the area to link to our future study of the Industrial Revolution, which we will cover in the spring.

In small groups the students were escorted by guides dressed in Victorian costumes around the living museum exploring the stories of the many different buildings and streets – for example visiting a mill, houses for lower and middle class citizens, shops, canals, workshops, riding on vintage buses, and even down into a mine to experience the life and work of a miner in the 'Black Country' (named after the coal mining industries which were vital to this area).

The students were engaged and well behaved throughout the day and did us proud. We hope they enjoyed their day visiting the living museum, it is a unique experience which makes the history of the area come to life and make it more hands on for the visitors. We look forward to another visit in the future!

Thank you to Mrs Phillips-Harrington, Mr Hood, Mr Scott, Miss Freeman, Ms Brown, Mrs Bell, Mrs Bolton, Mrs Eaglestone, Mrs Vitali and Mr Khan for their support on the day. We could not have run this trip without your support.

"The students were escorted by guides dressed in Victorian costumes around the living museum."





Breast Cancer Awareness

On Tuesday 15 October 2024 we were proud to turn the school pink for Breast Cancer Awareness.

It was a truly an action packed day with bookmark making in the library, an oracy activity for students in lessons, a fun staff quiz, delicious treats in the staff room, pink accessories galore for our students and some perfectly pink outfits for our staff.

All proceeds from the day, including the Macmillan Coffee Sale earlier this half term will go towards our fundraising efforts for breast cancer awareness.

As always a fabulous team effort from all at The Grange. Thank you so much to Mr Salmon for organising such a wonderful charity event.



Wear It Pink

Raising Awareness and Money to Support Breast Cancer Research



Wear It Pink

Raising Awareness and Money to Support Breast Cancer Research



Wear It Pink

Raising Awareness and Money to Support Breast Cancer Research



SUPPORT



AWARENESS



Elevate Education 'Study Skills'

On Thursday 3 October 2024, we were pleased to welcome Elevate Education to The Grange School to deliver a Study Skills session to our Year 11 students.

During this session, students were able to learn revision techniques and top tips from University students including the use of colour coding, note taking, practice papers and the reflection cycle.

In the review, 99% of Year 11 believe this programme was time well spent and 98.5% would recommend this programme to other students.

Below are some quotes from students when asked: What was the most important thing you learned during the session?

"How to study before my exams carefully without wasting time"

"Revision must be done over a period of time, not the week before"

"Use practise papers whilst revising for a test"

"All the different ways to revise and make notes"

"How to revise effectively for our upcoming mocks and exams"

"The best way for me to make notes"

"How to revise better, which can help me a lot with my exams"

"To avoid just re-writing notes"

"To use colour to aid memory and use past papers"

We look forward to seeing Year 11 put these revision skills into action ahead of their upcoming mock exams next half term.

"We look forward to seeing Year 11 put these revision skills into action ahead of their upcoming mock exams next half-term."



Honeycomb Auditions ✨



MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2024,
3.15PM, IN THE GYMNASIUM.

Please come wearing your own dance clothes.
See Mrs Shepherd for more information!

Dance Show Auditions ✨



TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2024,
3.15PM, IN THE GYMNASIUM.

Please come wearing your own dance clothes and
have your pre-prepared routine ready to show!

See Mrs Shepherd for more information.



Everybody Cut Footloose!

Our annual production has kicked off with some very exciting auditions!

This year, we are pleased to share with you we will be performing the incredible Footloose overseen by the awesome Drama and Music Department.

We were beyond delighted to have 80 students turn up to the first round of audition including lots of our new Year 7 students. Equally as exciting will be our announcement of all of the parts as we start the second part of the Autumn Term.

We'll keep you updated as the project progresses including how to secure your tickets for what promises to be a brilliant night! We are already very much looking forward to watching our incredibly talented students take to the stage later in the academic year on the 13 and 14 February 2025! Please do save the date!



SAVE THE DATE

Thursday
13 February

Friday
14 February





I Belong in Computing Visit

Ten of our Year 8 girls were chosen for the 'I belong in Computing' trip as part of the I belong In Computing project led by the National Centre for Computing Education. This empowering event at Bletchley Park which took place on Friday 27 September included inspiring talks, learning about cipher codes and new innovations. The girls were also given a brief tour where the guides shared the history of the women who contributed to the war efforts but they had to do all this quietly and it had to be a secret for nearly 20 years!

Here's what the girls thought of the trip..

"When we arrived at Bletchley Park, we saw at least five more school who were privileged to join us in sharing the beautiful moment, we saw loads of old buildings.

The whole group was exhilarated to learn about the knowledge of what girls did back to help us win the Second World War. What really stood out was the range of coloured uniform and how each school brought a different pigment to the mix.

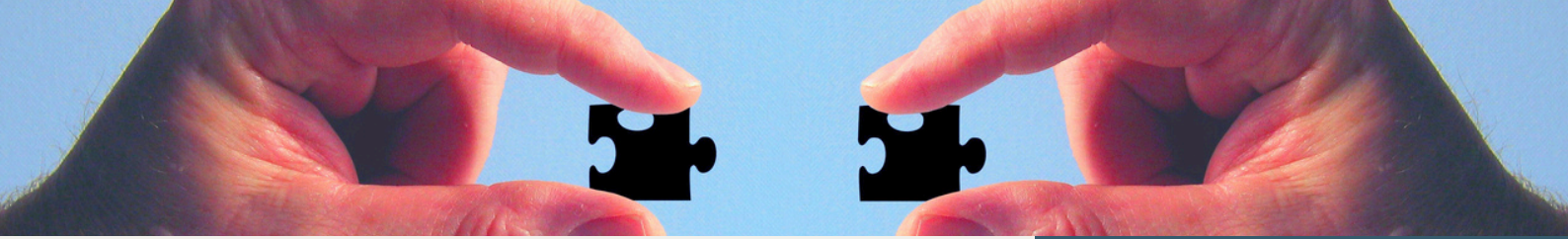
Our day started off with two different speeches and a brief explanation on what Bletchley park was, what we were going to do there and explaining to us their goals of increasing the percent of girls that choose Computer Science as a GCSE subject in England. We learnt about all the types of codes and how to break them. The sights were breathtaking and stunning as soon as we got out, we could smell the learning coming to us. As we were sitting in the auditorium, we had a talk from the manager of the Park and another talk from an agent of the National Cyber Security Centre. We were guided through the features of Bletchley Park by a lovely tour guide. Bletchley Park was a wonderful experience for myself and all the other girls who went with me, we were given wonderful speeches in the auditorium by women who were at Bletchley they were very inspiring. Later, in the day our group were looking at the machines used for codebreaking they were magnificent.

Overall, I believe Bletchley Park was an excellent visit and I really enjoyed it, and I know the other girls did too I hope we get to go again soon."

Our girls were at the forefront answering questions and contributing to the discussions confidently. Their enthusiasm truly made a positive impact throughout the day. They are all an absolute credit to our school!

"Our girls were at the forefront answering questions and contributing confidently to the discussions."





Communication is Key



Keep up to date with all of the latest goings on in school via our social media accounts.



In addition, we're always delighted to hear from our stakeholders to address your feedback.....

The Grange School

Wendover Way

Aylesbury, HP21 7NH

01296 390900

marketing@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at www.thegrange.bucks.sch.uk

A Note from the Attendance Office

A gentle reminder that all absences should be reported by telephone on 01296 390959 or via the attendance email attendance@grange.bucks.sch.uk before 8.30am.

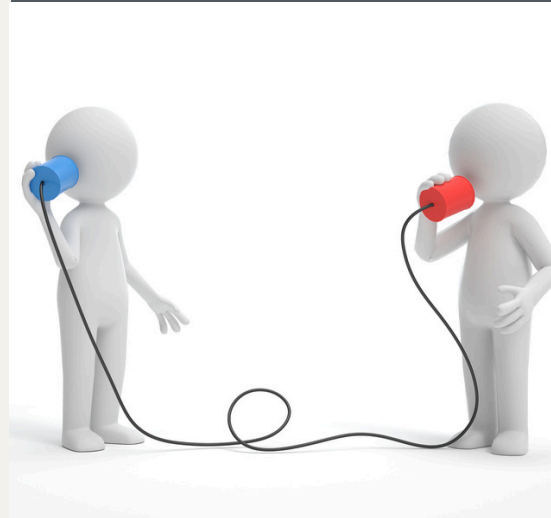
Please can notes and medical evidence also be brought into school 48 hours prior to appointments rather than on the day of the appointment.

If you wish to discuss your child's attendance at any time please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Scroggs.

Many thanks for your continued support.



"Our whole School Attendance Target is set at 97%"



Every School Day Counts!

0 Days off School	100%	Perfection!
2 Days off School Each Year	99%	Excellent
5 Days off School Each Year	97%	Good
10 Days off School Each Year	95%	Slight Concern
20 Days off School Each Year	90%	Concerned
30 Days off School Each Year	85%	Very Concerned

5 days absence
over the whole
year

97-100%

Good chance
of success and
progress

20 days absence
over the whole
year

90%

Less chance of
success. Harder
to make
progress

20+ days absence
over the whole
year

Under 90%

Detrimental to
success and
progress

Grange School Target 97%



Parent and Carer IT Support

A reminder that if students are experiencing any school IT related issues that our dedicated IT Support Team work through both the term time and school holidays and are available to assist.

You can contact them on parent-IT-help@grange.bucks.sch.uk and they will be happy to help.

We have a [dedicated page on our website](#) which provides information and advice for all things IT related.

"Our dedicated IT Support Team work through both the term time and school holidays and are available to assist you with any queries or issues you may have."





Training Provider Event

On Friday 18 October, Year 11 students had the opportunity to meet and talk to training providers in school. Our Careers Team encourage our students to thoroughly research all options available to them and one aspect of this is our annual Training Provider event.

We invited all local colleges, two smaller training providers and three employers offering apprenticeships schemes. Year 11s attended an assembly and watched promotional videos to prepare them for the event. We were fortunate to welcome Bucks College Group, West Herts College, Berkshire College of Agriculture, and the Aylesbury University Technical College (AUTC), on Friday morning. Next Phase Academy and Beaconsfield Institute of Performing Arts (BIPA) were there to offer information about their unique courses, with Coca Cola Euro-Pacific Partners (CCEP) offering information and advice about apprenticeships. Flannery Plant Hire and Hartwell House were unable to attend on the day but will join us at our Careers Fair in January.

Our student Skippers were fantastic at helping our visitors and our Sixth Form helpers did an excellent job managing the temporary car park.

It was brilliant to see so many students engaging well with our visitors. Here are examples of feedback:

"I think BIPA has my eye because of the active style of lessons they offer. LG Looking at the colleges helped me figure out where I want to go, and which courses I can do when I leave Year 11." MM

"I think the people from Coca Cola were highly informative and gave me an idea of what I can do in the future. There were a range of people at the event. Career days are always useful to students." CP

"I found the training provider event extremely useful as it helped to talk to different colleges to learn about the courses offered and how they are run. It has helped me decide what I want to investigate further." NJ

"I found it useful and helpful, and I spoke to BIPA and Next Phase Academy." DJ

"It was an eye-opening experience to know that I have options other than Sixth Form. I got some cool pens and badges. AUTC was great fun as they had a geriatric simulator. This shows care gives a better understanding of their patients' problems and feelings." JB

"A terrific opportunity to open your mind to all the options. The devices that AUTC showed us helped us to engage and start conversations with them."

The Grange School Careers Team would like to thank all those who made this event enjoyable and successful.

"The structure of the day and the time the students had in the hall worked really well."



A huge thank you to all of our exhibitors!



Library Update

It's been another busy half-term in our School Library and Learning Resource Centre.

School Induction

We have welcomed our new year 7s and refreshed the memories of some of our Year 8s with induction sessions, so they know how the library works and how to find information.

New Resources

We have bought 161 new books for the library, many suggested by students, and 60 new eBook titles. We have been very busy and issued over 1,000 books to students this half term. Just a reminder that once students borrow our books, they are their responsibility. We do have plastic jackets on to protect the books, but if they are damaged and we can't lend them to other students they will need to be paid for or replaced.



Readers of the Month

- Year 7 Theo G
- Year 8 Lean S
- Year 9 Adeel S
- Year 10 Helna S
- Year 11 Selena S



Well done to you all! We were proud to award a sweet treat for their amazing reading.

Competitions

To celebrate National Poetry Day, we had a Haiku writing competition about counting and our winners were:

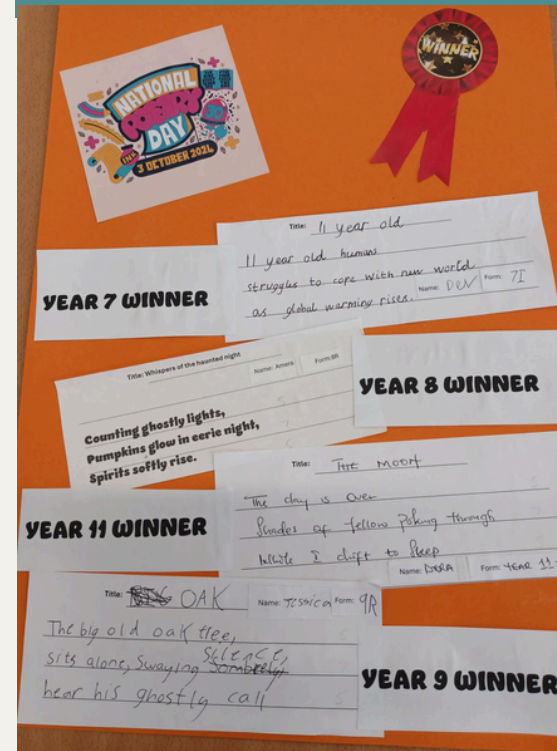
- Year 7 Dev N
- Year 8 Amara H
- Year 9 Jessica G
- Year 11 Dera E

We hope they enjoyed their prizes.

Displays

We have been encouraging students to choose about back to school and wellbeing. We have supported school initiatives with Mental Health Awareness and Breast Cancer Awareness where our library users were amazing.

"We have been very busy in the library and have issued over 1000 books to students."





First Aid Notices

We wanted to highlight a few important pieces of information in relation to medical care in school. These will help better support the health and wellbeing of all of our students.

Healthcare Plans

If there are any changes to your child/children's Healthcare Plans please contact the First Aid Officer so that we can make a note.

Administration of Paracetamol

For those students who are prone to suffer with either migraines, headaches or period cramps, we ask that they bring their own supply of paracetamol (or other suitable painkillers). These can be brought to the First Aid office where they will be stored in a locked cabinet and administered as required. We do not have a supply of paracetamol in school.

Drinking Water

Students are reminded to please bring in a water bottle that can be filled up at the various water stations located around the school. As well as for general hydration there is significant evidence that drinking sufficient water improves educational outcomes through the positive effects of hydration on attention, concentration, and short-term memory. As the weather begins to get warmer, this is of even more importance.



If students are generally well, they should not come to First Aid to ask for water as this is resulting in a delay in dealing with medical issues.

Medication

If you are sending medication into school with your child, please ensure you have completed a Parental Agreement to Administer Medicine Form. These must be completed for each new medicine.

If you have sent medication into school for a 'one off' medical concern which will not need to be used again, please can students collect the remainder to take home. Similarly for students leaving school at the end of July medicine can be collected as per our recent correspondence.

If you have any questions or queries about First Aid in school, please don't hesitate to get in touch on 01296 390919.

"Students are reminded to please bring in a water bottle that can be filled up at the various water stations located around the school."

