

The Grange Gazette

Official Newsletter of The Grange School



Thoughts From The Headteachers Desk

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff and students for their efforts and enthusiasm for the Autumn term and to you for your continued support of our school. The Autumn term is the longest term of the year and it often feels like we are half way through the school year. It does not pass me by, that when staff and students are at their most tired, we seem to be doing and offering more opportunities for our students.



Years 11 and 13 had a busy period undertaking their mock examinations for this summer's main event. They are an important part of their preparation in order to acclimatize themselves with the environment and processes that are associated with examinations. The exams team work hard to ensure we create an experience that reflects the reality in the summer. There are no surprises. Students were wonderful in how they approached the experience and will have gained good insight into how they will respond in the summer. Students will receive their marks in the new year and will have the opportunity to reflect on their performance.

We try to give guidance with regards to revision and some students will have done a great and there will be others who have completed very little. We know this. We also know that there approximately 3,450 state secondary schools in England with the majority of their Year 11 and Year 13 students wanting the grades that our students want. It is a competitive period and our students need to create motion into action, as it is difficult to go from little independent work to fulfilling their intentions.

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Earlier this month we held our annual Sixth Form Open Evening. It was good to see so many people both in the hall and talking with teachers about potential options. This is all part of preparing our students for their next steps. Also in the Autumn term, Year 11 students had access to potential training providers and this Spring term we will be holding our Careers Fair. Students are able to meet with Mrs Kittles who provides excellent careers advice and I have started my meetings with Year 11 students to discuss the art of the possibility for them moving forward.

Just before we broke for the half-term in October it was revealed that the school would be producing Oliver in the Spring Term 2026. The cast of Oliver has since been announced and they, our staff, and production team are working very hard on our whole-school show. A great deal of work goes into the show and it always amazes me how seamless it seems to be on the nights of the performance. We all very much enjoyed our Christmas Concert and the exceptional student talent. Staff and students have welcomed back Mrs Kirk after a period of absence and it was clear they were all very excited to be back performing.

In the last two weeks of the Autumn term, students in Years 7 and 8 had the best experience. The Christmas Ball continues to grow, with over two hundred and twenty students coming back to school to be entertained in the school hall. Mr McCartney returned to school as 'DJ Mac' and had our students on the dance floor all evening. The music was loud and the dancing frenzied but everyone looked to be having a great time. Both Mr Khan and Mr Walsh kept everyone entertained with their dancing Father Christmas and Elf renditions. They surpassed all expectations, and secretly enjoyed it!

Year 7 also had a great time at The Waterside Pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, and definitely participated in making a good deal of noise. There was much excitement and as an experience, it was so worthwhile. There were some additions to this year's pantomime which certainly made me jump at one point, much to everyone's amusement. All students had the opportunity to go, and it looked like they thoroughly enjoyed the excursion to the theatre.

I am sure that students in Years 7 and 8 would like to share their thanks with Miss Glenister for organising both the Christmas Ball and the visit to the Panto. Such events definitely add to the experience of students in school.

I very much hope all of our families enjoyed the festive period. I would like to take this opportunity to express my best wishes to you all and wish you a Happy New Year. Here's to a positive, productive and enjoyable Spring Term ahead.

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Year Group Updates

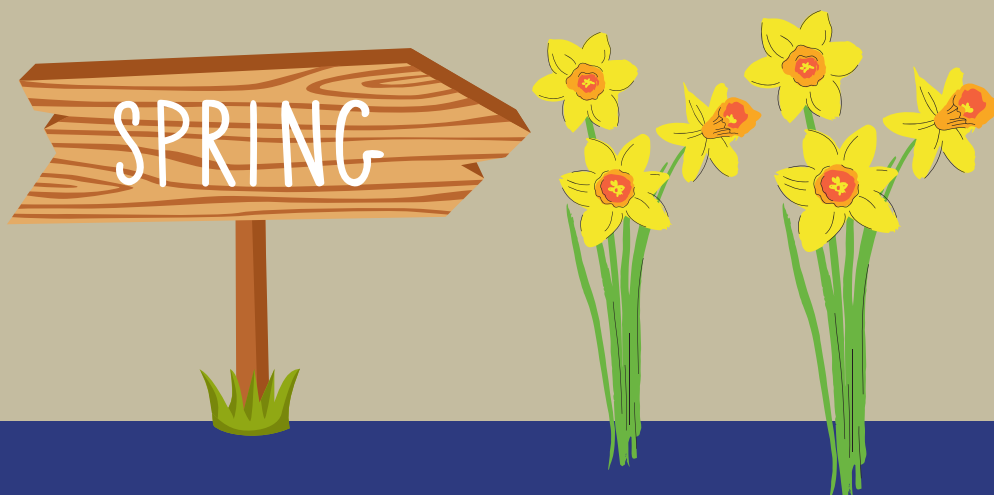
Year 7 - Miss Lindsay and Mr Walsh

What a great start our new Year 7 cohort have made to The Grange. Transition from primary to secondary is no easy job and it has been wonderful to see how well our students have embraced the challenge. We want to thank our Year 7s, their parents and carers and all of the fantastic staff that work with Year 7 for engaging and supporting with the secondary school journey.

It was a busy Autumn term! As well as getting used to being in secondary school, we had great fun at our team building day in September, which involved lots of bonding and fun on inflatables. During the second half term we very much enjoyed the Christmas Ball and the pantomime and it was a pleasure to see students (and staff!) have such a good time at these events. Year 7 is also top of the leader board for attendance and we have celebrated 16 Stars of the Half Term!

For the Spring term we are looking forward to our Year 7s continuing to embrace school life by getting even more involved in extra-curricula clubs. We are looking forward to lots of drama on stage with lots of our year group being involved in our school musical Oliver! and the Dance Show. We're also looking forward to maintaining our lead on the attendance board and celebrating many more successes.

We hope you all enjoyed the festive break and we look forward to a wonderful Spring term ahead.



"We want to thank our Year 7s, their parents and carers and all the fantastic staff that work with Year 7 for engaging and supporting with the secondary school journey."





Year 8 Miss Bellin and Mr Khan

The first term of the academic year was an exciting and eventful one for our Year 8 students. From September through to December, students settled confidently into the routines and expectations of the year, showing maturity, resilience, and a growing sense of responsibility in both their academic work and wider school life.

One of the most significant developments was a change in leadership within the Year 8 team. We were pleased to welcome Mrs Bradley as our new Key Stage Lead, bringing fresh ideas, clear direction, and a strong focus on student progress and wellbeing. Alongside this, Miss Bellin joined Mr Khan as Year Team Leader, quickly building positive relationships with students and staff and becoming a supportive and familiar presence for the year group. Together, we have all worked closely with form tutors and subject teachers to ensure a smooth transition and a consistent approach across the year.

Academically, Year 8 saw important changes, particularly in some subjects that are now taught in sets. This has allowed lessons to be more closely tailored to students' needs, helping to stretch and support learners more effectively. Students responded well to these changes, demonstrating improved focus and engagement in lessons. We also focused on improving our year group attendance for the Autumn term. While we appreciate flu season hit hard, please do try to ensure that students are attending school as much as possible when they are fit and well to do so for the Spring term ahead. If there are any issues that we need to be aware of, please do let Miss Bellin and Mr Khan know so that we can offer support.

Beyond the classroom, there were plenty of memorable moments. A standout highlight of the Autumn term was the Christmas Ball, which provided a fantastic opportunity for students to celebrate the festive season together. The event was filled with music, laughter, and holiday spirit, and it was wonderful to see students enjoying themselves and representing the school so positively. Miss Bellin, Mr Khan and Mrs Bradley enjoyed themselves on the dancefloor as much as the students!

As we head into the new term, Year 8 can be proud of the progress they have made so far. With strong leadership, dedicated staff, and enthusiastic students, we look forward to an even more successful and rewarding rest of the year. Finally, please can we ask that you take some time to ensure that uniform and equipment are correct and ready to go.

We hope you have a lovely break and look forward to a brilliant Spring term ahead.

"From September through to December, students settled confidently into the routines and expectations of the year, showing maturity, resilience, and a growing sense of responsibility in both their academic work and wider school life."



Year 9 - Mrs Dimond and Mr McKinley

As we look back on the Autumn term, it's been inspiring to see so many opportunities that have helped our students grow in confidence, character and ambition. From celebrating positive choices through our Rewards Breakfast, to the teamwork and global awareness shown in Model UN, our students have truly embraced every experience. We enjoyed the joy of music through singing in the choir and musical performances at the school Christmas concert earlier and sharing that festive spirit with residents at a local care home.

Our assemblies challenged us to think about what it really means to be a hero, and we were motivated by a visit from Joe Dunkley, Principal of UTC, and we focused on valuable study skills to help us prepare for exams ahead of starting to make informed GCSE option choices.

A huge thank you to staff, students and families for your continued support, we are most grateful. We are incredibly proud of everything achieved this year and look forward to what lies ahead for the Spring term.



"As we look back on the Autumn term, it's been inspiring to see so many opportunities that have helped our students grow in confidence, character and ambition."





Year 10 - Mrs Urch and Mrs Mathieu

The cohort made a very positive start to Year 10! Many have been some beautiful, caring & efficient buddies for the new Year 7 students back in September. Some of our students have excelled in archery, kick boxing and gymnastics, which we have shared through our #StudentShotouts demonstrating resilience, commitment and dedication for their passions, reaching regional and national levels. In school we've had the pleasure of witnessing students in the Christmas concert, well done for sharing your time and your talents!

Thanks to Ms Devaney, the work experience process is now well on the way and many students have already chosen their sector of interest where they will spend two weeks in May next year.

The contribution of the Year 10 Skippers has made a mark among all the teachers. They have taken part in a morning briefing and an after school meeting to share with the staff their views on how the implementation of success criteria or other formative assessment techniques have impacted their learning experience.

Now that Ms Urch is back with us with Y10 Disc, the Year 10 team is complete! We hope all of our families had a lovely and relaxing festive break.

We look forward to seeing you all back in full uniform, equipped, rested and with our 'We Can' attitude for the Spring term.

Year 11 - Mr Black and Mrs Pollard

It was a busy Autumn term for the Year 11's, but the end is now in sight as we go into the Spring term!

The biggest event of the Autumn term was the two intense weeks of mock exams. Whilst hard work, the students have performed well in the exams and are now better prepared for their GCSE exams. The students have had or will be having a career meeting with our careers advisor Mrs Kittles, who has commented that she has never seen a group of students so prepared and motivated for their future. Well done everyone!

We are delighted that Mrs Pollard has now returned and will work together with Mr Black to support the students for the remainder of Year 11. We can't wait to see what the new Spring term brings.

"We look forward to seeing you all back in full uniform, equipped, rested and with our 'We Can' attitude for the Spring Term."





Sixth Form - Mrs Devanney

It was an extremely busy and successful Autumn term for our Year 12 and Year 13 students, with many academic, leadership and enrichment opportunities taking place across the Sixth Form.

Our Year 13 students worked very hard, completing their mock examination week in preparation for their final assessments later this summer. This important milestone has allowed students to assess their progress, identify areas for improvement and build confidence ahead of their external examinations. In addition, many Year 13 students completed and submitted their UCAS applications, carefully considering their next steps as they prepare for life beyond Sixth Form.

The Year 13 Leadership Team made a valuable contribution to Sixth Form life and have played an important role in developing a strong sense of community. They supported and organised a range of activities, including a highly successful Children in Need event. Members of the leadership team took part in assemblies and represented the Sixth Form at open evenings, speaking confidently to prospective students and their families. Kyesha and Dakiaya worked incredibly hard at starting a culture week initiative for the whole school. They continue to act as excellent role models and ambassadors for the school.

Year 12 students have settled well into Sixth Form life and have shown real enthusiasm in engaging with a wide range of extracurricular and enrichment opportunities. Some have taken part in a reading initiative with younger pupils at a local primary school, demonstrating commitment, maturity and a strong sense of social responsibility. Our Young Enterprise team has continued to thrive this term, developing key employability skills such as teamwork, communication and enterprise. We would like to thank Mr Haycock for his continued support of this initiative. A special mention also goes to Riley J for leading a successful Movember awareness event, helping to raise awareness of men's health and wellbeing within our school community.

Throughout the Autumn term, students benefited from a number of informative and inspirational talks. These included sessions delivered by the Samaritans, a talk exploring Degree Apprenticeships as an alternative post-18 pathway, and an introduction to careers within the NHS. These opportunities supported students in broadening their understanding of future options and making informed decisions about their next steps.

Looking ahead to the Spring Term, we are excited to offer further enrichment opportunities, including a Bucks New University visit Spotlight Talk. We look forward to continuing to work closely with students and parents and carers as we support our Sixth Form students in their academic progress, personal development and future aspirations.

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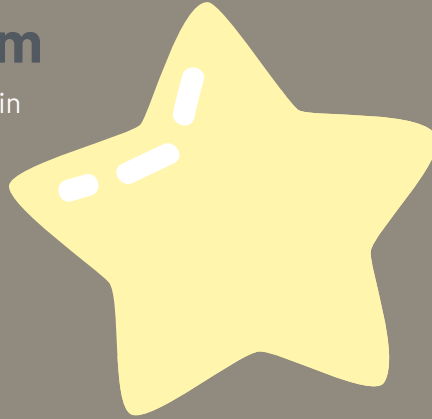
Star Of The Half-Term

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, and some delicious goodies! A huge well done to all of the stars for Autumn Term 2.



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

Year 7

7D - Sarah A
7I - Alice T
7S - Subhan A
7C - Sophia H
7O - Isla B
7V - Finley S
7E - Ellie W
7R - Olivia M

Year 8

8D - Luke M
8I - Samih H-M
8S - Chanuli S
8C - Inigo H
8O - Owen S
8V - Alfie P
8E - Israa A
8R - Mason W





FUNDRAISING

Friends of The Grange School Update

It's been a busy half term for our wonderful PTA, Friends of The Grange School.

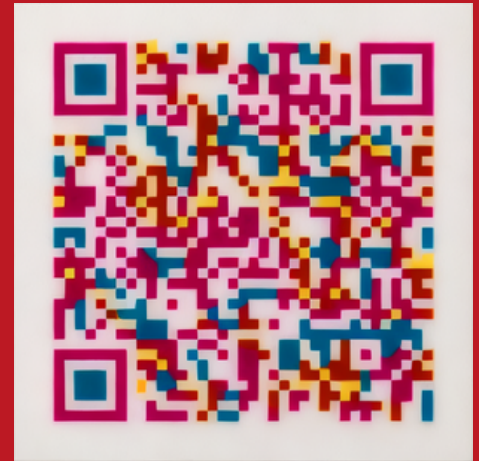
The last two months have seen them host a Christmas Market, as well as supporting numerous events including the Christmas Concert and Parents Evenings.

On Friday 28 November 2025 they hosted a superb Christmas Market. The atmosphere was very festive and buzzing with excitement. The 17 fantastic local stalls were bursting with beautiful gifts, tasty treats, handmade crafts, books, bakes, candles, decorations, and so much more! We were so very pleased to welcome both the Design Technology Construction Students and Year 10 student Lily A who sold their amazing products. Visitors enjoyed hot drinks, sweet treats, and we had many happy raffle winners throughout the evening. It was the perfect way to kick off some Christmas shopping while supporting our school community.

From all of the events this half-term the team have raised well over £1000!

Moving forward to the Spring Term we will see the return of the incredibly popular Quiz Night and Disco Bingo! More information will follow in 2026!

We are so very grateful for all the Friends of The Grange School do to support our school.



pta@grange.bucks.sch.uk





Year 12 Young Enterprise

Entrepreneurs in the making, our amazing students are developing real-world skills through the Young Enterprise programme. From money management and employability to creativity, confidence and leadership. These are exactly the skills that help young people stand out to employers, colleges and universities.

Supported by the awesome Mr Haycock, the team is thriving and they've created an incredible product:

The Get Lit Kit – The Ultimate Revision Bundle!

Packed with everything students need to study smarter, not harder:

- Online revision signposts + tips on using AI effectively
- Pens & pencils
- Highlighters
- Flash cards
- Mini whiteboard + pen & eraser
- Knowledge organiser templates
- Revision timetable templates

Buying all this separately would cost £16.06 at a leading supermarket... But the Get Lit Kit is just £9.99! What a bargain!

The team showcased their products at the Kingsbrook Christmas Fayre with Oscar and Bruce manning the stand. They sold out of their Get Lit Kits! More recently they popped up at our Sixth Form Open Evening!

Interested? Email youngenterprise@grange.bucks.sch.uk to order your kit now!!! Let's support our brilliant young entrepreneurs!



"The team showcased their products at the Kingsbrook Christmas Fayre with Oscar and Bruce manning the stand. They sold out of their Get Lit Kits! More recently they popped up at our Sixth Form Open Evening!"





Strong Minds Event

On Wednesday 19 November, some of our students took part in 'Strong Minds', an uplifting event run by Leap our local School Sports Partnership. The session was all about building confidence, developing healthy habits and finding positive ways to manage the pressures that can come with exams.

Held at Because I Can Fitness Aylesbury's women-only weights and resistance gym, the students had the opportunity to:

- Learn lifting techniques in a safe, supportive environment
- Boost confidence and resilience
- Explore empowering strength-based activities
- Discover practical coping strategies for exam stress and mental wellbeing

Alongside the training, students also took part in a valuable conversation about mental health and how to manage stress during busy or challenging times.

A big thank you Leap and to Lucy Scroggs at Because I Can Fitness for her expert coaching and for creating such a welcoming and motivating space.

"Lucy is a brilliant instructor! My daughter attends her Girls That Lift classes, and I found her so welcoming that I joined the Ladies That Lift classes. I'm sure the students had a great time, and good to see this type of collaboration."

Parent on Facebook





Charity Events

Well done to our team of Sixth Formers for organising two wonderful charity events during the Autumn term.

On Friday 14 November, we saw a whole host of awesome activities for Children in Need with our Sixth Form dressed in some spectacular fancy dress outfits! Here's what took place in a packed out Sixth Form Study Centre:

- Form Time Quizzes
- Bake Sale – A huge hit as always! Thank you to everyone who made some goodies!
- Guess the Teacher competition
- Teddy Raffle
- Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar

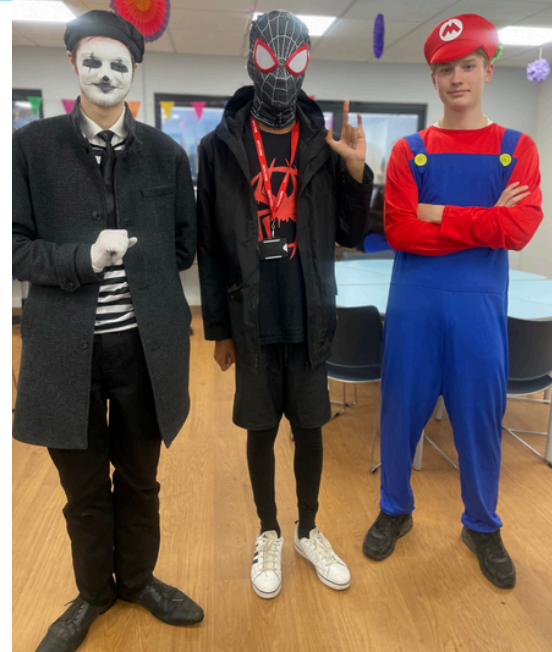
A week later on Thursday 20 November, Riley J in our Sixth Form organised a fantastic event in support of Movember, a charity committed to preventing male suicide worldwide and funding vital research and treatment for prostate and testicular cancer. We're incredibly proud of his drive, passion and initiative. Break times saw a packed out brilliant bake sale with amazing treats. Staff and Sixth Form students wore blue to raise awareness and show support, with some even coordinating matching blue shoes for the occasion! Finally, Form Tutors shared a Movember PowerPoint, helping students learn more about men's mental health, cancer awareness and the importance of starting conversations.

A massive well done and thank you Mrs Devanney and our Sixth Form for their enthusiasm, creativity, and leadership in supporting two important causes.

We're proud to share the fantastic totals raised:

- £184.08 raised for Movember
- £382.28 raised for Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes, bought treats, or contributed in any way. Your generosity has directly supported these incredibly worthy charities.





Music Department Update

It's been another busy half-term for our Music Department!

Highlights from this half-term include the Christmas Concert and a wonderful trip out to Byron House Care Home to sing Christmas Carols.

Instrumental Tuition

We have teachers visiting us every week for students to learn Classical Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Piano, Violin, Clarinet, saxophone, voice and Trumpet. If you would like to learn a musical instrument [sign up here](#). For Classical guitar please contact Mrs Kirk at akirk@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular groups with some new ones added following student requests. All of these groups are open to performers of every level. Timetables will be live on our school website this week and promoted via social media and in the weekly bulletin. Speak to your music teacher to find out more.

BofA

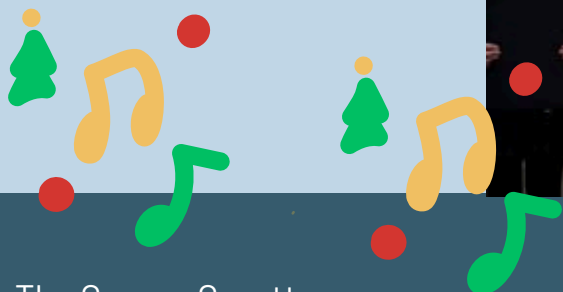
In early November members of the Orchestra spent the day at Aylesbury Music Centre as part of the Bucks Orchestra for All. We enjoyed playing arrangements of I've Got Rhythm by George Gershwin and Invierno Porteno by Piazzola. We're looking forward to the next rehearsal day in March. If you'd like to join in see Mrs Kirk at the start of term. Rehearsals take place every Tuesday in Music 1 from 3-4.

Carol Singing at Byron House Care Home

On 18 December a small group of singers from our Year 10 Music class entertained residents of Byron House Care Home with songs they had learned during the term and some festive carols and songs. Everyone felt much more Christmassy afterwards and it was fantastic to have such an appreciative audience. We hope to go back and visit again soon!



"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."





Christmas Concert

We had the most wonderful festive night on Tuesday 16 December as our talented vocalists and musicians took to the stage for our annual Christmas Concert. In front of a packed audience our students and staff played and sang their hearts out.

Students performed solos and ensemble pieces and really got us all in the Christmas Spirit. Choir and Orchestra performed traditional carols and we had some festive favourites including Jingle Bells from Mary R in Y7 and a medley of Nordic folk duets from Teddy H Year 11 and Mr Hart on violins.

THE GRANGE SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

MAIN HALL, 7.00PM
TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2025

Please bring foodbank donations
Refreshments provided by Friends of The Grange School



Upcoming Music Events

- Thursday 29 January - GCSE Coursework Recording, All Day, Music Department
- Thursday 12 and Friday 13 February - Oliver! 7pm, Main Hall
- Tuesday 3 March - BofA Rehearsal Day, All Day, Aylesbury Music Centre
- Wednesday 25 March - Concert with Cake, 4-6pm, Main Hall



Student Skipper Team Progress!

Our Skippers are continuing to make an impact within our school community, particularly among the staff this half term. Here's what they've been getting up to!

Presenting in After-School Staff CPD sessions

The Skippers participated in an SSAT session on 17 November 2025, sharing feedback to staff on their experience of Success Criteria/Learning Outcomes in their lessons. They were able to explain which subjects these were clearest in and how this benefitted their learning. The Skippers met with Mrs Kenny 4 weeks prior to this session to prepare and discuss definitions around success criteria/learning outcomes, so they were able to consider and make informed decisions about how these were referenced in lessons and reflect on how they impacted their learning. This will be an ongoing collaboration during the academic year.



Year 7 Form Tutor-Parents Evening

Many of our Skippers did us proud by welcoming our Year 7 Parents/Carers to their first Parent's Evening in November 2025. The Skippers took the lead in the running of the evening by signing in and directing our parents/carers and looking after our Form Tutors for the evening. The Skippers were an invaluable support and were a huge part in the running of this successful evening. Thank you Skippers!

"Our Skippers are continuing to make an impact within our school community, particularly among the staff this half term."



LEADERSHIP

Skipper Meeting Room Project

The Skipper Meeting Room project is almost complete. The final designs were agreed by the Skippers and have been ordered and were delivered just before the Christmas holidays. This Spring Term, we get to see the final design and overall project come together – all chosen by the Skippers themselves. We will share the final look very soon!

Skipper Log Books

At the start of the second Autumn half term, all Skippers were asked to hand in their Skipper logs to Miss Glenister to show off all the hours and effort they have been putting into their leadership roles. The vast majority of Skippers have used their log books well and are continuing to demonstrate their contribution to the school community.

Police Survey

In the Autumn Term, we were asked by Aylesbury Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team to complete a survey in relation to youth anti-social behaviour. This was a great opportunity for the Skippers to make a difference to the outside community by sharing their voice, experience and opinions.

This Half-Term

Looking ahead into the first part of the Spring Half Term, the vast majority of Skippers have volunteered to support this year's Culture Week led by the Sixth Form Team. Some of our Year 10 skippers will have the opportunity to attend this year's Bucks Youth Summit at The Aylesbury Waterside Theatre and we may also see the return of a fund-raising pledge around Valentine's Day...



"In the Autumn Term, we were asked by Aylesbury Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team to complete a survey in relation to youth anti-social behaviour. This was a great opportunity for the Skippers to make a difference to the outside community by sharing their voice, experience and opinions."



Year 7 Pantomime Trip

Just before the Christmas break, Year 7 rounded off a successful first term with a visit to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre to watch this year's pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to enjoy a shared cultural experience and celebrate the end of a busy and positive term.

Students were accompanied by their form tutors, the Year Team Leader, Learning Support Assistants and Pastoral Staff, as well as our Headteacher, Mr Murray, and Deputy Headteacher, Miss Brown. The atmosphere was full of excitement as students enjoyed the colourful performances, comedy and impressive special effects.

On returning to school, students completed reviews of the show and shared their thoughts on their favourite moments. Many highlighted the 3D effects, audience interaction and humorous scenes:

- **"I really liked the show. My favourite part was the dancers and the 3D effects as they were really fun" – Mary R (★★★★★)**
- **"My favourite part was the 3D effects as it actually looked like the spiders were coming towards you" – Ayesha N (★★★★☆)**
- **"My favourite part was when the flies were thrown into our eyes. It was so realistic!" – James T (★★★★★)**
- **"I liked the show. My favourite part was when Andy Collins said 6...7 and everyone started laughing and saying 6...7" – Kaysen L (★★★★★)**
- **"My favourite part was when they were singing '12 Days of Christmas' and on the 12th day, they used water guns" – Hasti P (★★★★☆)**

Students were also asked whether they would recommend the show to a friend, and the response was overwhelmingly positive:

- **"I would as this is a traditional story with a modern twist. The attention to detail left me in awe. I enjoyed how they included the audience in the play" – Muntaha R (★★★★☆)**
- **"I would recommend as it was fun and it was a great bonding time" – Ropa N (★★★★½)**
- **"I would recommend it, I actually already have!" – Elsie R (★★★★★)**
- **"I would recommend it because it is funny and silly" – Malika A (★★★★★)**
- **"Yes, I would recommend because it was really fun and it had a good atmosphere" – Eisa H (★★★★½)**
- **"Yes, I would recommend as it was funny and made me giggle" – Emma K (★★★★★)**
- **"Yes, I would recommend as it was really fun, especially if you were in the front row because you get squirted with water" – Jake W (★★★★★)**

We would like to thank all the staff who supported the organisation and supervision of the trip, as well as parents and carers for their continued support in allowing students to take part. Experiences such as these play an important role in our Personal Development programme and help to enrich the lives of our young people.

A quote from Muntaha R (7R) perfectly captures the moral of the pantomime and a message we will carry with us into 2026:

"To believe and be brave – the smallest mouse can defeat the meanest of cats."

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Celebrating Our Students: #StudentShoutouts

This Autumn Term, it has been a real pleasure to share our #StudentShoutouts, an initiative created to celebrate and showcase the talents, commitment, and hard work of our students. Through these shoutouts, we have been able to recognise young people who consistently demonstrate dedication, determination, focus, and a strong work ethic.

We are incredibly proud not only of what our students achieve in school, but also of the successes they accomplish beyond the classroom. Whether excelling academically, developing creative talents, showing sporting excellence, or contributing positively to their communities, our students continue to inspire us every day.

The #StudentShoutouts remind us that success comes in many forms and that effort, resilience, and perseverance deserve to be celebrated. Our students are hardworking, motivated, and determined individuals, and we are delighted to recognise and share their achievements with our school community.

First up, we're thrilled to feature **Mollie M, Year 8**. Mollie has been making waves in the dance world, and her achievements are nothing short of inspiring.

Earlier this year, Mollie competed with her team at the Salisbury Street Competition. Their hard work and dedication paid off as they came 1st, securing a place at Nationals. At the national competition, the team went on to achieve an incredible 2nd place in the whole country. A huge accomplishment that speaks for their talent, teamwork, and perseverance.

Mollie didn't stop there. She also competed in pairs at the same March competition, where she took 1st place, showcasing her versatility and skill as a dancer.

Mollie trains with Castielli School of Dance, and already has plans to compete once again for a spot at Nationals.

We're so proud of Mollie and all her achievements. Her dedication, passion, and talent are an inspiration to all our students. Keep shining, Mollie, we can't wait to see what you accomplish next!



"The Student Shoutouts remind us that success comes in many forms and that effort, resilience, and perseverance deserve to be celebrated."





After hugely impressing during their Year 10 work experience, **Zac and Cyale now Year 11**, are officially employees at the amazing Hartwell Riding Stables Ltd.

Here they are pictured with the adorable new Shetland ponies, Purdy and Bunty.

Your dedication and positive 'We Can' attitude have truly paid off, proving once again that hard work works! Fantastic job boys!



"Your dedication and positive 'We Can' attitude have truly paid off, proving once again that hard work works! Fantastic job boys!"

Huge congratulations to **Summer G in 9D** for her fantastic achievement in Taekwondo.

Towards the end of the Autumn term, Summer was awarded her Deputy Black Belt after a full year of commitment, determination and an intense 3-hour grading process! This is an incredible milestone and a true reflection of her hard work and resilience.

Even more impressive is that Summer will now be eligible to grade for her Black Belt next year! We can't wait to see what she achieves next. Well done, Summer, we're so proud of you!





Well done to the incredible talent that is **Issy M in 10S!** Issy recently represented the South Region and delivered an impressive performance across the competition.

She showcased amazing skill on vault and bars (head over to our Instagram or Facebook account to take a look at the awesome videos!) with some strong routines that went really well. Although she had a slight fall on the beam while attempting one of her newest and amazing bigger skills which impacted her individual overall score, Issy still came home with a truly fantastic team bronze medal, placing third overall.

Most importantly, Issy had a great competition and really enjoyed the experience. Having now completed all the levels, she's incredibly excited to start practising even more challenging skills.

We can't wait to see what's next for this truly talented and hardworking young lady. Well done once again Issy, we're so proud of you!





Finally, **Eden S in Year 9** for her incredible achievements in Street Dance this year!

In March, Eden attended her very first regional Street Dance competition and wowed the judges, winning 1st place out of 48 dancers and qualifying for the National Finals! At the National Finals last month, she battled through round after round of tough competition to reach the final, finishing an amazing 6th in the country!

Not stopping there, Eden competed during the Autumn term in the first regional event of the new season securing 3rd place out of 49 dancers and qualifying for the 2026 National Finals!

Eden has also earned medals with her Street Quad group this year, and was proudly voted Street Crew Captain by her fellow dancers. Beyond competing, she volunteers as a class assistant for the Mini & Junior Street Dance classes, supporting and inspiring younger students as they prepare for their upcoming exams.

We're so proud of you, Eden. Your dedication, leadership and talent shine through in everything you do!

"We're so proud of you, Eden. Your dedication, leadership and talent shine through in everything you do!"



We look forward to continuing this initiative and celebrating many more successes in the future.

If you would like to feature a young person for this ongoing project, please email Mrs Cooper-Smith at lcoopermith@grange.bucks.sch.uk





Educational Visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyards

On Tuesday 2 December, Mr Black and Mr Smith led a group of intrepid Sixth Formers to Portsmouth's Historic Dockyards to visit The National Museum of the Royal Navy for an unforgettable educational visit.

Students climbed aboard some of the most famous ships, planes, and submarines in Royal Navy history seeing them through the eyes of those who once served on them. They felt the exhilaration and fear of battle, and were captivated by thousands of unique, emotional, and sometimes quirky stories that have shaped the Royal Navy into what it proudly stands for today.

Our historians explored the legendary HMS Victory and the 19th-century warship Warrior. After a few curious questions and an apparently low-morale walk in the rain searching for Nandos, they returned to The Grange brimming with nautical knowledge!

In the words of the students, this was a *"solid and very informative trip!"*

Thanks to everyone involved for making this visit so fantastic!

"Students climbed aboard some of the most famous ships, planes, and submarines in Royal Navy history seeing them through the eyes of those who once served on them."



Oliver!

Our students and amazing teaching team have been working incredibly hard to get our school production of Oliver! ready for the big night!

Three evenings a week, our dedicated staff and cast have been staying after school to get stuck into rehearsals. It's been an absolute pleasure to drop in to the sessions to see the incredible talent on show but also to witness the new friendships that have blossomed.

Tickets will go on sale in the New Year. We will keep you all posted. It's definitely one not to miss!

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday
12 February

Friday
13 February

SHOW TIME





Cast list



Oliver - James T
Fagin - Jack M
The Artful Dodger - Harrison E-F
Nancy - Olivia S
Bill Sykes - Elijah C
Mr Bumble - To Be Revealed!
Widow Corney -To Be Revealed!
Sowerberry - Jasper M
Sowerberry - Bethan E
Noah - Ben T
Charlotte - Holly S and Georgia D
Mr Brownlow - Honor C
Bet - Breanna C
Mrs Bedwin - Summer C
Old Sally - TBC

The Workhouse Wardens - Luca K and Kristin B
The Workhouse Governors - Delna J, Owen H, Sarah D and Fred L-W
Old Joe - Antonio T

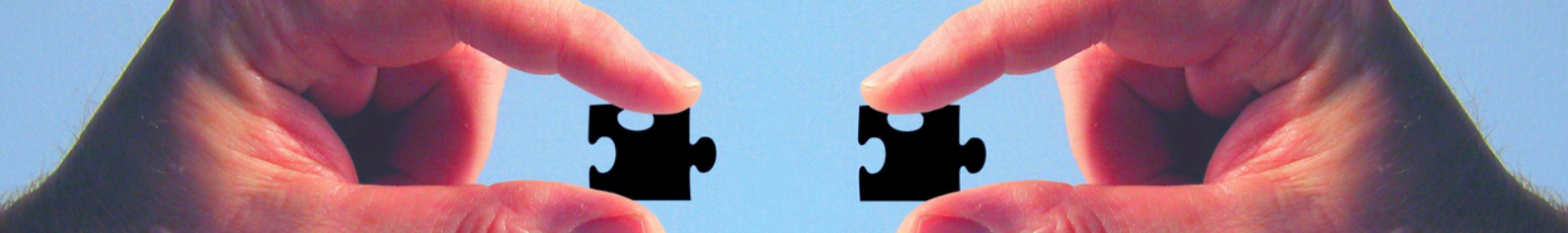
Tavern Customer - Smit P
Tavern Customers - Sienna C-S, Tosia D, Kristin B and N'Mara H
Dockworkers - Tiphaine S and Madison B
Fishwives - Michelle M and Georgia D
Barmaids - Mona H, Annalisa C and Holly S
Constable - Luca K, Ayan P, Sarah D and Fred L-W
London Gentleman and Ladies - Abigaile B, Katy B and Logan G

Flower Seller - Tori C
Knife Grinder - Smit P
Specialist Dancers - Louisa S, Mia W and Evie G

Multi-Role Ensemble Characters

Charlotte W, Emilia O, Logan G, Rahni G, Ava S, Ella M, Ellie W, Ellie T, James T, Lana Z, Mary R, Niamh T, Ava R, Olivia Mc, Izi M, Amber MR, Aajwa S, Akima E-H, Charlotte B, Hafsa Z, Khloe C, Arrin J, Hannah S, Lillia G.





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. The quickest way to do this is via the My Child at School app. Alternatively, you can telephone on 01296 390959 or 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 the 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."





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."





PE Department Round Ups!

Our fabulous PE Department work hard to give our students lots of - fantastic opportunities both during lessons and as extra-curricular opportunities. Here's a selection of some of the many things they've been up to this half-term!

Handball Success

The U15 girls handball team have had a very positive first term, with two close and competitive fixtures showing real progress and determination.

Kingsbrook School: 13-11 - Grange Girls Winners!

Royal Latin School: 12-11 - Grange Girls Winners!

Both matches were great performances from the whole squad, demonstrating strong teamwork, resilience, and improving match awareness. The girls should be proud of their efforts and the results they have achieved. These performances will hopefully continue to build confidence as we look ahead to the county tournament next half term.

Training takes place every Tuesday, and all players are encouraged to attend to keep developing skills and team cohesion.

We are also keen to increase participation from U13 players, so any interested students are very welcome to come along and give handball a try.

Well done to all involved - a fantastic start to the season!

"Our fabulous PE Department work hard to give our students lots of fantastic opportunities both during lessons and as extra-curricular opportunities."





Boys Basketball

Our boys basketball teams continue to impress. Over the course of the Autumn term they have really worked on their teamwork and individual skills and continue to impress with their tenacity.

At the end of November the Year 11 Boys, supported by a few talented Year 10s, travelled to John Colet School and delivered an incredible performance, taking the win 89-39! The Year 10 Boys continued the momentum at home, dominating their match against John Colet School with a fantastic 67-13 victory! Towards the end of term on the 11 December our Year 10 boys were up against The Princes Risborough School and took a convincing 54-21 victory.

Interested in getting involved? Join our Basketball Club every Friday from 3:15pm-4:15pm in the Sports Hall. All welcome!

"Our boys basketball teams continue to impress. Over the course of the Autumn Term they have really worked on their teamwork and individual skills and continue to impress with their tenacity."

Girls Netball

A huge well done to our Year 7 and 8 teams who competed at the beginning of December at Kingsbrook School. Year 7 smashed it winning 3 out of 4 games!

Players: Livia T, Lina S, Ellie W, Charlotte W, Pippa N, Ella M, Niamh T

Year 8 showed amazing resilience. Although they didn't take a win, simply having a full team on court is a big achievement after not having one last year. We are so proud of their effort and determination!

Players: Goodness O, Amelia W, Daisy M, Rowan B, Sophie R, Alexa T, Jaycee H



Our Year 7 Netball Team!



Our Year 8 Netball Team!

Fantastic teamwork from everyone. Well done girls!



Dance, Dance, Dance!

The final part of the Autumn term was busy with the first steps being taken towards our Dance Show in March and our Honeycomb Dance Crew have begun this years journey to the Waterside stage over Easter. This year's performance has a 007 theme! Thanks as always to Miss Sullivan for her hard work and wonderful choreography.

To all those that have auditioned congratulations and thank you for your enthusiasm and energy! We are so excited to now see your ideas, creativity and commitment to your performance flourish over the next few months. The range of styles and talent within the Grange continues to be a source of inspiration.

Watch out for more information about rehearsal dates and tickets. Please save the date, show night is Friday 13 March 2026!



Girls Football

Our U15 Girls put on an incredible performance in mid November under the watchful eye of Mrs Bradley with a 5-0 victory over The Mandeville School!

Goals from: Jessica A (x2), Evie L, Kendal B, Imogen F.

Outstanding teamwork, brilliant energy, and a well-deserved win. Great job, ladies!

Save THE Date

"Watch out for more information about rehearsal dates and tickets. Please save the date, show night is Friday 13 March 2026!"



U15 GIRLS FOOTBALL



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THE GRANGE SCHOOL

0

THE MANDEVILLE SCHOOL



A Note From The Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first term seemed to go by very fast and so much has happened as you will see looking through this newsletter.

There have been outings, sports events, charity events, course visits, individuals doing amazing things and so much more - all of this and lessons! I am always impressed by the energy and imagination of the students but also the energy and support from all the staff.

Governors are lucky enough to see what goes on in the school, curriculum leaders update us on what they are doing and we are then able to see this in action when we visit. Governors do have some statutory duties but the major part of our role is being a critical friend, asking the 'what if' and "why that way" questions. We are not the experts in running schools but between us we have a wealth of experience of life, common sense and enthusiasm which we use to support and challenge the school. When we ask for new governors please don't think you aren't qualified, the main criteria is a desire to see all of our students achieve to the best of their ability and we want the governing board to reflect that wonderfully diverse community we serve.

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas. Best wishes for 2026 from all the governors,

Zena Sutcliffe
Chair of Governors

"I am always impressed by the energy and imagination of the students but also the energy and support from all the staff."

