

Spring Term, 2025-26, Edition 1

The Grange Gazette

Official Newsletter of The Grange School

Thoughts from the Headteachers Desk

As we enter the Spring months, we are pleased to see the end of a period whereby we seemed to experience a great deal of rainy mornings. It is not a great start to the day when students start the day wet from their walk to school. It also creates an increase in traffic in and around the school at the start and end of the school day, which heightens anxieties for staff and students. The school car park is a restricted area for staff, visitors, and approved cars and taxis for the transport of students who have permissions. We would all appreciate that all other car users do not enter the school car park.



I was interested earlier in the term by the attention and comments that one of our social media posts, regarding our Year 11 Religious Studies Visit to Aylesbury Mosque received. Some of the comments did not reflect the harmonious atmosphere that exists within school and young people in relation to living side by side and tolerance and respect for different religions and beliefs. As a school we welcome staff, students and visitors from all faiths and none, and we are blessed to share experiences from a diversity of backgrounds. All of which reflect the community in which we serve.

This year's Careers Fair was a great success, and we appreciate the time, care and attention that our visitors and exhibitors give to our students. It is noticeable that over the years our students have become more curious, interested, and engaged with those sharing their experiences.

This Issue:

Thoughts from the Headteachers Desk - Page 01 and 02

Friends of The Grange School Update - Page 03

Gymnastics Leaders Event - Page 04

Music Department Update - Page 05 and 06

Student Skipper Team Progress - 07 and 08

Careers Update - Page 09

UK Parliament Assemblies - Page 10

Careers Fair 2026 - Page 11 and 12

Model United Nations Training - Page 13



The event is wonderfully planned, and tutors take time prior to attending the Fair preparing our students for the event.

Towards the end of January, The Grange hosted a training event for the Model United Nations which a county wide event whereby young people experience a simulated experience of the United Nations representing different countries and discussing and debating agreed motions. The main event takes place at The Oculus and gives the experience a sense of occasion.

Both events were very well supported by our Skippers who add and contribute a great deal to our school. Their sense of community and insight is admirable, and we are very fortunate and appreciative of their service to The Grange.

The final week of the half-term saw the school's long-awaited performance of Oliver! It was fantastic. The level of performance on and off stage was extremely high, and the audience loved the show. The months of preparation came together seamlessly, and the sense of camaraderie was tangible. I have no doubt that everyone who was involved will have long lasting memories of Oliver! 2026.

There has been a great deal happening in a short half-term, and I hope you enjoy this edition of The Grange Gazette.



This Issue:

Oliver! - Page 14 and 15

Communication is Key - Page 16

A Note From the Attendance Officer - Page 16

Every School Day Counts - Page 17

Parent and Carer IT Support - Page 18

New York Trip - Page 19

Library Update - Page 20

First Aid Notices - Page 21

Year 10 Art Educational Visit - Page 22

Year 11 Drama Educational Visit - Page 23

Sports Round-Up - Page 24, 25, 26 and 27

Year 11 Religious Studies Educational Visit - Page 28

British Science Week - Page 29

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.

This half term the team have supported numerous events including Parents Evenings and our school production of Oliver! by providing a range of delicious refreshments. The Quiz Night hosted by Mr Haycock was also very well attended.



Moving forward into the second half of our Spring Term, the team are getting set to host the incredibly popular Disco Bingo on **Friday 27 March 2025**. Tickets are sale on the MCAS app! Gather a team of friends, family and colleagues now for what promises to be a brilliant evening!

The team will also be hosting the popular pre-loved uniform sales on **Tuesday 17 March from 2.30pm - 3.30pm**. We would warmly 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 reception and pop them in the Uniform Drop Box. Thank you in advance for your support with this initiative which supports our families and raises vital funds for the school.

Why not join the PTA and be part of a fabulous team? Any help would be appreciated from shopping for food and drinks for events, coming up with creative fundraising ideas or helping out at events through the academic year. Drop the PTA an email if you think you might like to get involved!



pta@grange.bucks.sch.uk





Gymnastics Leaders Event

On Wednesday 11 February the atmosphere was soaring at a Primary School Gymnastics event held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. The event organised by Rose and Tom from Insignis welcomed 12 schools participating across Year 3 to 6. The talent on display was incredible!

Our wonderful students were selected by Rose and Tom as judges. Following a scoring training session with Rose on the Tuesday, the two team of girls were super prepared for the task in hand! On the day itself, the girls did an amazing job scoring the budding gymnasts with skill, precision and enthusiasm. Rose said:

"The real heroes were the Leaders from The Grange School, handling the scoring with precision, supporting every gymnast, and cheering loudly."

The girls also hugely impressed with their Honeycomb Dance Routine to open the event! Thank you so much to Priya P, Imogen F, Emily C, Issy M, Eden S, Mia S, Neveah McC, Ella H, Rosie J, Evie G, Maria N, Olivia G, Holly H and Kiera S.

"The real heroes were the Leaders from The Grange School, handling the scoring with precision, supporting every gymnast, and cheering loudly."





Music Department Update

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

Oliver!

It was a pleasure to work in partnership with the Dram Department to put on our school production of Oliver! You can read the full article on pages 14 and 15.

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. You can find the current timetable on our school website.

"Speak to your music teacher to find out more about our extra-curricular clubs."





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.

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

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

BOfA

On Tuesday 3 March, our Orchestra spent the day at Aylesbury Music Centre as part of the Bucks Orchestra for All. We played arrangements of I've Got Rhythm by George Gershwin and Invierno Porteno by Piazzola.

Upcoming Music Events

Tuesday 24 March - Bucks Choir of the Year 2026, 6.00pm-9.00pm, Main Hall

Wednesday 25 March - Concert with Cake, 4.00-6.00pm, Main Hall

Tuesday 31 March - GCSE Composition Coursework, 10.00am -1.00pm, Music Department

SAVE THE DATE

"More information regarding our other events which are set to take place before the close of the academic year will be communicated via our Parent and Carer Bulletin."





Student Skipper Team Progress!

The first half-term of the Spring proved to be a busy time for our wonderful Students Skippers! Here's what they got up to:

Skipper Meeting Room Project

The Skipper Meeting Room project is 95% complete. The meeting room located in the main reception used mostly for parent/carer meetings has been renovated with a fresh coat of paint – colour chosen by the Skippers as well as some new furniture. The wall art designs were chosen and voted for by the Skippers are now in place. Part of the designs include speech bubbles which the students will decide what to write in them. The Skippers would like to get some quotes from a recent first-time visitor from the school – Rachel Smith, to include alongside their own quotes about their school to display on the wall of the meeting room.

School Improvement Consultant – Rachel Smith

In the final week of the half term, our Skippers formed a student conference with a School Improvement Consultant, Rachel Smith. This visit was Rachel's first to the school and the Skippers were able to speak with her for over an hour about their role in school, what they have been getting up to and what impact they are having on their school community. The Skippers spoke highly and were proud of their leadership role and Rachel was impressed by each and every one of them she met on the day.

School Events Support – Careers Fayre and Model United Nations Training Day

Once again, our Skippers united to form a formidable events team for both the annual Careers Fayre on 22 January 2026 and the Model United Nations Training Day on 27 January 2026. The Skippers were on hand to show our guests around, support the setting up and running of the day and be an all-round huge support to the event organisers who were extremely grateful for their conduct and professionalism on both days.

"Our Skippers united to form a formidable events team for both the annual Careers Fayre 2026 and the Model United Nations Training Day. The Skippers were on hand to show our guests around, support the setting up and running of the day and be an all-round huge support to the event organisers who were extremely grateful for their conduct and professionalism on both days."





Year 9 Parents Evening

11 of our Skippers volunteered their time to support the parents/carers as well as teachers of Year 9 at this year's Year 9 parent's evening. The Skippers were on hand to ensure parents/carers were welcomed, signed in and supported in knowing where teachers were located and very importantly, that their teachers were hydrated with a constant supply of biscuits to keep them going through the evening. The Skippers were an invaluable support and were a huge part in the running of this successful evening. Thank you Skippers!

Valentine's Day Sales!

The Skippers expressed a keenness to once again purchase and sell Valentine's Day themed items during their lunchtimes in the last week before Half Term. This year, they decided to sell just two items but certainly in high volumes - cookies and roses. The roses were artificial with a small Teddy Bear which gave them more of a 'friendship' gift and the cookies - well, these were simply brought for themselves! The Skippers managed to sell all items by the end of the week and make profit. The profit is yet to be counted by the Skippers and will be donated to a charity of their choice. We will keep you updated on their final amount and choice of charity.



60-Minute Makeovers

This half term, some of the Skippers have joined forces with the 6th Form Leadership Team to carry out a 60-minute makeover of some learning areas around school. LOTS of staff have welcomed their support in spending 60-minutes after school re-vamping classrooms such as re-designing display boards and rearranging the rooms to make the learning environment more engaging for students to learn. Just 60-minutes as a team has completely transformed these areas for the benefit of both students and staff.

Coming up this half term...

Looking ahead 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 some further joint projects with the 6th Form Leadership Team are in transit... watch this space!



"Skippers have joined forces with the 6th Form Leadership Team to carry out a 60-minute makeover of some learning areas around school. LOTS of staff have welcomed their support in spending 60-minutes after school re-vamping classrooms such as re-designing display boards and rearranging the rooms to make the learning environment more engaging for students to learn."





Careers Team Update

We have had a busy and exciting half-term in the careers department. Here's some of our highlights so far!

Careers Fair 2026

A fabulous event at the end of January which gave students the chance to explore their futures by engaging with our 38 exhibitors. You can read more about this successful project in the article on pages 11 and 12.

BTEC Recruitment and Selection Interview Business Day

A wonderful and highly valuable day organised by Mr Haycock to support the coursework element of this qualification. Our Year 13 students had the opportunity to take part in realistic interview practice with the support of external professionals, including Dan from Atkins Réalis, Zena our Chair of Governors, Mrs Kittles, our School Careers Advisor and Bruce a student grandparent and also our adviser for Young Enterprise. Guests were interviewed by students, before the students themselves took part in formal interviews.

This experience counts towards their final assessment and provided excellent preparation for the world of work.

Beyond assessment, students developed key employability skills such as:

- Interview technique and professional communication
- Confidence in presenting themselves to employers
- Understanding employer expectations and recruitment processes
- Reflection and self-evaluation skills for future improvement
- Insight into real workplace standards and behaviours

A huge thank you to everyone involved for giving up their time. Our students gained so much from the experience and are now reflecting on their learning as they complete their final piece of coursework

Work Experience

Year 10 students were busy securing their work experience placements which take place for two weeks in May. We can't wait to see what they achieve!

National Apprenticeship Week

We celebrated National Apprenticeship Week, from Monday 9 February to Sunday 15 February 2026. Throughout the week, students received helpful information about apprenticeships during form time, as well as having access to lots of useful advice displayed around the school and via Satchel.

"Careers Fair 2026 was a fabulous event which gave students the chance to explore their futures by engaging with our 38 exhibitors."





UK Parliament Assemblies

On Tuesday 10 February we were delighted to welcome the UK Parliament Outreach Team today for short, engaging assemblies with students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10

The sessions gave students a broad introduction to how UK Parliament works, the roles of MPs and members of the House of Lords, and most importantly how young people can get their voices heard. Students explored how decisions made in Parliament affect their everyday lives and why participation in democracy matters.

A big thank you to the Outreach Team for inspiring our students and bringing democracy to life.



“ Students explored how decisions made in Parliament affect their everyday lives and why participation in democracy matters.”





Careers Fair 2026

What an incredible Careers Fair on Thursday 22 January. It was inspiring to see over 1,100 students actively engaging in meaningful conversations, asking thoughtful questions and exploring future pathways with representatives from our 38 visiting organisations.

Students had the opportunity to connect with a wide range of local and national employers, colleges and universities, including [Buckinghamshire New University](#), [Michael Anthony Estate Agents](#), [Buckinghamshire Council](#), [Thames Valley Police](#), [Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital](#), [Horwood & James LLP](#) and [Burgess Electrical Services Limited](#). We are incredibly grateful for the time, commitment and expertise shared by all of our visitors.

Michael Anthony said:

“Some great, very enthusiastic students. A pleasure meeting and speaking with them all.”

Throughout the day, students were able to explore different career pathways and industries, gain a clearer understanding of routes into employment, apprenticeships, college and university, and speak directly with employers and education providers. These valuable conversations helped to build confidence, communication skills and aspiration, while supporting students to make informed choices about GCSEs, post-16 and post-18 options.

The day ran especially smoothly thanks to the additional hard work of our Skippers and Sixth Form helpers which was so appreciated by the Carers Team.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended, and especially to our exhibitors who generously gave their time, knowledge and insight. Their enthusiasm and support make a real difference in helping our students feel informed, motivated and confident about their next steps.

“So many questions asked and so much information gleaned to support our young people as they explored their futures!”

Careers Fair



22 JANUARY 2026





Model United Nations Training

It was an absolute pleasure to have hosted the second round of training for schools across Buckinghamshire for the Model United Nations Schools Project which is coordinated by Buckinghamshire Council.

We have already learnt so much from this interactive learning experience. Not only have we had the chance to study and discuss global issues, but along the way, we are also developing crucial skills such as research, persuasive writing, public speaking, problem solving, consensus building, conflict resolution, compromise and cooperation.

This inspirational project culminates with the final MUNGA conference at The Oculus, at The Gateway, Aylesbury. We can't wait to report back how our students got on!

Thanks to Mrs Brown and Mr Pynn for supporting our students with this project and as always thank you to our Student Skippers who are such an incredible support at all of the events we run.

"This inspirational project culminates with the final MUNGA conference at The Oculus, at The Gateway, Aylesbury. We can't wait to report back how our students got on!"





Oliver!

Our production of Oliver! has come to a close and what a run it's been. "Consider yourself..." having been part of something truly special. Heart, character, energy and outstanding talent!

From our phenomenal principals to an incredible ensemble who brought every note and lyric to life, this was a show packed with spirit and soul. The stirring songs, lively choreography and moments of deep emotion reminded us that Oliver! is a story of resilience, belonging and the power of compassion and our entire cast told that story beautifully.

There were cheers, whistles, whoops and standing ovations. Absolute admiration as the curtain fell on Friday night. An audience truly in awe. And the most powerful sight of all our students in the audience showing up in force to support their friends on stage and the emotion of the whole cast, hugging, cheering and crying happy tears at the sheer pride at what they'd collectively achieved. That's our We Can ethos in action: we lift each other, we believe in each other and we achieve together.

Mr Dawson closed the final performance with a heartfelt speech thanking the army behind the magic. From staff and student helpers, to the band, marketing, photography, reprographics, backstage crew, tech crew and choreography teams, staff 'stars' Mr Sabin and Mrs Devanney and not to mention the dedicated parents and carers supporting their children through the rehearsals.....especially the 5.00pm and weekend collections from school! Special recognition to our incredible cast and simply outstanding production team for their countless hours of dedication.

Stage Manager - Sofia T
Assistant Stage Manager - Anais H
Producer - Mrs Shelton
Musical Director - Mrs Kirk
Director - Mrs Gordon

It truly took everyone and every single person played their part beautifully.



Some feedback via Facebook:

"Friday's show was simply superb. Seeing all the smiling faces on stage, accepting their cheers and round of applause was magical."

"An amazing performance by all thoroughly enjoyed it."

"Amazing show. Well done to the cast, musicians, crew and staff who made it possible."

"What a fantastic show.... absolutely brilliant from start to finish...well done everyone."

"Absolutely fantastic, so glad we came to watch it. You could tell that everyone involved was part of a team. Congratulations to you all."

"How can it be over! I cried both nights such hard work from a wonderful cast and so so much support from the staff and all those that helped make both nights so wonderful! I know how much he enjoyed being part of it all - thank you."





The cast shared their memories and best bits of the show through our programme:

"It's completely transformed my self-confidence."

"The whole cast has been like one big family."

"I've made so many friends I'll definitely know for a long time to come."

"I'll cherish this experience forever."

"I love the show, the Drama Department and all of the cast. It's been a blast!"

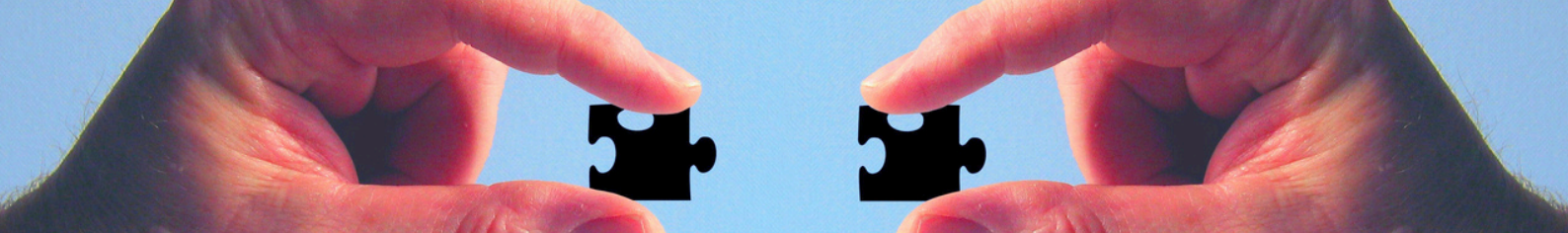
"Looking back at the progress we have made in the show is crazy!"

"My last show before I leave. I'm so grateful for the memories."

"Being part of this beautiful company has shown me the best parts of being me."

That says it all. Lifelong memories made. Confidence found. Talent shining. A company that felt like home. That's not just a school production. That's something to be immensely proud of!





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

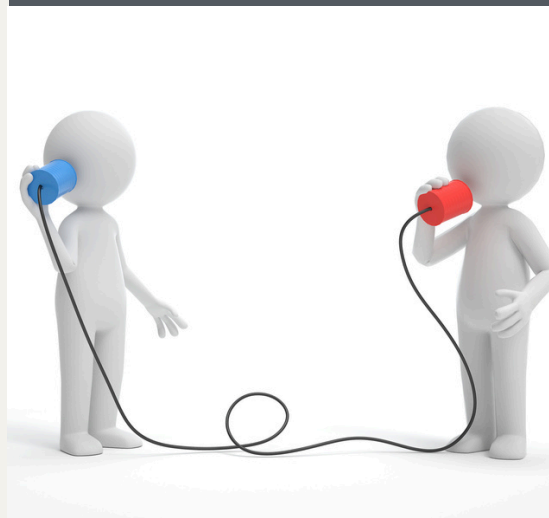
A Note from the Attendance Office

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

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.



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

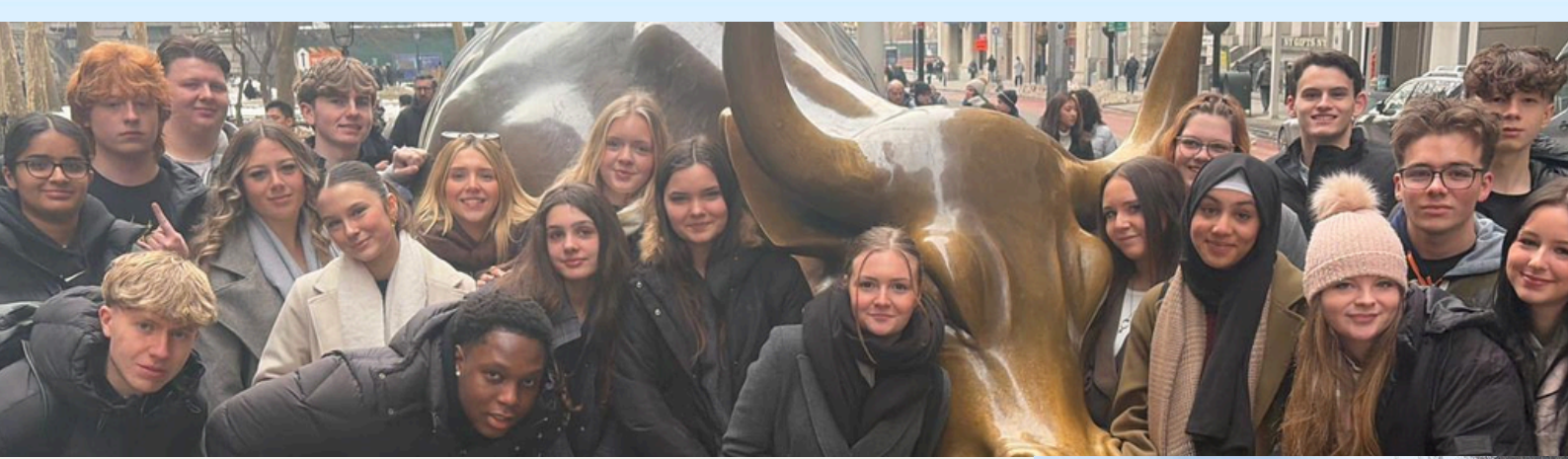
A reminder that if students are experiencing any school IT related issues that our dedicated IT Support Team work through both the term time and school holidays and are available to assist.

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."





New York 2026!

Our trip to New York City truly was the experience of a lifetime. From the very beginning, students embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, curiosity, excitement and positivity. The memories made will stay with us for years to come.

Standing on Liberty Island and visiting Ellis Island gave us a powerful insight into the history of immigration and the stories that shaped America. Touring the Financial District allowed students to see world-famous landmarks up close, including the Charging Bull, the New York Stock Exchange, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Federal Hall, and of course, Wall Street itself.

The stories shared at the Tenement Museum brought history vividly to life, helping us understand the challenges and resilience of immigrant communities and 1920s businesses. We balanced learning with some fantastic American dining experiences with Ellen's Stardust Diner proving to be a firm favourite!

With the stunning snowy skies, our visit to Top of the Rock at 30 Rockefeller Plaza offered breathtaking panoramic views across the city skyline. A truly magical moment for everyone. We also passed the iconic studios of NBC and enjoyed a sweet stop at Hershey's Chocolate World, where we learned about the inspiring entrepreneur Milton Hershey and the evolution of his global brand plus of course sampled some delicious chocolate!

Our final experience at RiseNY was the perfect way to round off the trip, culminating in the immersive FlyNY experience, where we soared virtually over the very sights we had explored throughout the week.

For some students, this trip marked their very first flight and their very first passport stamp. Milestones that make this journey even more special! Beyond the landmarks, attractions and adventures, we are most proud of the independence, maturity and positivity our students showed throughout. A heartfelt thank you to Mr Haycock, Miss Nuttall and Mrs Mathieu for giving up their half-term to make this extraordinary opportunity possible.

We returned home with tired feet but immense gratitude and some amazing stories to tell and memories that will last a lifetime! What a trip. What an experience.





Library Update

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

Readers of The Month

Year 7 - Jabez S
Year 8 - Whirly F
Year 9 - Summayyah A
Year 10 - Riley W
Year 11 - Tadiwa M

Welcome

A very warm welcome To Mrs Clark who has joined us as our new Library & Resources Centre Assistant and has lots of new ideas for engaging students with the Library and reading including the Year 7 Book Club, held on Tuesday lunchtime with the wonderful Mrs Clark. Students made a brilliant start by exploring their chosen book, Framed by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, and sharing thoughtful predictions about the story. Our Book Club is all about reading for fun, building confidence in conversation, and ending the term with an exciting character debate.

Book of the Month

Boy in the Suit by James Fox

Solo wants a name that doesn't stand out. He wishes he had a proper school uniform that fitted him., but most of all he longs to stop crashing funerals for the free food. When Solo and his Mum crash the funeral of a celebrity and get caught, the press are there to witness their humiliation. The next day it's splashed across the papers. Before Solo knows it, he becomes a viral sensation, and life may never be normal again. Shortlisted for the Bucks Book Awards.



"A big welcome To Mrs Clark who has joined us as our new Library & Resources Centre Assistant and has lots of new ideas for engaging students with the Library and reading."

year 7 Book Club





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."





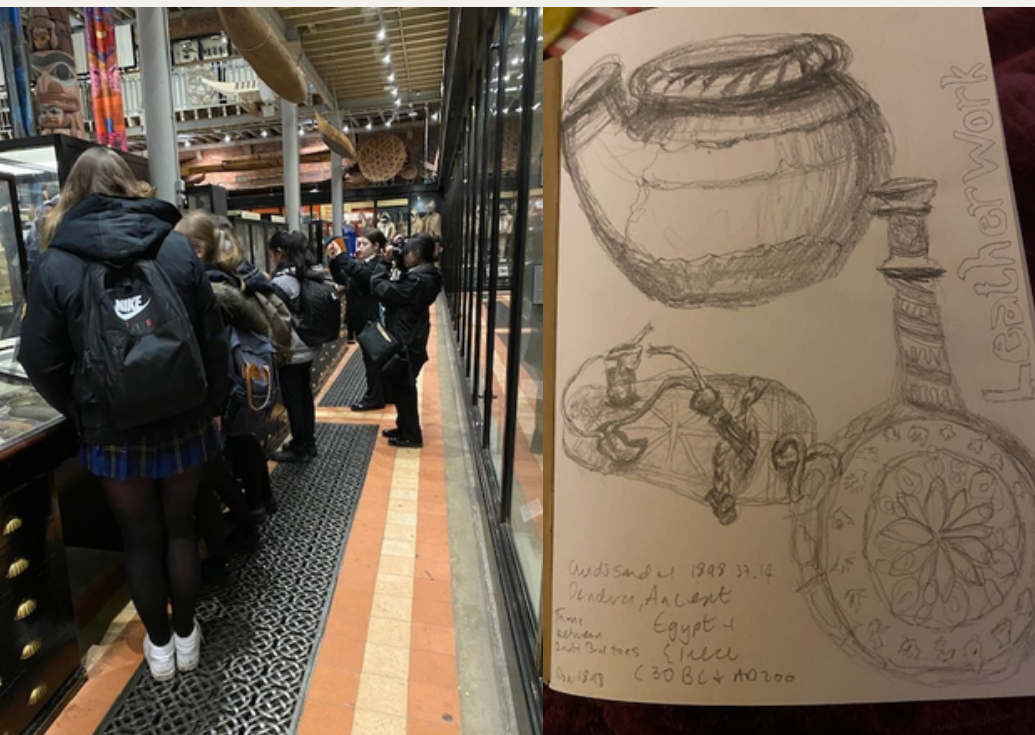
Year 10 Art Educational Visit

Our Year 10 art students enjoyed an inspiring educational visit to the Pitt Rivers Museum and the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, exploring artefacts and anthropological collections to support their current GCSE investigations into Natural Forms and Toy/Play themes.

Students focused on collecting first-hand materials (primary sources) to strengthen their GCSE Component 1 work. A dedicated sketchbook session with a Pitt Rivers educator encouraged students to respond to the collections through feelings, materials, and creative processes, while also exploring how the collection was developed during the colonial period and how it continues to be re-evaluated and re-presented through contemporary perspectives.

Working directly from the displays, students recorded observations using pencil and pen, alongside photography, to develop their sketchbooks. This work will support Assessment Objectives 1 and 3: Developing ideas and Recording from primary sources.

A fantastic day of learning, critical thinking, and creative exploration!





Year 11 Drama Educational Visit

Our Students had an amazing time at 'A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong' at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre for their Art visit.

Our Year 11 GCSE and A Level Drama students weren't just there for the laughs (although there were plenty), they were watching with a critical eye as part of their preparation for their Component 3 Exam 'analysing meaning in performance and design'. It was fantastic to see them applying their classroom learning in a live theatre setting.

The show was packed with fun, chaos, and brilliant moments that had everyone laughing throughout. Even better, another audience member took the time to comment on how wonderful our students were during the performance. We're incredibly proud of their conduct, as always.

Thank you to our Drama Department for organising this brilliant Educational visit.

A great trip, great theatre, and great students!





Sports Round-Up!

It was a busy second half of the Autumn Term for our sports teams! Here's some of what we got up to!

Handball

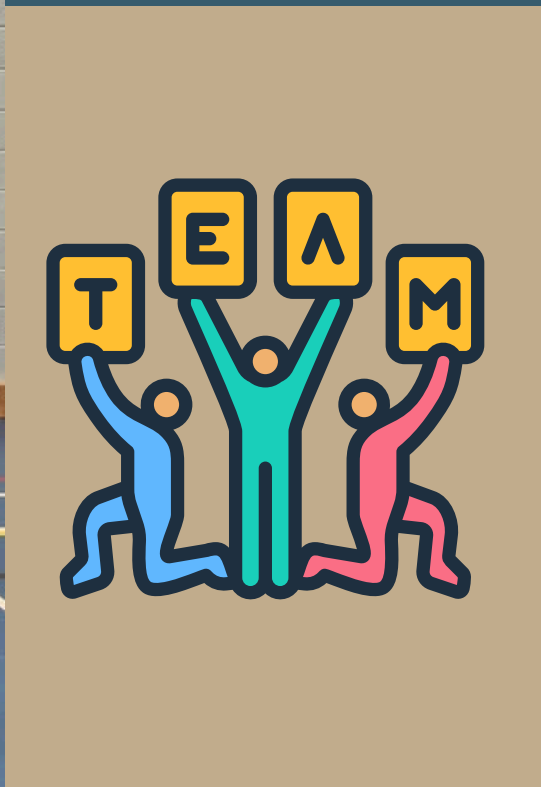
Just before we broke for half-term, our U15 team put in an outstanding performance at the county rounds of the handball competition

The team impressed in the group stages before facing Aylesbury High in a tense semi-final. After a closely fought match ended in a draw, it all came down to penalties. We held our nerve to be victorious!

The girls went on to finish 2nd overall, just behind The Royal Latin School, who took the top spot.

A fantastic achievement and we're so very excited to be through to the regional round in April. Well done to everyone involved!

“Our U15 Handball team put in an outstanding performance at the county rounds of the handball competition. The team impressed in the group stages before facing Aylesbury High in a tense semi-final. After a closely fought match ended in a draw, it all came down to penalties. We held our nerve to be victorious!”





U15 Girls' Football

At the beginning of February our awesome U15 Girls' Football Team took to the pitch to face Chesham Grammar School in the County Cup semi-final and what a match it was!

The girls started brightly, moving the ball well and showing real confidence. Chesham struck first with a quality cross finished neatly into the far corner, but our response was full of grit and determination. A brilliant run through midfield from Jess A saw her drive past defenders and unleash a shot, with Evie L reacting fastest to follow up the keeper's save and fire the equaliser into the net!

Just before half time, Chesham edged ahead again with a powerful top-corner finish from another cross, but the girls never dropped their heads. The second half was a real battle. Kendall B and Holly B were immense at the heart of defence, throwing themselves into every challenge. Priya produced save after save between the posts, we genuinely lost count! Jess A continued to break forward with pace and purpose, going close on several occasions but was denied by an excellent keeper.

Mrs Bradley said:

"I am so proud of the girls and the work ethic they have shown in every game. They really pulled together as a team. The semi-final could have gone either way. I'm really looking forward to next season with them."

Girls, hold your heads high. Your effort, teamwork and determination were outstanding, and you represented the school with pride. This run shows just how much potential this team has. This is only the beginning! Keep believing, keep working, and keep playing with heart.



"I am so proud of the girls and the work ethic they have shown in every game. They really pulled together as a team. The semi-final could have gone either way. I'm really looking forward to next season with them."



Year 7 and 8 Netball

During February, the teams visited Kingsbrook School for their netball fixtures and what a brilliant set of results!

Year 7 won 4 out of 5 matches! Charlotte W, Ellie W, Niamh T, Liv T, Lina S, Pippa N and Ella M showed fantastic teamwork, real tenacity and great improving skills across every game. Their confidence on court is growing every match!

Year 8 achieved their first ever positive result on a netball court with a well-earned draw!

Amelia W, Peace M, Goodness O, Daisy M, Dinuthi S, Sophie R, Alexa T and Sheena M worked incredibly hard, supported each other throughout and showed just how much they've developed as a team. A huge milestone! Amazing job girls!

We're very proud of all the players for their effort, attitude and sportsmanship. A shining example of our We Can motto in action.

"We're very proud of all the players for their effort, attitude and sportsmanship. A shining example of our We Can motto in action."



Our Year 7 Netball Team!



Our Year 8 Netball Team!



U13 Girls' Football

Before half-term, our incredible Year 7 & 8 U13 Girls Football Team faced Chesham Grammar School in the County Cup Semi-Final and what a match it was!

After a tense 1-1 draw through full time and extra time, the girls held their nerve and won on penalties to secure their place in the County Cup Final! A huge shout-out to: Alexa T, Sophie R, Lucy H, Naomi T, Evie T, Jaycee H, Lucia A, Liv W, Raya D, Jasmine P, Layla D, Leah K, Ayah H, Evie P, Leah S and Mona B-Z. Your teamwork, determination and true 'We Can' spirit shone through every minute.

The rainbow photo of the girls says it all. Surely a sign of good luck and continued bright things ahead! The final will be played on Tuesday 17 March at 2.30pm at Arbour Park, the home of Slough FC, with the brilliant Mrs Bradley accompanying. Good luck girls, you've got this!

"The final will be played on Tuesday 17 March at 2.30pm at Arbour Park, the home of Slough FC, with the brilliant Mrs Bradley accompanying. Good luck girls, you've got this!"





Year 11 Religious Studies Educational Visit

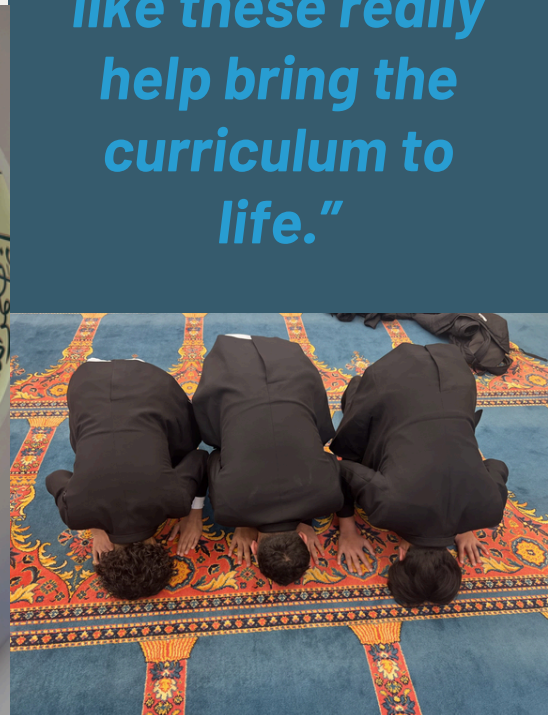
Thanks to Ms. Seneviratne for taking our Year 11 students to Aylesbury Mosque for a Religious Studies educational visit during January.

The visit covered key topics including the Five Pillars of Islam and the importance of this to all Muslims. Students then had the opportunity to ask questions, which were warmly received by both the Imam and the chairperson.

They went above and beyond to enhance the visit by talking students through the external features of the mosque, explaining its importance to the Muslim community and its historical significance.

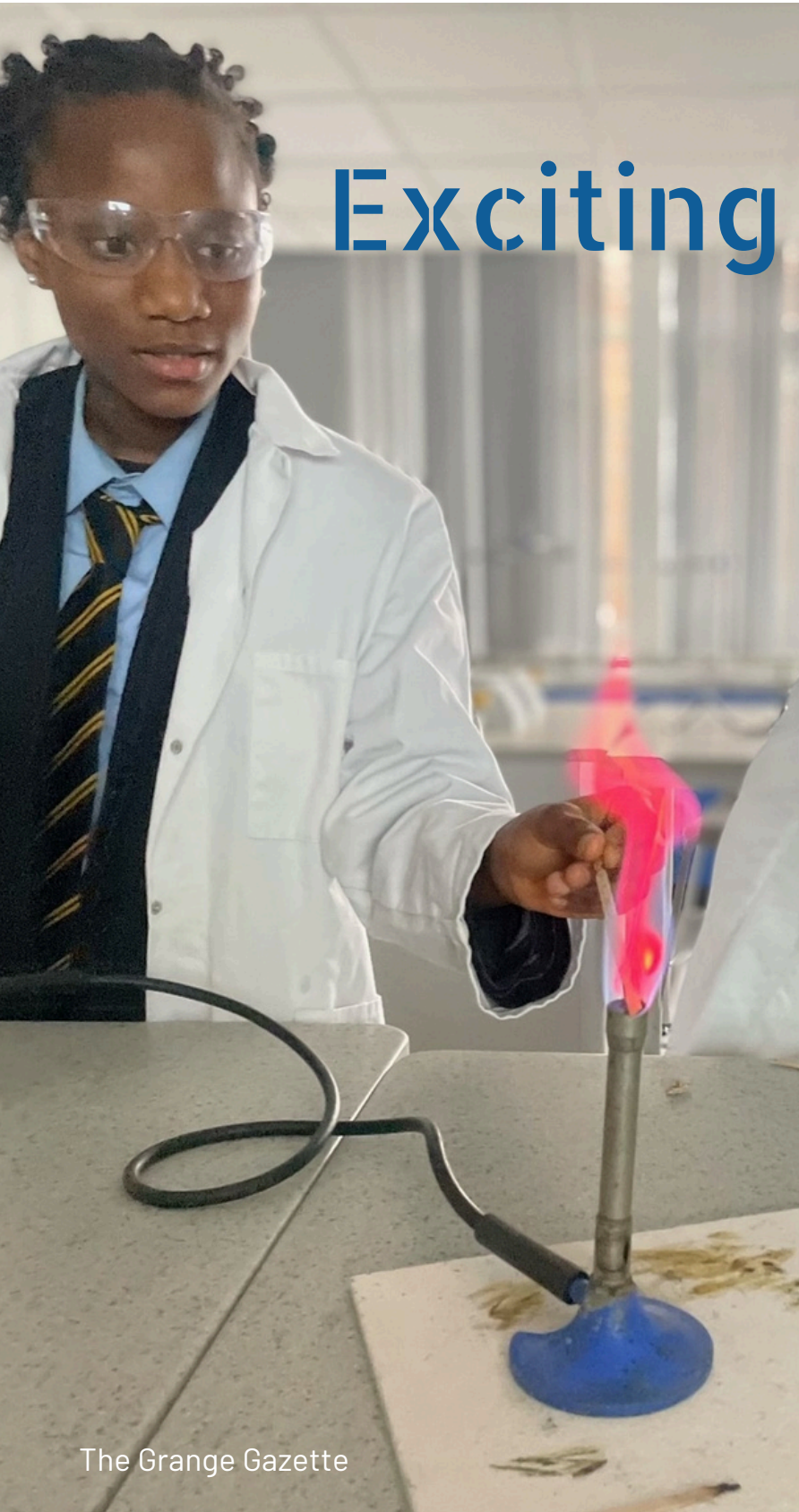
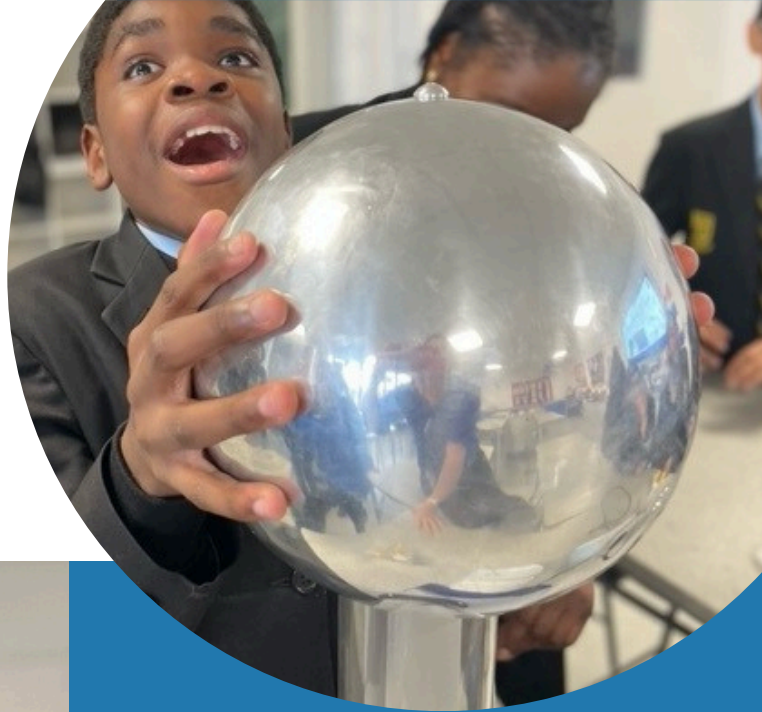
Students really enjoyed the visit, especially as some had never visited a mosque before, making it a valuable and memorable experience. We are so grateful to them for hosting us. Experiences like these really help bring the curriculum to life.

"Students really enjoyed the visit, especially as some had never visited a mosque before, making it a valuable and memorable experience. We are so grateful to them for hosting us. Experiences like these really help bring the curriculum to life."





**BRITISH
SCIENCE
WEEK**



Exciting Activities

**Monday 10 March Make
Your Own Bath Bomb! S2**

**Tuesday 11 March Flame
Tests! S2**

**Wednesday 12 March
Fruit Batteries! S4**

**Thursday 13 March
Extracting DNA from Fruit
and Veg! S2**

**Friday 14 March Van De
Graaff Generator! S2**

**You can get involved with these
exciting activities at both Lunch
A and B. Please sign up at the
Science Prep Room to take part!**