



THE GRANGE SCHOOL

Mr V Murray – Headteacher

October 2026

Dear Year 7 Families

Re: Year 7 Update – End of Week 8

We have made it – Year 7 have completed their very first half term at The Grange School! These 8 weeks have flown by, but they have certainly made a real positive impact on our school community.

This will be my final weekly letter for parents/carers of Year 7 as we move into the second half term. We will also close the Transition Email inbox from today and therefore this will not be monitored. If you wish to make contact, please contact your child's form tutor, Year Team Leader or the Office at office@grange.bucks.sch.uk

You can still keep in touch with us via the specific Facebook page for Year 7: The Grange School Year 7 Starters - Sept 2026 up until Christmas 2026.

Attendance

We are closing the half term with an attendance of **95.6%** after a slight increase last week. Below shows the breakdown by form groups:

7D = 97.1%

7I = 93.2%

7S = 97.3%

7C = 95.7%

7O = 93.7%

7V = 94.7%

7E = 98.2%

7R = 94.7%

This means 7E will be the winners of the top attending form prize in their end of half term celebration assembly on the last day of term. We also recognised the 150 students in Year 7 who are holding onto their 100% attendance record!

We appreciate all your support in getting your children into school. As we head into the new half term, attendance remains a pastoral focus of the school. Nationally, attendance to school dips in the colder months when illnesses are more prevalent. If your child is not well enough to be in school, please let us know for every day they are absent. If they are well enough but feeling a little under the weather, please encourage them to be in school and should they be unwell in the school day, we have a First Aid Officer on site. As with all schools, attendance is monitored closely and if irregular patterns begin to emerge, you may be contacted by the school.

End of Half Term Celebrations

This morning, Year 7 were able to celebrate this half term's achievements in a Year 7 assembly. 7E won the prize for top attending form and 7D won the highest average number of achievement points per student. A huge cheer was also heard for our 93 students with zero behaviour points.

Well done to: Grace B 7D, Olivia P 7I, Devyn A 7S, Miracle O 7C, Ronnie P 7O, Florence W 7V, Emily-Rose H 7E and Peyton D 7R for having the most achievement points in the form group who enjoyed a chocolate bar on us this morning.

Finally, our Year 7 form tutors nominated their very first 'Stars of the Half Term'. These students are individuals who have stood out to them over the past 7 weeks during form time. They are: Robyn S 7D, Livy P 7I, Gabriella F 7S, Miracle O 7C, Lily A 7O, Charlie R 7V, Anaya LM 7E and Charlie G 7R. Each of these students received a certificate from Mr Murray, 15 achievements a bar of chocolate as a special treat to start their half term holiday.

Assemblies

After half term, Year 7 will have one assembly per week to match the rest of the school. This will be every Friday morning in the main hall. However, we do have some weeks where exams are taking place and therefore the students will remain in form to complete an activity with their form tutors. During these 25-minute sessions, students engage in various activities such as 'character development' looking at the school's values, oracy tasks and a weekly quiz. On a Monday morning, the students will now 'check in' with their form tutors and look at the form group's attendance, achievement points, behaviour points and how the week ahead is looking for them.

Punctuality

Unfortunately, this has continued to be an area of concern for this cohort this half term. It is understandable that lateness may be seen as they get used to making their way to lessons independently. However, the punctuality to lessons has not improved as weeks pass. Year 7 are tending to leave going to the toilet, filling water bottles up, checking their timetables on the bell – signalling the start of their next lesson, which they then arrive late for. This level of poor punctuality is uncommon for Year 7 and must improve into the new half term. Please support us and your children in any way you can in emphasising the importance of punctuality and continue to work on their organisation.

Satchel One

After the half term break, you will receive some communication regarding the use of an online platform called Satchel One. Staff, students and families previously used Satchel One before moving to Bromcom. However, as a result of parent and student voice, we are bringing back Satchel One for the use of homework and whole school announcements. The setting of homework is much more user-friendly and also has a noticeboard facility where information about events can be posted for students and families to see e.g. Extra-Curricular Clubs. Students will be shown how to use Satchel and more information as parents/carers will come your way in the parent bulletin after half term.

Parent/Carer Evening

Year 7 Form Tutor Parents Evening (plus literacy and numeracy evening) -Thursday 19 November 2026.

This will be an opportunity to book in a 5-minute consultation with your child's form tutor to discuss how they have settled in at The Grange School. You are now able to book a slot for this Parent/Tutor evening as of **7:00am on Thursday 22nd October 2026**. The letter regarding this parent's evening was in last week's bulletin. You can find it here: [Parent and Carer Bulletin - 12 October - 16 October 2026](#)

This is a busy evening for our Form Tutors and therefore to enable them to see all their tutee's families, it is vital we stick to just 5-minute appointments. We appreciate these are short but if you wish to arrange a follow up phone call or meeting, you are more than welcome to do so. A full subject teacher parent's evening will take place later in the school year.

Next Half Term:

Year 7 have had a very successful half term and have now completed their first official half term at The Grange School. It has been a pleasure to continue to visit them in lessons, see them grow into their new school environment, meet new staff and make new friends. It has been particularly encouraging to see some Year 7 students try out new Extra-Curricular Clubs. This is something we highly encourage all Year 7 to do in the second half term.

The pastoral focus for behaviour will be at social times as we have now had to close the field at break and lunch due to weather conditions. This means that students have less space to run around and burn off some energy during these times. We often see that our youngest cohort then struggle with the transitions between social times and lessons, particularly around re-focusing back into learning mode.

We will continue to support them with this change but as always, your support is very much valued with this too.

Date for your Diaries:

- **Year 7/8 Christmas Ball – Friday 11th December 2026 7:00pm – 9:00pm** (more information nearer the time).
- **Wednesday 16th December – Year 7 DISC Day Trip** (more information coming soon!)
- **Wednesday 17th December – Year 7 OVER Day Trip** (more information coming soon!)

Contact details for the Year 7 team are below:

7D Form Tutor – Miss Palmer – spalmer@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7I Form Tutor – Mrs James-Morgan – sjamesmorgan@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7S Form Tutor – Mrs Charles – gcharles@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7C Form Tutor – Mrs Shelton – ishelton@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7O Form Tutor – Mr Baker – rbaker@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7V Form Tutor – Mr Dharsey - cdharsey@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7E Form Tutor – Mrs Kirk – akirk@grange.bucks.sch.uk

7R Form Tutor – Mr Walpole – twalpole@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Head of Year 7 DISC – Mr Walsh – swalsh@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Head of Year 7 OVER – Miss Pollard – kpollardohara@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Year 7 Pastoral Support Assistant – Miss De-Vita – odevitasheppard@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read these weekly letters, I hope they have been useful. This will be the final one. Thank you for your ongoing support and I wish you a restful half term break.

Yours faithfully



Miss N Glenister

Assistant Headteacher – School & Community

