

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2023 ISSUE 07

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Hello everyone. Thank you for taking the time to read our Newsletter. This month's issue is packed with some wonderful extra-curricular events to celebrate.

I want to invite you to reflect on a couple of characteristics and behaviours that we often recognise and value as being important. These are punctuality and attendance.

We all have busy lives. There are now so many competing pressures on our time and we all feel the strain of being where we need to be at a particular time. Most people would agree that being punctual and having good time management is important and is something we value in each other.

High levels of attendance in our work, at school and in our social lives be that in a sports team, a club or society are often seen as markers of people who are engaged, committed and reliable. Growing these characteristics in our children and establishing high expectations regarding punctuality and attendance are critical as our children grow up and learn to become adults.

Punctuality and attendance have a big part in how productive our children are in lessons and how focused they remain. It gives them a greater feeling of being in control of their day and included within it. People who have good time management skills are often more organised and often have a much more positive self-perception. Good levels of punctuality and attendance can build a strong reputation for reliability and consistency.

We all feel more included and connected when we are regularly with our peers and in our networks. We are part of a strong community. This is one of the characteristics that makes our school a great place to learn and grow. To make the most of this, we have to be here as much as we possibly can and be on time.

Of course, there are times when people encounter challenges in their lives through illness, personal circumstances or a range of other situations that have an impact on attendance and punctuality. However, making sure that we are working together in these situations is important so that our children are able to access their learning environment fully so they feel included.

I would like to respectfully make just two modest requests. Firstly, where ever possible, strongly encourage our children to be in school regularly, to have excellent attendance. Please work together with us to help children who struggle to be more included, to be here in school as much as they can, so that they can learn and grow with their friends and classmates. Secondly, please talk to your children about punctuality. In the secondary phase at the changeover between lessons, I have growing concerns with the number of children who drift into lessons or just wander around. This has a negative impact on their learning but also on the learning of other students. When children arrive late to lessons they often find it hard to fully engage and they feel that they are always trying to catch up. This can leave them feeling behind and disengaged with school. Having staff out and about, sweeping students into lessons should not really be the necessity it has become. The majority of our children are highly punctual and have high attendance. This shows me that having high expectations for these two behaviours is something that we as a wider community value. Thanks for your support. Warm regards

Mr R Hicks
Principal

SECONDARY UNIFORM

The students at The Grange Academy looked incredibly smart in their school uniform when they returned after the Easter break. We would like to thank parents/carers and students for upholding our high standards. With the minority of pupils that have not returned to school with the correct uniform I would ask parents/carer to support the school to correct this as soon as possible.

Within our policy we allow pupils two days to correct their uniform before we look to implement a sanction. If parents/carers are struggling to source parts of our school uniform please contact your child's pastoral leader as we do have spare uniform in school.

We would also like to remind all students, parents and carers of our expectations in terms of makeup, jewellery and piercing we ask that this is done at the beginning of the Summer holidays so that it has time to heal and can be removed upon returning to school.

White shirt (stiff collar)

Clip on school tie

School blazer (black with blue trim) Plain Black V neck jumper (winter months only)

Trousers – black (must be plain, not denims, jeans or cords) or Blue / Black Tartan skirt

Black shoes (plain, leather and polishable – trainers or trainer style are not permitted)

Black socks with trousers

White knee-high socks or navy tights with skirts

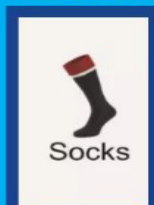


SECONDARY PE KIT

Students need to wear a combination of one top, one bottom and the PE Socks or trainer socks if wearing leggings.

AVAILABLE TOPS:

SOCKS:



AVAILABLE BOTTOMS:



SECONDARY ENTRY AND EXIT

FROM WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 2023



- Entry and exit into the school will be through the side entrance.
- Uniform will be checked at the door with Blue slip issued if required. (2 days to rectify any issue)
- Gates to the side entrance will be closed at 8:30am, after this time all late students must enter through the front main entrance.
- Late detention will take place during breaktime.

Primary

Start of the Day is 8:40am

Registration 8:40am - 8:50am

Period 1 - 8:50am - 9:50am

Break 9:50am - 10:05am

Period 2 - 10:05am - 11:05am

Period 3 - 11:05am - 12:50pm

Lunch - 11:35am - 12:50pm

Period 4 - 12:50pm - 13:50pm

Period 5 - 13:50pm - 14:50pm

Finish of the day is 14:50pm

Secondary

Start of the Day is 8:30am

Registration 8:30am - 8:50am

Period 1 - 8:50am - 9:50am

Period 2 - 9:50am - 10:50am

Break 10:50am - 11:05am

Period 3 - 11:05am - 12:05pm

Period 4 - 12:05pm - 13:05pm

Lunch - 13:05pm - 13:35pm

Period 5 - 13:35pm - 14:35pm

Finish of the day is 14:35pm

Year 11 Update

As we enter our final weeks before the start of the Summer Exam period, I would like make you aware that the full exam timetable is now available on Microsoft teams, EduLink and the school website.

Prom payments are due by the 31st May, these can be made via ScoPay. Leavers hoodies are available to order at £25 each, payments must be made by Wednesday 3rd May.

Thank you to parents/carers who have sent in pictures of year 11 in their younger years, please keep them coming they will be used in their leaver's assembly. A bespoke period 6 timetable will be shared with the students next week and this will start week commencing 15th May.

Mrs Bibby

Alumni

We would like to congratulate ex-student Rhys Gwilym who has been shortlisted for Apprentice/ Young Achiever of the year 2023 at the Halton Business awards.



Debate Mate Cup

On Wednesday 26th April, a group of 10 students travelled to Liverpool John Moore's University to take part in the Debate Mate Cup, competing as two teams against a large number of other schools. Students have been working with Debate Mate since November 2022 and this was an opportunity to round off their final session and really showcase their learned skills in front of other competitors.



Each team was given a motion, which they had 15 minutes to plan, prepare and write speeches for before delivering it to the opposing team. Each team was named either proposition or opposition and was compiled of three key speakers, who had five minutes each to speak, and one summary speaker who had three minutes to round up the debate.



The motions covered were around 'strikes being the most effective way to make change', 'banning non-essential cosmetic surgery' and 'should everyone go to university'. The diverse content of these motions really stretched our students out of their comfort zone and encouraged them to work together as a team, work under pressure and to a tight deadline. Students not only encouraged each other and worked together to share points, but confidently debated their ideas, took questions from the opposing side and were impressive in thinking on their feet when responding and raising questions to the opposition.

Following each debate, students received individual feedback from a mentor about their debating style, strengths and improvements, which really encouraged their resilience to progress in their following debates.

As part of the schedule, a Show Debate took place involving voluntary staff members from varying schools. Our very own Miss Evans volunteered to take part and was on the proposition team for the motion 'everyone age 12+ should have a bank account'. Miss Evans and her team put up a strong argument and won over the audience with their debate, becoming the winning team!

One of our student teams won two out of their three debates against Alsop and John Bosco, and we also received two individual awards as part of the prize ceremony at the end. Alex won an award for Best Floor Question when watching the Grand Final Debate around the motion that 'social movements have clearly identifiable leaders'. Alex showed confidence and integrity when asking her question to the whole lecture theatre. The other award went to Betty for Most Improved Speaker, as nominated by a Debate Mate mentor. Betty received a certificate and a £10 Nandos voucher for her efforts.



Students were a credit to the school during the visit and not only did they get a taste of university life, but our school ASPIRE values really showed through in each and every one of them for the effort they put in. Congratulations to you all.

Miss Evans and Miss Holland

British Science Week Winners

British Science Week Competition took place 10th - 19th March.

Thank you to all the fantastic posters that were entered for the competition.

The theme was 'Connections' and two posters stood out that kept to the theme and had detailed, scientifically correct, information on them.

Congratulations to Evie in Y7 and Maisie in Y10. They have both been awarded their prizes and achievement post card.

How Is Earth and Space Connected?
Earth is, for the main part, connected to space. When electrically charged particles can bombard our planet, visible light occurs, aurora borealis in the Northern hemisphere or aurora australis in the Southern hemisphere.

How Is Space and the Universe Connected?
The universe is everything it includes all of space, and all the matter and energy that space contains.

Why Is The Universe So Big And Empty?
So the emptiness of our universe comes from the interplay between these two quantities: the speed of light that defines the distance scales and the expansion of space, which is pulling everything apart. Our universe seems big and filled but were wrong and ~~here's~~ this is why. Maybe you have a lot of friends, or an important job, or really big car or house. But it might humble you to know that all those things are small and universes upon universes ~~was~~ wait not that the incredible vast universe are almost entirely 99.999999 percent empty space.

ARE HUMANS MATTER OR ENERGY?
In life, the human body consists matter and energy. That energy is both electrical and chemical reactions.

Is The Universe An Endless Void?
Space could collapse back on itself destroying stars, galaxies in existence or it could expand into essentially an endless endless void.

Connections in the Human Body

The 12 systems of the human body link to each other & allows to function.

Did you know that lymphatic drainage is used in removing toxins such as lactic acid in muscles that have been deprived of oxygen?

It can take 3-6 weeks for a full new layer of skin to form. Skin contains oily desquamates (sheds).

99% of calcium is in the teeth, but 1% is used for muscle contraction & the passing of nerve messages.

Systems of the human body:

- Circulatory - transport
- Nervous - communication
- Endocrine - hormones
- Lymphatic - immune system
- Respiratory - gaseous exchange
- Muscular - muscles
- Skeletal - skeleton
- Reproductive - eggs sperm
- Urinary - water waste
- Digestive - breaks down food
- Excretory - gets rid of bodily waste
- Integumentary - skin

Integumentary Functions:

- Sensation - nervous
- Heat regulation - cardiovascular
- Absorption
- Protection - nervous
- Excretion - excretory
- Synthesis - Vitamin D formation

Endocrine: Endocrine & nervous work together to control the function of all the systems. E.g. it releases hormones into the blood - circulatory. Pancreas produces insulin to control blood sugar & a strict level.

Urinary: Filters blood to clean it (kidneys) - circulatory. Water lost through sweat in skin - Integumentary. Kidneys produce hormones to stimulate bone marrow - skeletal.

Lymphatic: Endocrine - Thyroid (small gland making thyroid hormone) - most active in teenage years, shrinks in adulthood. Digestive - transportation of fats.

Excretory: Happens in all cells of the body. Waste transported by blood - circulatory. Waste taken from intestines - Digestive.

Muscular: 3 types of muscle. Involuntary/smooth - walls of blood lymph vessels. Cardiac - only found in the heart - circulatory. Voluntary/skeletal - make them more skeletal.

Nervous: Autonomic. Sympathetic - reaction time. Speed - circulatory. Fight or flight - Endocrine. Speed up - respiratory. Ready to run / fight - Muscular / skeletal. Nausea - Digestive. Want to urinate - Urinary/excretory. Sweat their standing sweat - Integumentary. Parasympathetic reverses sympathetic response.

Digestive: Circulatory - nutrient released in blood. Nervous - messages sent from brain to control organs of digestive system.

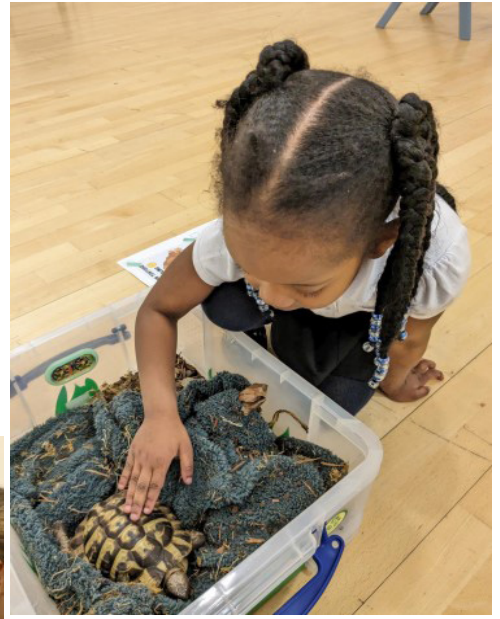
What's my system name?

- I help you move. - Nervous System
- I give you structure. - Skeletal System
- I communicate to the brain. - Nervous System
- I break down food. - Digestive System
- I transport everything your body needs. - Circulatory System

Reception Animal Teach

This was the first session of many up-and-coming Animal Teach After School Clubs for our Reception children. We also have other sessions starting soon for KS1 and KS2.

Reception learned all about how to handle exotic animals, practicing their safe handling skills and ensuing body support methods when holding a Crested Gecko, Royal Python, Madagascan Hissing Cockroach and Giant African Land Snails. They are all very excited about the next session, which will be all about animals' husbandry and pet care.



Y4 Roman Trip to Chester Deva Museum

On Monday 17th April, Year 4 visited the Deva Museum in Chester. The day was full of exciting activities such as marching around Chester as Roman soldiers, learning battle formations (such as Testudo/ Tortoise), being led around a guided tour of the museum (which included exhibits about Roman food, armies, entertainment and even toilets), investigating Roman archaeology in Chester and dressing up as Roman soldiers, leaders and citizens.

Year 4 learnt so much which will help them to complete their project about Roman Britain.



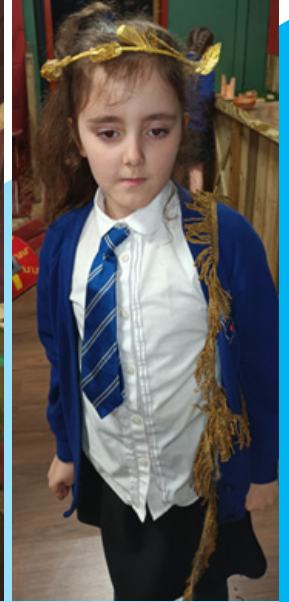
Scan the code and follow the link to watch Lime Legion in the Testudo formation.



Scan the code and follow the link to watch Lime Legion marching towards their enemy (me)!



Y4 Roman Trip continued



Ski Trip



Over Easter, 34 students and 4 staff departed The Grange to embark on their first school ski trip to Serre Chevalier, France.

The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their cultural capital by experiencing an adventurous activity in another country where they had to persevere in the face of many new situations and challenges. The trip pushed the boundaries for some students as they were out of their comfort zone and had to show bravery and resilience in the face of adversity in a range of situations. For some it was the first time they had been abroad and travelling without the security of family members.

The group experienced coach and ferry travel; some for the first time, and we did have a few green gills as students acquired their sea legs. I was amazed at how unbelievably patient the students were considering the high volume of trips that were departing for the continent and the pressure on the channel crossing.



When we arrived in resort students were exposed to French food, culture and the opportunity to practise some of their linguistic skills which helped bring some of the class room learning to life.

The accommodation was excellent, as was the food – although they did struggle to keep up with the demand for hot chocolate, fresh French baguettes and oranges for one student in particular.

We were extremely fortunate with the snow and weather conditions, as it was sunny every day despite being a little bit chilly in the morning on the way to the slopes. Some students (and staff) were caught out with the sunny conditions, despite wearing sun cream there were a number of 'Panda Eyes' and 'Rudolf Noses' that had developed by days 2 and 3.

Ski Trip continued

Most of the group were beginner skiers, so it took a little time for them to acclimatise to the equipment and the techniques needed to get around on the mountain, but by the end of the week students had grown in confidence and the majority were able to get up the mountain using the chair lifts and tackle ski-ing on piste without too many falls.



At the end of the week the Ecole du Ski Francais (French Ski School) instructors assessed the group and presented them with certificates and badges as a reward for their endeavour and for the progress that they made. It was brilliant to see how proud some of the students were of their achievement and the reflection on the progress that had taken place since the beginning of their week.

Although the trip was focussed on Ski-ing, it was great to see how students developed socially too. Students socialised over games of UNO with the staff, enjoyed bowling and playing in the arcades and spent time in the local shops conversing with owners and purchasing souvenirs for family members. I'm positive that they have made some brilliant memories with their friends which will last a life time, and some lifelong learning lessons too.

As a final note I just wanted to say 'Thank you!' to the staff members who gave up their holiday time to accompany the trip, as without them we wouldn't have been able to provide such a vicarious learning opportunity for our students. Merci beaucoup!!



ENRICHMENT



The Grange Academy

Wade Deacon Trust



Enrichment Timetable

Half-Term 5

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Wellbeing</u> Year 3-4 Mrs <u>Betton</u>	<u>Boys Football</u> Year 4 & 5 Mr Catherall (20 max)	<u>Choir</u> Year 1-6 Miss Hogan/Miss Weston/Miss Maltz	<u>Choir</u> Year 5-11	<u>Animal Teach</u> KS1 (returning) 12/05
<u>Animal Teach</u> Reception 24/04, 15/05, 22/05 (Main Hall)	<u>Girls Football</u> Year 4 & 5 Miss Madders	<u>Animal Teach</u> KS1 (new) 10/05, 17/05, 24/05 (Drama Studio)	<u>Animal Teach</u> KS1 (returning) 18/05, 25/05 (Drama Studio)	
<u>Gardening Club</u> Year 3-6 Mr Hayes/Mr <u>Horsler</u>	<u>Maths Club</u> Year 3 & 4 Ms Burgess (16 students)	<u>Gymnastics</u> Year 1-3 Mr Catherall (letters sent)		



The Grange Academy

Wade Deacon Trust



Enrichment Timetable

Half-Term 5

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Crystal Appreciation</u> Year 7-10 FOS	<u>Drama Club</u> Year 7 – 10 BVN	<u>Gardening Club</u> Year 7-10 OCA	<u>Choir</u> Year 5-11	<u>Computing</u> Year 7-10 HTO
<u>Badminton</u> Year 7-9 SWI	<u>Crochet Club (lunchtime)</u> Year 7-11 FOS – collect a pass	<u>European Film Club</u> Year 7 & 8 EIS/THO		
<u>Sports Science</u> Year 10 COP	<u>Cooking</u> Year 7-9 & Staff KNI	<u>Debate Mate</u> Invite only EVA		
		<u>Pop Choir</u> Year 7-11 FOS		

Our community shop is open all year, this is a free and confidential service. Please contact us on 01928 560660 or alternatively email Info@thegrangeacademy.co.uk.

COMMUNITY SHOP

HAMPERS



SUPPORT
AT THE
GRANGE
ACADEMY

FOOD STOCK



UNIFORM



CAR PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY

As our car park gets extremely busy during drop off and pick up times, we ask parents/carers/visitors to ensure that they do not block in or obstruct other vehicles and do not park on the zig-zag markings on Latham Avenue.

Disabled bays are allocated for parents/students who have limited mobility and must display a blue badge.

Please be observant of pedestrians and also remind children of the importance of road safety - using zebra crossings correctly, checking before they cross the road etc. We appreciate your support in keeping all members of our community safe.



Thank you

Congratulations!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO ATTENDED OUR
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.**

Together we have raised **£229**
for our school to spend on **FREE BOOKS**

 **SCHOLASTIC**