

4th October 2024



The Grange Times

Pine



Pine class are glad to be back at school and starting the Autumn term and learning new exciting topics.

Connor: I am pleased to be back at school, and I am looking forward to learning about the Battle of Hastings and learning what the Normans got up to.

Aaron: It is good being in Pine class; I enjoy my maths lessons and my art lessons. I have made new friends in class, and I play games with them and have fun. It is good being upstairs!

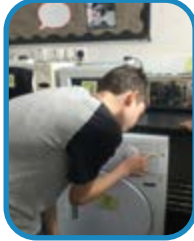
Emmanuel: I am happy to be sitting together with Connor this term, he is my best friend. Sometimes when I find work hard, Connor comes and helps me. I am going to three after school clubs this term and I am so happy!

Lucas: This term I am going to study well so that I can pass my exams. I am doing well in art, and I am getting better at my maths.

Aishah: It is really good being in Pine class. I am grown up now and I am being sensible. It is a nice calm classroom, and I like it like that. My teachers are happy that I am happy.

Rowan: I am enjoying history this term because I like the topic 'Through the Ages.' I am making friends with our new students and playing with them. I am enjoying Life Skills this term and am learning how to wash up, do laundry and to change a duvet; I am also learning how to do these skills at home.

Marcus: I am really into history this term learning about the Romans and what they got up to. Horrible Histories teach facts that you wouldn't really hear about anywhere else, and they make history fun.



Sycamore



Sycamore have made a great start to this school year and have settled into life in Year 10/11 really quickly. All of the class are enjoying their option subjects which are allowing them to work towards a range of qualifications.

A number of Sycamore pupils are part of our childcare class. As part of their course they are given the responsibility to look after our school baby 'Hugo' during the school day. This is a responsibility that the pupils have risen to. Hugo functions like any real baby, needing feeding, changing, comforting etc. Like most parents, they have been finding ways to make their life easier whilst caring for Hugo. The best life hack so far has been teaching Hugo to hold his own bottle.

The pupils in Sycamore have risen to new challenges that they have been set in their Forest School sessions. We are looking for Sycamore to show an increasing amount of independence out at forest school whilst also increasing the number of different dishes they can cook on an open fire. This week they managed to successfully cook chicken curry and rice, which was delicious.



Walnut



Walnut class really made the most of the flood week. Everyone worked hard and completed lots of work. We were very proud to see some of the fantastic work produced by the students. Their resilience and perseverance was outstanding!

Bradley: I enjoyed it because I saw everyone on the zoom call and I done all my Maths work and some of my English.

Arron: I enjoyed it because I got to spend time with my friends and do some work.

Kaiden: I enjoyed the zoom call because I got to see my friends and Mr Seago, I enjoyed the work and staying at home. I didn't have to get up early!

Sienna: I really enjoyed the flood week because the zoom call reminded me of corona virus a long time ago. I managed to do all of the work.

Naomi: I liked the zoom call because I got to see my friends.

Ibrahim: I enjoyed it because I got to stay at home.

Adam: I enjoyed the flood because there was no school and I didn't have to go to lessons.

Chibunna: I enjoyed staying at home and doing the work.

Amna: My favourite part was going on the zoom to see everyone and doing the work at home.

Megan: I enjoyed it because I didn't have to get dressed in the morning.

Ben: I enjoyed it because I got to help out with my family and have a lie in.



Beech

Beech class have started doing Commando Joes as part of our Social Skills lessons. Commando Joes is a scheme that encourages pupils to work as part of a team developing communication and social skills through engaging practical challenges and activities. Pupils are encouraged to be resilient, determined, show unity and positivity. We are working through the Spartacus Scheme of Learning that is all about Gladiator training. It is great fun.

Caoimhe: It was fun and very practical. It is tiring and needs lots of energy.

Oliver: Sometimes I find it hard to work as part of a team. I get frustrated easily. I found the trim trail obstacle course hard.

Courtney: I like the activities. It is fun. It challenges me to use communication skills which I find hard.

Connie: I find some of it challenging. Being blindfolded was a bit scary, I had to trust my commander to help me and keep me safe. I did a good job as a leader because I was careful and caring.

Aarnav: I liked the obstacle course. It has been fun. I enjoy it because it's very practical.

Ryan: I like it so far because we get to use communication and good sportsmanship.

Cayden: I enjoyed throwing the dodgeballs. It's going to make me think about how to do things as a team. I am a good leader because I am confident.

Tulicia: It has been fun. I was good at leading the blindfolded people and keeping them safe.

Holly: I have enjoyed it. Balancing on the bench was challenging.



Acer

We were all very excited to be back at school after the long summer holiday. We have welcomed some new friends and adults in our class. At the beginning of term we had a day to introduce our new topic Medieval magic. We decorated biscuits, had a banquet and tried archery. We had a great day and we are excited to learn more about castles.

Alex: I liked decorating the biscuits with icing and archery. I coloured in a castle. I didn't like the dancing.

Lewis: I liked the archery. I coloured in a castle using felt pens.

Louis: I found a random egg in the bushes. I think there is tasty scrambled eggs inside.

Harrison: I decorated biscuits and ate them.

Jack J: I liked the food at the banquet. I made a shield out of cardboard.

Hamza: _____



Birch

Birch class have made a fantastic start to the new school year. They have had fun exploring and playing in their new learning environment. Here are some of the things the children have enjoyed

Ayaan: I like the (sensory) rice

Henry: I like the fish

Phoebe: I like the playground

James: I like the Nest and dress up. I like to dress up as a king!

Arya: I like the new reading area.

Gabriel: I like books.

Thabo: I like playing with the trains.

Sidney: I like the nest, it is calming.

Olo: I like the trains.

Dominik: I like the teddies.



The pupils also enjoyed a 'Traditional Tales Treasure Hunt' to begin their new topic!

Rowan



Last week Rowan Class did lots of homework whilst they were off school, they all really enjoyed their time off with lots of tasks to do to keep them busy! Here are a few things Rowan class had to say about their week off.



Kajetan: During the week off I did Purple Mash homework tasks and did maths sheets.

Stephen: I completed some of my homework grid. I collected conkers and made lego figures too.

Max: I made a shield and use lots of different colours, I completed this task off my homework grid.

Kai: I made a poster to rewrite an army for King Richard. I did some weeding and I also practiced writing in paragraphs about my week off and my weekend.

Lucy: I was doing a story called The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe and lots of artwork about the book.

Asia: I did Numbots and did lots of reading during my week off.

Freddy: I made a badge for my own army. This task was off my homework grid.



Mohammad Yasin Visit

Mohammad Yasin, Member of Parliament for Bedford and Kempston, visited Grange Academy on 30th September

to officially re-launch the school's Pupil Parliament for the new academic year. The event marked the start of a new chapter for the pupils, offering them an opportunity to learn about the importance of democracy and the role of Parliament.

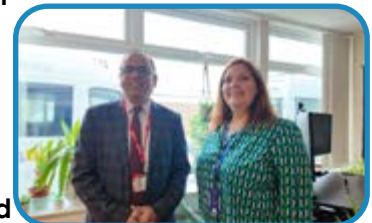
During his visit, Mr. Yasin spoke to the pupils about how the UK Parliament operates, explaining the vital role it plays in passing laws and shaping the nation's future. He provided insights into how MPs work in the House of Commons and why it is crucial for young people to understand the process of democracy.

In an engaging Q&A session, pupils raised thoughtful questions, particularly about the recent local flooding in Kempston, in search of answers on how the government can address such issues and support the community during times of crisis. Mr. Yasin praised the pupils for their concern and encouraged them to continue voicing their opinions on local matters.

"It was a pleasure to be invited to speak to the children about my work as their representative in Parliament. I was very impressed with their Pupil Parliament and the focus on teaching the children

about how society, governance and democracy works."

Mr. Yasin said. **"The opportunities for children to develop communication and debating skills were plain to see as I got some great questions and engagement from the children. It's really important to me to show young people that they have a stake in society and have the agency to effect change."**



Headteacher, Rachel Timms, highlighted the educational value of the visit: **"We are thrilled to have Mr. Yasin provide our pupils with a real insight into his role as an MP and how Parliament functions. His visit has broadened their understanding of the democratic process and sparked their interest in local and national issues."**

The Pupil Parliament at Grange Academy provides a platform for pupils to express their ideas and actively participate in the school's decision-making process, preparing them to become informed and responsible citizens.



Grange Careers Advisor

I am Miss Sandra Williams and I will be the New Careers Advisor for Grange Academy from September. I will be supporting our Year 11 pupils as they start to think about the plans for their Post 16 Education choices. Over this academic year, I will be ensuring that all the year 10s and

11s have the opportunity to talk with me about their aspirations, meet with external professionals to discuss work opportunities and visit Career Fayres and Open Days.

Please look at our website <https://grange.beds.sch.uk/careers-guidance/> for the Gatsby Benchmark which sets out the guidance we follow. Our newsletter will continue to keep you updated with our Careers programme.

If you have any questions that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me: Sandra.williams@biltt.org I look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Diary Dates

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024 - Half Term
Pupils Return - Monday 4th November 2024
Parent Consultation Evening - Tuesday 8th October 2024