

23rd January 2025



The Grange Times



Beech class have enjoyed starting their new topics this term. In maths we are working on using money,

in English we are reading Butterfly Lion which is a beautiful and touching story by Michael Morpurgo. In Social skills we have begun a new Commando Joes topic linking to Endangered Worlds. In art we are preparing to create a 3-D sculpture of an endangered animal. In PE we have been doing gymnastics and are hoping to be able to display some of our skills at the coffee morning we hold for Kestrels parents and carers.

Oliver: I was first place in the Maths Kahoot quiz it was about money. I came first in weekly points across my whole class. I had a really good week.

Courtney: I have enjoyed doing dodgeball in PE because it is fun.

Connie: In Commando Joes I enjoyed packing the rucksack with survival items. We are going to practice on an imaginary 'expedition'. I enjoy spending time with my friends Tulicia and Tyrese and I have made lots more new friends.

Beech

Aarnav: I have enjoyed doing forward rolls in gymnastics and I want to learn to use the springboard.

Ryan: I like gymnastics because I like to try and challenge myself.

Cayden: I enjoyed doing Commando Joes we are doing adventures looking at Steve Backshall as a role model.

Tulicia: I enjoy spending time with my best friend Connie and doing gymnastics in PE.

Holly: We are learning about money in maths lessons, adding and taking pounds and pence. Money is important to learn about so we know how much money we need to buy things and how much change we should get back.

Cameron: I have enjoyed making new friends and socializing with them. My favourite lesson this half term is PE. I love learning gymnastics.

Caoimhe: I have enjoyed music and English because the class is reading The Butterfly Lion. It's a very interesting book and makes me want to read more.



Equal Opportunities Award

Grange have been awarded an Equal Opportunities Award for our continued work around allowing Girls to access football at Grange Academy. This award has come from Football England and it recognises the excellent work staff do at Grange around Girls Football.

We offer a Girls only Football club on a Monday night which is excellently run by Mr Seago and Miss Kavanagh, Girls are able to improve their skills and practise in a safe, fun space. We have run girls only football days and encouraged pupils to excel and do their best. We also have several girls in the school who have represented the football team and acquitted themselves admirably in those games.

A massive thank you from me to all staff who have helped develop girls football at Grange and looked forward to more success on the football field. **Mr Kilcoyne**

Acer



In PE, Acer class have been working on our jumps and rolls. We have used the benches and found different ways to move along them and worked with a partner to make sequence of jumps and rolls. We have worked together to set up and put away equipment.



Alex: In PE we were gymnastics. I have been jumping and rolling. I hopped across the bench and rolled off the end.

Louis: I worked with Alex. We jumped on the bench and rolled on the mat together.

Lewis: I have been rolling and jumping on a bench. I have been working with Hamza and Miss Smith.

Hamza:

Harrison: I worked with Jack. We jumped off the bench in the hall. We rolled on the mat in the hall.

Jack: I have been rolling and jumping with Harrison on the mat. I liked jumping better.



Pine



Pine class have had a busy beginning to their Spring term.

Max: I have been learning my 2 x tables and practising making groups. I am doing well and working more independently.

Rowan: I have been working towards making a led lamp in DT. I have been learning new skills like measuring accurately and using a craft knife safely. I am looking forward to learning how to bend the acrylic for my lamp.

Connor: I attended my first pupil parliament meeting for this term. We discuss and vote on important issues and ideas at Grange Academy.

Lucas: I was awarded star baker in Food Technology for my banana bread. I followed the recipe well and measured my ingredients accurately. I have also completed the first module in my mental health digital

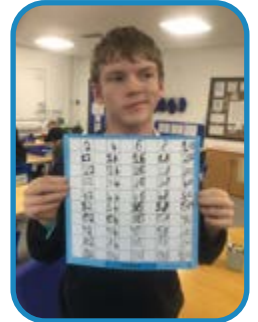
college course.

Aaron: I have joined the choir this term and had my first lesson. I really enjoyed singing 'Touch the Sky.'

Marcus: I have been doing my own book challenge, and I challenged myself to spend more time reading and less time on my computer.

I like reading the Horrible History books and I have finished the terrible Tudors and now am reading World War 1 & 2.

Aishah: In Art I have been learning how to blend colours. I chose red and yellow and gently blended them together and they made orange. I am learning about the artist Anna Reed; she loved nature and animals. I am going to paint a fox like her.



Birch

Birch class have been enjoying their new topic 'Terrific Transport!' So far, the pupils have learned about lots of different types of transport on land, sea and in the air. They have also learned about the history of transport. The class have begun to build a wonderful display to show their work and creative skills. Here are some of the children's comments about their learning or what their favourite type of transport is.

Ayaan: Electric train fast

James: 1883 -The first engine powered car was built

Sidney: The first type of transport was called a Sedan chair

Arya: Steam train 1814

Phoebe: Pink bike at home

Henry: The train

Gabriel: Steam train

Olo: Penny Farthing is an old bike

Thabo: Electric train is faster than the steam train

Dominik: Old boats, made of wood



Rowan

This term, Rowan Class is exploring the fascinating topic of climate change in both Geography and Lifeskills, all tied to our theme, *The Sky is the Limit*. Over the past two weeks, the class has been having an amazing time learning about the many aspects of climate change and engaging in hands-on Lifeskills activities. Here are some of their favourite moments.

Kai: I liked helping the community by litter picking around the park and streets near around school. It was fun making sure it was all recycled properly.

Asia: I have learnt I can help my world by eating less meat. I made a fruit salad in Lifeskills to see what is better for us and the world.

Kajetan: I like making a fruit salad and learning how to cut a banana.

Toby: I liked recycling at the park and learning why it is good.

Kayden: I have learnt so much, one thing is about driving less and walking to places more. All of the climate change activities have been fun.

Stephen: Making the poster as been my favourite so far. Some things I learnt I can do to help is using the same water bottle everyday and turning off the taps when I brush my teeth.

Freddy: I liked making the fruit salad and the lesson about eating less meat to help our planet.

Max: Learning about recycling has been fun. My goal is to tell people outside of Rowan Class to recycle properly on the playground.

Lucy: Poster making was fun, you have to turn off the lights and switches it is important for our planet.



Maple

On Friday the 10th of January Maple class was invited to do archery at the Bunyan Sports and Fitness Centre. We travelled by minibus and Mr Kilcoyne was the driver. There were helpers at the Centre who showed us how to use a bow and arrow.

We all practised how to shoot a bow and arrow. Before we could shoot the arrows, we had to learn about safety when taking part in archery. We took part in a competition, and we are awaiting the results. We all got a certificate for taking part. It was a great day, and we would like to do it again!

Riley: I liked it when I pulled it in the air, and it nearly went into the yellow hoop.

Alfie: I enjoyed archery, all the activities were fun.

Jack: I liked it when the arrow hit the smiley faces.

Jeffrey: I liked learning about the safety rules.

Aneesa: I did not enjoy archery.

Jerome: I loved it, at the beginning all my arrows missed the target but at the end I managed to get them on the target.

Summer: I liked it because my arrow nearly hit the roof.

Seth: I enjoyed all the different activities.

Stefano: I enjoyed shooting the arrows but it's not an activity I would like to do again.



Sycamore Class have been working hard over the first few weeks of the Spring Term. For many of the year 11 pupils this term will be a very busy time for them, as they will be finishing off their coursework and preparing for their Entry Level and Functional Skills assessments.

Pupil also will begin completing their work experience placements to get a taste of what different workplaces are like (updates on these in future newsletters).

In Science we have begun learning about the human body. This week we planned and set up our own experiment to find out which food stored the most energy. As can be seen in the picture we had to light

Sycamore

the different snacks and then measure the change in temperature of the water.

The food that created the most heat energy was the Wotsits and therefore stored the most energy". (other snacks tested included rice cakes, fried crisps and baked crisps).

Jake: By burning the food the energy that it stored turned to heat energy.

Kade: I noticed how much brighter the fried crisps burnt than the baked crisps and it helped me understand how the baked crisps were much healthier.

In the coming weeks we are going to be focusing on the circulatory system and how the heart works.



Grange Academy v Ivel Valley
Wednesday 15th
January 2025
Kick Off 10:15

We hosted a return football

match vs our main rivals Ivel Valley School from Biggleswade. The games were split into 5 mini games of 10 minutes, excellently refereed by Mr Seago, I hear the Premier League beckons.

The first game was a tight affair with both teams easing their way into the game, the second game saw Ivel Valley take the lead, a long hoof up the pitch caused problems in the Grange defence and Ivel Valley went 1-0 up.

Maybe it was the presence of the crowd that spurred Grange on and they eventually equalised and then took the lead. A moment of brilliance or huge luck

Football News

gave Ivel Valley an equaliser, a corner on the left was swung to the back post and some how went straight in, 2-2. Grange carried to apply pressure, and this paid off with a third goal for Grange, 3-2. Then with only seconds to go and Mr Kilcoyne screaming at Mr Seago to blow the whistle a break in concentration allowed an Ivel Valley player a tap in at the far post, 3-3. Grange didn't have time to kick off as the game ended 3-3.

I have to say a fantastic football match, some great individual performances from Kalen, Baron, Kaschan, Ibrahim and Bradley (his best game ever for Grange) and the emergence of a new central defensive partnership in Kalen and Jake, oh how Spurs could do with them 2 right now, no stop it Mr Kilcoyne you will only stress yourself out.

Well done all who took part: Kade, Kalen, Jake, Adam, Kaschan, Ibrahim, Naomi, Baron, Ray, Bradley, Malachi, Ryan and Ben.

Mr Kilcoyne

Walnut



Since returning to school after the Christmas holidays, Walnut have been attending weekly Animal Care lessons which they are really enjoying. Some of the students are considering this as an option for when they enter year 10.



Arron: I like helping to look after the animals and to clean them out when Miss Foster asks.

Sienna: Animal care is really lovely to work with all the animals. My favourite part is catching the rabbits!

Ibrahim: I like spending time with the animals.

Chibunna: I enjoy learning how to take care of the animals by cleaning the goat shed.

Amna: My favourite part of animal care was holding the guinea pigs for the first time!

Skye: I like to see the rabbits. Marshmallow is white and that is my favourite colour.

Adam: I like cleaning out the animals out and helping Miss Foster.

Ben: I just really like spending time with the animals and helping Miss Foster out.

Ashton: The bunnies are cute!

Naomi: Animal care is chilled because we are around the animals and we get to help them.



Grange Awarded Artsmark Gold

Pupils and staff at Grange Academy are thrilled to announce they have been awarded the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award. Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England.

It recognises schools' dedication to embedding a broad and ambitious curriculum that prioritises arts, culture, and creativity.

Rachel Timms, Headteacher of Grange Academy, expressed immense pride: "Achieving the Gold Artsmark Award is a tremendous milestone for Grange Academy, and a reflection of our unwavering commitment to creativity and the arts. This recognition celebrates the dedication of our students, staff, and community in fostering an environment where artistic expression thrives. At Grange Academy, we believe the arts empower young minds, inspire innovation, and enrich lives. This achievement is a testament to the power of collaboration and passion in transforming education through the arts.

Dr. Darren Henley OBE, Chief Executive of Arts Council England, congratulated Grange Academy: "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Grange Academy on achieving the Artsmark Gold Award. Creative activities and cultural experiences enrich our lives, broaden our perspectives, and equip us to understand the world around us. By offering a broad, ambitious, and creative curriculum, Grange Academy is fostering the development of character and resilience in its young people. These skills, along with increased knowledge and curiosity, will undoubtedly benefit them throughout their lives."



Grange Supports SMART

Grange Academy are delighted to be supporting SMART.

Our first project was to collect adult clothes, thank you if you supported this, we collected a large amount which will make a real difference. Pupils at Grange are keen to be changemakers and show kindness in our local community; please look out for more information on the pupils' next ideas.



Kestrels Coffee Morning

Parents/Carers of Kestrels Nest (Hazel, Beech and Walnut classes)
Valentines themed Coffee Morning on

Friday 14th February 2025 at Grange Academy. 10.00 – 11.00am in the hall.

We would like to invite up to three family members per pupil it could be Parent, Grandparent, Auntie, Uncle etc. We have limited space in the tearoom so places will be allocated on return of the reply slip sent in a letter home. We understand that parents may not be able to attend due to work commitments. The cost of the event is £1 per person attending.

Any questions please contact class teacher by email.

Girls Club



For more information,
please email:
Laura.Charnock@bilitt.org

Girls After School Club

Fridays – 3:25 – 4:15pm with Ms Charnock & Miss Frith

Starts Friday 28th February Girls Only!

Activities include:-

Fitness/aerobics	Hockey
Yoga	Dodgeball
Netball	Football
Make-up	Skin care
Mental health	Hair
Food & Nutrition	Periods
Making bracelets	Arts & Crafts
Hot chocolate & marshmallows	
Forest School	Animals
ICT	Music



3rd – 9th February 2025

We are proud to be
celebrating Children's Mental

Health Week from Monday 3rd February and
raising money for Place2Be.

If you would like to get involved or have any
questions, please email

laura.chnock@bilitt.org

Children's Mental Health Week

We will be offering pupils and parents/carers a range of
activities throughout the week. This includes:

- Work experience/ careers/college assembly
- Mindfulness activities
- Grange Morning Mile
- Inside Out 2 QR code hunt
- Parents/carers workshop
- Silly Assembly - magician,
- music performance and more
- 'Do Something Different' Activities
- A walk in the park
- Mufti - £1 donation
- Cake & Cookie sale
- Film Night

Other Notices

SEN Support in Educational Settings

Thursday 6th February

Online Event
6.30pm - 8.30pm

SUPPORT

Delivered by: Smart Bright

This workshop will help you better understand the graduated approach of support, what is quality first teaching, what is special educational provision, understanding terms, jargon and processes.

communications@bbpcf.org.uk

BEYOND LIMITS ABILITY BLUES

BLUES & BEYOND: SEND* PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SOCIAL HUB SESSIONS...

Join us for fun, fitness, and socialising as you stay active and healthy with our team of experienced coaches and volunteers! Starting from 28th January 2025

TUESDAYS • 6.30PM - 7.30PM
Join us every Tuesday during term time at John Bunyan Sports and Fitness!

Register in the canteen and then choose from the following options:

- Table tennis
- Multi-sports
- Relax and chat
- Experience the sensory room

SATURDAYS • 10AM - 1PM
Join us every Saturday during term time at John Bunyan Sports and Fitness for Ability Blues Ragby Club!

Register in the canteen and then choose from the following options:

- Multi-sport sessions
- Social games
- Balance, coordination, and body movement activities

Sessions welcome all children and young people with learning difficulties and physical disabilities with a low to moderate support need. Participants needing extra assistance in group settings are welcome, but a parent or carer must stay to help.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...
If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Fennell:
olivia.fennell@bbpcf.org.uk
To keep up-to-date with all things Beyond Limits, scan the QR code or visit www.beyondlimits.org.uk for more info and sign up to our newsletter.

SPONSORS: BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL, Bedford Foundation, HARPUR TRUST, GLL

Family Fun

Tuesday 18th February
6.30pm - 9.00pm

The Riverside Hub, 7 Carousel Way, Northampton, NN3 9HG

What's included:

- SEND and Sensory Room
- Role Play Area & Carousel
- Mini Golf
- Go Karts
- Climbing Wall
- Giant Climbing Frame

communications@bbpcf.org.uk
www.bbpcf.co.uk

Diary Dates

Half Term - Monday 17th February 2025 to Friday 21st February 2025

Pupils Return to School - Monday 24th February 2025