

6th March 2025



The Grange Times

Walnut



On Thursday 27th February, Walnut, Beech, and Hazel visited Tring Natural History Museum. The trip had fantastic links to many parts of our curriculum. In Art the pupils are creating a model of an endangered animal. Pupils are looking at life cycles in science and we have been reading the butterfly lion in English. The pupils benefited from seeing life size animals that you wouldn't typically see in a zoo.



Bradley: It was nice to see the animals that we are learning about. Some of the animals were scary, they were staring into my soul!

Arron: I enjoyed going to the museum because I got to see lots of different animals and my favourite animal, a penguin!

Sienna: I liked being able to look at all the animals and learning facts about the animals. We even got to see the life cycle of a flea. I also enjoyed sleeping on the minibus on the way back!

Naomi: It was very interesting.

Ibrahim: I liked seeing the animals.

Adam: My favourite animal were the orangutangs. I also watched a video about a squirrel.

Chibunna: I enjoyed seeing the animals and seeing the different pictures in the photography room.

Amna: My favourite part was seeing the animals. My favourite part was seeing the penguins.

Ben: I really liked seeing all the animals and learning about them. We can use the animals in our artwork.

Ashton: I liked the fact that I got to see the animal that I am making in art, an armadillo! I also got to see lots of animals that I have never seen before!

Skye: I liked seeing the animals, it was quite scary to see how big a tiger is. The animals looked alive. I wouldn't want to be near one in real life!



Maple



In Food Tech this week Maple Class made ice cream to fit in alongside their topic this term, it was very fun and they found it very exciting, they were able to choose to make either chocolate or strawberry ice cream and took turns mixing the ingredients together until it turned into ice cream.

Alfie: I enjoyed making the ice cream because it was nice and tasty.

Alex: We could either make chocolate or strawberry, I chose to make chocolate.

Jeffrey: I liked making the ice cream, it was fun to make, and the bags were very cold.

Summer: I liked shaking the bags with the ice inside to mix the ice:cream, it was fun.

Jack: I put the chocolate milk in the bag, the ice cream was really nice.

Aneesa: I enjoyed eating the ice cream.

Riley: I liked rolling the bag on the table to freeze the ingredients.

Stefano: We had to shake the bag for about 15 minutes, until the ice cream was thick enough.

Jerome: I liked the ice cream because it was super creamy and when I was shaking it I felt really energised but my hands were frozen.



Birch



Birch class enjoyed trying out the new trampoline! They all waited patiently to take turns and have a go. Here is what they thought

Olo: It made me very higher!

Arya: I jumped up high!

Dominik: It's really bouncy, bouncy!

Gabriel: Trampoline good!

Sidney: I liked the way I can go up high!

Phoebe: Jump high!



Henry: Henry on the trampoline!

James: It's fun!

Ayaan: It was bouncy!

Pine

Pine class have had some great achievements this Spring term.

Rowan: On Saturday I took a bus ride by myself to St Albans. I had to go on 3 separate buses to get there. I left my house at 8am and arrived at noon. I got off the bus and looked for somewhere to eat. Eventually I found a Subway. I ordered my food and paid with a £10 note, and I checked I was given the correct change. I kept my mum up to date with text messages, so she knew I was safe. Finally arrived home at 5.30. It felt good being so independent. Mum was so very proud of me.

Connor: On Saturday I completed stage 8 of my swimming course. It



means I can now successfully swim 16 lengths of a swimming pool.

Lucas: I got 40 points from Mrs Timms for my art homework. I took pictures with my phone and then I drew them making sure I had dark and light shades.

Aaron: I have joined the school choir, and I have been practising really hard with my songs. On Thursday I am going to The Festival of Music.

Marcus: I have been learning how to do complicated division sums with remainders. I found it particularly challenging, but I persevered. Division will help me later in life when I am an adult, and I need to divide my time between work and play.

Max: I made a poster on saving our animals from getting hurt from rubbish. You must put your rubbish in a bin and stop animals from getting hurt.

Pick up your rubbish



Look after our animals!

Beech



Last week Kestrels classes had an interesting visit to Tring Natural History Museum. It is a Victorian museum with over 10,000 specimens to see. The animals are full size and stuffed. It gave pupils a real perspective in terms of the sizes of different creatures. It fitted beautifully with our Endangered Animals topic and art project in which we are creating animal sculptures. We even saw the 'Butterfly Lion' on the hillside near Whipsnade just like in Michael Morpurgo's book that we are reading.



Oliver: I liked the spiders at the museum.

Courtney: I liked seeing all the

different animals.

Connie: I liked the trip because I liked seeing what the animals actually look like. I also liked spending time with Hannah.

Aarnav: I enjoyed the trip to see different types of animals.

Ryan: I liked it because we saw different animals and what they look like. Also, their skeletons.

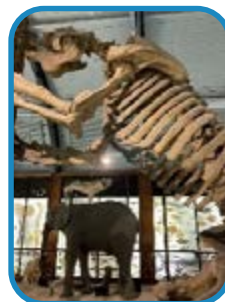
Cayden: I was not well so I missed the trip.

Tulicia: I loved seeing the animals especially the spiders and the fox.

Holly: I enjoyed looking at the animals such as the dogs and birds and I enjoyed learning new things.

Cameron: I loved the museum, there was lots to look at. The bones I was looking at were interesting. The Red Panda was so cute.

Caoimhe: I was unsure about the animals and I did not like the stuffed dogs. It's a bit sad to think the animals are all dead.



Rowan



Rowan Class have been thoroughly enjoying their Geography topic this spring term. Exploring global warming has been both fascinating and thought provoking, but the highlight has certainly been the hands on experiments and demonstrations. These activities have brought learning to life, helping pupils understand the real world impact of climate change. Some of Rowan class have also commented on what they are enjoying so far this spring term. Here are some of their favourite moments:

Lucy: I enjoyed making a storm in a bottle because it had glitter and stinky vinegar. It was easy to see how a storm is made.

Asia: I enjoyed science because we are learning about food waste and how to reduce it to help the planet. Also, about the food groups and all the good things for our bodies.

Piotr: The glitter storm in a bottle was fun.

Kayden: I have enjoyed making my own comic strip in English.

Max: I have been making a comic strip about the Flying circus. I think the book has been amazing and exciting.

Raf: In Geography we filled a bottle with glitter and vinegar to make a thunderstorm. There was a lot of shaking.

Freddy: I have been enjoying Science and Geography. I am also excited to go on the new trampoline next week.

Stephen: Storm in a bottle was dark and cloudy from the vinegar and washing up liquid. It was fun to do.

Kai: I liked watching the ice melt and understanding how sea rises.

Toby: I matched shapes to show half in maths. This was fun.

Kajetan: Melting ice made water higher. It was easy.



Acer



On Tuesday, Acer class thought about why we have pancake day and why it is important to Christians. We then put toppings on pancakes before eating them. We went outside to have pancake races and tried to flip some pancakes. It was great fun!



Jack: We had a pancake race. We had to flip the pancake. I won a race! I had a little bit of everything on my pancake.

Alex: We had pancakes in the afternoon. I had golden syrup on my pancake. We had a pancake race.

Louis: I flipped the pancakes. I poured syrup on the pancakes. It tasted very nice.

For our Polar explorers' topic, we have been exploring what it could feel like in the Antarctic. We felt the strong winds, the darkness in winter and the cold snow. We then thought about what an explorer would need to keep safe in the Antarctic.

Lewis: I saw material was blowing in the wind. The snow felt slimy. The room was very dark.

Harrison: I watched the ribbons blowing in the wind. The snow was wet.

Hamza: _____



Mental Health Week



During Mental Health Week pupils participated in a Do Something Different Afternoon to support their mental health and wellbeing.

Cedar

Reece: The cooking was good as we got to make our own

biscuits and decorate them in a fun way.

Kieran: the afternoon activities were good as it gave me a change to the normal routine.

Ryan: I had fun in the mindfulness session, we had to draw each other's faces and got to do some colouring too.

Rodney: We got to use the stamp function when making pixel art pictures of animals.

Ollie: It was fun to taste lots of weird food like avocados and Olives.

Steven: I liked doing the string painting in art, where you put it on a piece of paper and then pull it off.



Elm

Luca: This is so cool, we should definitely have a sewing club!

Lewis: Isabelle room allowed me to jump around and be free.

Marlin: I enjoyed the dancing it was fun.

Owen: I liked the Isabelle room

the swing was the best.

Robin: I enjoyed the food tasting, the worst thing was the curry been the best was the sweets, Haribo.

Zach: In Art I did some painting.

Harry: I did the Jellybean tasting and I got dog food flavour, the best was the sweets.

Rowan: Stephen and Kajetan: They both came back buzzing and said they had the best time.



Beech Class

Ryan: I really enjoyed it because it was nice to spend time with people I don't usually see. I liked making the sweet dispenser.

Caoimhe: I liked the cookies especially the icing. The

afternoon was fun.

Aarnav: Yoga was very calming, and I liked the warmup exercises.

On Wednesday 5th February Grange pupils and staff held a silly assembly as part of the activities during Mental Health Week.

During the assembly there was a magician performance, songs performed by Steve Young and a Jelly Wellies race. The Mental Health Champions Programme was also introduced to pupils.

Elm Class

Samuel: I liked the magician; how did he do those tricks.

Marley: How did he do the water trick; I don't get it.

Luca: I thought Mr Young sang well, a good performance.

Pine Class

Emmanuel: I think your silly assembly was amazing especially when the magician crushed the bowling pin, I thought the bowling pin was solid and I couldn't believe it disappeared.

Aaron: My favourite part of your silly assembly was when Mr Gray got the cream pie in the face.

Rowan: I liked the whole assembly, but my favourite part was the jelly in the welly.

Beech Class

Caoimhe: I was really happy and was singing!

Ryan: I loved being involved in the magicians show.

Cameron: I had to run away from Mr Gray as he tried to pie me with the cream pie!!

Cedar

Kieran: I enjoyed watching the magician with the failing wand.

Ollie: The assembly was funny.

Steven: It was funny to see the teachers run around in jelly filled boots, it looked like torture for them.





Mental Health Champions

Grange Academy are transforming our pupils health and well-being. We are empowering a group of pupils to become Mental Health Champions in our school. This programme is designed to empower children from a young age to become mental health champions. By equipping them with essential skills and knowledge to take care of their own wellbeing and positively support their peers.

A mental health champion is someone who takes action to raise awareness of mental health and challenge stigma. Stigma is when we make assumptions about how a mental health problem will affect someone's behaviour. In turn, this makes it more likely that they will be labelled as different, strange, or even dangerous.

The mental health champions at Grange Academy are completing a training programme where they will learn new skills to help themselves and their peers. At the end of the programme they will be awarded a badge and certificate. They have already come up with a range of ideas to support pupils at Grange.



Community Work

Over the last 5 weeks, we have been incredibly fortunate that Food Etc (a local Community group) have again come along and run some family cooking sessions after school. Each week we have cooked a meal together from scratch looking at healthier options, and asking the pupils what they would like to cook.



The pupils and families have had great fun cooking together and trying new things. Thank you to Food Etc for supporting us again and to all the families that have joined us. We will be running this again in the summer term, so if you are interested in joining us please contact grange@blftf.org.



Ramadan

If your child is fasting during Ramadan, please let their class teacher know so that we can support them. We will have a special Eid lunch for everyone which will be

a selection of curries cooked by our fabulous kitchen, on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 to celebrate. Please book a school dinner for your child on this day if they wish to join in.

Class Nest Rota:

9.00 - 9.45am - Robins
9.45 - 10.30am - Falcons
10.30 - 11.15am - Eagles
11.15 - 12.00pm - Red Kites

These are the times each nest will visit the fete in case you want to co-ordinate your visit with your child.

Donations for the event are welcome. Please bring to the front office; toys and games, easter decorations, table cloths. Thank you Kestrels team.

Kestrels Easter Fete



Diary Dates

Tuesday 25th March 2025 - Parents Evening

Friday 4th April 2025 - Last Day of Term

Monday 7th April 2025 – Wednesday 23rd April 2025 - Easter Holidays

Thursday 24th April - Pupils Return to School