

THE GRANGE TIMES

11th June 2026



Cedar

Cedar Class have had a great start to the new term with a visit to the cinema and working hard in a variety of different lessons.

Ryan: I enjoyed going to the cinema with my classmates.
Naomi: I have been enjoying animal care, and I am working hard in maths.
Connie: I have really enjoyed animal care. I like cleaning out the rabbits and guinea pigs.
Cayden: I really like the new baby duck that we have.
Arron: I enjoyed going to the cinema and I also like the baby duck we now have.

Adam: I like the new pigs that we have, and I have been working hard in English. The football trip was really fun. I liked playing with my teammates.

Megan: The cinema was my favourite, especially as we watched the Mario movie.

Keith: I am really enjoying food tech and the trip we went on to the cinema.

Ben: I enjoyed going to the cinema and I saw the advert for the new Star Wars and Spider-man film.

Skye: I enjoyed going to the cinema and I liked the movie.

Sienna: I had a great time at the cinema and being able to improve my confidence when I ordered my own food and drink.

Amna: I liked going to the cinema with my friends.

Hazel



On Thursday, 4th June, Hazel class visited Rivertree School to attend a Blue Light Experience with other classes from Grange. They learnt about the emergency services and took part in lots of practical activities, including CPR, the VR van, the VR distortion path, speed-reaction challenges, and defibrillation. The whole class enjoyed their time working together on the tasks. A big thank you from all of them to Mrs Williams for organising and inviting them to such an exciting event.

Noah: I liked the VR experience at the Blue Light and I got to learn how to do CPR.

Jack: I liked seeing the road with the VR headset on.

Kairhys: I enjoyed the Blue Light experience because I got to learn about CPR which could help me to help someone who is having a heart attack.

Ryan: I liked when we did the CPR training because it can help someone if they have a heart attack. It was really fun when we got to do the VR van to see a video.

Umar: Hi, about the blue light visit last week, it was interesting, and also quite fun, the VR video play was actually really cool, the VR movements kind of look realistic, I really enjoyed that part, then the next part of the blue light is the part where I have a partner, one of us wore googles, the other one had to lead their partner around the cones avoiding them, I also enjoyed it.

Max: I loved doing the Blue Light at Rivertree. They had a VR van that you can watch a video, and I enjoyed the reaction game, you had to press a button when they lit up.

Samuel: I had fun at the Blue Light Experience because it had a VR van, it had a video to watch on the headset with movement in the van at the same time.

Tyrese: I liked going to the Blue Light event at Rivertree because we had lots of stuff to do. When I was inside the van I put on the VR headset to watch a video.

Kai: I enjoyed the Blue Light trip at Rivertree School. My favourite bit was when they taught us about road safety and not wearing headphones when you cross the zebra crossing. We watched a video on the VR screen.

Marcus: I enjoyed going to the blue light at Rivertree School, the air ambulance staff teach us about CPR, then they showed us a machine that gets put on the heart when they are doing CPR.

Kajetan: Blue light good fun.

Piotr: I like the Blue Light because it was fun because I played games, one of them was a reaction game.



Willow



This term in Computing, the children have been exploring digital image editing and creating some brilliant final pieces using Canva. We looked at how photos can be changed and combined to create brand new scenes, and the class really enjoyed experimenting with different ideas and layouts.

We practised key skills such as cropping and positioning images carefully, trying out colour and effects to change the mood, and layering multiple images to build dramatic (and often funny!) outcomes. From magical forests to stormy skies, the children loved seeing their ideas come to life and showed great creativity and attention to detail.

To finish the unit, everyone shared their final creations, and we gave friendly feedback about what worked well, like realistic placement, good sizing, and creating the right atmosphere, as well as what could be improved next time. It's been a really enjoyable unit, and the class should be proud of what they've produced.



Plane wing scene: "High-flying imagination! A brilliant composite image with careful scaling and placement."

Magical forest with torch + butterfly: "A fantasy adventure scene — glowing light, magical setting, and a giant butterfly!"

Underwater scene: "An underwater escape! Great use of background choice and realistic positioning."

Cliff tightrope scene: "A daring balancing act above the waves — a dramatic setting with strong composition."

Rock climb/rope scene: "Edge-of-your-seat editing! A clever scene showing height, scale, and tension."

Helicopter scene: "Movie moment! A fun action composite with excellent scaling to match the helicopter."

Waterpark scene: "A splash of silliness — lots of layering, fun choices, and great creativity!"



Oak

Oak Class have been enjoying learning about our new topic of minibeasts. We enjoyed the book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' together and found the story sack very exciting. We have also been enjoying our songs of the week 'The Incy Wincy Spider' and 'There's a Worm at the Bottom of my Garden'.

Alfie: Ladybird, worm and spider.

Thabo: The caterpillar is very hungry.

Tawfeeq: On Monday eating one apple, on Tuesday eating two pears.

Henry: Hungry caterpillar.

Olivia:



Sequoia



On 9th June, our wonderful Robins nest set off on an exciting adventure to Woburn Safari Park, and what a fantastic day it turned out to be! All three classes, Sequoia, Birch and Oak thoroughly enjoyed exploring and learning together.

The children were captivated by the engaging Sensational Classroom sessions, where they discovered fascinating facts about rainforests and minibeasts. They especially loved using magnifying glasses to observe tiny creatures up close, sparking curiosity and careful observation skills. The interactive games linked to these topics brought lots of laughter and enthusiasm, making learning truly memorable.



Pupils were offered incredible opportunities to see a variety of amazing animals. The children were thrilled to spot lemurs, lions, sea lions, giraffes and even snakes, each sighting creating moments of awe and excitement.

It was a joyful, hands-on experience that combined learning, exploration and fun. The Robins children represented the school beautifully, showing curiosity, teamwork and great behaviour throughout the trip. What a sensational day to remember!

Phoebe: Look at the feather! I like it!

Lilly-Jo: I can see the cockroaches!

Keyaan: Here is my book donation.

Halle: It is an orange insect! There is a big snake!

Gracey: Look at the giraffe! It is very tall!



Redwood

For the 2026 summer football World Cup, Redwood class are team Mexico! We have been researching the world cup in general, the 2026 Mexican line up and specific players. We put some of our most interesting facts into a scrapbook poster. We have used both our artistic and our newly found AI skills to research simple facts that we can understand and talk about them with our friends. Mexico will be playing the first game of the tournament, we are excited to follow them this summer!

Ugne: I did some facts on the Mexico football team. Then I colour on the football and then I cut it out and it looks nice. We did it for the FIFA World Cup! The 2022 World Cup in Qatar engaged an estimated 5 billion people globally, with about 1.5 billion watching the final match.

Martin: I used copilot and wrote facts about team Mexico world cup. Mexico has hosted the world cup twice already in 1970 and 1986 and will host again in 2026, making it the first country ever to host three world cups!

Zach: When doing the Mexican scrapbook I did colouring. I did football player. I used the colours black and yellow. Rafael Márquez is one of only three players in history to captain his national team in five different World Cups.

Larissa: For the scrapbook I done colouring and it was good fun. I coloured in a football boot. Mexico's team is called "El Tri" because their uniforms have three colours, green, white, and red, just like the Mexican flag.

Jason: I did a drawing and coloured it of the Mexico logo to go on the flag and I cut the logo and I stuck it on already to the flag. Mexico is one of the host countries for the 2026 World Cup, along with the USA and Canada. That means they get to play at home!

Freddy: I coloured in a footballer carefully. Guillermo Ochoa is a legendary striker known for acrobatic goals and his trademark backflip.

Jacob: What I did was cut pictures of Mexican football players and the Mexican world cup. I also draw a picture of a famous football player. Mexico has qualified for 18 World Cups, with their best results being quarterfinal finishes in 1970 and 1986, both on home soil.

Sophia: I had to make the facts. I used my laptop and had google to help me research the facts. Mexico is the first country ever to host three World Cups.

Summer: I did paint with Samuel and Jason did the drawing and colouring for the Mexican flag. My fact is that Guillermo Ochoa will play in his sixth World Cup in 2026, setting a historic record for Mexican football!

Sam: Me and summer were painting the Mexican flag, but my green pant was a bit too light, we went outside to get the wind to dry it quicker. Santiago Giménez was born in Argentina but chose to play for Mexico, just like his dad did!



Elm



Elm class have been enjoying their Roman CoJo lessons.

Mission 5: Teamwork divides the task and multiples success.

Brief: Following the successful escape from the camp, the teams are being pursued by a group of relentless Roman archers. Their unit is surrounded and they must construct their defences and survive as long as possible.



A vital part of the squad is the medic who must be protected at all costs.

Action: In this session pupils have had to build a fort to protect a cone, then each team takes turns in throwing tennis balls at the target to try and knock the cone over.

Success: The idea of the sessions is to build teamwork and help improve their throwing technique.

Seth: Cojo is fun and gets us working together.

Marley: I was the best at throwing; I was able to hit the target multiple times.

Robert: I found the task easy, some of the other missions have been harder.

Jeffrey: Cojo has been good, working together and having fun.

Riyaaz: Cojo has taught me to work with and listen to my classmates.



Wear it Green Day

What is Wear it Green Day?

At Grange Academy we are committed to creating a community where there is good Mental Health for all. Wear It Green Day is a day to raise awareness and support for mental health, often held as part of Mental Health Awareness Week. Participants are encouraged to wear green clothing or accessories to show solidarity with those facing mental health challenges. The green colour is a symbol of hope, growth, and renewal, which are associated with mental well-being.

Who does Wear It Green Day help? Wear It Green Day helps the Mental Health Foundation, a UK charity that works to prevent mental health problems, support individuals and communities, and promote a mentally healthy society. By participating in Wear It Green Day, individuals and organizations can raise awareness for the foundation's work, including research, programs, and support services.

How it happens in the UK

In the UK, everyone is asked to wear something green to raise awareness of positive mental health. On Thursday May 14th we invited all our pupils and staff to wear something green.

We had a competition for the best dressed pupils. Third place went to Nevaeha in Rowan Class. Second place went to Freddy in Redwood Class. Our first place winner was Orla in Birch Class.



Police Visit



A group of students took part in an educational session at Grange Academy in partnership with **Bedfordshire Police**, as part of their "Lost Boys" campaign.

The Lost Boys campaign is designed to raise awareness of **Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)** and to help young people better understand risk, personal safety, and where to seek help.

As part of this initiative, a small group of students were selected to take part in a **oneoff, ageappropriate session** that used **virtual reality (VR)** technology to explore real-life scenarios in a safe, supported, and educational way.

This was a valuable opportunity for students to learn about important real-world issues in a controlled and supportive setting, and we are proud to be working alongside Bedfordshire Police on this campaign.



Formula 1 Stem Day



Grange Academy students were excited to welcome Megan and Rose from the Red Bull Formula 1 STEM Team for an inspiring twoday experience.

The visit began with students learning about the origins of Formula 1, where the name comes from, and the wide range of careers involved in creating an F1 car, from design and engineering to materials, marketing, transport, and the role of drivers. They also explored qualifications, apprenticeships, and career pathways within motorsport.

Students then took part in a variety of hands-on activities. They designed and decorated the outer shell of their own race cars, developed coding skills by programming miniature cars to navigate a track, and enjoyed an exciting pit stop challenge, changing tyres using real equipment and techniques.

To finish, students constructed a chassis, fitted their completed car shells and wheels, and took part in races. After two days of competition, the overall winner was **Amna from Cedar Class**, achieving an impressive time of **0.84 seconds**.

All students had a fantastic time and even got the chance to try on racing helmets, making this an unforgettable STEM experience.

Marcus in Hazel Class: I really enjoyed the F1 Day. I liked listening to what they were talking about. It was good to build the cars. I struggled a bit, but they were very helpful.

Noah in Hazel Class: The F1 Day was really fun, and I like that I got to design my own car. The coding part was great. I had a fantastic time.

Samuel in Hazel Class: I really enjoyed the careers options in F1. Hopefully I can do an apprenticeship one day. All the activities were really good, and I had a lot of fun.

Chibunna in Sycamore Class: I really enjoyed doing the car coding because it was really interactive.

Sienna in Cedar Class: The thing I really enjoyed about the F1 day was coding the robot car with Eva and building our cars and racing them.

Tyrese in Hazel Class: I really enjoyed the F1 workshop because it was really fun to make cars and race them.

Jack in Hazel Class: Today my favourite things were making the car and doing the racing. I really enjoyed wearing the racing helmet.

Kairhys in Hazel Class: I really enjoyed the F1 day and building the car was my favourite. I enjoyed wearing the helmet and competing in the race.



Palm



Palm have had a very productive term so far. The students have been learning about different career pathways and thinking about the skills they will need to achieve their future goals. We also enjoyed a trip into town, which included a visit to the ice cream parlour! Everybody is now looking forward to the summer term and the many exciting opportunities and activities it will bring.

Calvin: We went to town by bus with Pine Class and we got to use our bus passes and library cards. Then we all went to B&M to look around. We also went to an ice cream parlour and I had a chocolate ice cream, it tasted so good! I enjoyed it so much.

Rowan: Recently in Palm class careers lesson the kids cleaned and serviced our minibuses. We cleaned two of them. Some of the kids cleaned the 25 plate Peugeot and some cleaned the 52 plate Iveco. The class worked hard all afternoon to clean them for future trips. We enjoyed doing this and learned a skill.

Holly: Last Thursday in art I drew some fish that I am going to cut out and put on to my underwater coral reef sea picture next week as part of my fish project. After that, I will add another fish to a different background to make my next picture complete.

Alfie: In school I did my GCSE English on 28th of May, during it I had a hard time getting it done before time ran out, but I think I did good.

Matthew: In animal care we have new animals, we have new pigs and we have a duck. The duck when it first came to the school was tiny, but over the weeks it has grown big. The new pigs that we have are very nice and like attention. They really help if someone is having a bad day, they can make people happy.

Ryan: I enjoyed my class trip into town; it was a good chance to use my bus pass. I like having my bus pass as it means I can travel independently for free. In town I was able to be with my friends when we went in the ice cream parlour. I ordered a waffle with strawberries, pistachio sauce and a scoop of ice cream.

Aarnav: I really enjoyed the trip into town because it gave me the chance to be with friends in a different environment. I took out a new book at the library and then we went to the ice-cream parlour. We also went to the B&M store in the town centre and went to the Harpur centre. We had to catch the number 1 bus from Bedford bus station bay K to get back to school.

Bradley: I have been working on some exams such as Maths and English, and I am also trying to work on functional skills English. I know these skills will help me to get a job in the future. Last term we had lessons about careers every Wednesday afternoon. I like learning about all the different jobs out there. In the future, I would like to be a Bricklayer or a Plumber.

Ashton: I've really enjoyed learning about the Netherlands, which is the country our class has been allocated for the World Cup. I drew a very detailed windmill (there are lots of these in Holland) which took me a long time to do. The windmill will be going on a poster that our class is designing to represent The Netherlands.

Alex: I was excited when the new pigs arrived on the school farm. I have already had the chance to look after them by mucking out their pen and making sure they have food. I want to be a farmer when I leave school, so animal care is my favourite lesson.

Kyle: I went to youth inspired for two days. On the first day we did English and art, on the second day we did maths and cooking. When I had my lunch break, I would go upstairs to play with playdough, Lego, board games or play on the Wii. In the afternoon we did more lessons and had a break on the laptops.

Scarlett: On Monday and Tuesday, I went to youth inspired and I did some maths and then colouring at break time. I did some cooking after lunch; I made pizza with tomatoes on it with pepperoni on the top of the pizza and I put my pizza in the oven. When my pizza was done, I ate it all up because I enjoyed it so much!



Diary Dates

Tuesday 23rd June 2026 - Sports Day

Monday 13th July - Year 10 and 11 Prom

Thursday 16th July 2026 - Year 11 Leavers Assembly

Friday 17th July 2026 - Last day of term (1 pm finish)

Our Farm

 **Grange Academy**
BILTT
Bedford Inclusive Learning and Training Trust

Farm Open Days Summer 2026

 **Monday July 27th**
Friday July 31st
Monday August 3rd
Saturday August 8th
Monday August 10th
Friday August 14th
Monday August 17th
Friday August 21st

    

Opening times - 10am - 12 noon
£5 per person - paid in cash on the day

 **Grange Academy**
BILTT
Bedford Inclusive Learning and Training Trust

Farm Open Day

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 10AM - 1PM

 **Bouncy Castle**  **Ice Cream Van**

 **Stalls**  **Play Area**

 **Trampoline**  **Birds of Prey**

Face Painting
And More!

MEET THE ANIMALS AT GRANGE ACADEMY COMMUNITY FARM, HALSEY ROAD, KEMPSTON
£5 ENTRY FEE PER PERSON - UNDER 35 GO FREE

 **Grange Academy**
BILTT
Bedford Inclusive Learning and Training Trust

BE A FARMER Experience

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGE 10 - 16

10am - 12 noon
3 sessions
Wednesdays
July 29th and August 5th and 19th
£15 per session per person
Limited Spaces
Feed, clean and pet the farm animals
A hands-on farm day
Real Farm! Real Learning! Real Fun!

   

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK, CONTACT:
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