



# NUNTII GRANICAE

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THE GRANGE ACADEMY  
NEWSLETTER

A FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION FOR  
PARENTS AND CARERS OF STUDENTS  
AT THE GRANGE ACADEMY

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

DR P. HILLS

It has been a hectic and hugely enjoyable first fortnight back at The Grange.

We had already welcomed many of the new Year 7s at the Transition Summer School at the end of July and it was wonderful to see the new cohort of pupils lined up smartly in their new uniforms at the start of the Autumn term.

It has been a delight, too, to see the full range of sports activities in full flow on our magnificent playing fields and sports facilities after school every day of the past fortnight. I particularly enjoyed the football trials for Year 7 pupils. Two boys and two girls in Year 7 are high-flyers with the Academy at Watford FC, which hopefully bodes well for the season ahead. If your child is selected to represent the school in any sport, we do appreciate your full parental support and cooperation in making them available for matches and training.

It was excellent to see the Year 10s kick off their season with a resounding 8-1 win away at Westfield and the Year 9s also performed well in a 7-2 victory over Westfield.

Covid continues to cast a shadow, but, while we remain vigilant as well as vaccinated in increasing numbers, hopefully that shadow is diminishing. All pupils have now been lateral flow-tested, twice since returning and we would ask everyone to continue to use the free packs to test at home twice a week.

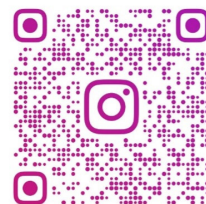
Year 12 will be having an instructional morning on university applications next week and Year 13 are busily completing their UCAS applications. They will be hoping to follow in the footsteps of last year's leavers, who netted a record haul of 11 places to Russell Group Universities this summer.

Value-added at A level was again in very positive territory, with a record number of A-B grades (60%). The recent success of our Brilliant Club students is a very promising indicator of more good things to come, too.

Individual student photos took place this week at the academy and the external photography company have asked us to extend their sincere thanks to all of the students. Our visitors were impressed by the politeness and courtesy that students in every year group displayed and extended to the photographers. Well done to everyone; manners maketh man, as William of Wykeham once said!

We are busily preparing for our Open Evening on Thursday 23 September and Open Mornings on 28 and 30 September. As ever, we are grateful for the commitment of staff and pupils alike for making the evening a success and for showing the local community how proud we are of our Academy.

For all the latest information, do please follow us on twitter @TheGrangeFA and our new Instagram Account may be accessed with the attached QR Code:



GRANGEACADEMY

## YEAR 11 GCSE PREPARATION EVENING

With life back in full swing at The Grange, what better way to mark the exciting year ahead for our Year 11s than with a GCSE preparation evening! Monday 13th September saw over 150 of our top notch students, accompanied by their supportive parents/guardians, head back into school at 18:00 for an evening to set up their successful year ahead. Queues were round the block, and it was standing room only in some sessions, as students and parents heard from the Heads of English, Maths, and Science, about how to make excellent progress in their subjects. Dr Hills spoke on the importance of self-testing, while Mr Snell delved into theories of learning and effective revision. Not finished there, Mr Evans was on hand to signpost students to all the online platforms available to support them.

And, just when they thought it was over, students left with a personalised goody bag containing a revision guide for every subject. All free of charge and part of our commitment to ensuring our year 11 are set up to thrive this year.

Thank you to parents and students who attended.

## OPEN EVENING

On Thursday 23 September, we will be holding our Open Evening when we will be welcoming prospective students and their parents to the academy, from 5.00pm to 7.30pm.

To enable staff to prepare for the evening, the academy will close early to students on that day. Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm at the end of lesson 4. We ask that parents make appropriate arrangements to accommodate this early finish. Students who are entitled to free school meals will be able to use this allowance at break time.

On Friday 24 September the academy will open at the normal time.

If your child is invited to help with Open Evening, you will receive a letter and we ask that you return the permission slip. Students helping must be in full Grange Academy uniform (or academy PE kit if involved with sports) and must return to the academy punctually at 4.30pm for briefing. Students will be able to leave at 7.30pm and we ask that you make the necessary arrangements for your child to return home safely.

If you require any further information in relation to these arrangements, please contact Mr Nagle, Vice Principal, [j.nagle@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto:j.nagle@thegrange.futureacademies.org).

## COVID VACCINATIONS FOR AGE 12-15 ON 12 OCTOBER 2021

We will soon forward to parents and carers, information from the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) regarding the Covid 19 vaccination programme, which will take place on Tuesday 12 October 2021 for eligible students (those aged 12 to 15). The information provided from the SAIS will include a link to a Covid Consent Form. We have been separately advised that the Year 8 HPV programme, which was due to happen on this day, will now be rescheduled for a later date.

## SIXTH FORM NEWS

The University of Lincoln will be visiting the Sixth Form next week to run a series of workshops supporting all aspects of Post 16. They aim to cover aspects from how best to approach Post 16 studies to making decisions about university courses, while offering tips to support students with this. Our Year 12 students will enjoy a presentation on 'Making the most of Post 16' and in smaller groups will take part in practical workshops on 'Time Management and Study Skills'. Meanwhile, our Year 13 students will be supported in the university applications process as well as getting specific guidance on how to write their all-important personal statements. We are looking forward to welcoming the University of Lincoln and the benefits the sessions will provide our students.

## THE BRILLIANT CLUB

Congratulations to the 12 students in Year 11 who completed The Scholars Programme at the end of last year. The students learnt all about aerospace composites with a University PhD student who is specialising in this field and carrying out extensive research. They attended an online launch event with the University of Manchester, which included a study skills session, virtual tour of the campus and Q&A with student ambassadors who are currently studying at the University of Manchester which students all found very informative.

The students attended five tutorials about aerospace composites and were set the task of writing a 2000 word essay as the final assignment. All students rose to the challenge, with 50% achieving a 2:1 or a First.

The Brilliant Club gave the students an insight into what it would be like studying at university and finished with an online graduation event and we held a celebratory lunch to recognise individual student achievements. Well done everyone.



# ENRICHMENT

In addition to the sport enrichment clubs which are already up and running (see below), The Grange Academy Enrichment activity programme will be starting in the week commencing 27th September and will run for 4 weeks in Term 1. Club and Society options will be published in the next few days and students will be encouraged to register for one club or society during sign up week taking place within tutor time.

We are looking forward to offering a wide range of clubs and societies over the course of the school year and are counting on your attendance and support.

**Clubs for Years 7 & 8 finish at 16:00, 9-XI finish at 16:20. Senior Basketball will start at 07:45 and finish at 08:30.**



Day	Year Group	Activity
Monday	7 & 8	Basketball
	9 & 10	Rugby
Tuesday	7 & 8	Netball
	9 & 10	Football
Wednesday	7 & 8	Rugby
Thursday	7 & 8	Football
	9 & 10	Netball
Friday	9 & 10	Basketball
	11 & XI	Football
	11 & XI	Basketball (AM)

# YEAR 10 FOOTBALL

Year 10 started the season with a fantastic 8-1 victory away to Westfield. Goals from Raul, Luke, Jaydon, Miller, Casey and an own goal. Man of the match: Miller



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 20 September - Meet the tutor event – Year 7
- Thursday 23 September - Year 6 Open Evening – **early finish for students**
- Tuesday 28 September - Year 6 Open Morning – **registration required**
- Thursday 30 September - Year 6 Open Morning – **registration required**
- Monday 25 October - Friday 29 October - Half term holiday

## Year 11 GCSE Prep

