



# 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 Philip Hills

It's been an action-packed end to the term. It was excellent to see our Year 10 footballers enjoy a resounding 5-0 win last week to join the Year 7 and the Senior Teams in the Finals in January.

It was a delight, too, to see the enjoyment of Christmas lunch, with much thanks going to Future Academies for providing the free meal for all pupils (complete with crackers), to Cucina, our excellent caterers, and to teachers and support staff for ensuring that everything flowed smoothly.

We have been studying the Roman winter festival of Saturnalia this week – thankfully our celebrations have been rather more decorous, including a Christmas choral celebration. We are greatly looking forward, too, to the inauguration of Brass Band practices next term. If you think you might be interested and you have not already registered, do please sign up with Mrs Johnson asap – places are heavily subsidized.

The fundraising efforts for those less fortunate have gone well this term and we intend to keep up a strong push for both Children in Need and Herts Young Homeless next term. MANY thanks, too, for all that you have donated for the local Food Bank.

Unfortunately, Covid is still with us and mask-wearing and other precautions will still be with us when we return. We will be issuing slightly different guidance than hitherto on the timings of the return of each year group for lateral-flow testing on the first day back: please see the back page for the latest. We wish everyone a very happy, restful and safe Christmas.

@thegrangebushey



# Sport Roundup

## Year 10 win all games on their way to the final



The lads finished the groups stages unbeaten with a comfortable 5-0 win. We played some great football, and it's becoming a pleasure to watch this team play. Our first goal came after 14 minutes. Becaye went past 3 players, played the ball across the goal for Luke J to tap in. We scored our 2nd goal on the 25th minute. Luke J won the ball back in the box, played it to his left where Casey was to extend our lead. The third goal was goal of the season and it came on the 37th minute, where Ethan took a long throw that found Jordan on his debut. He was outside the box, hit the ball sweetly and it went flying over the keepers head and just under the bar. We continued to dominate the game and scored on the 60th minute, Becaye found Jackson running down the left. Jackson hit the ball sweetly into the bottom corner. The final 5th goal was scored by Becaye. Jackson passed him the ball, Becaye moved it to his right and put it in the bottom corner. Man of the Match was Jackson – what a great left back!

Year 10 now join Year 7 and the Seniors for the finals next year. These have been delayed to help all schools finish their seasons, after the impact of the pandemic.

Basketball fixtures start in January.



Sport	Vs	Result	Star of the Match	Scorers
Year 10 Football	Reach Free	Won 7-0	Casey	Becaye x3, Raul x2, Luke J and Dio
Year 7 Netball	St Michaels	Lost 1-5	Jess H	
Year 7 Netball	Croxley Danes	Won 4-2	Lanie	
Year 11 Football	Immanuel	Lost 1-2	Moses	Jude
Year 10 Football	Parmiters	Won 5-0	Jackson	Casey, Luke J, Jordan, Becaye, Jackson
Seniors Football	Westfield	Won 7-0	Dylan	Bradley x2, Jayden, Sam, Harry E, Harry D, Joel

## Attendance News

This term students have continued to come to school despite some challenging circumstances.

Our current attendance figure stands at 93.1% which is over 2% higher than the national average. Our expectations, though, are high and we want this figure nearer 95%. It is proven that students with high attendance have an 82% chance of achieving good GCSE grades. This drops to only 18% when attendance drops near 80%.

**Every day counts and students should strive to be in school every day from January.**

Huge congratulations to the 205 students who are still part of the 100% club - this means they have not missed one day from school since September.



# PSHE Update (Personal Social Health Education)

This term has been a busy term for our students and our PSHE programme. PSHE is a statutory aspect of your child's school curriculum- it also provides students with a wide range of topics to consider and discuss. This also works alongside our cultural capital programme, where students have the opportunity to vote weekly on a topic that affects us all. This term we have considered a range of topics in PSHE and RSE sessions such as Marriage, Conspiracy, Homophobia, Transitions in life, Communities, Consent, Alcohol and body changes and understanding Parliament. We have voted on the following topics this term:

- 'Should more people get involved with religious celebrations?'**
- 'Should the teaching of political literacy be compulsory in schools?'**
- 'Is banter an excuse for bullying?'**
- 'Was COP26 Successful?'**
- 'Has the pandemic made us more aware of disabilities?'**
- 'Should students use smartphones in school?'**



If you want to find out more information about PSHE/RSE please contact Mr Wride, Assistant Principal.

After Christmas we look forward to announcing the winners of our recent disability competition and launching our LGBTQ Competition.

## Keeping Safe online

- **Ask your child to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.**
- What games do they and their friends like to play online? Can they show you the websites they visit the most? Can you play their favourite game online with them?
- **Ask them about how they stay safe online.**
- What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
- **Ask them if they know where to go for help.**
- Where can they go to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use?

## Keeping Safe when out and about

Do you feel the streets on you or your child's journey to school, college or work could be safer? You can now flag these public places to the police anonymously through the [#StreetSafe](https://www.police.uk/streetsafe) tool to help make them better for everyone.  
<https://www.police.uk/streetsafe>

## Christmas Celebrations



Christmas celebrations at the academy have been most welcome and very festive. Cucina put on two days of excellent lunches and every year group had the opportunity for the free lunch, donated by Future Academies. Students had a great time, and many helped with the clearing up which was greatly appreciated. Festivities continued with a Christmas Jumper Day and carol singing in Bushey village.



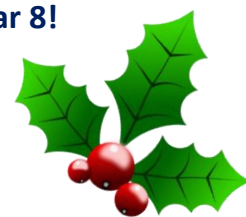




## Year 8 Achievement Celebration

**Year 8s with high achievement points were rewarded with some extra leisure time and a chat with Dr Hills. It was a lovely celebration. Keep up the good work Year 8!**

## Enrichment – new activities in 2022



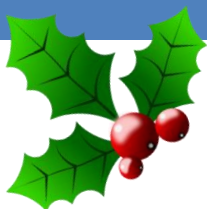
The enrichment and activity offering for Term 3 (Jan to Feb half term) will be published before we break for Christmas.

A new year brings new activities; we are introducing the Cultural Club after school on Tuesdays - the club will celebrate diversity and introduce students to other traditions.

Wednesday afternoons sees the introduction of the Trampoline club - the club is open to all students in Y9 and above. The Brass Band will be up and running on Thursdays from 3pm for all interested Year 7 and Year 8 students; do ask Mrs Johnson for more information!

Look for the enrichment and activity poster in your form room for details of all the clubs we are offering for the new year, come along and get involved!





# Year 13 trip to Bedfordshire University

Year 13 greatly enjoyed a trip the University of Bedfordshire to experience Sports Science. They had the opportunity see the different ways we measure energy. They got to use top class exercise science equipment and were instructed on how this impacts sports people and the general public. They also got to tour the university and see the facilities used by elected performers and those in medical care, including Luton Town FC, Olympians and elite marathon runners. They were given sessions on how sports science can help with the impact in fields such as the NHS. It was an amazing experience and the students enjoyed it.



## Covid Testing & Return to School

When students return to school in January they will complete LFT COVID tests before starting lessons. In order to do this students should return at the following times and dates:

Date	Year Group	Arrival Time
Thursday 6 January	12	8.30am
Thursday 6 January	11	8.55am
Thursday 6 January	10	10.30am
Friday 7 January	7, 13	8.30am
Friday 7 January	8, 9	10.30am

Mr Nagle has sent an email to all parents with important information regarding COVID testing and consent at school, testing expectations at home over the holidays and updated vaccination information.

If you have not received this email or if you have any questions, please contact Mr Nagle via email on [j.nagle@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto:j.nagle@thegrange.futureacademies.org).

## Assessment

When we return from the Christmas break, students in Year 7, 8, 9, and 10 will have assessments. We encourage all students to take these exams seriously, and know that children (and parents) often find them a stressful time, spurred on by the want to be successful. It should also be recognised that doing exams themselves actually helps with the learning process, and that the children can only try their best.

Most assessments will take place on the following dates:

**Year 7 and Year 10, week commencing 10 January**

**Year 8 and Year 9, week commencing 24 January**

It is important to take time to relax and share moments with family and friends over the break, but it is also important to do some preparation. Resources can be found on:

- Google Classroom for all subjects (students can log on using their school accounts)
- Eedi Maths (google it and log in with students' school google login)
- HegartyMaths (google it, choose school name, and complete details)
- Seneca Learning (google it, and login with your class code)
- GCSE pod (for year 10, google it and log in with students' school google log in)

**Good luck everyone**







# Student Voice

This term the Student Voice has completed a variety of tasks to improve the school and create improved links with community users. Below is just a summary of their impact so far.

**Charity Work** - this term we have raised £2,200 for Children in Need and Herts Young Homeless. This was through a non-uniform day, an incredible bake sale which raised £500 and Christmas Jumper day. This makes a great start towards our target of raising £10,000 by the end of the academic year.



**Kindness** - as part of our Character work to be kind, students donated over 700 food items for the local Food Bank in Watford - the photo above shows the fantastic array of foods that will help vulnerable community users over the Christmas break. Staff and students also donated mountains of clothes which are being distributed to local charity shops in the New Year.

**Peer on Peer Abuse** - all tutor groups contributed towards a "Student Charter" which clarifies how the students at The Grange want us to approach Peer on Peer Abuse as a community. The Student Voice have refined over 150 initial ideas into a supportive and inclusive Charter that will be published in the New Year.

## Dates for your diary

Friday 17 December	Last Day of term – students finish at 12.00 noon
Wednesday 5 January	Staff only INSET day
Thursday 6 January	Spring Term starts for Year 10, 11 and 12
Friday 7 January	Spring Term starts for Years 7, 8, 9 and 13
w/c Monday 10 January	DCP1 Assessments for Year 7 and Year 10
Tuesday 18 January	Year 12 and Year 13 Parents Evening
w/c Monday 24 January	DCP1 Assessments for Year 8 and Year 9
w/c Monday 7 February	Year 11 Mocks
Thursday 10 February	Year 10 Parents Evening
Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February	Half term holiday

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