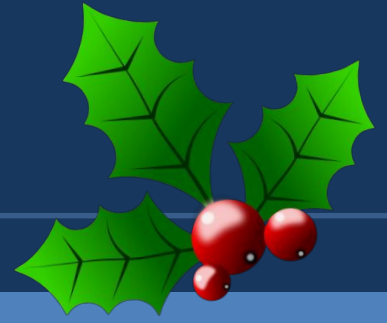




NUNTII GRANICAE

ISSUE 24 • DECEMBER 2022



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME Dr Philip Hills

One of our key values at The Grange is 'Aspiration', a theme which flows through this newsletter. Our Year 9 students were inspired by their visit to Balliol College, Oxford to follow in the footsteps of Bhavini Patel, who went up to Oxford to read Chemistry recently. Our older pupils have been inspired by the 'Soaring to Success' programme, which encourages young people to understand the opportunities offered in the aerospace and aviation sector.

Our Accelerated Reader programme goes from strength to strength, developing a love of reading, particularly at KS3. In the New Year please do encourage your child to borrow books from our wonderful Learning Resource Centre and do ask them questions about what they are reading.

If your children are at a loose end over the break, GCSE Pod has some superbly entertaining resources both for exam revision and general enlightenment. It is available for all year groups, not just Years 10 & 11.

There have been some marvellous sporting performances in recent weeks in Football and Rugby. Girls' football in particular, goes from strength to strength. The girls' cross country team can claim the bragging rights, however, as they scooped the District Cross Country Championship! Many congratulations on a great team performance. Plaudits are due also to the Year 8 Rugby Boys on their District Festival win.

Finally, all of our pupils and staff enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch, provided free by Future Academies on Wednesday. It was very well received; a big 'thank you' to the Cucina team and to all the staff who made the day such a success.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.

THE GRANGE ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER

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

@thegrangebushey



Year 9 visit to Balliol College, Oxford

On Thursday 10th November Balliol College Oxford hosted Y9 students for a second time.

Jack, the college outreach officer, met us outside the Ashmolean Museum in the centre of the city and took us through the winding streets of Oxford to Balliol College.

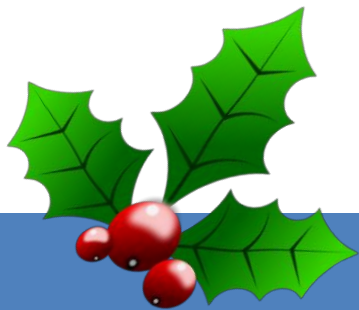
Students were given a tour of the college by 1st year undergraduates with many of our students "grilling" them with questions focusing on student life at Oxford.

It was then time to move onto one of the college buildings where Jack spoke about what to expect when applying to university and the support that Balliol College offers its students.

Lunch was served in the College Hall - the venue has the look and feel of a Harry Potter set! We then took a stroll around the local area taking in the world famous Bodleian Library and the oldest buildings that make up the university. We also stopped by a church that was an inspiration for C.S Lewis while writing *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*.

Back at Balliol College, students were divided into groups and given a discussion exercise. This proved to be one of the high points of the day with many contrasting opinions being voiced and debated. The objective of the exercise is to help students develop understanding of a particular area and to become comfortable speaking about it with their peer group.

This was the final part of our day and we returned to school with great memories and new aspirations.



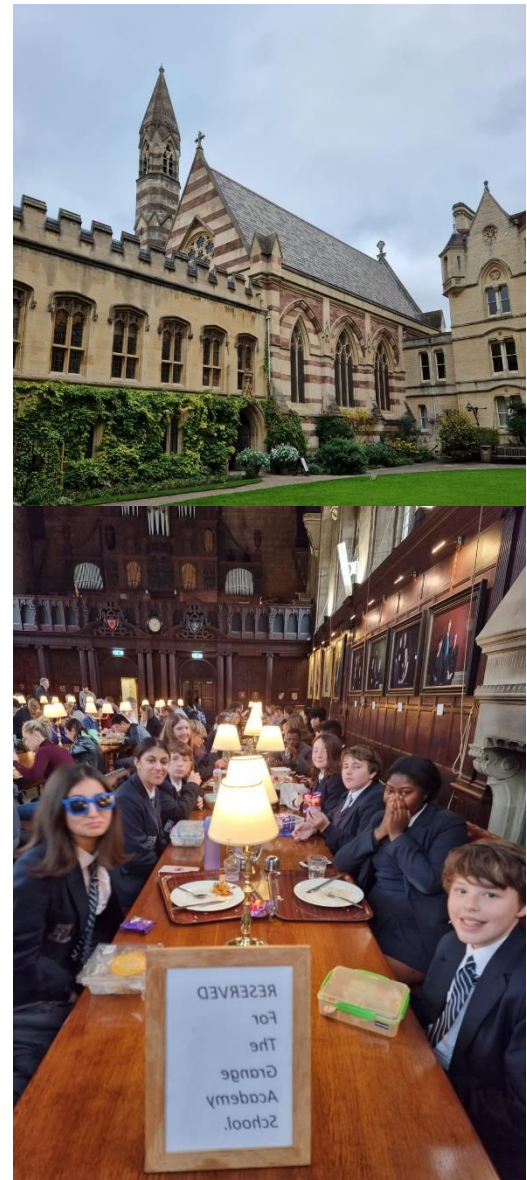
Soaring to Success

In late November, students from Years 11, 12 and 13 started their journey on the Soaring to Success programme.

Soaring to Success is a careers enrichment programme that bridges the gap between education and industry. It aims to inspire, enable, and support the next generation to consider a career within aviation and aerospace.

Our students took part in a virtual careers conference that was split into 2 hour sessions over 4 days. Students were able to engage with speakers from British Airways, Airbus, Boeing, BAE Systems and several other leading UK and worldwide organisations, who gave an insight into the distinct career opportunities across the broad scope of the aviation and aerospace industries. It is not just pilot training or cabin crew!

Students will continue on the programme with online modules and, once these have been completed, they will have the opportunity to visit Elstree Airport in the summer term for a full day of aviation experiences including piloting a glider!



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Reading for Year 7, 8 and 9

All students should be reading for at least 20 minutes every day. This will improve their literacy skills which will help them in every single subject at school.

To support this, all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are taking part in the Accelerated Reader programme. This is an online reading programme which measures students' progress in reading.

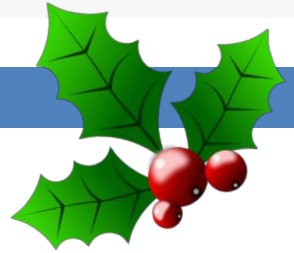
When your child finishes a book, they should complete the quiz on Accelerated Reader to check their understanding of the text. The programme will then suggest books at the right level for your child to improve their reading skills. Many of these books are available in our school library.

All students have had one reading lesson per week since September to support the improvement in their reading skills. All students are familiar with using this software.

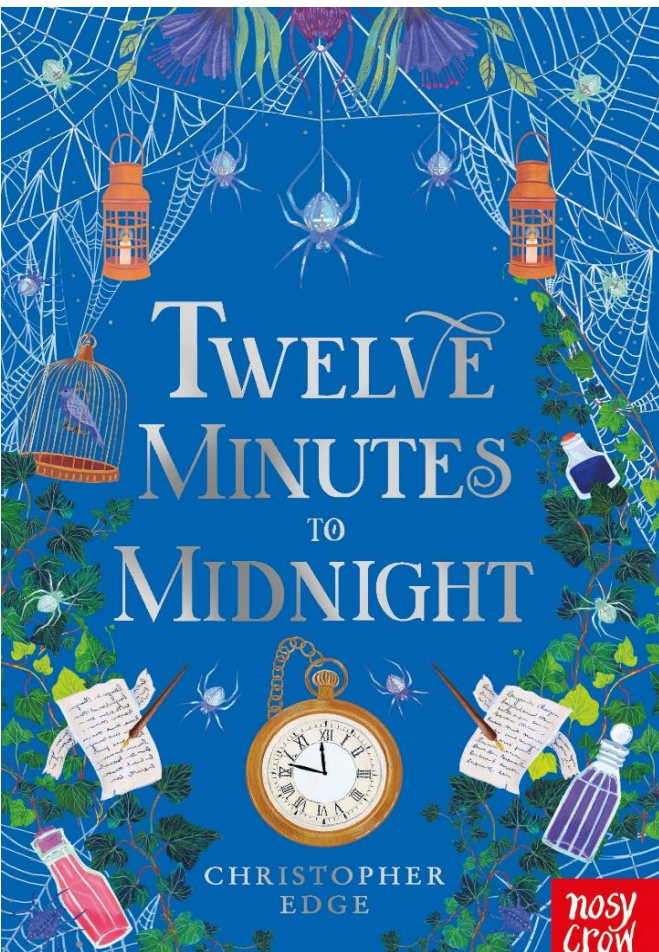
Our school link to the software is

<https://ukhosted148.renlearn.co.uk/2240248/>

Please support your child by encouraging them to read every day in the holidays and to complete the online quiz at home when they finish a book.



The Grange Reads



Every issue will include a review of a book available to borrow in our fantastic Learning Resource Centre (LRC). New books are available from different genres of fiction - here is our top recommendation.

Twelve Minutes to Midnight By Christopher Edge

In 1899, thirteen year old orphan Penelope Tredwell is the author, editor and sole proprietor of London's most popular magazine, *The Penny Dreadful*, concealing her true identity behind the pseudonym Montgomery Flinch. But when she receives a strange letter addressed to Flinch, Penelope finds herself drawn into a real-life adventure as thrilling as any she pens for the pages of her magazine.

Every night at precisely twelve minutes to midnight, the inmates of Bedlam, London's notorious madhouse, all begin feverishly writing - incoherent ramblings that Penelope quickly realises are in fact terrifying visions of the new century to come. But what is causing this strange phenomenon?

Remember, the LRC is open before and after school and during break and lunch if you need a place to complete your homework.

@thegrangebushy



SPORT UPDATE

Sport	Vs	Result	Star of the Match	Scorers
U15 Girls Football	Bushey Meads	Won 5-0	Sophie	Ella x2, Flic, Mia and Emiley
U13 Girls Football	Bushey Meads	Drew 2-2	Isabella	Lanie x2
Year 8 Boys Football	Laurete	Won 4-0	Alfie	Harrison, Tyler, Micah and Jack D
Year 8 Boys Football	Futures Watford	Won 5-0	Tyler	Tyler x2, Micah, Alfie and Harrison
Year 9 Boys Football	Westfield	Lost 1-4	Charlie	Sonny
U13 Girls Football Club	St Joan of Arc	Lost 0-7	Jess	
Year 8 Boys Football	Queens	Lost 2-8	Kaila	Micah and Harrison
Year 7 Girls Cross Country	District	13th	Imogen	
Year 7 Boys Cross Country	District	11th	Stanley	
Year 9 Boys Cross Country	District	11th	Josh	
Year 9 Girls Cross Country	District	12th	Ella	
Year 7 Boys Football	Immanuel	Won 7-0	Dragos	Rauf x3, Stanley x2, Harrison, OG
U13 Girls Football	6aside Tournament	3rd	Jess H	
Year 9 Boys Football	Croxley Danes	Lost 0-6	Sonny	
Year 7 Boys Football	District 6aside Tournament	3rd	Rauf	
Year 8 Boys Rugby	District Tournament	1st place	Ben	Ben, Connor, Rowan, Bryan, Micah, Luis, Alex, Alfie , Charlie
Year 8 Girls Cross Country	District	12th	Jess H	
Year 8 Boys Cross Country	District	13th	Georgie	
Year 10 Boys Cross Country	District	7th	Femi	
Year 10 Girls Cross Country	District	9th	Emiley	
Year 10 Boys Football	Future Academies Watford	Lost 0-2	Scott	
Year 7 Girls Football	Laureate	Won 2-0	Rosie	Summer and Rosie
Year 7 Girls Football	Future Academies Watford	Drew 0-0	Lucia	
Year 7 Girls Football	Barclay Academy	Lost 0-2	Isabella	
U13 Girls Football	Watford FC County Tournament	8th	Kaila	Lanie x2
Year 10 Boys Football	Immanuel	Won 5-1	Scott	Harry, Finley, Jake, Ashton and Scott
Year 7 Boys Rugby	District Tournament	2nd	Harrison	Rauf x6 and Stanley x2
Seniors Boys Football	Immanuel	Drew 2-2	Ethan	Becaye and Bradley
Year 7 Girls Netball	Bushey Meads	Won 14-6	Imogen	
Year 8 Girls Netball	Bushey Meads	Won 14-6	Daisy	
Year 9 Girls Netball	Bushey Meads	Lost 17-18	Che	
Year 10 Girls Netball	Bushey Meads	Lost 10-14	Amelia	
Year 8 Boys Football	John Warner	Won 8-2	Georgie	Harrison x3, Georgie x3, Micah x2,
Year 8 Boys Football	Parmiters	Drew 3-3	Micah	Micah x2, Lewis
Year 7 Table Tennis	District Tournament	2nd	Mason	
Year 10 Table Tennis	District Tournament	2nd	Nigel	
Year 8 Table Tennis	District Tournament	2nd	Charlie C	
Year 9 Table Tennis	District Tournament	4th	Edin	
Year 10 Girls Netball	Queens	Lost 5-15	Vas	
Year 11 Boys Football	St Joan of Arc	Lost 0-3	Raul	
Year 8 Boys Football	Croxley Danes	Lost 1-5	Jack	Zaine
Year 9 Boys Football	Bushey Meads	Lost 4-5	Reece	Reece x2, Myran and Brandon
Year 9 Girls Football	Laureate	Drew 1-1	Flick	Mia
Year 9 Girls Football	Future Academies Watford	Drew 1-1	Ella	Flick
Year 8 Girls Football	Samuel Ryder	Lost 0-2	Phoebe	
Year 11 Boys Football	Bushey Meads	Won 5-2	Jordan	Luke x2, Jayden, Zaidan, Casey
Year 8 Girls Football	Barclay Academy	Lost 0-4	Kaila	
Year 8 Girls Football	Future Academies Watford	Lost 0-2	Kaila	
Year 8 Girls Football	Laureate	Drew 0-0	Kaila	



Supporter to Reporter: TGA Year 9 vs Bushey Meads

The Grange Academy played their rivals Bushey Meads on Friday the 2nd of December. The score was 5-4 to Bushey Meads but the Grange put up a great fight. Reece scored a beautiful goal after running down the line, through the whole team and chipped it over the top. He then set the ball to Brandon who took it past the keeper with his weak foot and scored an exceptional goal. Reece scored two, Brandon scored one and so did Myran with a great assist from Kalem. Brandon had 2 assists, both to Reece.

The man of the match was Reece for his great performance and Jack saved several goals. Overall, a great, exciting, high tempo and enjoyable game with great performances from both teams.

Edin, Year 9

Supporter to Reporter: TGA vs John Warner

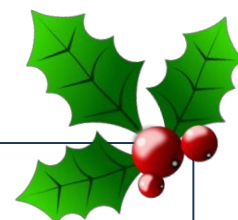


23 November 2022

Today the Year 8 football team played against John Warner school and won 8-2, taking them to the next round of the Cup.

Player of the match, Georgie scored 3, Harrison also got three and Micah scored two.

Kaila, Year 8



Cross Country District Champions

For the first time, TGA entered the District Cross Country Championships. This involves Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 across two dates.

Pupils put in 100% effort and showed great resilience to run some difficult races. We are very proud to see pupils wanting to represent the school. A special shout out to Emiley in Year 10 who came 5th out of 100.

After a successful performance we have agreed to add a House Cross Country competition for next academic year in October. With entries in every year group including Year 11. #teamGrange



District Rugby Festival Champions

Year 8 won the district rugby festival held at Watford Rugby Club on Tuesday 15th November. Our pupils put in so much effort throughout the tournament. It was run superbly in a round robin format.

We won 4 games against Queens, St Joan of Arc, Bushey Meads and Reach Free. We drew with Croxley Danes.

Stand out performances from all the pupils involved. Great tries from a range of pupils including Micah Rowan, Alex, Ben, Charlie, Connor Alfie and Brian.

Ben was our stand out player, who dominated every game he played.

Training is open to all on a Monday. We also have a special session run by Saracens on a Wednesday, if interested please let your PE teacher know.



Student Conduct

It has been great this half term to hear positive stories from members of the public regarding student manners, kindness and behaviour in the local community.

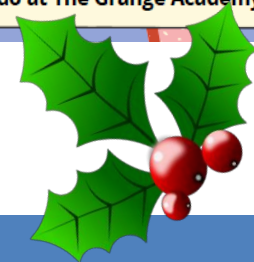
This has also been the case in school where we have seen further development and improvements in student behaviour. This is shown through an increase in Achievement points, lower numbers of students in detention and an increase in student culture and aspiration to be successful.

These changes have come about through our work this term on bullying and giving students further methods to report any concerns they have through icanreport@thegrange.futureacademies.org.

We have also continued to focus on the use of STEPS - to develop student manners and respect and SLANT - to ensure that students are fully focused in lessons.

In the corridors we have introduced a system of walking on the left and a mantra that students should be purposeful, calm and punctual when moving through the school building. Alongside this we have increased the sanction for being late to lessons - this means that if students are more than 5 minutes late to a lesson without a valid reason then they receive an afterschool Academy detention. This has made a huge difference and we will be continuing with this in January.

We would like to thank all parents for their support of our drive to improve standards - your communication and views on this are welcome and can be shared further in a parent survey that will be sent in January.



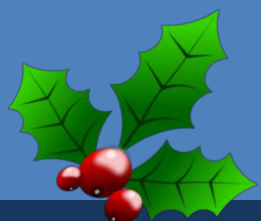
Cycle Safely to School – wear a helmet

We are aware that many students travel to school by bike. This is great and we encourage this over using cars and public transport.

As a school, it is compulsory for students riding bikes to school to wear a safety helmet.

Please check that your child has the correct helmet and wears this if they ride to school in the New Year.

Students not wearing cycle helmets will be asked to find another mode of transport to travel to and from school.



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Academy Closure in Case of Severe Weather

Below is a reminder of the academy's contingency plan in the event of the need to close in an emergency, such as in severe weather conditions and where there are concerns over the safety of our students and staff travelling to the academy and moving around the academy site.

In the event of closure, the details will be communicated via:

- Text message and email to main contact numbers of parents/carers held by the academy (*Please update the academy if your contact details have changed or you have a new email address*).
- The academy website www.thegrange.futureacademies.org

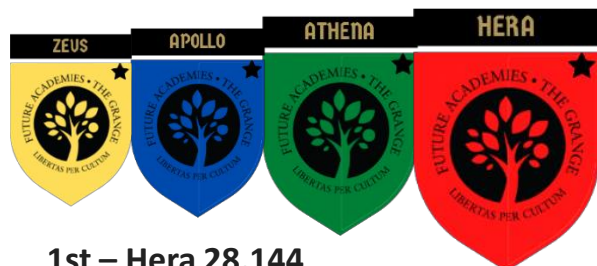
Further updates and relevant contingency plans will also be communicated via above as appropriate.

In the event of an early closure and the decision being made to send students home during the academy day, the academy will be vacated as soon as possible. Please ensure, therefore, that you adequately plan with your child a safe travel plan to reach home, or an alternative agreed destination.

If public exams are due to be held on the day of closure we will do everything we can to ensure the exams are not disrupted.



House Points Update



1st – Hera 28,144
2nd – Athena 26,266
3rd – Apollo 24,558
4th – Zeus 24,128

A reminder that all students have access to the brilliant resource – GCSE Pod.

Year 11 students in particular may want to spend some time over the holidays, revising and plugging some knowledge gaps.

Keep those brains active!

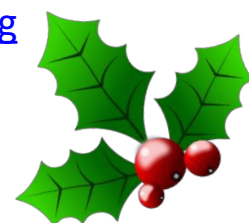


icanreport – helping students to report bullying & concerns

Just a reminder of the new communication method for students to report bullying and concerns that they might have for themselves or their peers.

This is an anonymous email address: icanreport@thegrange.futureacademies.org

We would encourage students to use this communication during the holidays as well as term time should they want to report issues without speaking to an adult face to face.



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Fundraising Update

In November students at The Grange participated in Children in Need Day as our first charity event raising money towards our £10,000 annual target.

Students were encouraged to wear non-school uniform and this raised an incredible £950. Staff and students also donated cakes and through a marathon cake sale we raised a further £550, making a grand total of **£1,500** - a really pleasing start and it was great to see so many students take part and help in the fund raising activities.

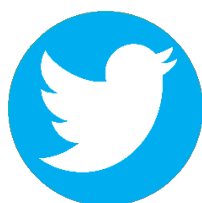
This year our students have decided to raise money for **Children in Need** as the National charity and **Watford Food Bank** to support local people.



Dates for your diary

Friday 16 December	Last day of term
Monday 19 December to Monday 2 January	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 3 January	INSET DAY
Wednesday 4 January	Term starts for all students
Tuesday 10 January	Year 12 and Year 13 Parents Evening
W/C Monday 16 January	Years 7-10 Mid Year Reports sent to Parents
Thursday 26 January	Year 10 GCSE Exams Evening
Thursday 9 February	Year 10 Parents Evening
Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February	Half Term Holiday
Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April	Easter Holiday

Our thanks to Cucina for an amazing Christmas Lunch



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