



# NUNTII GRANICAE

ISSUE 29 • JULY 2023

THE GRANGE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Danny Bryant

As we come to the end of the academic year, I am delighted to be writing in the newsletter for the first time as Principal at The Grange Academy. It is a privilege for me to join the school at a time when so many fantastic activities, trips and events have taken place. Highlights have included Sports Day, Y6 Transition events and award evenings. These events have provided me with an insight into the huge potential that exists within the school and the opportunities that such a vibrant and diverse community of students, parents, and staff create. The learning that takes place at The Grange and the academic progress of our students will always remain a priority. However, our school is not just a place of learning; it is a place where students will discover their potential, cultivate their aspirations and be provided with the knowledge to obtain ***Libertas per Cultum (freedom through education)***. I hope you will enjoy reading the last newsletter of the academic year as much as I have. Reading over the events of the last term will hopefully provide excitement for the coming September and next academic year, where we already have an array of educational and extracurricular activities planned. From engaging classroom experiences to sports events, cultural celebrations, and community initiatives, there will be plenty of opportunities for all of our student and for home and the academy to work together in support of the school community. I invite you all to actively participate in school events and engage with us in creating a fulfilling and enriching experience for our students. Your support and involvement play a crucial role in their overall development. We will be launching our Parent Working Group in the Autumn term, with our first scheduled coffee morning event scheduled for Tuesday 19 September. I hope as many of you as possible can attend. Please make sure to keep an eye on our termly newsletters moving forward alongside letters and correspondence from the school, which will provide updates on school activities, important announcements, and any changes to the calendar. Our school website and social media platforms will also be great resources for staying connected with us. I am excited about the journey ahead and look forward to working closely with each one of you.

On Friday 30 June, 125 students from Years 7-10 volunteered to complete a challenge of a lifetime. They pledged to try and raise £20 each by completing a sponsored walk over 26 miles (marathon distance) in one day across London. The group met at 6.00am at school and were soon at the first checkpoint at Wembley Stadium. From here the group made their way down the Grand Union Canal and arrived around lunchtime at Lords Cricket Ground where England were playing Australia in the Ashes. From here we took lunch in Regents Park and then walked to Camden Market and Kings Cross arriving at Victoria Park in East London at 5.00pm. This was the 20 mile point and many of the group (adults included) were struggling at this stage. We refreshed ourselves with Jaffa cakes and bananas and with a renewed spirit completed the final 6 miles reaching our destination at Tower Bridge at 8.30pm. 118 of the students that started made it to the finish line. Probably even more impressive than the walk was the amazing sponsor money that the students then collected. By the end of term we have a final figure of donations of **£5,750**, smashing the £2,000 target - this will be shared between the three charities chosen by the students (Herts Young Homeless, Ukraine Appeal, Great Ormond Street Children's charity).

**Congratulations to all who took part, they should wear their medals for finishing and fundraising with pride.**

## 26 Mile Sponsored Walk

**£5,750**



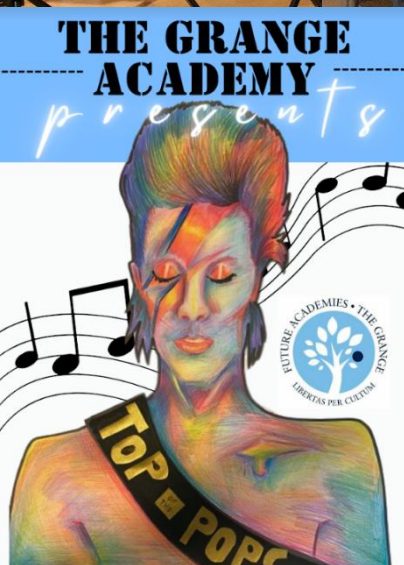
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# The Music Department is back!

A huge thank you to all the students, parents, carers and members of staff who took part in or helped support the Top of the Pops events. It was, as I am sure all of you are very much aware, a resounding success!

**Miss Anderson, Head of Music & Drama**



## TOP OF THE POPS CONCERTS

**Just a reminder of the repertoire and who performed**

**Warm up: Carlos**

**Narrator: Riley**

### 1960s – DJs Eloise & Rosa

1. You Really Got Me – The Kinks (Year 9: Harvey)
2. Paint it Black – Rolling Stones (Year 9: Mayra)
3. Day Tripper – The Beatles (Year 7: Chloe)
4. Day Dream Believer – The Monkees (Year 7: Joy)
5. California Dreamin – Mama's & the Papas (Year 9: Claudia & Choir)

### 1970s – DJs Charlie & Connor

6. Starman – David Bowie (Year 9: KeN-ya)
7. Dancing Queen – Abba (Year 9: Janka & Year 7: Rachel)
8. Stayin Alive – Bee Gees (Year 9: Claudia)
9. You're My Best Friend – Queen (Year 7: Ava)
10. Baker Street – Gerry Rafferty (Year 9: Jazmin)

### 1980s – DJs Georgiana & Riley

11. Don't You Want Me Baby – Human League (Year 8: Harry & Year 13: Hannah)
12. Wake Me Up – Wham! (Year 8: Lilly)
13. Rio – Duran Duran (Year 12: Isabelle)
14. Material Girl – Madonna (Year 7: Isabella)
15. Billie Jean – Michael Jackson (Year 7: Kaiden)

### 1990s – DJs Edin & Femi

16. Under the Bridge – Red Hot Chilli Peppers (Year 13: Charlie)
17. Don't Look Back in Anger – Oasis (Year 13: Hannah)
18. Parklife – Blur (Year 9: Wesley/Sonny)
19. Wannabe – Spice Girls (Year 9: KeN-ya & Grace (Ginger), Blessing (Scary), Afrika (Posh), Elsie (Baby), Scarlett (Sporty))
20. I'll Be Missing You – Faith Evans & P.Diddy (Year 12: Sean-Phillip & Year 9: Mayra)

### 2000s – DJs Lanie & Daisy

21. Yellow – Coldplay (Year 7: Siham)
22. Can't Get You Outta my Head – Kylie Minogue (Year 11: Jellien)
23. Crazy – G.Barkley (Year 8: Grace)
24. Hey Ya – Outcast (Year 12: Sean-Phillip)
25. Don't Stop Movin – S Club 7 (Year 7: Nicole, Isabella, Joy, Siham)
26. \*Encore: THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC – Abba (Year 7: Ava)

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# Music

*"What a wonderful concert last night. Many congratulations to you and everyone who participated both front and back of house. It was so lovely to see the joy on the students' faces and I loved the way that you mixed the age groups. Their admiration and gratitude towards you at the end was clearly so heartfelt."*

*"One of the most important life skills we teach our students is having confidence. That can come from academic attainment, debating, sports, and music. The Grange is on the right track."*

*"I loved the enthusiasm of your wonderful students, and I thought the maturity they showed whilst clearly enjoying every part of the evening was absolutely fantastic. You must feel very proud, and although I am sure you and your team of helpers are a bit tired today I trust you are all buzzing on your success!"*

*"All absolutely outstanding and absolute credit to you and The Grange. Well done, you've outdone yourself and you must all be so proud."*



Special thanks to Mia (Year 10) for her amazing artwork  
and  
Connie in Year 13 for designing the Programme.



# Music

## BUSHEY FESTIVAL IN THE PARK

Due to the success of our Top of the Pop Concerts we were invited to open the "Festival in the Park" on Sunday 9th July on the MAIN STAGE! I was able to take a select group of singers who excelled and displayed such confidence. I'm sure you would all agree that this was a golden opportunity to perform in front of the Bushey Community. Mr Sayer and myself got to play electric violin for this event so we were really excited to be part of this too.



## BEAUMONT CARE HOME

And it does not stop there, on Monday 17 July, we performed for residents at the Beaumont Care Home in Bushey. This was a real privilege for us all, and as well as performing, our students really enjoyed the opportunity to have a chat with the residents, finding out the music they liked and what they enjoyed doing. The performances were very well received and we look forward to visiting again soon.



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# Classics

## Year 10 Classics Trip to the British Museum

On Tuesday 4th July, 44 Year 10s spent the day in the British Museum exploring some of the wonders kept there. A key element of the day was seeing the Elgin Marbles from the Parthenon in Athens, not only a significant cultural item but also one of the GCSE prescribed sources. It was great to hear reports back from British Museum staff that our Year 10s were asking lots of interesting questions about choices made by the ancient sculptors but also about modern careers in museums; we even had some students correct the tour guide!



There was also a very competitive challenge where students had to locate different items from around the museum and take photographs of them as quickly as possible, from the god of music and medicine, Apollo, to a libation bowl used in ancient Greek sacrifices.

Finally, students enjoyed having time to explore other parts of the museum, following a guide produced by the British Museum on LGBTQ+ history.



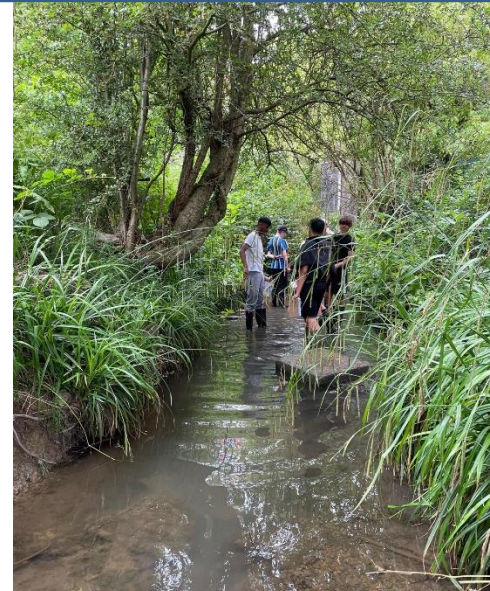
# Geography

## Year 10 Field Trips

This term, the year 10 geographers took part in two field trips. This is a really important aspect of their geography course, where students investigate both the physical and human world they live in.

The first trip was to Debden Brook, near Epping Forest in Essex. Here, students investigated how a river changes as it flows downstream. The students took measurements of the width, depth and velocity at different sites, as well as looking at how geology and soil affect the likely flood risk in the area.

The second trip was to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford, London. This time, students were investigating whether the regeneration (that started as a result of the London 2012 Olympics and is still ongoing today) has caused increased inequality in the area. They looked at a regenerated site and a non-regenerated site and compared the similarities and differences between the two.





# Sport Update



## Sports Day 2023



A fantastic day that truly showed the school values of knowledge, aspiration and respect.

The weather conditions were awful, but our students competed as though it were any other day and were phenomenal. The fun runs were a highlight of the day with some great fancy dress costumes, all done in good spirits. New events - the 60m and 'wellie throwing' were outstanding and the commitment from our students to be the best they can be, was amazing.

We would like to thank the record number of parents that braved the weather to support the day; staff for working through and participating in an entertaining tug of war which saw the rope break! Finally, the students who were fully on board with the spirit of the school community.

The new star performance awards were very difficult to select, as so many went above and beyond. We had to have winners though, who were:

Year 7 – Isabella  
Year 8 – Harrison,  
Year 9 – Ella  
Year 10 Femi

**Hera won Year 7, 8, 9, 10 Girls**  
**Zeus won Year 7 Boys**  
**Hera won Year 9, Boys**  
**Apollo won Year 10 Boys**

## Overall Winners: HERA



## County Schools Athletics Championships

On Saturday 10th June we attended the County Schools Athletics Championships at Jarman Park in Hemel Hempstead. It was a fantastic day and our pupils did us proud. We would like to congratulate Emiley Axtell who came 3rd in the under 17 age group at High Jump. This was against a strong field of students from other schools who are in the year above Emiley. It's an outstanding achievement. Emiley also came 4th in the 300m after coming 2nd in her heat.

## The Grange Academy Fantasy Football

Congratulations to our winner Mr Denley, who beat 78 people in The Grange Academy Fantasy Football 22/23 league. The 78 participants consisted of current and ex pupils, parents and staff. We had Manager of the Month winners, including pupils in each key stage, staff, parents and even children of staff members. (Well done Seth). We will be running a Fantasy League for 23/24. If you would like to take part, it is free to do so and the code is <https://fantasy.premierleague.com/leagues/auto-join/0kbadk>



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# Sport Update

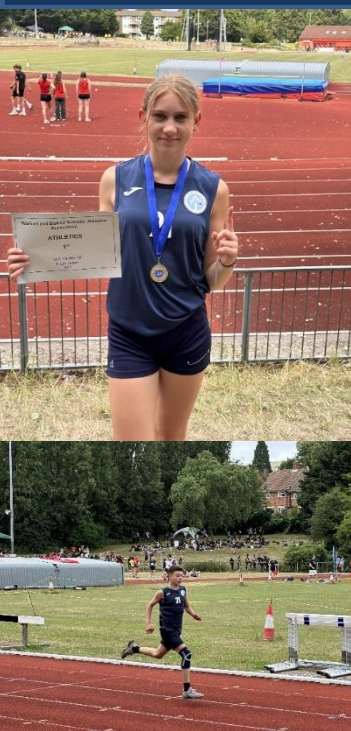
## District Athletics Championships 2023

The Grange Academy finished 3rd in the B league this year. A fantastic achievement overcoming some strong schools to finish in a podium position. Each Year group had their own teams with some fantastic stand out performances.

Below are some of the individual successes.

- ❖ Connor in Year 8 won the Discus
- ❖ Emiley won the Year 10 High Jump
- ❖ Edin in Year 9 came 2nd in Discus
- ❖ Ella in Year 9 came 2nd in the 300m
- ❖ Layla in Year 7 came 3rd in Shot Put
- ❖ Zaine in Year 8 came 3rd in High Jump
- ❖ Chloe in Year 10 came 4th in 100m

It's been a fantastic season and we congratulate every student that took part. They have been a credit to sport and the academy.



## Sport Awards 2023

Our first ever Sport Awards event took place on Wednesday 19 July. A night to celebrate all the sporting achievement across all the sport clubs, including an overall sports team of the year and sports personality of the year. Families were entertained with student performances in gymnastics, cheerleading and dance. As well as some live music from the music department during the reception, students and parents were treated to ice creams.



Our special guest was ex pupil, Jordan Roberts. Jordan currently plays for Stevenage FC and he spoke about the success that physical education had bought him. In addition, students who had represented three teams this academic year received a special badge for their blazer which shows their commitment to the Grange and Academy Sport.

### The winners are:

Team of the Year Nominees: Year 8 Basketball, Year 9 Basketball, Under 16 Girls Athletics, Senior Football

**Team of The Year 2023 Winner - Year 7 Boys Football**

Sports Personality Nominees: - Stanley, Harrison, Phoebe, Kaila

**Sports Personality 2023 Winner: - Emiley**

**Girls Football – Mia, Year 9**

**Boys Football – Stanley, Year 7**

**Netballer of the Year – Phoebe, Year 7**

**Basketballer of the Year – Zaine, Year 8**

**Rounders Player of the Year – Kiara, Year 7**

**Rugby Player of the Year – Ben, Year 8**

**Cricketer of the Year – Sonny, Year 9**

**Girls Athletics – Chloe, Year 10**

**Boys Athletics – Lucas, Year 10**

**GCSE Star – Amelia, Year 10**

**A Level Star – Dylan, Year 10**



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# Sixth Form

We have had a busy final term in sixth form with lots of end of year activities. On Tuesday 22 June all of Year 12 attended a fair at Bedfordshire University, meeting a wide range of university and apprenticeship providers to gain an insight into their future options. The students were active and engaged throughout the day, asking questions and picking up prospectuses to help them in their planning for their post 18 choices.

The following week all of Year 12 took part in a week of work experience. From working with charities to primary schools, hospitals to Ocado, media production to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, our students took on a wide range of placements across Bushey and beyond. We were impressed by their enthusiasm and participation, gaining valuable skills for life.

Finally, during the last week of term our sixth form students have been busy at the academy. There have been personal statement workshops, a Year 6 transition day to support and a wonderful sports day, where despite the rain, our Year 12 students got involved and supported staff in making it a fantastic experience for our younger students.

Year 12 have proven themselves to be wonderful role models and will lead the academy with pride as they transition into Year 13 in September.

## The Grange Reads ....



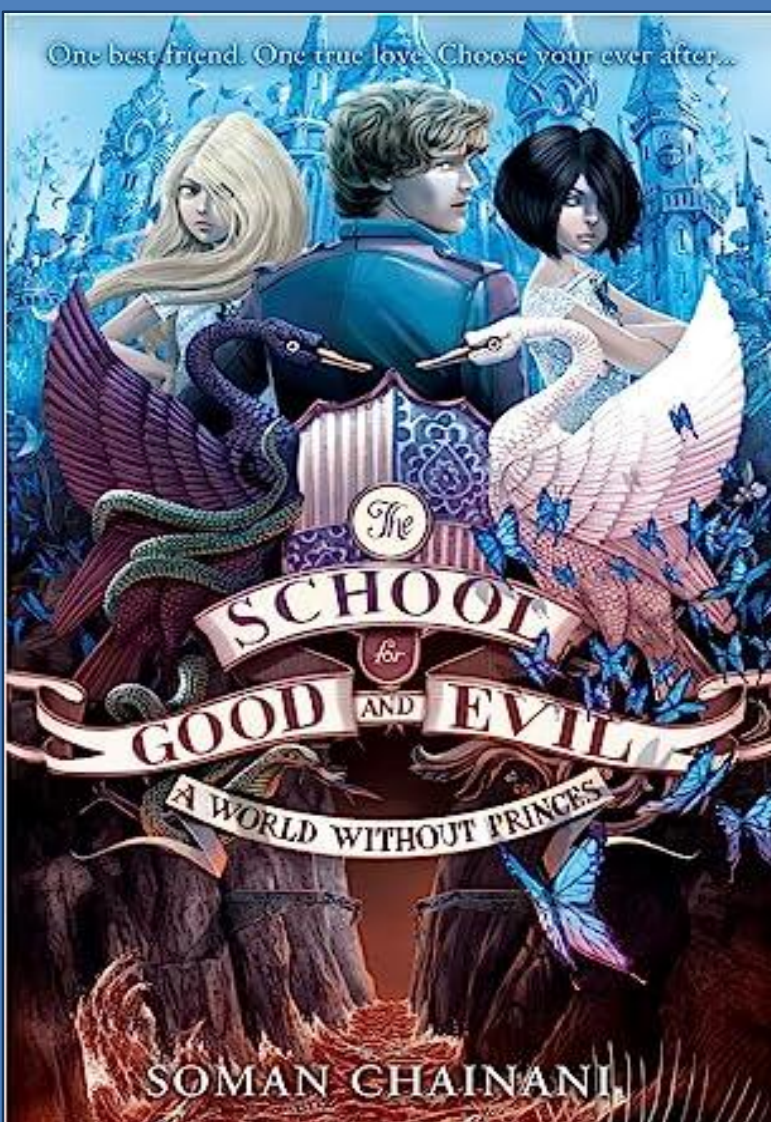
Every issue we include a review of a book available to borrow in our fantastic Learning Resource Centre (LRC). New books are available from different genres of fiction - here is our top recommendation.

### **The School for Good and Evil A World Without Princes by Soman Chainani**

It's all happy ever after at the School for Good and Evil... or is it? After saving themselves and their fellow students from a life pitched against one another, Sophie and Agatha are back home again, living out their Happily Ever After. But life isn't quite the fairy tale they expected... Witches and princesses reside at the School for Girls, where they've been inspired to live a life without princes, while Tedros and the boys are camping in Evil's old towers. A war is brewing between the schools, but can Agatha and Sophie restore the peace? Can Sophie stay good with Tedros on the hunt? And whose heart does Agatha's belong to – her best friend or her prince?

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

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# Year 11 Prom



## What an amazing night!

The Year 11 Prom was a brilliant celebration. Students dressed to impress and all looked stunning in their formal attire. The venue was beautifully decorated and the food was delicious, creating a wonderful atmosphere. The students danced the night away and socialised with each other, creating unforgettable memories they will cherish for years to come. Many, many photos were taken! It was a joy for staff to see them having such a great time.





# icanreport

## Helping students to report bullying & concerns

Just a reminder of the 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@thegrangefutureacademies.org](mailto:icanreport@thegrangefutureacademies.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.

# CONNECT



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@GrangeAcademyPE



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## Dates for your diary

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Friday 1 September                             | INSET Day – school closed to students  |
| Monday 4 September                             | INSET Day – school closed to students  |
| Tuesday 5 September<br>Year 7                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term begins for Year 7</li> <li>Year 11 and Year 13 students/parents invited in for academic review meetings only. Appointment times to be shared before summer break</li> </ul>                        |
| Wednesday 6 September<br>Year 7/10/12          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term begins for Year 10 and Year 12 students.</li> <li>Year 11 and Year 13 students/parents invited in for academic review meetings only. Appointment times to be shared before summer break</li> </ul> |
| Thursday 7 September<br>Year 7/8/9/10/11/12/13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term begins for Year 8, Year 9, Year 11, and Year 13 students.</li> <li>Induction/Welcome sessions for all students</li> </ul>  |
| Friday 8 September                             | Normal school day for all year groups.   |
| Tuesday 19 September                           | Parent Working Group   |
| Monday 25 September                            | Year 7 Meet the Tutor  |
| Tuesday 26 September                           | Open Evening   |
| Wednesday 27 September                         | Year 7 Bushcraft Trip  |
| Monday 2 October                               | Year 7 Bushcraft Trip  |
| Tuesday 3 October                              | Open Morning   |
| Thursday 5 October                             | Open Morning   |
| w/c 16 October                                 | Culture Week   |

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