



# NUNTII GRANICAE

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THE GRANGE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

What a term it has been at The Grange Academy. From remarkable sporting triumphs to engaging university events and a spectacular Christmas production, our school has truly been a hive of energy and accomplishment.

Once again the exceptional dedication, skill, **respect**, and sportsmanship demonstrated by our students has not gone unnoticed. We have celebrated victories in football and rugby, including qualifying for the Trust national finals and district rugby wins for Year 7 and Year 8 boys! There is no doubt our students would have learned from the challenges faced together as a team.

Alongside our enrichment activities, which included **aspirational** university trips for our KS5 students, Yr9 Enterprise Day, and the Yr 8 Stock Market Challenge, the students have also been working hard in preparation for their first set of assessments. Well done to Yr7, Yr9, Yr11, and Yr13 who completed their assessments this term. For Yr8, Yr10, and Yr12, please continue with your preparations for your assessments due to take place over the first few weeks after Christmas. They have been and will continue to be an opportunity for students to demonstrate the **knowledge** they have, and highlight to themselves and us where there is still work to do!

The festive season has been brought to life by our talented students through a spellbinding Christmas production. The stage came alive with the spirit of the holidays as our performers of students, ex-students, and staff showcased their creativity and passion. The production has not only been a source of joy for our school community but also a testament to The Grange Academy's commitment to being an incredible place to go to because we do incredible things as a school. A heartfelt thank you to Miss Anderson and to everyone involved in making this production a resounding success.

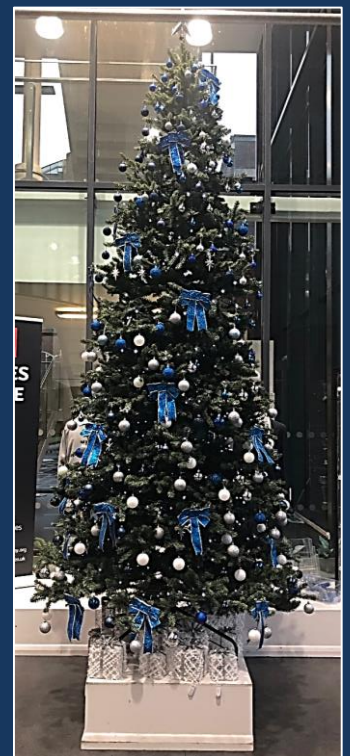
As we bid farewell to this term, we must continue our commitment to our vision of **Libertas per Cultum (Freedom through Education)** and values into 2024. I will be writing to all parents at the start of term (students return on Tuesday 9th January) with key information, priorities, and clarity as to how we expect our students to demonstrate our 3 core values of **Knowledge**, **Aspiration**, and **Respect** through The Grange Academy Way. Our students deserve our highest expectations and we must ensure they are clear as to how they live our values each day in school, at home, and in our community.

On behalf of everyone at The Grange Academy, I extend warm wishes for a joyous holiday season. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to welcoming our students, staff, and parents back for another exciting term in the New Year.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Danny Bryant



Knowledge, Aspiration, Respect



# CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR



## Wow! – what a show – it lived up to its name and was spectacular!

Well done to everyone involved! Led once again by Miss Anderson The Grange Academy delivered an absolutely amazing production – students, staff, and visiting musicians gave it their all, and the icing on the cake, was the special appearance of the Year 5 students from Bushey Manor singing the Frog Song. **It was loud, we were hot in our Christmas jumpers, it was fantastic!**



HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS

## A Level PE and Cambridge Technical visit to Bedfordshire University

Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level Pupils, alongside our new Cambridge Technical course students, visited Bedfordshire University this half term. During the visit the pupils worked in the sports science laboratories to learn about the different ways we can measure energy levels.

These are the same laboratories that Formula One drivers, Luton FC, MK Dons footballers, and, international athletes use.

Pupils were also given an insightful talk about where sport can take you by one of the lead lecturers. This was followed by a tour around the campus. Students were complimented on their professionalism and interest during the visit and all got goody bags!



## Trust Football Championships

Over the last half term, the PE Department has been participating in the annual Future Academies Trust Football Championships. This is for key stage 3 pupils in which they take on the other schools in Hertfordshire. The winner goes on to take on the winner in the London regional tournament. Congratulations to our 3 winning teams of the Hertfordshire Future Academies Trust Regional Competition. Good luck in the National final next term.

**Year 7 Boys, Year 8 Boys, Year 7 Girls**

We also had fantastic success with our other teams coming as Runners Up. Well done to:

**Year 9 Girls, Year 9 Boys, Year 8 Girls**

Next Term we also enter the **basketball** and **netball** trust regional rounds. If any pupil wants to represent the school, please ensure you come to school practice, to have the chance to be selected.



## The Grange Academy Sports Personality Awards 2023-24

We are excited to announce that we are planning on running our second Sports Awards on the evening of **Wednesday 17th July**. This was an amazing event last year and we can't wait to do it all again! To be able to run such a fantastic evening we need your help. We are looking for people or companies to sponsor the evening.

For example last year Connell Estate Agents donated an Amazon voucher, Bushey Museum contributed a trophy, and Hemel Storm Basketball Team gave us some tickets for a raffle prize. If you can donate towards the event, even for a raffle prize (*perhaps an unwanted gift*) please email Mr Putman: [j.putman@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto:j.putman@thegrange.futureacademies.org). All sponsors will have a table on the evening named after them, and be promoted in our event programme. Thank you for your support.



## District Rugby Festivals

During this half term, we have taken part in a range of District Rugby festivals hosted by Watford Rugby Club. Schools from all around Watford come together to play in a round-robin tournament. We were one of only 2 schools in the area to appear in every festival. Our pupils worked so hard and came across as the strongest school in many festivals.

Year 9 Boys - 1st  
Year 8 Boys - 1st  
Year 7 Boys - 3rd  
Under 14 Girls - 2nd  
Under 12 Girls - 2nd



Rugby training for all is on a Monday after school.

## Results

Sport	Vs	Result	Star of the Match	Scorers
Year 7 Girls Netball	Futures	Lost 6-2	Lucy	
Year 7 Girls Football	Tournament	7th	Daisy D	
Senior Netball	Tournament	8th	Doha	
Year 7 Boys Football	6aside Tournament	2nd	Stanley	Stanley x8, Billy x3, Daniel x1, Kobe x1
Year 9 Boys Football	Verulam School	Lost (5-4 on Pens)	Jack	Lucas, Harrison x 3
Year 9 Boys Rugby	District Rugby Festival	Won 4/4	Tyler	Bryan, Tyler x 6, Rowan x 3, Alex, Harrison, Connor x 2
U15 Girls Football	Futures	Lost 4-0	Ella S	
YR7 Girls Netball	Bushey Meads	Won 7-6	Amelie	Amelie & Fran
Year 11 Football	Adeyfield	Won 3-1	Liam	Ashton x2 and Harry
Year 9 Girls Netball	Reach free	Lost 1-14	Sophia H	
Year 10 Girls Netball	Reach free	Lost 2-17	Mia	
Year 9 Football	District Rugby Festival	2nd	Paige	Annie, Izzy,
Year 8 Boys Football	Hertswood Academy	Won 7-4	Rauf	Roman x 2 Rauf x 5
Year 7 Boys Rugby	District Festival	Lost 3/3	Hadleigh	Cleverley x 1
Year 8 Boys Football	Parmiters	Lost 8-1	Ishan	Rauf
Senior Boys Football	Westfield	Won 8-1	Dylan	Becaye x2, Jack, Casey, Ali, Harry, Akib, Josh
Year 8 Girls Football	Tournament	3rd	Summer	Rosie, Isabella, Summer, Annie
Year 9 Boys Football	Trust Tournament	2nd	Carlos	Harrison
Year 7 Girls Netball	Reach free	Lost 11-10	Amelie	
U13 Girls cup	Tournament	3rd	Layla E	Francesca, Rosie, Lucia, Annie
U15 Girls Football	Habs	Won 5-1	Sophie Sm	Jess x2, Mia, Lily D, Paige
Year 7 Boys Football	Westfield	Won 6-2	Stanley	Stanley x4, Billy and Max
Year 10 Boys Football	Parmiters B	Won 3-1	Jack	Reece, Kelvin, Sonny
Year 7 Boys Football	Parmiters B	Won 5-0	George P	Stanley x3, Max, Hadley
Year 8 Boys Football	Trust Tournament	1st		
Year 7 Boys Football	Trust Tournament	1st	Billy	Billy x2, Stanley
Year 7 Boys Football	John Henry Newman	Lost 0-3	Alfie G	
Year 9 Girls Football	Trust Tournament	2nd	Robina	
Year 9 Boys Football	Westfield	Won 3-1	Tyler	Harrison x2, Georgie
Year 8 Girls Football	Trust Tournament	2nd	Izzy	
Year 10 Boys Football	Reach Free	Won 3-0	Albie	Kelvin M x2 and Andrii
Year 9 Boys Football	St Clement Danes B	Won 4-2	Zaine	Harrison x3, Georgie

# The Big Ambition Survey



The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.

Scan the QR code to take part



CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)



## A message from Dame Rachel De Souza, Children's Commissioner for England

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policymakers what is important to them ahead of the General Election.

Let's make sure that the children and young people of Hertfordshire are represented in the results.

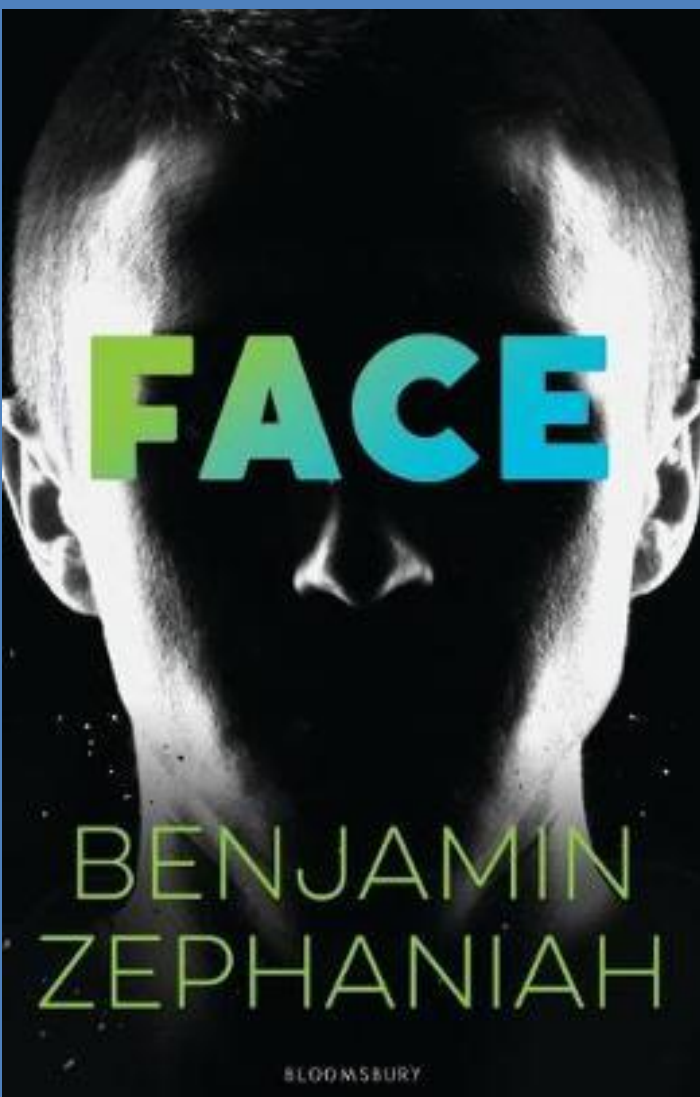
Children and parents can complete the survey here:  
[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)



Check Out a Library Book

## 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.



### Face

by Benjamin Zephaniah

Martin is the leader of the Gang of Three, and the classroom joker. He lives in the 'new East End' where there is a difficult brew of white, Caribbean, African, and Asian families. You have to be careful what you say and whom you say it to on the streets of Martin's neighbourhood - not that Martin is particularly racist.

So it is rather to Martin's surprise, that he finds himself having a great time at a rap club. Leaving the club later, Martin is offered a ride home by someone he knows vaguely from school. He doesn't know the car is stolen though, and it isn't a ride home, it's a ride to self-destruction. In the inevitable accident, Martin suffers terrible burns to his face.

Martin has a lot of thinking to do, and in his hospital room, he has the time and space to do it. He has to come to terms with his new and damaged face. Not only that, all his friends have to come to terms with his new face.

Martin has to learn to deal with all the different reactions of ordinary people to his terrible injuries. It's all a bit different being on the receiving end of other people's prejudices, about disabilities, race, or anything else.

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

# Foodbank Update



In November the students and staff at The Grange took part in a collection for the Watford Foodbank. In an amazing feat of generosity, we managed to collect **1053** items weighing an incredible **503kg** (80 stone).

When we delivered the items to the foodbank they were overwhelmed and commented that this was the biggest donation from a local school since pre-Covid days.

We want to say a huge thank you to all those families who took the time to buy, find, and donate items in such difficult financial times for us all. This shows how as a school and community we have worked together to help others to have that little bit extra during the Christmas period. Thank you again.

<https://watfordfoodbank.co.uk/>

## Safeguarding Update



### Safeguarding Audit

We were very pleased that in a recent Safeguarding Audit, our "Trusted Adult" programme was highlighted as an intervention of outstanding practice. This is a simple concept where every student in the school names an adult they would trust and be comfortable speaking to if they had a concern or worry about an element of their education or personal life. In the audit, the students also commented on how they liked the many ways to communicate worries or concerns that they might have in school about themselves, their friends, or their peer group. Students named five ways that are their favourite and safest methods to share information

1. **Trusted Adult**
2. **Speaking directly to their Head of Year**
3. **Via academy email:**  
[icanreport@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto:icanreport@thegrange.futureacademies.org)
4. **Speaking to a designated counsellor/ mentor at school**
5. **Contacting Childline on 0800 1111**

### Parental Controls on Electronic Devices

With so many students receiving new electronic gifts and devices over the festive period please find attached a guide on how you as parents can set simple but effective Parental controls. This is the best way to monitor and maintain a safe environment for your child online.



## Christmas Feast



What an amazing Christmas Lunch we had – fabulous food, music, and Christmas spirit in abundance. Our thanks to the amazing Cucina Team, and all of our helpers for putting on a lovely feast!

# 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@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto: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.

# CONNECT



@thegrangebushey  
@GrangeAcademyPE  
@TheGrangeGeog



THEGRANGEBUSHEY



## Dates for your diary

<b>Monday 8 January 2024</b>	INSET Day – school closed to students
<b>Tuesday 9 January</b>	Term begins for all students
<b>15 January</b>	Sixth Form Parents Evening
<b>Monday 19 February – Friday 24 February</b>	Half term holiday

The Grange Academy | London Road | Bushey WD23 3AA  
General switchboard: 020 8950 9502 | [enquiries@thegrange.futureacademies.org](mailto:enquiries@thegrange.futureacademies.org)

# Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

## IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

## ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

## PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At [myaccount.sony.com](https://myaccount.sony.com), create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

## IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

## XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

## NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

## WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

## CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need to set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

## MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

## SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

## Meet Our Expert

Harry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 30 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computerworld. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 4's Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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