

17th July 2025



The Grange Times

Headteacher End of Year Message



So here we are, at the end of another amazing year for Grange. Our pupils have excelled themselves, both academically and in their ability to make a difference to our community. Whether it is hosting concerts, cafes or fetes for local people, working in our Share Shack or taking responsibility for our school grounds, pupils at Grange are changemakers who make a real difference to their own lives, their school and wider community. All of our pupils show a deep care and commitment to helping each other, led by our fantastic pupil mental health champions. They are so good at showing kindness that we have achieved a Social Impact Award, where each child has been commended for at least one act of super kindness this term.

Our animals and grounds remain a firm favourite. We now open our farm to other schools and our community; we've also begun to cultivate our own community allotment. You will have lots of opportunities to take part next year.

I want to congratulate every single pupil for their exceptional achievements, and thank each staff member for enabling our school to flourish and thrive. Also, thank you to each of you as parents and carers, for all the support you offer and for entrusting us with the care of your children. It is a great privilege to see them grow and progress.

I wish each of you a safe, happy and refreshing holiday; please remember, if you need us we can still be contacted via email. **Mrs Timms, Headteacher**

Acer



For our end of term trip Acer Class went to the park with Willow and Maple. We played on the equipment and had a picnic. In the afternoon, we all went swimming to Kempston Pool. We all had a great time celebrating everything we have achieved this year. Well done everyone!

Louis: The park was very chilled. I played with Alex. Swimming was great! I liked to go under the water and splash everyone.

Alex: The park was so much fun. I liked playing on the equipment with my friends. I loved swimming in the pool and splashing Mrs Cowell.

Carter: I played in the park. I went swimming with my friends.

Lewis: The park was great. At the pool, my friend Louis kept splashing me.

Harrison: I liked the park. I went on the swing. It was good. I liked swimming.

On Monday, Falcons had a coffee afternoon with our parents to celebrate the end of term. We decorated the hall, made cakes and played games with them.

Jack: I liked Mum and Dad coming in for a chat with the teachers and other parents.

Harrison: Nanny came to school. We played Snakes and Ladders and had a cup of tea. I went home with Nanny after the coffee afternoon.

Louis: I helped set up the coffee afternoon. I played chess with the teachers. I won both games.

We are all very proud of Miss Burns who has qualified as a teacher! In September, she is moving to Rowan class. We wish her lots of luck and hope she pops in to see us. Good luck and well-done Miss Burns! From Acer Class x



Elm

As an end of term treat Elm class on Tuesday 15th July went to St Neots Eat N Bowl. They played a game of ten pin bowling and had a meal after, it was a great day out and all the pupils had a great time.

Lots of laughter, strikes and spares during the bowling with Luca coming out top of the pupils and Miss Arneaud top of the staff (excellent use of the buffers).

Zach: It was fun at bowling.

Martin: I did really well at bowling.

Samuel: I got several spares and almost won.

Owen: It was great fun and I enjoyed bowling.

Harry: Miss Ali was really good and she got a strike.

Malakai: I really enjoyed the bowling and food.

Robin: I enjoyed it and had fun with my friends.

Lewis: Bowling was fun.

Marley: I did my best and has fun.

Luca: I had a good time at bowling.



Mini Sports Day

As a final project the childcare option group planned and ran a mini sports day event for our younger pupils. The event was a great success:

Maple Class

Seth: I liked the egg race because it was funny.

Stefano: It was fun holding the beanbags on our heads.

Summer: I liked the mini sports day because everybody had fun.

Jeffrey: It didn't matter if you win or lose.

Alex: I liked playing with the pom poms and splashed each other.

Jerome: I enjoyed being outside.

Alfie: I enjoyed when we squirted each other.

Riley: It was fun playing football.

Jack: The football was great as I love football.

Birch Class

We all had a great time at the mini sports day. The events were well organised, and we enjoyed taking

part with our friends.

We had an egg and spoon race, penalty shootout, beanbag races and loads more. There was a sensory station where we could rest and cool down with sensory bottles and water balls.

Oak Class

Levi: My favourite event was the penalty shootout; I like kicking the ball into the goal

Marcel: I really liked the egg and spoon race it was fun

Scarlett: I practiced my balancing doing the bean bag race

Cody: I liked the rest station playing with the sensory bottles and water balls with my friends.

Willow Class

Jordan: the mini sports day was fun

Jake: I liked the events where I got wet



Restaurant Rivals

We had the exciting opportunities to take part in the Fun Food Showdown's new Restaurant Rivals.

Our fantastic host Ben spoke to us about Healthy eating. We designed and pitched our own restaurants in small groups. The winning restaurant designs and the winning teams took part in the cook off to be the overall crowned winner (Just like on Dragon's Den).

Not only was this a fun and educational show, but it also links to Careers and the possible opportunities within the Food and catering industry. Marketing and being able to present our pitch to an audience.



Maple



Maple Class have had a fantastic school year, this week we spoke as a class and recapped our year highlighting our favourite moments, we are grateful to have a brilliant school with lots of fun opportunities to take part in.

Stefano: My highlight of the year was Whipsnade zoo, I liked it because I thought it wasn't going to be fun, but it was, it was a nice day and nice views and got to play with children we hadn't met before at the park there.

Alex: Mine was the Christmas disco, it was so fun I wish it was longer.

Summer: I loved Christmas time and the Christmas dinner day at school.

Jerome: We had a disco in the hall but not the Christmas one, I liked dancing with my friends.

Alfie: My favourite was the trip to the park and swimming; I liked having lunch at the park.

Riley: I liked sports day because everyone took part, my team didn't win but I still had fun.

Jeffrey: It has to be the fun day; I liked going on the bouncy castles.

Aneesa: I liked going to the zoo, I enjoyed it there was a lot of people there.

Seth: My favourite was sports day because of all the fun games we had.



Oak



This week we had a visit from Kieran, who competed with the Team England Adaptive Abilities cheerleading squad at the ICU World Cheerleading Championships! He showed us his medal, ring, uniform and jacket which we got to try on. It was fun experiencing what a World Champion feels like. We asked questions and of course, played duck-duck goose together at play time. Thanks for visiting us Kieran!

Amelia: He can do the splits! I loved trying on the uniform.

Lilly-Jo: I tried the shirt on me. It made me super strong!

Grace-Lily: I tried on the medal.

Levi: I loved wearing his t-shirts, medal and we got to have a picture with him. It was exciting to

meet him.

Cody: I liked his voice. I tried on his Team England vest that they wear in training.

Marcel: I loved finding out his history of when he started cheerleading. My favourite thing to wear was the medal.

Samuel: I liked wearing the shirt, it fit me! It was very cool.

Shaan: I enjoyed trying on a real gold medal and I loved taking a picture with him.

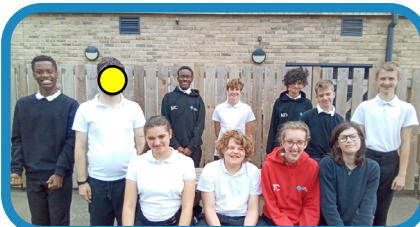
Alfie: Medal.

Keyaan:

Happy.



Year 11 Leavers (Palm)



As we say goodbye to the year 11 leavers in Palm these are their memories as they leave Grange Academy.

Mayson: This year I'm leaving Grange Academy to do an Animal Care course. I have enjoyed my time at Grange but it's coming to an end. My favourite lessons have been Animal Care, P.E, ICT and Food Tech. My future dreams are to be successful in life and to achieve everything I want in life.

Baron: I went to the Bedford Hospital to do work experience it was fun and

I enjoyed taking out the bins. and watering the plants and litter picking. It was so much fun and when it was very hot we got ice cream.

Malachi: Last week, Wednesday and Thursday, I was out at Bedford Hospital to do some work experience at the Swannery Restaurant. Steven and Stanka are team buddies, they took me to look at the restaurant. Then I met new members of staff, they showed me how to stack crisps for sale and drinks at the restaurant because it was my first time. I liked my mentor they were very friendly, patient and helpful and thank you for having me.

Tammi: I am glad I am leaving this year. I have had a great time at Grange. I loved seeing my friends and I have loved being taught different things. I am also sad that I am leaving because I am going to miss everyone. My future dreams are to try and get a job as a secondary teacher or have a part time job as a makeup stylist.

Summer Concert



On Friday 4th July, Grange Academy put on their Summer Music Concert for some of the school, and parents and carers of the performers.

We were lucky enough to have 2 special guests performing on the day – Mr Simms, who brought his

sitar and didgeridoo, and Mr Masih, who brought his tabla and got everyone up on the feet dancing!

Music club demonstrated their brilliant boomwhacker skills, and the choir gave renditions of songs like Shotgun by George Ezra. Many other students performed a solo or duet.

Amber: It was really good. Jason's dad was really good with the drums.

Eva-Louise: It was perfect!

Neaveha: I loved it, I enjoyed it.

Miss Williams: Jase's dad was awesome! Jase is going to play drums next year because he has been inspired.

Aarnav: I was doing boomwhackers and I found it easy. I did enjoy it because it's so interesting to do something new because I did it in the music club. I love boomwhackers!

Miss Davenport: It was fantastic and really cute. It was nice to see the children come out of their shells and share what they are passionate about.

Miss Treble: Lovely to see the children all engaging in music and their performances, and I felt emotional watching!

The event showcased all the hard work our musicians at Grange have put in: thank you to everyone who performed, attended and supported music making at our school!



Careers News

Work Experience

This month we had had two students, Malachi and Baron go out to work experience at Bedford Hospital for the NHS.

Baron enjoyed his time working with the maintenance team, this involved making sure that the outside area of the hospital was kept clean and tidy. Malachi worked in the Swannery, helping with ensuring that the shelves with food and drink were kept always stocked.

Both young men said that they enjoyed this placement and would consider the roles for jobs in the future.

The feedback from the Hospital and their mentors was very positive:

"It was an absolute pleasure having the students with us, our staff really enjoyed working with them, and the boys had a great time as well. The Support Services Manager even asked if he might be interested in a job. Unfortunately, he's not 18 yet, but we encouraged him to get in touch once he is."

Going forward in the next academic year we hope to be able to get more if not all of our year 11's out on work experience. I would like to thank the parents of the pupils this year who have had the opportunity to go out for their support in making it happen for their children.

If there are any parents who would be able to offer a work experience placement to their child or other pupils, please let me know. Contact: sandra.williams@bilit.org



Barclay School Roadshow.

Barclays Road Show visited our school to do work with the primary classes. Oak, Birch and Ash had the experience of looking around the all-electric van and spent time listening about what Barclays do.

They had fun colouring pictures of the van and hearing about how the van visits different areas. This is the start of them experiences about money and the jobs in

banking.

The pupils on the Curriculum committee had asked for links with Banks. This is the beginning of lots of connections with Barclays who are coming in to work with our pupils, introducing them to their Life skills Learning platform.

Pupils can access this with their parents/carers outside of school too.



Rowan



On Wednesday 9th July, Rowan class held a Greek banquet for Eagles nest. They worked hard making table decorations, planning the menu, layout and bunting. Thank you

also to Elm and Redwood for your fabulous costumes and Greek artwork. It was a lovely afternoon, with true Mediterranean sunshine. Mrs Timms even joined for a glass of refreshing Greek 'wine'!

Freddy: I really loved all the fruits and vegetables and the delicious 'wine'. I love it how there was beautiful and incredible Greek music.



Asia: It was really fun; I really loved the grapes and playing Greek games.

Max: It was very amazing and nice. The bread and cheese tasted beautiful.

Stephen: I think that all the food was really. The decorations and music were amazing. When

we were all sitting down, we were having a literal restaurant experience.

Raf: It was decent. I liked the honey cakes, and I ate lots of grapes.

Kayden: It was absolutely brilliant. I had a great time chilling with my friends and socialising. I liked the food, it was great, and I liked the 'wine' (I'm joking) ...

Lucy: I ate lots and lots of dates, they were delightful. I wore a pretty dress like Athena and Mrs Timms looked like Hera.

Kai: We had lots of new things to try, and it was yummy. People did nice drawings for the bunting: it was stunning.

Piotr: It was good. I liked sitting outside in the sun and seeing my friends.

Kajetan: I ate honey cakes. They were yummy. I had drink.

Toby: I loved it. I had lots of food. I liked helping set up. It was beautiful.



Food for Life Update



Here at Grange, we have secured bronze and silver awards as a Food For Life school, we are now on track to gaining our gold standard accreditation.

One of the visions for the gold standard is that of the pupils growing and cooking with as many organically grown foods from our school allotments and locally sources foods as possible, but why is this important? Here are our pupils' thoughts:

Organic farming practices avoids the use of chemicals and pesticides
(SNAG group)

Organic produce contains higher levels of vitamins and minerals
(SNAG group)

Locally sourced food is harvested when it is ripe and fresh
(SNAG group)

Using locally produced foods reduces carbon footprint
(SNAG group)

Robins News

Robins have had a very busy year of learning! We are so proud of all that they have achieved and wish the students who are moving on, all the very best! Here are the students highlights.....

Oak

Alfie: Playing in the nest!

Amelia: Having fun with my best friends. I liked Terrific Transport and learning about Penny Farthings!

Cody: Playing with Marcel and learning about different religions!

Grace-Lily: I liked seeing the sea lions at the aquarium!

Levi: Walking to Sainsburys to get food for the Stay and Play Café!

Lily-Jo: Horse-riding, Coco. She is white and black. Robins is a family!

Marcel: Art, painting flowers!

Samuel: I loved the sunflower garden and playing with the bricks in the nest!

Shaan: Playing cars in the nest!

Keyaan: I liked animal care, food tech and ICT!

Birch

Ayaan: The beach, Hunstanton, splash in the sea!

Arya: Building houses with Lego and seeing zebras at the zoo!

Gabriel: Dancing!

Dominik: Trampoline and big jumping!

Henry: Horse-riding, shadow!

James: I liked the Stay and Play Café. I helped with the cleaning!

Olo: My favourite 'big question' was, 'What will transport look like in the future?'

Sidney: I enjoyed playing with the Lego and horse-riding!

Phoebe: Horse-riding, Daisy! Phoebe, daddy, café!

Ash

Alex: I like playing in the free flow area!

Olivia: I liked the trip to Whipsnade Zoo!

Thabo: I liked playing in the free flow!

Ella-Rose: The trip to Whipsnade Zoo!

Aneyk: The trip to Whipsnade Zoo!



Pine



Pine class had a wonderful time at Wicksteed Park going around the attractions and exploring the parklands.

Connor: I went to Wicksteed Park and the first ride I went on was the water shoot, the friction between the wheel under the boat and the metal track made the boat go down very fast. My second ride I went on was the paratrooper, I did not want to go on it at first, but Mr Kilcoyne sat with me; I was terrified, but after a while I realised it was fun, and I was enjoying myself.

Marcus: The rides at Wicksteed were very exhilarating; the sheer speed made it feel like we were on a racetrack. Emmanuel and I were together on all the rides, and all I could hear was him screaming, but I knew he was really having so much fun.

Emmanuel: Wicksteed is a vast park full of rides, a lake and play area. The rides were crazy and thrilling. It was my first time on a roller coaster, and we were whisking around like a spinning top. On some rides I was praying to God to stop me from flying off. I had to squeeze inside the cup & saucer ride because my legs were too long, but I was determined to get in there; I spun it so fast that Marcus was screaming his head off but laughing at the same time.

Aaron: I went on the sway rider and the carousel, and I enjoyed them both. I went to play in the play area, and I liked the slide best.

Rowan: I had never been to Wicksteed Park before and I liked how they spread the activities about. The

dinosaur rollercoaster was my favourite because it was a fast ride. The water shoot was great, and I liked how the water went all over you when you landed in the pool.

Aishah: Wicksteed Park was exciting; the rides made me scream because they were high in the sky, and fast. I saw beautiful swans in the lake and geese were everywhere. They like their habitat because there is grass and trees for finding food. I went on a beautiful horse on the carousel and that made me happy. I recognised the carousel because I made one in my DT lesson.

Max: I went on the dinosaur rollercoaster, and I was very brave; it went very fast. I went on the carousel and the cup & saucer. My last ride was the drop tower, and I did not even scream.

Lucas: I have been to Wicksteed Park before and I like going. There is a carousel with horses and chickens, and I have had a ride on both; it is my favourite ride.

My second favourite is the dinosaur rollercoaster because it goes really fast and goes up and down. There was a slide in the play park with a tunnel and I went through it with Connor.



Eco Fayre



Grange Academy's Eco Committee held its first ever eco fayre this month. The event was a huge success, raising £118 to go towards the 2025/26 environmental priorities for the school and the committee.

One key goal is to work with Shepreth Wildlife Park to support local and global conservation efforts.

It also highlighted key Grange eco successes over the past year, including our new allotment, orchard and waste management systems. Most importantly, the fayre helped raise awareness of key environmental issues that affect our community and the world.

Thank you to all the Grange family, parents, carers, other BILTT representatives and community members that showed support on the day.



This would also not have been possible without the efforts of the following pupils: Harry, Luca, Riley, Ryan, Caoimhe, Cayden, Max G, Mariah, Chibunna, Freddy B and Kai.

Together, we can make the world a better place.



Diary Dates

Friday 18th July 2025 - Last Day of Term

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 - Pupils Return to School