

13 September 2022

The Grange Academy

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Mr G Kelly

Principal B.Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to wish all of our pupils, parents and carers a warm welcome back to school following the Summer break. Pupils have returned to school with big smiles, plenty of enthusiasm and a great desire to learn which is fantastic.

I am sure that you are all aware of the news that Queen Elizabeth II passed away on Thursday 8th September. The funeral of her Majesty is due to take place on Monday 19th September. This day has been declared a bank holiday in order for the State funeral to take place. As a mark of respect, **The Grange Academy will close on Monday 19th September 2022.**

School will re-open on Tuesday 20th September 2022.

In school staff have been talking to the children about the Queen and we will be talking to the children about the information they are seeing on the news, the changes that will happen in the country and at times, where needed, dealing with their thoughts or concerns on death and loss. All staff are sensitive to the needs of the pupils and all information is modified to suit age and need.

The website **Winston's Wish** gives parents guidance on how to talk to children about the death of the Queen.

I also want to take this opportunity to invite you into school on Thursday, 22^{nd} September to meet your child's teacher and have a look around school. We are holding an Open Evening for new pupils and welcome any of our current primary parents to come and look around the Primary phase. We are aware that many of you have never had an opportunity to come into school due to Covid. All class teachers will be available for a brief chat. Bring your children and they can show you around our setting.

Open Evening for Primary Parents is **5pm-7pm Thursday 22nd September**. If you have relatives, friends or neighbours who have children currently attending a nursery or due to start nursery, please invite them to come along.

If you have any questions or concerns before then please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely

Miss M Kenneway Head of Primary

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