



THE GRANGE ACADEMY

Wade Deacon Trust

Issue 17 - Thursday 15th July 2021



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our final Newsletter of the 2020-21 academic year. It has been a tough academic year for everyone and I know the students and staff are looking forward to a 'normal' start back in September.

In my letter this week I have included information on the changes expected in September and also key dates and times regarding the re-opening following the summer break. I am sure, like me, you all hope that next year will be much less disruptive and students will have an uninterrupted school year.

Due to the pandemic, students attendance has been affected, not only because of lockdown, but due to self-isolation and close contact within bubbles. In September, close contact self-isolation will end and therefore students attendance should be less affected. Therefore, I am asking for your co-operation to ensure that your child(ren) attend school on time, everyday and meet our expectations of at least 97%. As the restrictions are lifted it is important that we all get back into the routine of regular school attendance as that is how we will ensure students make up for any lost time.

Please can I also draw your attention to the uniform guidance within this newsletter and also our uniform policy on the school website. As you know, we have the highest standards and expectations in regards to uniform and appearance; I would appreciate your support in ensuring that the information regarding footwear, school bags and other elements of uniform are supported.

I am delighted to inform you that our Challenge Partners review went very well and once the report has been finalised I will share this with you.

Finally, thank you for all your continued support this year. It is greatly appreciated by the staff. I hope you all have a great summer, please keep safe and well.

Best wishes,

Mr Critchley

| Attendance Weekly Winners | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Week 38 | | | |
| Best Attending Year Primary | | Best Attending Year Secondary | |
| Year 03 | with 98.0% | Year 10 | with 90.9% |
| Woodlands | 100 | 9CLN | 96.9 |
| Elm | 100 | 7GRC | 96.3 |
| Pine | 98.8 | | |
| Yellow | 97.3 | | |
| Spruce | 96.9 | | |
| Violet | 96.4 | | |
| Oak | 96.3 | | |

This Week:

- End of Term Arrangements & September Timings
- School Uniform
- Acceptable Bags & Footwear
- Primary
- Secondary
- WoW, Hegarty Heroes, Career of the Week, SMSC
- Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

A community that works together to create an exceptional learning journey for all.



End of Term Arrangements

School closes for the Summer holidays on Friday 16th July.

Please take note of the following finish times:

Primary Siblings including Nursery – 12.10pm
Primary Non-Siblings including Nursery – 12.20pm
Years 7 & 8 – 11.55am
Years 9 & 10 – 12.05pm

The mid-morning break will continue as normal. **School lunch will not be served.**
A breakfast / brunch will be provided to all those entitled to Free School Meals during the morning break.

The planned re-opening in September will be on Monday 6th September for all students.

September Timings of the School Day

The timings of the day will revert back to the times we had pre-COVID-19.

Primary Phase:

Primary parents should continue to bring students to the front gates on Latham Avenue as the drop off and pick up arrangements will continue as they are currently. The primary students will have their lunch at the same time as they do now. Period 3 for the EYFS stage and KS1 is split as lunch will run from 11.35am – 12.20pm. KS2 lunch will begin at 12.05pm and end at 12.50pm.

| Start of the Day is 8.40am | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Registration | 8.40am – 8.50am |
| Period 1 | 8.50am - 9.50am |
| Break | 9.50am - 10.05am |
| Period 2 | 10.05am - 11.05am |
| Period 3 | 11.05am - 12.50pm |
| Lunch | 11.35am - 12.50pm |
| Period 4 | 12.50pm - 1.50pm |
| Period 5 | 1.50pm - 2.50pm |
| Finish of the Day is 2.50pm | |

Secondary Phase:

The timings of the day will revert back to the times we had pre-covid-19. Secondary students will now have one break and one lunchtime and all start and finish at the same time.

| Start of the Day is 8.30am | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Registration | 8.30am - 8.50am |
| Period 1 | 8.50am - 9.50am |
| Period 2 | 9.50am - 10.50am |
| Break | 10.50am - 11.05am |
| Period 3 | 11.05am - 12.05pm |
| Period 4 | 12.05pm - 1.05pm |
| Lunch | 1.05pm - 1.35pm |
| Period 5 | 1.35pm - 2.35pm |
| Finish of the Day is 2.35pm | |





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School Uniform

As you know, we have high standards and expectations of all students and I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your cooperation in ensuring that all students return to school with the correct uniform and equipment. A copy of the uniform policy can be found on the school website.

In addition, piercings are not acceptable in school. If your child wishes to have a piercing, the six week Summer break offers ideal opportunity so that the wound is healed on return to school in September.



The Grange Academy

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Primary

Reception & KS1

| School Uniform | PE kit |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal blue round neck jumper or cardigan with school logo White polo shirt Black skirts or trousers Black leader schools (Velcro fasten or slip on) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red round neck t-shirt Navy blue shorts Socks Black trainers/pumps |

KS2


| School Uniform | PE kit |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal blue V-neck jumper or cardigan with school logo White shirt School tie Black trousers or skirt (pinafiores are not permitted) Plain black leather shoes White socks or navy blue tights with skirts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red round neck t-shirt Navy blue shorts Socks Black trainers/pumps |

Please ensure that all of your child's uniform and belongings are fully labelled with permanent marker or name labels.

School uniform can be purchased from Boydells in Widnes.

17 – 19 Victoria Road
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0PU

The school's ID is: 21050





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Secondary

School Uniform

- Black blazer with blue trim and school badge
- Black trousers or Blue/black tartan skirt
- White shirt
- School tie
- Black V-neck Jumper (optional)
- Plain Black shoes (No Boots / Trainers)
- Black socks with trousers or white knee high socks/navy tights with skirt.

Students must also attend school with a sensible hair style, which is not extreme or which includes unnatural bright colouring or outrageous hair patterns. Hair bands if worn, must be simple and plain.

Jewellery is not allowed with the exception of a watch. No other jewellery or piercings are allowed.

Students should be well presented at all times, with shirts tucked in to their trousers and skirts.

No badges are to be worn other than those issued by the school, or one charity badge

Melissa shoes of any type are not permitted as school shoes.



Acceptable shoes





Not acceptable shoes



PE Kit

All students must have the PE socks and then a top and bottom from the selection below. Students do not have to purchase all of the items below, but can choose to do so. Students are expected to bring appropriate footwear to all PE lessons to enable them to engage fully with learning. Students require a clean pair of trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor lessons.

At times during the year, students will undertake PE outside. If students have studded boots suitable for use on grass or our 3G surface, then these are encouraged for outdoor PE lessons as an alternative to trainers.

Students have the option to wear base layers underneath their PE kit, particularly during cold weather. We request that students choose navy blue or black garments that complement our school uniform.

The safety of our students is paramount when taking part in PE, so we would encourage you to purchase a pair of shin pads and a suitable mouthguard for use in Football, Rugby, and Hockey.







Acceptable Bags & Footwear

Please see the attached pictures which give examples of acceptable bags and school shoes for September.

Be aware that 'Tovni' Kickers, which have been acceptable previously, will not be next year as they are a 'trainer like' shoe. Melissa shoes are also not acceptable as school shoes.

Acceptable Bags

The following are examples of acceptable school bags. We want students to have BAGS ON BACKS. All school bags must be able to fit an A4 folder inside without the need for folding.



Unacceptable Bags

The following are examples of unacceptable school bags. All bags must have 2 straps. Handbags of any style will not be acceptable.



Acceptable Shoes

The following are examples of acceptable school shoes (please note, the following images are used as examples and are not exhaustive)



Unacceptable Shoes

The following are examples of unacceptable school shoes (please note, the following images are used as examples and are not exhaustive)



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Unacceptable Shoes

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PRIMARY

'Make £5 Grow'

Elm class have been taking part in the 'Make £5 grow' Project. selling X-Marks. These amazing bookmarks have been created and designed by the class themselves and for just 50p, the X-Marks can be scanned with a tablet or smart phone to listen to music or a story. There are six different X-Marks to collect and in a range of colours:

Fortnite, Harry Potter, Music, TTRockstars, Audio Books and The Pig of Happiness.

Sports Day

Primary students had lots of fun during their Sports Days on 2nd and 9th July! They ran, jumped, threw, bounced, dribbled and scored lots of points for their Houses.



World Book Day

World Book Day fell during lockdown this year and whilst we had some celebrations back in March, we decided to delay our main event until we were all back together again. On Monday 12th July our Primary students all came to school dressed as their favourite book character. There was a wonderful variety of costumes and plenty of enthusiasm and excitement. There were lots of book related activities happening in all classes. In Key Stage 2, students created their own bookmarks, designed book characters, designed book covers and had picnics whilst listening to a story. Over in Key Stage 1, the children read Pete the Cat, made bookmarks, wrote book reviews, wrote about the characters they dressed up as and had a Teddy Bears' Picnic.

Staff throughout school also dressed up and encouraged the students to talk about each character and the book they were from. All students were challenged to guess as many staff characters as they could and there was a prize for the most correct answers in each Key Stage. A real buzz about reading for pleasure and the love of books was felt from Nursery through to the Secondary phase.



TIMESTABLES ROCKSTARS

| Name | Coins Earned |
|----------------|--------------|
| Rania (Lime) | 25,075 |
| Max (Elm) | 16,864 |
| Morgan (Cedar) | 16,650 |
| Ruby (Pine) | 13,946 |
| Zak (Pine) | 13,178 |

NUMBOTS

| Name | Coins Earned |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Harry (Blue) | 18,552 |
| Heath (Violet) | 7,549 |
| Evan (Violet) | 5,825 |
| Zakk (Violet) | 5,427 |
| Millie (Violet) | 4,240 |

SECONDARY

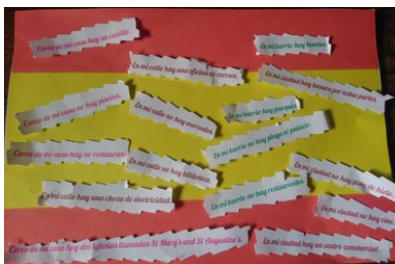
The Brilliant Club

Since January 2021, a Year 8 cohort of students have been taking part in the Scholar's Programme of The Brilliant Club. Each week the students have received virtual tutorials from their PhD tutor. The students have worked exceptionally hard and completed a variety of tasks, ending in a 1500 word assignment based on the topic of the French Revolution. The students had to argue their opinions, use quotes and references for their research. The students had to write a university-style assignment answering the following question:

“Class struggle and other Marxist ideas best describe why there was a French Revolution.’ To what degree do you agree with this?” Each student successfully completed their assignment and every student received either a 2:2, 2:1 or a 1st grade. Congratulations to all students on completing The Brilliant Club 2021 program! One student, Maisie Richards, received the highest mark that any student at The Grange Academy has ever received.

‘Surprise Me’ Homework

The MFL department set their Key Stage 3 classes the task of surprising their teachers with their homework. The students were asked to show off their creative flare by applying their knowledge and understanding of the key language from their current unit of work in French or Spanish, in a way that would surprise their teachers. Year 7's homework was on the theme of sports; Year 8's on the theme of food and Year 9's on the theme of town. Miss O'Loughlin and Miss Wing were very impressed with the amazing creations. Below are images of the winning entries. All of the winners will receive certificates and prizes for their hard work.



PRIDE Week

During the week of 28th June we celebrated Pride at The Grange Academy. In the lead up to this week, a number of LGBTQ+ students created posters and flags around the theme of pride and decorated the secondary school. The students have learnt about the history of Pride and the Stonewall protests; the relevance of Pride today and how important it is under the terms of “a community”, “an affirmation”, and “a celebration”. Secondary forms took part in a LGBTQ+ quiz, and 8LIG answered the most correct answers. A number of students attended a discussion workshop on the theme of being “an ally to the LGBTQ+ community at the Grange Academy.”

The session was an open discussion about the students' feelings and experiences of being LGBTQ+ at school. Furthermore all students learnt about how to become an ally for other LGBTQ+ students in school.

If any students would like any further information or support about being part of the LGBTQ+ community please speak with a member of staff at school who will be happy to help and listen to you.





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WoW - Word of the Week

Word of the Week (WoW) is our weekly investigation into vocabulary. Each week we look at a high-frequency, useful word (which may be difficult to interpret) and explore the definition, sounds, spelling, word-families, grammar and history surrounding it.

(week beginning 12th July)

This week's word is
Circular

(adjective)
-having the form of a circle

How you can help:

Encourage the use of the word in speaking and writing;
model the use of the word when you talk.

Hegarty Heroes

Most video hours Year 7 - Lindsey Holland

Most video hours Year 8 - Maisie Richards

Most video hours Year 9 - Milly Dyer

Most video hours Year 10 - Charlotte Anderson

Most correct questions answered Year 7 - Lindsey Holland

Most correct questions answered Year 8 - Maisie Richards

Most correct questions answered Year 9 - Lexie Girvan

Most correct questions answered Year 10 - Lucy Friel

Most learning hours - Year 7 - Alexandrina Currie

Most learning hours - Year 8 - Maisie Richards

Most learning hours - Year 9 - Milly Dyer

Most learning hours - Year 10 - Leah Humphreys

Career of the Week



IT - Apprenticeship



Entry requirements:

You'll usually need:
• 5 GCSEs grades A*-C/9-4 or equivalent (including English Language and maths)

Skills required:

You'll need:
• Flexibility
• Adaptability
• Good interpersonal skills
• Ability to multitask
• Organisational skills
• Communication skills
• IT skills

Personal qualities

• Hunger to learn
• Resilience
• Competitiveness
• Target driven
• Interest in technology/sales

Salary:

Weekly wage - £160.00 - £250.00

What you'll do:

This apprenticeship will give you a Level 3 Infrastructure Technician Standard with training in areas such as:

- Functional skills, maths L2 and English L2
- PC Fundamentals
- Business Processes & Customer Services
- Networking & Architecture
- Mobile & Operating Systems
- Cloud Services
- Coding & Logic

Some of these modules will include an option to take an examination in order to receive a professional certificate.



SMSC

12th - 18th July 2021

British Values - Mutual Respect & Tolerance

Reading books from a diverse range of authors helps us to understand that life is not the same for everyone. We can learn to respect people's different cultures, faiths and beliefs from books.

UN Rights of a Child

As children, we have the right to read about our own language, culture and religion in books, even if they are not shared by most people in the country where we live.



Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



Jump Back Up July 2021

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1. Take a small step to help overcome a problem or worry | 2. Adopt a growth mindset. Change "I can't" into "I can't...yet" | 3. Be willing to ask for help when you need it | 4. Find something to look forward to today | 5. Get the basics right: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time | 6. Pause, breathe and feel your feet firmly on the ground | 7. Shift your mood by doing something you really enjoy |
| 8. Avoid saying "must" or "should" to yourself today | 9. Put a problem in perspective by seeing the bigger picture | 10. Reach out to someone you trust and share your feelings with them | 11. Look for something positive in a difficult situation | 12. Write your worries down and save them for a specific 'worry time' | 13. Challenge negative thoughts. Find an alternative interpretation | 14. Get outside and move to help clear your head |
| 15. Set yourself an achievable goal and take the first step | 16. Find fun ways to distract yourself from unhelpful thoughts | 17. Use one of your strengths to overcome a challenge today | 18. Let go of the small stuff and focus on the things that matter | 19. If you can't change it, change the way you think about it | 20. When things go wrong, pause and be kind to yourself | 21. Identify what helped you get through a tough time in your life |
| 22. Find 3 things you feel hopeful about and write them down | 23. Remember that all feelings and situations pass in time | 24. Choose to see something good about what has gone wrong | 25. Notice when you are feeling judgmental and be kind instead | 26. Catch yourself over-reacting and take a deep breath | 27. Write down 3 things you're grateful for (even if today was hard) | 28. Think about what you can learn from a recent problem |
| 29. Be a realistic optimist. Focus on what could go right | 30. Reach out to a friend, family member or colleague for support | 31. Remember we all struggle at times - it's part of being human | | | | |

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**