THE GRANGE ACADEMY

The Grange Academy
Latham Avenue, Runcorn WA7 5DX
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Mr J Jardine BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQEL
Executive Principal

2nd November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a busy and exciting Half Term 2. I am writing to share some key highlights from the last half term, along with important information and updates for the half term ahead. There have been so many wonderful things happening across the school, and I would like to thank you all for your continued support.

Careers fair

We were delighted to host our annual Careers Fair, which provided all students in Years 7-11 with the opportunity to explore a wide range of future pathways. The event brought together post-16 providers, apprenticeship organisations, and both local and national employers, giving students valuable insight into education, training, and career opportunities. Students engaged enthusiastically with exhibitors, asked thoughtful questions, and gained inspiration for their future ambitions. We would like to thank all of our visiting providers and employers for helping make the event such a fantastic success.

Year 11 Updates – An important half term ahead

As we move into the next half-term, Year 11 students are entering a crucial stage of their GCSE journey. The weeks ahead provide an important opportunity for students to demonstrate what they know, identify where they can improve and build momentum towards their final GCSE examinations.

Mock examinations will begin on 30th November, and preparation is now becoming increasingly important. We encourage all Year 11 students to make the most of lessons, revision opportunities and intervention sessions over the coming weeks.

Key Year 11 Dates

- **12th November – Year 11 Parents' Evening**
  An important opportunity to receive feedback following P2S1, celebrate progress and understand the key areas your child should now focus on.
- **18th November – Practical Mock Exams Begin**
  Students will begin their practical mock examinations.
- **30th November – 11th December – Written Mock Exams**
  A key opportunity for students to experience formal examination conditions and demonstrate their learning.
- **From 14th December – Grades & Feedback**
  Students will begin receiving their mock grades and, importantly, detailed feedback in lessons to help them understand their next steps.

For Year 11, every day in school and every lesson really does matter. Please continue to support us by ensuring your child attends every day, arrives on time and approaches this important period with determination

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Attendance - We Notice You're Here!

As we begin another half-term, we would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day. Your partnership makes a significant difference and helps our students make the most of every learning opportunity.

We are also pleased to remind families that each time a student achieves 100% attendance for a week, they will receive 1 Reward & Recognition Point on their Arbor account. Across both our Primary and Secondary phases, these points accumulate and contribute towards larger rewards and prizes throughout the year. Our 'Excellence Programme' at the end of every term is one way in which the points really count; the more attendance points a student achieves, the higher the celebration!

Praise Rewards were sent home with students at the end of last term, and we hope your child was among the many students recognised for their positive attendance and commitment to school. Thank you once again for your ongoing support, and we look forward to continuing to celebrate excellent attendance and achievement together.

Arbor

A polite reminder that the Arbor app is the communication platform that we now use as a school. Please download and engage to receive important updates about your child.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our activities for Term 1 are up and running! Please encourage your child to attend extra-curricular activities. They really do support the holistic development of our students and are a great way for them to make new friends. Details of what is running during Term 1 is available on the website and has been shared with students. If you require any further information, please speak to Mr I'Anson.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday, 10th December 2026, students will be allowed to wear their Christmas Jumpers as part of Christmas Jumper Day. Students will have the opportunity to wear a Christmas jumper in place of their usual school jumper. Students are asked to make a voluntary donation of £1 or whatever is affordable to families dependent on personal circumstances. Students are to bring their donation with them on Thursday, 10th December; this money will be collected during form time.

If your child does wish to take part in this day, it is important to note:

- They must wear their full school uniform i.e. their usual school trousers/skirt, tights/socks and school shoes as this is ***not*** a non-uniform day.
- Usual expectations regarding uniform and equipment expectations remain.
- No other hoodies/jumpers, sports t-shirts or own clothes are permitted. Students will be sent home to change clothing should they arrive breaching these rules.
- Students will follow their timetable and learning will continue as normal.

We would be delighted if our students could be part of this special day taking place across the country and support our local and global communities this Christmas.

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Dates for your Diary
Please find herewith link to school term dates: The Grange Academy - Term Dates A copy is also available on the website.

- Christmas Fair and Bingo – 10th December 2026

Parent/Carer Evenings:
For your convenience, please find below dates of remaining parent/carer evenings. Further information to follow.

Dates for your diary for this term:

- Yr11 Parents Evening – 12th November
- Primary Parents Evening – 18th November (3-7pm)

Parent/Carer Evenings:
For your convenience, please find below dates of parent/carer evenings. Further information to follow.

Year	Date and Time	PROGRESS LEADERS
11	Thursday, 12th November 2026	Mr Challinor
Primary Parents evenings	Wednesday, 18th November 2026	
9	Thursday, 4th February 2027	Miss Houseman
10	Thursday, 4th March 2027	Mr Mooney
9 Options Evening	Thursday, 18th March 2027	Mr Hutton
8	Thursday, 22nd April 2027	Mrs Hignett
7	Thursday, 20th May 2027	Mr I'Anson

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Jardine
Executive Principal