



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Headteacher's Letter

As we come to the end of another busy and successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support. The strong partnership between home and school is invaluable, and your encouragement enables us to provide the very best opportunities for every pupil.

It has been another incredible year, with our dedicated staff once again rising to every challenge. They have worked tirelessly to provide pupils with a wide range of educational opportunities and enriching experiences that extend far beyond the classroom. Their commitment has supported pupils' academic progress, personal development and wellbeing, while many have also given up their own time after school, at weekends and during the holidays to provide additional GCSE revision sessions. I am incredibly grateful for the professionalism, enthusiasm and care they demonstrate every day.

One of the strengths of our school is the breadth of experiences available to our pupils. Throughout the year they have enjoyed educational visits, residentials, sporting competitions, work experience placements, university workshops, careers activities and outdoor learning opportunities. From exploring the Dockyard, Knole Park, Eagle Heights and Trosley Country Park, to science visits at Wildwood, coastal learning at Reculver and creative visits to the Harry Potter Studio Tour, our pupils have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm. We have also continued to develop pupils' independence and confidence through Bikeability, swimming, residential experiences, transition activities and our growing range of enrichment opportunities.

We are particularly proud of the way our older pupils have engaged with work experience, Post-16 transition activities and university workshops, helping them prepare confidently for their next steps beyond school. Alongside this, our younger pupils have benefited from transition visits, coffee mornings and induction activities designed to ensure they feel confident and excited as they move through the school.

Our annual Talent Show was once again a fantastic celebration of the confidence, creativity and individuality of our pupils. It was wonderful to see so many performers take to the stage and showcase their talents in front of family, friends and staff. Thank you to everyone who attended, enjoyed the BBQ and generously supported the raffle. Together we raised an incredible **£1,500**, which will directly benefit our pupils and future school activities.

Our sporting events, reward trips and enrichment activities continue to play an important role in school life. Whether pupils have represented the school at the KsENT Games, taken part in reward visits, enjoyed educational outings or participated in lunchtime and after-school clubs, it has been fantastic to see them developing new interests, building friendships and growing in confidence. Many of our clubs have been suggested by pupils themselves, and these will continue in the next academic year. I encourage every pupil to challenge themselves by trying something new.

At the end of this academic year, we say goodbye to Mrs Robertson, Miss Awala and Ms Jones. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank them sincerely for all they have contributed to the school and wish them every success and happiness in the future.

Looking ahead, I am excited about a number of projects that will further enhance the experiences of our pupils. I would also like to thank our highly supportive Governing Board, whose guidance and commitment continue to help shape the future of our school. I am delighted that pupils will benefit from a brand-new Science Laboratory and IT Suite at our Wrotham site, while our new immersive sensory room is now complete and already providing valuable support for pupils across the school.

Following a recent meeting with our Year 7 parents, we have launched a school WhatsApp Channel to provide quick reminders, updates and important information. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to follow the channel to stay informed throughout the year.

As we reflect on the past academic year, there has been so much to celebrate. Pupils have enjoyed an incredible range of opportunities, including Sports Day, our whole-school residential, the Year 6 residential, transition events, work experience placements, curriculum visits, celebration events, Step Up Week, and many other memorable experiences. These opportunities have enabled our pupils to develop their confidence, independence and resilience, while creating lasting memories along the way. We hope many pupils will also consider joining next year's residential trip to Alton Towers, which promises to be another memorable experience.

Finally, I would like to wish all our pupils, families, governors and staff a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break. Thank you for making this another memorable year. I hope you all have the opportunity to relax and spend time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on **Wednesday 2nd September** as we begin another exciting year together.

Best wishes

Miss Renukah Atwell
Executive Headteacher

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - Start of term for all pupils

Friday 18th September 2026 - Whole school Chessington trip

Tuesday 29th September 2026 - School Photographer

Tuesday 6th October 2026 - GCSE Coasts Fieldwork Trip

Thursday 7th October 2026 - Big Mental Health Conversation

Wednesday 14th October 2026 - Harvest Festival

Friday 15th October 2026 - End of Term 1

Message from the Chair of Governors

Another school year is drawing to a close! Time seems to go faster and faster and last September not all that long ago!

It has again been an amazing year for all with many accolades awarded to the school – both to our pupils and our staff who all rise to the occasion whatever that occasion might be, meeting and greeting visitors to our school, acting as ambassadors of Grange Park when making out of school visits. Frequently our staff are complimented on our students' behaviour when they visit theme parks or other outside attractions and a very recent visit by 77 pupils' to the Harry Potter Experience saw praise being given to our school by both members of the public and staff at Harry Potter.



Governors are always impressed with how our staff are able to bring enrichment to our pupils lives and how the pupils respond to this exposure.

I am pleased to confirm that the solar panels were installed over the Easter holidays and finally switched on some weeks later. They are now working and reducing our energy bills. We also have solar panes at our Stansted site and benefit in energy savings there too. Our finances are good and we have been able to invest in future-proofing both our Stansted site and our Wrotham site with more works to be carried out over the summer holidays.

The Governors have yet to finalise the purchase of suitable premises to house our Post-16 College with various legal niggles holding up the sale. We have outgrown our Wrotham site which was built for a maximum of 58 pupils - we now have approximately double that number at 104 so space is at a premium with a number of nooks and crannies now housing "pods" and utilised for both meetings and teaching. Governors hope very much that sooner rather than later, our Post-16 premises will be sorted.

We are still looking for a Parent Governor and a Co-opted Governor and if anyone would like to have a chat with myself and Miss Atwell, we would love to hear from you. I appreciate that time is a precious commodity and governorship does require some time, however, it is the quality of the time that you are able to give rather than the quantity. With plans for SEND still not finally decided, we live in interesting times. Our Senior Leadership Team are working with other schools and County in order to get the very best results for Grange Park. So, if you would like to consider joining us, we would be delighted to share governance with you.

We're now heading for the holidays and whilst I wish you sun-kissed days, I hope it won't be as hot as the current heat-wave – I'll miss the bliss of meeting in the air-conditioning at school!

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'Sue Murray', written over a horizontal line.

Mrs Sue Murray

Chair of Governors

Grange Park School Whatsapp

If you have not already done so, please follow the steps below to join our new Grange Park School WhatsApp Channel.

The channel is a quick and convenient way to stay up to date with school life. We will regularly share:

- Important school announcements and reminders
- Upcoming events and key dates
- Celebrations of pupil achievements and school successes
- Trip updates and information
- Letters and other important notifications

Your privacy is protected. Joining the channel does not reveal your phone number or personal details to other followers, and other parents cannot contact you through the channel.

Simply follow the steps below to join the channel and turn on notifications so you never miss an update.



Grange Park School

HOW TO JOIN THE GRANGE PARK SCHOOL WHATSAPP CHANNEL





Our WhatsApp Channel is a one-way channel where we'll share important school updates, reminders and celebrations.



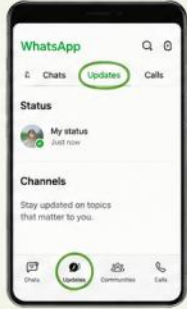
Follow the steps below to join!

1 Open WhatsApp on your phone.

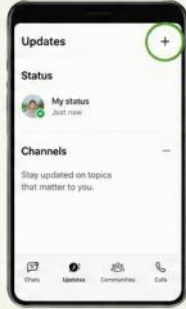


Make sure you have the latest version of WhatsApp.

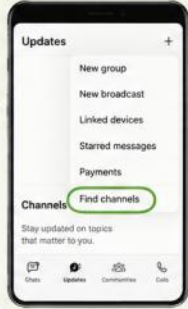
2 Tap on **Updates** at the bottom.



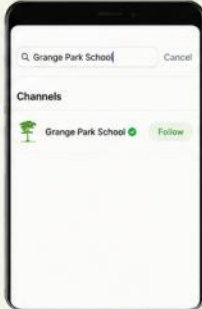
3 Tap the **+** icon at the top right.



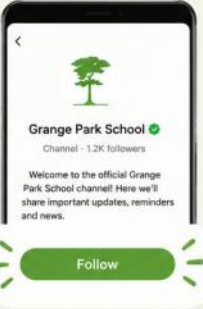
4 Select **Find channels**.



5 Search for **Grange Park School**.



6 Tap **Follow** to join the channel.





Your phone number is not visible to other followers.
Only the school can message – this is a one-way channel.



It's private, safe and simple!
You can leave the channel at any time if you no longer wish to receive updates.



Stansted

During Term 5, Oak Class enjoyed an exciting Food Technology enrichment programme, developing their cooking skills, confidence, and creativity in the kitchen.

The pupils began by learning how to prepare healthy and colourful fruit salads, practising safe food preparation techniques and exploring a variety of fruits. They then moved on to making delicious sandwiches, where they demonstrated excellent teamwork and independence while selecting and preparing different fillings.



Another popular activity was creating quick and tasty pizzas using pittas and wraps as bases. The children enjoyed choosing their own toppings and learning about balanced ingredients while making their individual pizzas.

As part of the programme, Oak Class also visited Sainsbury's to purchase ingredients for a biscuit-making project. The shopping trip provided a valuable real-life learning experience, helping pupils to identify ingredients, make choices, and understand the importance of budgeting and planning. There were lots of shocked faces at the realisation of the cost of different items!

Back at school, the pupils worked hard to make their biscuits from scratch before adding their own creative flair through decorating. Using a variety of flavours, icing, and decorations, they produced some fantastic and colourful biscuit designs.

Throughout the term, Oak Class demonstrated enthusiasm, responsibility, and excellent teamwork. The Food Technology enrichment sessions provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils to develop practical life skills while having fun and enjoying the food they created. We are very proud of all they achieved and look forward to more exciting enrichment activities in the future.



Leavers Celebration

Our Year 6 Leavers Assembly was a truly special occasion as we came together to celebrate the end of an important chapter in our pupils' lives.

The assembly was filled with laughter and memories as the children reflected on their journey through Grange Park. They celebrated the friendships they have built, the challenges they have overcome and the many achievements they have accomplished during their time at Stansted.



Year 6 have been wonderful role models throughout the year, demonstrating kindness, resilience and determination. They have embraced every opportunity, supported one another and created memories that will stay with them for years to come.

As they prepare to begin the next exciting stage of their education, we know they leave Stansted with confidence, curiosity and the values that will help them flourish at Wrotham and beyond.



Year 6 SATs Success

During Term 5, our fantastic Year 6 pupils completed their KS2 SATs. They approached the week with resilience, determination and a positive attitude that made us all incredibly proud.

Throughout the year, the children have worked hard to develop their skills in reading, mathematics, spelling, punctuation and grammar. Their commitment to learning, alongside the preparation and practice they have undertaken, helped them approach SATs week with confidence and maturity. When the tests arrived, Year 6 rose to the challenge brilliantly. They demonstrated excellent focus, perseverance and a calm approach throughout the week, supporting one another and giving their very best effort in every test. It was wonderful to see the confidence they had built through their hard work and dedication.

We would like to thank our staff team for their ongoing encouragement, guidance and support, as well as our families for everything they do at home to help our pupils succeed.

After completing their final test, the children enjoyed a well-deserved celebration. On the Friday after SATs week, we headed to the bowling alley for an afternoon of fun, laughter and a little friendly competition. The pupils had a fantastic time celebrating all they had achieved, and there were plenty of memorable moments along the way. Mrs Batchelor certainly couldn't believe her luck during the bowling, with several fortunate shots helping her score far better than she expected!

While SATs are an important milestone, they are only one part of each child's story. We are incredibly proud of the growth, achievements and personal development shown by every member of Year 6. Their hard work, determination and positive attitude throughout the year have been outstanding, and we look forward to celebrating many more successes with them as they prepare for the next stage of their education.

Kent and Medway Teaching Awards

Once again, several members of staff were nominated for the Kent and Medway Teaching Awards in recognition of their outstanding dedication to our school community. Congratulations to our Therapy Team, nominated for their exceptional contribution and service to our pupils; Mrs Rose, recognised for her inclusive teaching; and Mrs Hazelden, honoured for her commitment and service to both pupils and staff. Although they did not receive the overall awards, we are incredibly proud of each of them. Their dedication, care and willingness to go above and beyond every day make a lasting difference to the lives of our pupils.

We are especially delighted to celebrate Mrs Cave-Brown, who, after seven years at Grange Park School, was presented with the prestigious Services to Education Award at the Kent and Medway Teaching Awards ceremony, held at Ashford International. Anyone who knows Mrs Cave-Brown will understand why she was such a deserving recipient. Her unwavering commitment, kindness and passion for supporting every pupil are truly exceptional, and this award is a fitting recognition of the positive impact she has made on our school community.



Bikeability Success for Year 5 and 6

This summer term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in Bikeability training, developing their cycling skills, confidence and road awareness over four action-packed days spread across two weeks.

At the start of the programme, there were certainly a few nervous faces and plenty of nervous energy as the children prepared to take on new challenges. However, as the sessions progressed, those nerves quickly turned into dedication, determination and lots of smiles as pupils grew in confidence and developed their skills.

Throughout the training, the children learned a range of important cycling techniques, including carrying out safety checks on themselves and their bikes, signalling clearly, making safe turns and navigating roads responsibly. Some pupils were experiencing aspects of cycling on the road for the first time, while others built upon their existing knowledge to become even more confident and capable cyclists.

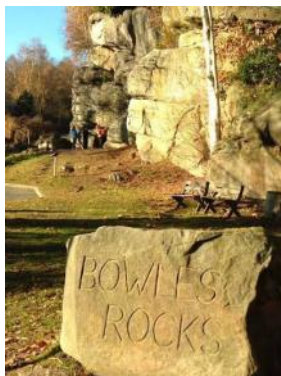
Despite the typical British weather doing its best to test everyone's resilience, the children embraced the challenge. Training took place in the rain on several occasions, but this certainly did not dampen their spirits. The pupils showed excellent perseverance and determination, continuing to develop their skills while demonstrating a mature and positive attitude throughout.

The Bikeability instructors were extremely impressed with the children's behaviour, listening skills and willingness to challenge themselves. It was wonderful to watch their confidence flourish over the four days as they demonstrated independence, resilience and a real sense of achievement. We are incredibly proud of all of our young cyclists for embracing every challenge that came their way and making such impressive progress. Well done, everyone - you are well on your way to becoming safe, responsible and confident cyclists for life!



Year 6 Residential

Despite being in the midst of a record shattering June heatwave, our intrepid Year 6 left Stansted to a backdrop of rumbling thunder under a canopy of threatening clouds; but no light drizzle could dampen their excitement on the bus. Some slept, some sang and some counted down the journey minute by minute, but in no time at all we arrived at our destination: the beautiful Bowles Rock.



First task was to make our beds – a task that was met with enthusiasm, dedication and some mixed results. And then, as you usually do when you have just made your bed, we went skiing. This activity set the tone for the trip – a new experience with many challenges that the children embraced with enthusiasm, determination and mountains of encouragement for each other.



The pace was relentless: swimming; exploring the 135m-year-old Harrison's Rock; crawling through pitch black tunnels; pool kayaking; a low-ropes course; a leap of faith; toasting marshmallows on a camp-fire; rock climbing and finally some archery. No wonder that come bedtime, lights were well and truly out both literally and metaphorically.



A big thankyou to all the staff at Bowles Rock – they simply could not be any more accommodating and always make us feel completely at home. And a huge well done to all of our Year 6 children – throughout the trip they were the embodiment of the five traits we celebrate as a school: resilience: self-regulation, respect, citizenship and teamwork. Above all they were excellent company and had a fantastic time.



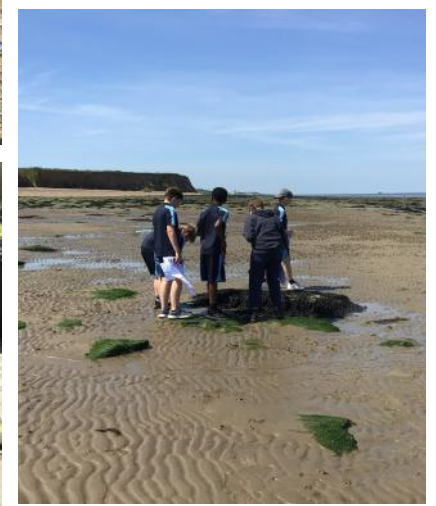
Reculver Coastal Classroom Trip

Oak Class had a magnificent day out to Herne Bay, specifically the cliff-lined beaches of Reculver on Friday 22nd May.

In terms of location for marine ecosystems, this coastal classroom was spectacular and when the children made their way down to the beach there was palpable excitement. The tide was out, so the tidal flats offered myriad rock pools and channels for the children to explore and collect marine specimens.

To start the day, children completed an observation exercise seeking out a variety of coastal features as well as plant and animal life: seaweed, marine animals and bird specimens. After a break for some shade and a snack the class moved onto collecting a plethora of samples to create their own marine ecosystems. This was a problem-solving exercise as much as a geographic and scientific quest, since the order the samples were collected in and assembled was pivotal to the final appearance and success of their micro environments. All the teams worked well together and the resulting ecosystems were a triumph. See the photos below for their creations!

It was then time for lunch, so we traipsed up the cliff to the twin towers of Reculver's medieval church ruins. To the delight of us all, there was a wedding party having their photographs taken and the children commented on how lovely it was to be able to see them in their finery enjoying the sunshine and the views.



KsENT Games

On Tuesday 16th June some of our Year 7, 8 and 9s took part in the KSENT games event run by Active Kent and Medway at Medway Park Sports Centre. They had the opportunity to participate in a number of different activities including Wheelchair Basketball, Table Cricket, Athletics, Tag Rugby, Boxing, Tennis and Kinball throughout the day. They all did amazingly and were a real credit to Grange Park, saying thank you to each event leader and we even had some of our group asked to do a question and answer with the events team.

A huge well done to all involved.



Enrichment Trips

To enable us to meet the needs of our year 10, 11 and some of our Key Stage 5 pupils during exam season, we offer years 7-9 a range of enriching trips and visits. These trips allow us to provide those sitting exams with additional rooms and space to feel comfortable at this important time.

This year, there have been a number of brilliant trips, which the pupils have found really enjoyable.

Jumpin' Fun

Pupils in KS3 and KS5 had a very fun and energetic morning at Jumpin' Fun in Rochester. Pupils enjoyed an inflatable wonderland which was jam-packed with obstacles, giant slides and games. The pupils showed great character helping each other and encouraging their peers.



Bedgebury Pinetum

Year 7, 8 9 and some KS5 pupils explored the pinetum trail and took part in a watercolour session run by Mrs Hayter.

We were extremely lucky with the weather and the pupils had the opportunity to see a variety of trees from all around the world. It is reported that the National Pinetum is home to a world-leading collection of conifers and contains over 12,000 specimen trees



Swimming

Swimming is always a very popular trip for our pupils and we were fortunate to be able to take them to Maidstone Leisure Centre during the exams. The pupils had lots of fun with the totem splash pad, water cannons and the wave machine was a particular favourite. The pupils were so well behaved and the staff at the centre commented on their excellent behaviour.



Visit to Kent Wildlife Trust

On 5th June, Years 7 and 8 enjoyed a fantastic day at Sevenoaks Wildlife Trust. With ideal weather for exploring the outdoors, students enthusiastically took part in a range of hands-on activities.

During the pond-dipping session, they discovered a variety of freshwater wildlife, including pond skaters, great diving beetles and water snails. Thankfully, no students ended up in the pond!

The adventure continued with a beaver habitat-building challenge, where students worked together to construct miniature dams using only natural materials. They then put their designs to the test by seeing how well they could withstand a simulated flood, discovering first-hand the remarkable engineering skills of beavers.

It was a fun and memorable day, combining teamwork, problem-solving and outdoor learning while fostering a greater appreciation of the natural world.



The Pixar Experience

Our recent school trip to the Pixar Experience in London was an unforgettable adventure. From the moment we walked through the doors, we were surrounded by the colourful and imaginative worlds of some of Pixar's most loved films.

As we explored the interactive exhibits, it felt as though we had stepped straight into the movies. We visited Andy's bedroom from Toy Story, explored the vibrant streets of Coco, and entered the underwater world of Finding Nemo. There were also exciting displays inspired by Up, Inside Out, Monsters, Inc., Cars, and many other Pixar favourites.



One of the highlights of the day was taking photos in the life-sized sets and spotting all the hidden details from the films. The experience was both fun and immersive, making everyone feel like part of the story. We also learned about the creativity, teamwork, and imagination that go into bringing animated films to life.

It was wonderful to see pupils working together, sharing their favourite Pixar memories, and enjoying such a unique learning experience.



Careers

University of Kent - Future Humans

As we continue to develop our links with Higher Education, we had the opportunity to take some of our students in Year 9 and 10 to visit the University of Kent, this time to meet with the STEM Lecturers and Student Ambassadors. The pupils had the chance to learn about Robotics in Medicine and the future of AI during their workshops. They also visited the huge University Library and the highlight for many of the students was visiting the Law courts! This is a great chance for our students to envisage what may be possible for their futures as we strive to achieve the highest ambitions for our pupils.

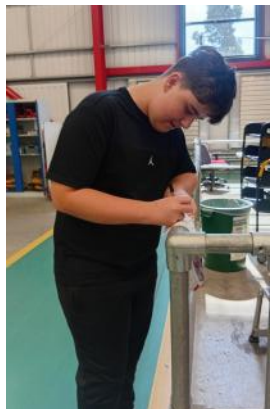


Year 9 and 10 Work Experience

As part of a new initiative here at Grange Park and in preparation for the Modern Work Experience Guarantee, which comes into force in September, we were pleased to give all our pupils in Year 9 and 10 the opportunity to attend a work experience placement for the day.

It was fantastic to see the wide range of employers that stepped up to support our pupils and we are grateful for all the amazing experiences that the pupils all had. From pupils who were visiting supermarkets, mechanics, building merchants, KCC offices, dentists, retailers, coffee shops, electricians and builders to those who visited schools, churches and community centers, nature reserves, pet shops and so many more.

The pupils gained invaluable learning that is difficult to achieve in the classroom through their communication with new adults, problem-solving skills and overcoming their anxieties by demonstrating their resilience and determination to have a successful day. Each and every pupil came back with a story to tell about their first experience in the work place and we look forward to the continued success of this project next academic year.



Art

KS3 Art

In terms 5 and 6, Years 7 and 8 continued their Investigating Patterns Project. They have designed patterns and motifs to decorate their own 'skateboard/bodyboard'.



Year 6 Transition

The Year 6 pupils that will be going into year 7 in September enjoyed their transition days at Wrotham and created little clay mice in Art!



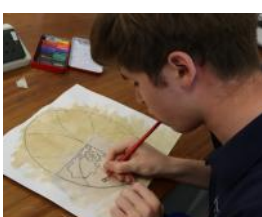
Pride Month Activities

Pupils celebrated Pride month by creating LGBTQ+ flags in Art Club.



Album Covers and Symmetrical Patterns

Pupils had the opportunity to explore the arts by designing and creating album covers and posters. Some also created repeating patterns and used tracing techniques to make symmetrical designs.



Cookery

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been working hard in cookery. They have been learning about hygiene and safety for preparing and cooking food, and developing lots of new skills to produce a variety of superb dishes such as pizza toast, flapjacks, cous-cous, tomato soup, curries, cakes, focaccia, a stir fry and risotto!



The pupils have been learning to use lots of equipment safely and Year 6 came up for their transition day and made some fantastic cookies and scones!



Sports Day

On Friday 19th June Grange Park students once again overtook Stansted Park Field for yet another fabulous Sports Day in the sunshine. The students worked around all the activities and absolutely smashed each one, showing fantastic perseverance and determination. Once again, spectators helped make the day through cheering on the pupils and joining in with some of the activities, with a firm favourite being the dodgeball yet again.

Thank you to all the pupils for trying your best and surviving the heat. You should be proud of yourselves.





Whole School Residential

This term, 49 pupils enjoyed an exciting residential visit to Gilwell Park, where they took part in a wide range of adventurous outdoor activities while developing confidence, teamwork, and independence.

During the visit, pupils challenged themselves with activities such as climbing, archery, crate stacking, bushcraft, and team-building games. They embraced every opportunity to try something new, encouraging one another and celebrating each other's achievements along the way.

Evenings were just as enjoyable, with campfire activities, games, and time to relax with friends after busy days of adventure. Spending time away from home helped pupils build resilience, develop new friendships, and strengthen existing ones.

Throughout the residential, our pupils demonstrated excellent behaviour, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude. They represented the school brilliantly, showing respect for one another, the staff, and the beautiful surroundings of Gilwell Park.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff who gave their time to make the trip possible and to the families for their support. The residential was a fantastic success, creating lasting memories and valuable life skills that our pupils will carry with them for years to come.





Non Residential Activities

During our time at school during the residential week, the students experienced the Music of Brazil, learning about the history of Samba music and all the different instruments that make up a Samba Band.

Bateria/Samba percussion bands are a huge part of Carnaval Festival that happens annually in Rio; lots of different Samba schools will compete during the parade.

The festivals are full of colour, energy and music to celebrate Afro-Brazilian heritage, local diversity and community before Lent. We brought that vibrancy into the classroom, learning different rhythms to play on a selection of Samba instruments and the students' self-crafted samba instruments. These fabulously decorated instruments helped us to get into the Samba main groove.



Pupils braved the rain and went litter picking in the Forest School and managed to collect 3 bags of litter from the woods surrounding the Forest School – there was still more litter to be collected but we ran out of bags and time.

All the students were enthusiastic litter pickers and got fully stuck in.

We talked about litter, the impact on the environment, wildlife and how everyone has a responsibility to keep the environment clean and safe.



Great work and thank you everyone – your efforts made a huge difference to the environment and for future users of the Forest School.

Trottiscliffe Community Farm

It has been a very busy last few terms at Trottiscliffe Community Farm.

Pupils are on the feeding rota at the farm. This means that whatever the weather, our pupils go to ensure that the animals are taken care of.

Jobs this term have included digging a new pig pond to ensure that they can keep cool in the summer months, along with the usual maintenance of cutting back trees, mending fences and doing all the other day-to-day tasks that help to keep the farm running.



Whole School Trip To Harry Potter Studios

To celebrate the end of the year, pupils visited Harry Potter World. Excitement was brewing faster than a cauldron full of Polyjuice Potion. After weeks of counting down the days, we finally arrived, ready to wave our imaginary wands and discover the magic for ourselves.

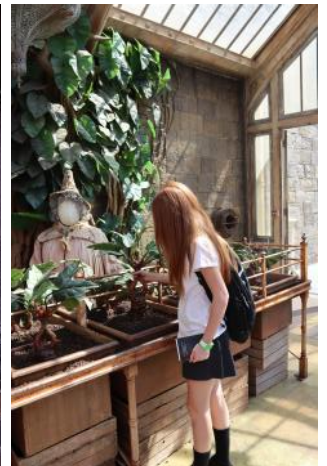
The moment we stepped inside, it felt as though we had apparated straight into the wizarding world. Towering castle walls, enchanted-looking streets, and familiar film sets surrounded us.

One of the highlights was seeing the Great Hall, where we admired the long tables and floating candles. The intricate costumes, magical props, and behind-the-scenes secrets showed us just how much creativity goes into making movie magic.

Of course, no visit would be complete without trying the famous Butterbeer. Opinions were divided—some thought it was enchantingly delicious, while others said it wasn't quite their cup of pumpkin juice. Either way, it certainly cast a spell over our taste buds.

Walking through Diagon Alley was another unforgettable experience. The colourful shop windows, wand displays, and magical details made it feel as though we were shopping for our very first year at Hogwarts. Many students picked up souvenirs, and our wallets disappeared faster than a magician's rabbit.

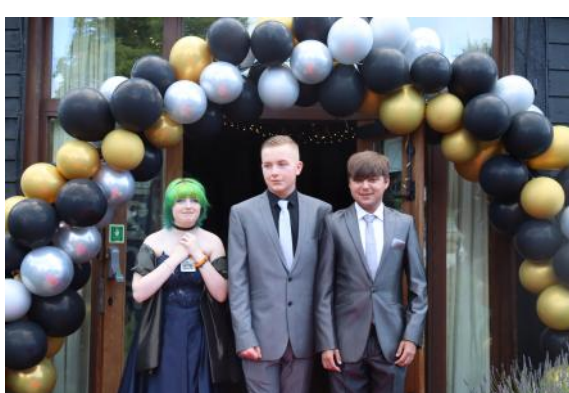
The special effects demonstrations were fascinating. We discovered how broomstick flying scenes were filmed, how creatures were brought to life, and how clever camera tricks created unforgettable moments. It reminded us that real-world teamwork can be just as magical as any spell.



Year 11 & Key Stage 5 Prom & Leavers Event

This year we said goodbye to our Year 11 pupils with a lavish Prom at The Moat in Wrotham and our annual Leavers Assembly.

The leavers certainly dressed to impress and the staff were taken aback with some of the incredible dance moves on display.



Our Leavers Assembly, as always, was emotional, and it was fantastic to be able to reflect on the amazing journey of all the pupils. Many are off to College with Grange Park to study a range of subjects including childcare, carpentry, music, plumbing and hairdressing. We have some pupils going off to study independently at other Colleges and others joining our Key Stage 5 provision.

Whatever steps they take, we wish every one the very best in their onward learning journeys.



Councillor Matt Boughton visits Grange Park

We were incredibly fortunate to have Councillor Matt Boughton, the leader of Tonbridge & Malling council visit us at the end of June.

During his visit, Councillor Boughton toured the school and expressed his support for the outstanding work we do across the local community, helping to support young people and their families.



Everything else!

Pupils to the Rescue

This year, pupils from each year group have helped to replace the school fish pond.

The process of clearing the old pond was hard and dirty work. Life skills pupils built a temporary



home for the fish whilst work was underway. Pupils worked incredibly hard on the project and they have done a fantastic job. The fish have a lovely new pond which will last for many years to come.

KS5 helped to rescue a baby bird, which was found in the sensory garden.

Students took the bird to a wildlife rescue centre in Tonbridge. Staff at the centre thanked them for saving the bird, which turned out to be a blackbird.

Students were told that at this time of year, it is quite common to find birds that have fallen out of the nest, and that between 50 - 70% of baby birds die before reaching adulthood, so they were happy to have saved at least one!!



Wellbeing

We are delighted to share that our school has once again been awarded the Wellbeing Award for Schools, following a successful reaccreditation.

This achievement recognises our continued commitment to creating a positive, supportive and inclusive environment where the wellbeing of every pupil, member of staff and the wider school community is valued. The award reflects the hard work of everyone involved in promoting positive mental health, resilience and a culture where everyone feels safe, respected and able to thrive.

We are incredibly proud to have retained this prestigious award and remain committed to ensuring wellbeing continues to be at the heart of everything we do.

Lots of pupils do activities outside of school that benefit others and their community. Lily in Year 8 has been fundraising for We are Beams for example, by completing a colour run race. Great effort Lily!



Young Carers

This year has seen the start of our Young Carers Club. This gives our Young Carers a chance to meet up, share experiences and enjoy some time for themselves.

Young Carers are young people who provide emotional or physical care or support for either a parent, sibling, or relative.

Sarah Pepper from Imago attended our first meeting, where we shared our caring roles and she told the group about the support of Imago.

As part of our support of our Young Carers, we will be organising a termly meet or activity. This term we took advantage of the lovely weather and headed to Borough Green Park for a Picnic and Games.

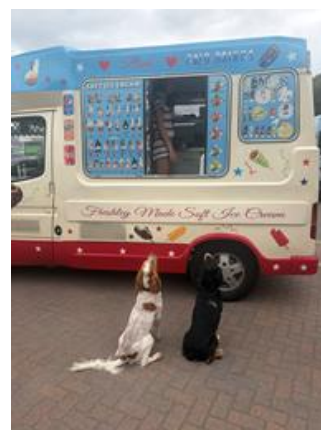
The pupils enjoyed some time on the play equipment, exploring the woods, sketching some nature rounded off with a group game of Frisbee.



Ice Cream Van Visit

Students enjoyed a special end-of-year treat as an ice cream van visited the school to celebrate the start of the summer holidays. With the sun shining and plenty of smiles all around, everyone had the chance to enjoy a delicious ice cream with their friends.

The visit was a wonderful way to mark the end of another successful school year and to thank our students for all their hard work, positive attitude and achievements. We hope everyone has a fantastic, relaxing summer break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new school year.



End of Year Staff Video

The annual staff music video was premiered at the school Talent Show, and this year, to go along with World Cup mania, Wonderwall was iconically recreated. If you missed the masterpiece, then you can see it here on.

Enjoy!

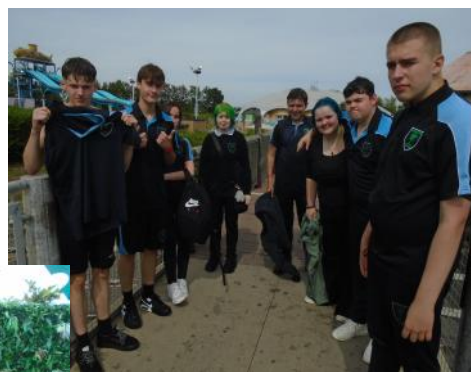
<https://youtu.be/7N0uMOCEmbA>

Thorpe Park

Staff had a fantastic day out with 9 Year 11's pupils at Thorpe Park who had chosen the theme park as their Star Award Reward Trip.

The day started with a little rain, but soon it became bright and sunny. All of the pupils were exceptionally well behaved. As a group they included the staff and asked them to go on some rides with them.

They had plenty of free time and were happy to share their adventures when checking in. All the pupils tackled Nemesis and Hyperia and were true thrill seekers for the day. They particularly enjoyed tidal wave and getting absolutely soaked towards the end of the day.



GCSE Results Day – Thursday 20 August 2026

The GCSE results will be released on Thursday 20th August. You will be able to collect your results on the day, from the school reception between 10:00 and 11:30am.

If you are unable to collect your results, they will be posted to you on the day.

If someone is collecting results on behalf of your child, we will require written permission from your them, along with proof of ID from the person collecting the results.

Senior Leadership will be available on the day to discuss your results if you have any questions.



Key Stage 5

Work Experience

Key Stage 5 have continued to work extremely hard at their work experience placements – many trying different ones this term to help them develop their skill base and open their worlds to new opportunities within employment.

SCAR Animal Rescue continues to provide our students with opportunities to work with animals, ground maintenance and resilience working in a team to develop their social communication skills.



Tesco remains a very busy placement for those students attending but it has been great to see their confidence grow working within a team and serving customers on the shop floor – this is a great opportunity to develop communication skills.



Trottiscliffe Community Farm is a valuable community resource which are students help maintain by looking after the animals and groundwork – both of which provide wonderful employment skills going forward.



Grange Park School kitchen continue to support our students with weekly placements allowing our students to get a better insight into the workings of a professional kitchen – this helps our students listen to and follow instructions, follow health and safety guidelines and work within a team.

Holiday Inn allows our students to experience work within the hospitality area and work within a busy hotel environment. Students have the opportunity to work within a team, experience working with members of the public and within a kitchen/dining area.

A local Dog Groomers is a new addition to our work experience options and allows students the chance to observe dog grooming and have basic hands on experience with the dogs.



Dymchurch Visit

Key Stage 5 shared a wonderful day together at Dymchurch. Students were able to spend time on the beach and paddle in the water, enjoy ice-creams and fish and chips and have a wonder around the town centre.

Thankfully the weather was a little cooler on the coast which helped everyone join in. The day was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate the fantastic year all of Key Stage 5 have had.

This was also a chance for the Leavers to say a final goodbye and make another memory of their time at Grange Park School.

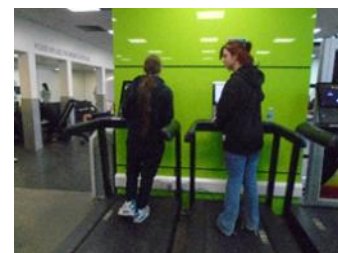
Well done Key Stage 5 – you represented the school very well and it was lovely to see you enjoying each other's company and spending time with each other.



Gym & Swim

Key Stage 5 have continued to improve their personal fitness through weekly gym and swim sessions. Students attend public sessions at a local leisure centre with the aim of improving fitness, making choices, social communication and interacting with the local community.

This activity is often one of the highlights of the week and allows students to work with independence and follow rules of a venue. Well done Key Stage 5 you are developing great life skills and healthy habits which could last a lifetime.



Picnic in the Park

Key Stage 5 came together to celebrate the end of their exams with a picnic in the park. We managed to dodge the rain so we could enjoy time together – playing games, chatting, eating and celebrating those who are leaving us this year to move onto their next chapter.



It was lovely to celebrate the leavers and their time at Grange Park and share in what they will be doing next.

We wish Key Stage 5 leavers all the very best and hope everyone has a wonderful summer – for those who sat exams well done this is a great achievement and all the very best for results day.



Pupil Focus

We always enjoy hearing about all the things that our pupils achieve outside of the classroom and their interests and hobbies.

Archie in Year 7 has enjoyed an incredible year, achieving success both on the basketball court and through an inspiring personal fundraising challenge.

Archie first discovered basketball in October 2024, attending a one-hour development session each Saturday. He quickly developed a passion for the sport - perhaps inspired after attending an Orlando Magic NBA game during a family trip to the USA. After successfully trialling for the Maidstone Warriors National League Under-12s team in 2025, Archie has gone on to earn a place in the team's starting five.



This season, Maidstone Warriors finished third in their league and have now been invited to compete at CancerBae, an invitation-only elite national basketball tournament for the top youth teams in the country. The event will take place at the iconic Copper Box Arena, home of the London Lions, in front of thousands of spectators. Archie has also recently re-trialled successfully and secured his place in the Maidstone Warriors Under-13 National League squad, where he will begin pre-season training this summer.



Away from basketball, Archie has also shown incredible determination by completing a challenging 10km Race for Life in support of Cancer Research UK, raising an amazing £400. The demanding trail race around Mote Park featured steep hills, uneven terrain and off-road paths. Archie completed the course in an outstanding official chip time of 1 hour, 1 minute and 8 seconds, finishing 39th overall out of 124 runners and proudly becoming the first junior runner to cross the finish line.



Archie's determination was summed up in the closing moments of the race, as he found the energy for a final sprint to finish just one second ahead of his mum, who had trained alongside him throughout his fundraising journey.

Whether representing his basketball team, challenging himself through endurance running or raising money for charity, Archie continues to demonstrate resilience, dedication and kindness.

Everyone at Grange Park is incredibly proud of his achievements and wishes him every success as he continues his exciting sporting journey.



Archie	
308687	
Maidstone	
5 July 2026	
Status: Finished	
Pace: 6:06 min/km	
Chip Time	01:01:08
OVERALL	
39/124	

Year 9 Pupil Drifts to Success

Year 9 pupil Oakley has made an exciting start in the world of competitive drifting.

Drifting is a motorsport where drivers expertly control their cars while sliding sideways through corners at speed, requiring exceptional skill, precision and confidence.

Oakley's passion for the sport began through his dad, who has been involved in drifting for many years. After watching competitions across the UK and overseas, Oakley decided to have a go himself. Around 18 months ago, he began learning to drift and now practises regularly at race circuits in Norfolk and Northampton in his own black and blue BMW E46.

His hard work has already paid off. In his very first competition, Oakley achieved an impressive 8th place finish out of 24 drivers – a fantastic achievement and a brilliant start to his competitive career.

Oakley loves being part of the drifting community and enjoys sharing his passion with his family, with his brother also involved in the sport. Looking to the future, he hopes to continue developing his skills and see just how far drifting can take him.

When asked what advice he would give to others thinking about trying something new, Oakley said: *"Don't think about it – just do it!"*

Congratulations to Oakley on his fantastic achievement. We wish him every success and look forward to following his drifting journey in the future.



Summer Talent Show & BBQ

What a fantastic way to round off another successful school year! Our annual Summer Talent Show and BBQ was a wonderful celebration, bringing together pupils, families and staff for an evening full of fun, entertainment and community spirit.

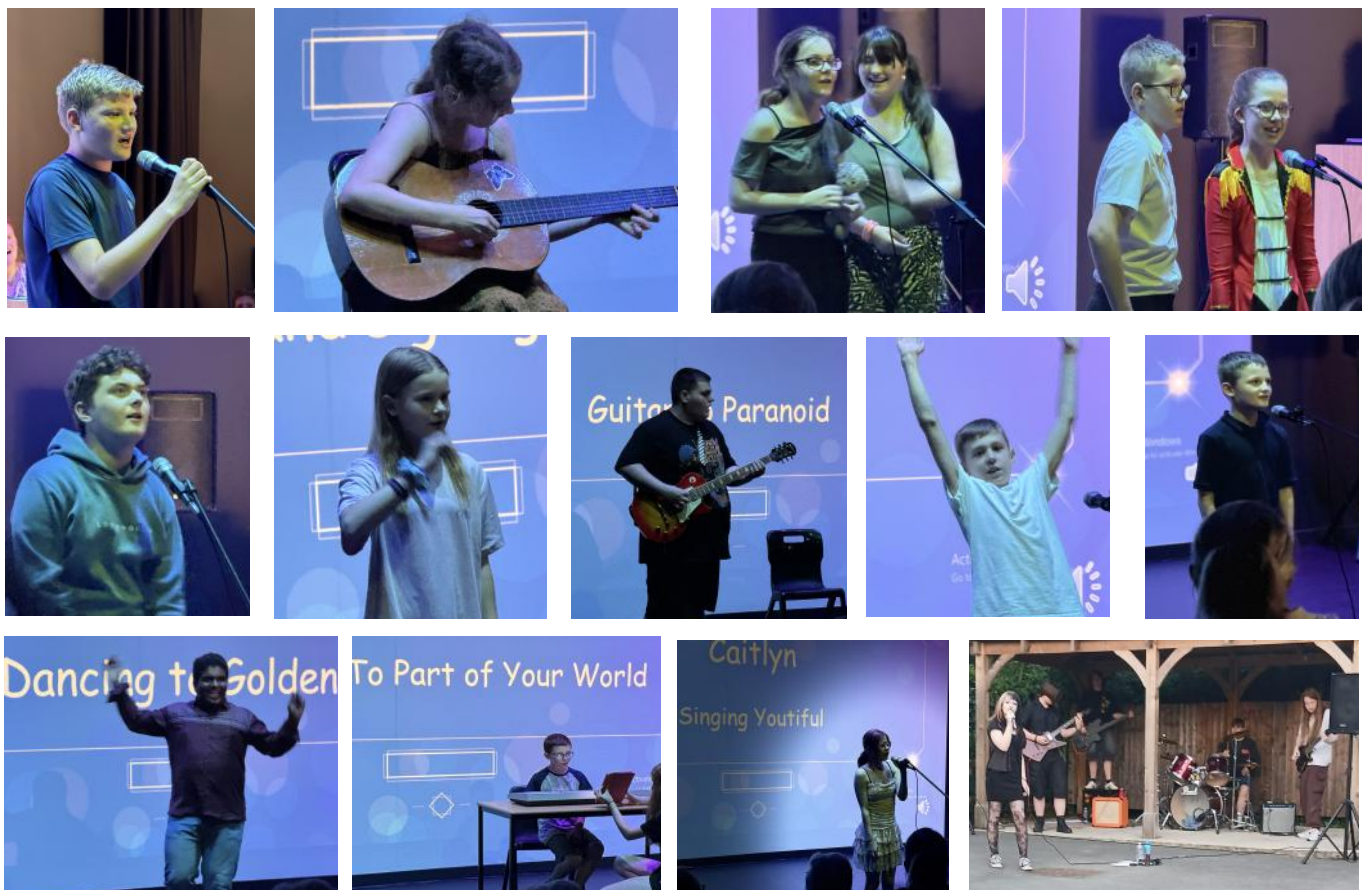
The annual talent show was, as always a real highlight of the evening, with pupils taking to the stage to showcase an impressive range of talents. From singing, dancing and musical performances to presentations based on their own interests, every act reflected the confidence, creativity and hard work of our pupils. The audience provided enthusiastic support throughout, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

After the performances, everyone enjoyed the BBQ (with compliments to the chefs, Mr Cleave, Mr Hanna and Mr Flisher!) and the chance to spend time together. Our raffle, as always was a huge success, thanks to the incredible generosity of our families and local supporters who donated such an amazing selection of prizes.

We are delighted to share that, together, we raised almost £1,500. This fantastic amount will help fund the coach for our whole-school trip to Chessington in September, ensuring all of our pupils can enjoy this exciting experience.

A special thank you goes to Lissy, a Year 12 student at Medway, and her band Nerve, who entertained everyone with their brilliant live music and helped create such a wonderful atmosphere throughout the evening.

Thank you to everyone who performed, attended, volunteered, donated prizes and supported the event. Your generosity and enthusiasm made the evening a tremendous success and a wonderful



Unicef Right of the Week

As you know, we are a Gold Rights Respecting School, and weekly we pick an Article to focus on which is shown in assembly, but also spoken about in form time on a Monday afternoon. These Articles are so valuable for the pupils to know and learn about to ensure they are aware of their rights and how these can be met.

We also discuss with the pupils what is happening in the news at the moment, and how children's rights are linked, and how they may not be being met.



The Articles we have covered this term are:

If you are interested in what the children's rights are they are all on our school website under: About Us, Awards and Accreditations/UNICEF- Gold Rights Respecting School.

Article 2	All children have these rights.
Article 3	Adults must do what's best for me.
Article 4	The government should make sure my rights are respected.
Article 5	The government should respect the right of my family to help me know about my rights.
Article 6	I should be supported to live and grow.
Article 12	I have the right to be listened to and taken seriously.
Article 13	I have the right to find out and share information.
Article 23	If I have a disability, I have the right to a special education.
Article 24	I have the right to good quality health care, to clean water and food.
Article 31	I have a right to relax and play.
Article 39	I have the right to help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

A Rights are for ALL children. UNIVERSAL	B Rights are there at BIRTH. INHERENT	C Rights CANNOT be taken away. INALIENABLE	D Rights DO NOT have to be earned. UNCONDITIONAL	E All rights are EQUALLY important. INDIVISIBLE
--	---	--	--	---

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL



Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



Arbor - A Guide for Parents and Carers

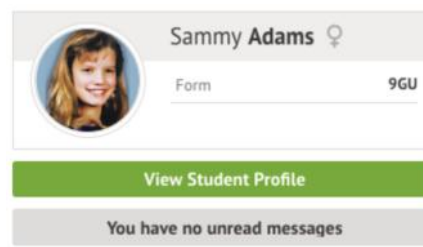
At Grange Park, we use Arbor as our parent portal, here are a few hints and tips to get the most out of the Arbor App.

Your Homepage Dashboard

The dashboard is the first screen that you will see. This gives a quick glance of the student's daily timetable, behaviour points, meals, notices, current attendance and progress.

You can see your in-app messages by clicking this button under your child's photo.

You can return to this page at any time by clicking on the school's logo or choosing Dashboard from any menu. On the homepage you'll also see sections for:



- **Statistics** - This shows information about the pupils attendance, behaviour and progress statistics for the current term.
- **Guardian consultations** - The Guardian Consultations section allows guardians to book time for Parents Evening meetings by selecting one of the available slots as per the School's setup.
- **Accounts** - The Accounts section loads the student's current Meals and other top-up account balances.
- **Trips** - Sign your child up for trips.
- **Clubs** - Sign up to revision sessions during the exam periods.
- **School Shop** - Make purchases for items.

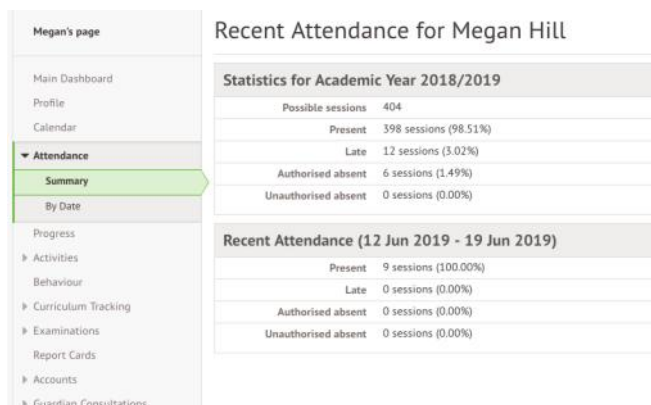
Available data on your child

If your child's school has granted access, you will be able to click on different parts of the home page to view more data on your child.

For example, clicking the attendance percentage will bring up the attendance page which breaks down the attendance figures into present, late, or absent.



Once you've clicked on Attendance or another item, you will see a menu appear like so in the left-hand side of the page you are now on:



Access your child's profile by clicking the **View Student Profile** button on your homepage.

This allows you to see basic information about your child, and highlights any unread notices or actions needing to be completed. You will be able to amend details such as your contact details, medical information, consents, and so on.

We ask that all parental consents are up to date, so please do check if you have any outstanding.

GRANGE PARK SCHOOL
SCHOOL YEAR 2026/2027

TERM 1 - 2026

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
END OF TERM 1:	Friday 16 th October 2026

TERM 2 - 2026

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Monday 2 nd November 2026
END OF TERM 2:	Friday 18 th December 2026

TERM 3 - 2027

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Monday 4 th January 2027
END OF TERM 3:	Friday 12 th February 2027

TERM 4 - 2027

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Monday 22 nd February 2027
END OF TERM 4:	Thursday 25 th March 2027

TERM 5 - 2027

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Monday 12 th April 2027
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 3 rd May 2027
END OF TERM 5:	Friday 28 th May 2027

TERM 6 - 2027

START OF TERM FOR PUPILS:	Monday 7 th June 2027
END OF TERM 6:	Thursday 22 nd July 2027