



Where Children Come First

Ms Beverley Boswell
Headteacher (BEd Hons) NPQH

The Grange Community Primary School
Avocet Way
Banbury
OXFORDSHIRE
OX16 9YA

T: 01295 257861
E: office.2058@grange.oxon.sch.uk

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Hello everyone - here we are again; Term 5 - done. Unbelievable; time has passed so quickly since Easter and the year is forging ahead with alacrity and great pace.

Reflecting on this term has filled me with pride, gratitude, and optimism. Making it to today with almost no covid darkening our doorstep had been refreshing and liberating for our school rhythm and energy. We are 'back to normal'; the old girl sailing forward with a strong headwind behind us.

Every day, our ladies in the kitchen, Sara, Becky and Emma feed us with a smile and decent grub without fail. They absolutely love our children, spoil them rotten and look after us all. Our lunch supervisors are powerhouses; encouraging our children to eat new foods and providing a relaxing and friendly environment in which to eat and socialise every lunchtime. You're the unsung heroes of our school ladies - thank you for spoiling our children.

Attendance is looking healthier at 95.10% this week and overall, 93.44% since September: I am looking for a further rise in whole school attendance next term please. Thank you for your sterling efforts.

As you have hopefully seen on Facebook, our Tough Mudders vanquished the course near Henley last Sunday. It was the most special of days; never have I witnessed anything like it. Our staff team was part of a great team of 41 - inspirational at the very least. I've always known that I am privileged to have such a great team of staff - but last weekend humbled me - it was more stressful and exhilarating than watching Wales play England at rugby! The only casualties were a pair of missing glasses, cracked ribs, bruises, grazes and sore bodies. The range of walking styles and groaning echoing around school on Monday was comical. Congratulations all of you; fingers crossed you reach 10k. A massive 'Thank You' to Claire, Jayden's mum for providing the Tough Mudder T shirts and caps - they were beauties Claire (a lot of hard work), so much appreciated.

Today sees Miss Reading's departure from The Grange. She has touched the hearts of our children and has made a difference with her dedication, kindness, care and support. Good luck Scarlett and thank you.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations today have seen the children enjoy a good old-fashioned party in true British style under beautiful blue skies. Thank you for sending in such a wonderful array of party food - it has been such a wonderful day, sorry if they cannot eat their dinner tonight - they have savaged the lot - sign of a great party!

Next term sees a lot of school social events and togetherness in the community. Key dates are:

7 th June	Term 6 Starts
7 th June - 10 th June	Bikeability Training Year 6 only
17 th June	GrangeFest
14 th July	Sports Day



Congratulations to;

Bronze Badge: Lillie C, Leo S, Maisie W, Faith W, Fleur B, George T, Joey N, Mikayla H, Zach H, Harriet CS, Jacob Y, Amber C

40 CBGs: Finn BD, Allie W

Silver Badge: Sienna S, Alma G, Betsy G, Arlo H

80 CBGs: Abigail O, Charlie M, Barney N

Gold Badge: Jayden D, Harmony FB

100 CBGs: Ella B, Joshua D

110 CBGs: Finnigan D

Platinum Badge: James W, Danila S, Lola H

130 CBGs: Gracie B

140 CBGs: Fateh K, Daisy Y

150 CBGs (Book): Josie F, James M, Max P

160 CBGs: Benjamin T

170 CBGs: Theo B

Amethyst Badge: Kayla B

Topaz Badge: Abdou D, Suki C, Amelie H

Showing the Grange Way outside school

Well done to :

James and Joseph W had a super weekend and took part in their first Park Run event. Their goal was to complete one lap but they both completed the full 5k with ease and beat Mummy and Daddy. Joseph even asked to do it again! They were absolutely buzzing afterwards and can't wait to do it again next Saturday and beat their time.

Grace S, Olive DF, Lara P and Annie B – These Grange girls who attend Jo Mills Dance School scooped many awards on Sunday with Grace being the winner across all dance genres and for her obvious love of dancing. Then Olive coming 1st for Primary Ballet and receiving a lovely trophy, also Lara being a runner up in the All Rounder category.

Ethan W achieved his level 3 swimming certificate and has moved up to level 4 where he is doing really well. Ethan also took part in a 5 mile walk with Cubs.

Swimmers that have achieved 25m: Ned O

As we go into this holiday, we of course have the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations ahead over the next week. It cannot be argued that 70 years in 'the job' is impressive.

We have asked: How important is it for us to have a sense of duty? with Rev Sarah and school staff sharing their views on our sense of duty.

We have talked about how Britain has changed in those 70 years how many families lived in crowded housing with poor facilities. And childhood didn't last as long. Most children left school to start work when they were just 14 or 15. Many of the jobs available were in heavy industry, so the work was often hard, dirty, and exhausting.

If you were a girl, you'd also go out to work - but only until you got married. After that you'd most likely become a stay-at-home housewife - which wasn't easy!

We have looked at how things were changing fast, though. In the 1950s and 60s Britain welcomed people from places all around the world, like Asia and the Caribbean. They moved to this country and made it their home, helping to make Britain a diverse, multi-ethnic, and multicultural nation.



And more and more women proved that they could have families and pursue careers. After all, even our working Queen balanced her duties to the country with bringing up a family! By the time of the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 the United Kingdom had become a very different country.

Our children have recognised that perhaps the biggest changes to all our lives have come about through technology. New inventions have changed how we work, how we travel, and, most of all, how we communicate. At the time of the Queen's coronation in 1953, a computer was a machine that filled a whole room and was operated by a team of people. Nobody then could have predicted that 70 years later, everyone would be carrying a powerful computer around in their pockets!

In the last 70 years there has also been much discussion about the environment and concern regarding climate change. In 2021 it was the Queen who welcomed scientists and world leaders to the United Nations Climate Change Conference - or COP26 - held in the UK - something that we investigated during assemblies and through our geography and personal development work. We must never underestimate the concern our children have for the world and the environment; they are Eco – beasts!

I want to thank you all for your continued support – parents, staff, governors and of course our children for a most successful term. Have a great holiday and we will see you on **7th June** – business as usual.

Don't forget the Friday Five – lots of reading please!

Enjoy all.

Ms Boswell x

