

Grange Primary School

Elder Avenue, Wickford, Essex, SS12 0LR

Tel: 01268 734420

Headteacher: Mrs M Elfenich

Deputy Headteacher: Miss B Langley



Friday 25th September 2026

Reading photos

As a school, we are keen to promote a love of reading in our pupils. We have an inviting library, daily reading of exciting class stories, celebrations and our weekly star reader awards. We currently have a bare reading display and are looking to fill it with photos of the children reading in weird and wonderful places! Please send Miss Langley any photos you have of your child reading to put on the display - the wilder the better!



Parents' evening—20th and 22nd October

This half term, parents will have a chance to meet with their child's teacher to discuss how they have settled in to their new class this school year. We will send information on how to book a 10-minute slot soon. If your child has a one-plan, you will be invited in to meet the teacher in the week of 12th October, so you will not need to book a parents' evening appointment.

National Teaching Assistants' Day

You may have seen on our Facebook page that today is National Teaching Assistants' Day. We are so grateful to have so many fantastic TAs here at Grange. They support and care for the children (and adults!) throughout the day and make sure the days run smoothly. We couldn't get by without you—thank you!



Contact Mrs Iyalla at: senco@grange.essex.sch.uk



SEND SPOTLIGHT

Did you know...

Some children can be more sensitive to their surroundings which can be very overwhelming! This may include sounds, textures, smells, movement or busy environments. This is called Sensory Processing. 🧠



Try:

Reduce the **sensory input** where possible.

If your child becomes overwhelmed, a quieter space, being outside or a short break can help.

At home...

If your child is becoming overwhelmed, even when doing something simple or in their daily routine...try a sensory break. Sensory breaks are great at resetting your brain! 💡 Try jumping, stretching, carrying something heavy, colouring or spending a few minutes somewhere calm.

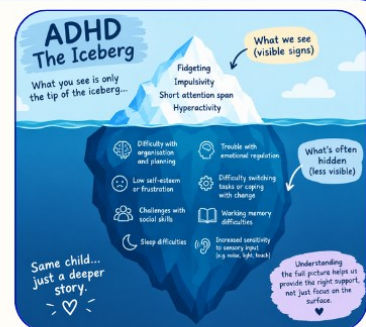


A big thank you to those who completed the SEND questionnaire. It really helps to know your views and ideas so if you haven't already please fill one out soon!

We have some exciting news coming soon regarding 'Forest School' watch this space!

In school this week...

Our staff take part in weekly SEND training to help us understand and support barriers to learning. This week: **ADHD** 🧠 We explored signs of ADHD, potential barriers to learning and practical strategies to help children feel supported, included and ready to learn.

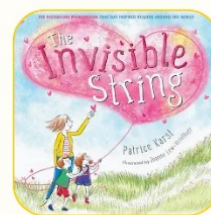


Recommended read...

Saying goodbye in the morning can be hard for many children particularly if something has changed at school or at home.

A lovely book to support separation anxiety is **The Invisible String** by **Patrice Karst**, a story about 2 children who discover that an invisible string connects them to the people they love, even when they are apart.

💡 Try talking about your child's own "invisible string" to you. You could draw an imaginary string between home and school, or put a small heart in your child's pocket as a reminder that "even when we can't see each other, we're still connected."



School council

Meet our 2026-27 school council representatives, who were awarded their badges today!



Ash



Oak



Hazel



Elder



Holly



Willow



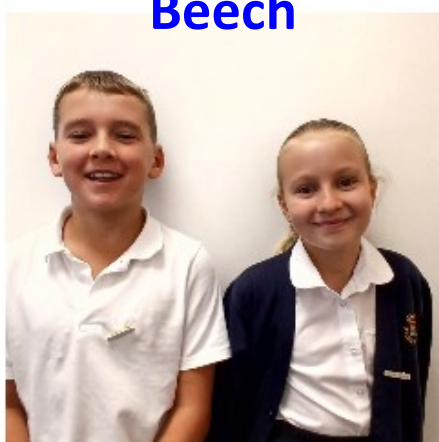
Beech



Rowan



Chestnut



Maple



Elm

Year 6 responsibilities

The children in year 6 have now been given their responsibilities for the year and were awarded their badges in assembly!



Prefects



Ambassadors



Librarians



Playleaders



Chicken crew

Dates for your diary

Please note: these are just the dates we have booked in so far! Please keep an eye on this page as it will be updated weekly and things may change.

September

Monday 28th	Self-defence assembly and workshops	
Wednesday 30th	Year 3/4 Stone Age visitors Year 5/6 trip to Layer Marney Tower	

October

Monday 12th	Dress up as a rock star for TTRS day (more info to follow)	 
Monday 12th	PTA annual general meeting—please come along!	
Tuesday 13th	Flu immunisations (information to be sent out)	 
Tuesday 20th Thursday 22nd	Parents' evening (more information to be sent out soon)	
Friday 23rd	Last day of term (children return on Monday 2nd November)	

Rewards and achievements in school

This week's Headteacher awards for **determination**, **co-operation**, **imagination** and **excellence** were awarded to the following children.

EYFS	
Tommy B	Determination
Alec C	Co-operation
Year 1 and 2	
Odran F	Determination
Esmee D	Co-operation
Callum B	Imagination
Year 3 and 4	
Daisie P	Excellence
Georgie M	Determination
Codey HD	Determination
Year 5 and 6	
Finley P	Co-operation
Parker O'C	Imagination
Marley R	Determination



Well done to our star readers this week, who were awarded a golden coin in assembly and got to choose a book from the vending machine to take home and share with their family:

EYFS and KS1 - Aoife H, Quinn A, Layla J, Gracie P and Ava N

KS2 - Mae C, Jimmy O'K, James K, Amelia Ms, Freya G and Emily H



A big well done to our attendance winners this week:

Class attendance -spin the wheel! - Willow and Ash both won chill out time!

Individual 100% attendance - Ralph C in Chestnut Class.



Celebration

We enjoy seeing what the children are proud of outside of school, so please send your photos to Miss Langley!

Evie got her 25m swimming badge!



School dinners

Next week will be week 2 on the dinner menu.



Dinner Menu Week 2



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Red	Bolognaise	Fish fingers	Roast chicken	Pork sausage	Pepperoni Pizza
Green	Pasta with tomato sauce or cheese	Veggie fingers	Quorn chicken fillet	Veggie sausage	Cheese Pizza
On the side	Garlic bread	Wedges	Roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding and gravy	Mash and gravy	Chips
Veg and salad	A choice of peas, sweetcorn, carrots and beans Salad bar				
Yellow	Jacket potato with a choice of beans, cheese or tuna				
Blue	Baguette with tuna, cheese or ham. Served with a dessert and salad/veggies of your choice.				
Dessert	Coconut and cranberry cookie	Iced school cake	Jelly	Marble cake	Angel delight
	A range of yoghurt and fruit are available each day				

EYFS photo



The class photos of Oak and Ash Class will be in the Echo on Tuesday 6th October, so keep an eye out!



12 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD INSTEAD OF "HOW WAS SCHOOL?"

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com



1

What made you laugh today?

2

Who did you spend time with today?
What did you do together?

3

What was the best part of your day?

4

What was the hardest part of your day?

5

What happened at break or lunchtime?

6

Did anything happen that felt unfair?

7

Did anyone do something kind for you today?

8

Did anything happen that made you feel upset, worried or annoyed?

9

What did you do today that you're proud of?

10

What's something interesting you learned or found out today?

11

If you could change one thing about today, what would it be?

12

What was the most surprising thing that happened today?

You don't need to ask all 12. Pick one or two and really listen.
Sometimes the best conversations start with one simple question.



Rock Star Day!

On 12th October, we will be re-launching TT Rockstars at Grange! In honour of this, we are asking for all children to channel their inner Rockstar for the day. Although only children in KS2 currently use TT Rockstars, all children will be taking part in lots of rockin' maths activities throughout the day and there may even be some prizes for the best-dressed rockers!



Nut free school

A polite reminder that we are a completely nut free school. We have several children at Grange with severe nut allergies. For these children, even a trace of nuts can cause a dangerous medical emergency, so please ensure that children's packed lunches do not contain any of the following:



- Nuts
- Nut products (such as fruit and nut bars, Nutella or pesto)
- Items that say "may contain nuts" (e.g. some chocolate bars, biscuits and cereal bars)



Christmas performances

We know that parents are awaiting dates for our Christmas performances so they can book the time off of work if necessary. Although we haven't even started planning these yet, the dates are below. Please remember that, due to the number of children and the size of the school hall, we can only allow 2 tickets per child for the performances. We also do not allow younger siblings to attend the shows as we want all eyes on our fantastic children, so please either arrange child care or book into our creche in the morning performances! The dates are as follows:

- KS1 Nativity—Monday 14th December at 9:30am and 1:30pm
- Year 3/4 Christmas show—Tuesday 15th December at 9:30am and 1:30pm
- Year 5/6 Christmas show—Wednesday 16th December at 9:30am and 1:30pm
- EYFS Nativity at 9:30 am

Breakfast and Twilight Club



Just a quick reminder if you need to use Breakfast or Twilight Club, please try to book in ahead of time so that we know your child is coming. We understand this isn't always possible but please try to do so if you can. Also, a polite reminder that Twilight Club finishes at 5:30. Please ensure your child is collected by this time as the staff members have homes to go to as well! Thank you.

More to celebrate!

A big well done to everybody who has received a gold card, certificate or postcard from their class teacher this week!



Harvest Festival

On Monday 5th October, we will be holding a Harvest Festival assembly in school. The children will be learning some songs and we ask that children bring in a donation which will be sent to the Wickford Food Bank run by the Salvation Army. We support them every year and they are always incredibly grateful for the donations they receive from Grange! Please send your child in with something to donate such as:

- Packets of rice or cereal
- Tinned meat, fish or fruit
- Long-life milk
- Tea or coffee
- Tinned vegetables



- Pasta
- Pasta sauces
- Jam or marmalade
- Toiletry items (such as toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant etc).





JOIN OUR PTA COMMITTEE!

Make a difference
for our children 

All current committee members will step down,
unfortunately only 1 is looking to stand again.

We therefore need new members to keep our PTA running and to continue
supporting our school and our children.



CHAIRPERSON

Leads and supports
the PTA, helping to
drive our events
and fundraising.



VICE CHAIR

Supports the
Chairperson and
helps to keep things
running smoothly.



SECRETARY

Keeps records,
takes minutes and
helps with
communication.



TREASURER

Manages funds,
keeps financial
records and
supports our
fundraising.



Meet
new people



Share
your ideas



Support
our school



Create amazing
opportunities
for our children

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Just enthusiasm, ideas and a willingness to get involved.



PLEASE ATTEND OUR AGM



Monday 12th October



7.30pm



In the Zone

All
Parents
Welcome! 



We need at least **12 people** to attend
to reach Quorum to vote these new members in.



SUPPORT



COMMUNITY



OPPORTUNITIES



BRIGHTER FUTURE

