

# Grange Primary School

Elder Avenue, Wickford, Essex, SS12 0LR

Tel: 01268 734420

Headteacher: Mrs M Elfenich

Deputy Headteacher: Miss B Langley



Friday, 17th April 2026

## Welcome back!

It has been great to welcome the children back for the summer term this week! Everyone is already back to great routines and working hard. It's been really lovely to see all of the children playing together on the field now at lunch time - and to see a little bit of sunshine here and there!



## Breakfast and Twilight club

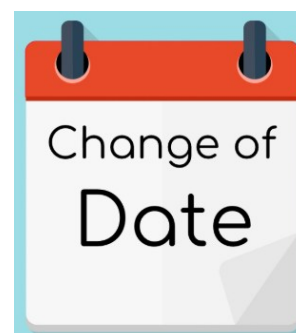
**PLEASE  
BOOK  
IN ADVANCE**



Can we please ask that parents try to book children in to breakfast and Twilight clubs in advance please. We understand that occasionally you need your child to attend last minute, but please try to ensure that they are booked beforehand where possible. You will find that you are unable to book a space on the day, but booking for both clubs is open and available before this. Thank you for your co-operation.

## INSET day change

Please be aware that we have changed an INSET day for the next school year. Originally, we had a planned INSET day for Monday 2nd November, but due to Wickford collaborative training now taking place, the new date for the INSET day is Friday 27th November instead. Hopefully this gives you enough notice to make any arrangements necessary for childcare in advance!



## Chicken sitters



A big thank you to everybody who gave up time to come and see the chickens over the Easter break! We (and the chickens!) really appreciate it! We hope you have enjoyed eating their delicious eggs too!

## Year 1 and 2 exotic animal encounter

Year 1 and 2 had some very exciting visitors on Monday. As part of their learning about hot and cold countries, they got to meet some different creatures from all over the globe! The children were really sensible - and also very brave, touching and holding lots of the different animals. Here are just some of the photos of our wonderful day!



## Dates for your diary



### April

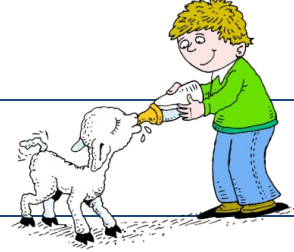
**Tuesday 21st**

Year 3 and 4 Benin workshops

### May

**Thursday 7th**

EYFS school trip to Barleylands



**WB 11th May**

KS2 SATs week

**Monday 18th**

Year 5/6 trip to the Tower of London



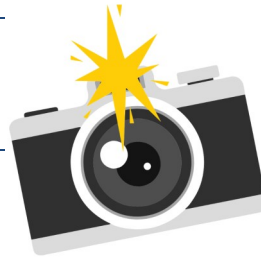
**Monday 25th—  
Friday 29th**

Half term. Children return on Monday 1st June

### June

**Wednesday 3rd**

Class photos



**Monday 8th**

INSET day - school closed to pupils

**Wednesday 10th -  
Friday 12th**

Year 6 Mersea residential

**Friday 12th**

Year 5 bush craft day



**Thursday 18th**

Year 1 and 2 trip to Colchester Castle

**Thursday 18th and  
Friday 19th**

PTA Father's Day sale

**Thursday 25th**

SEN parents coffee morning



## Celebration

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

**Jessica was awarded gymnast of the month at her gymnastics club.**



**Jake won player of the match at football.**

**Mollie went up to stage 3 at swimming.**



Seren had 4 dances at a competition and came away with 4 trophies!



Evie got her 20m swimming badge.

Lucy got her emerald beam acro medal and Fifi got her junior level 4 medal in gymnastics.



Austin won man of the match at football.

Lily-May was awarded student of the week at kung fu.



Gracie was a bridesmaid for her Auntie and Uncle.



Vinnie got his first ever medal at football.



Poppy got her yellow belt in martial arts.

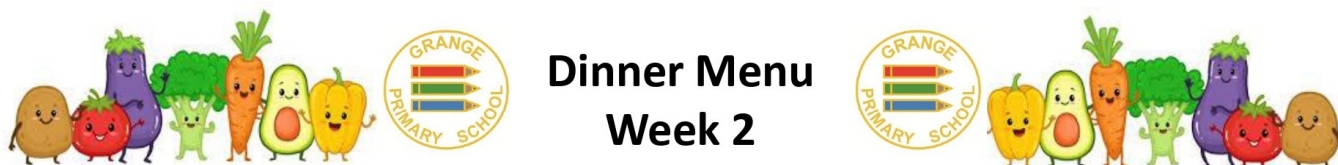
## More to celebrate!

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



## School dinners

Next week will be week 2 of the dinner menu. As ever, please look through the menu with your child and discuss the options so that they know what they would like! Some parents have asked about allergens for the new menu—these have been sent out but can also be found on the school website [here](#).



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

## Clubs next half term

The new clubs this half term are below. There are still spaces for some of these clubs if you haven't already booked!

### Monday:

- Dance with Katherine (all years)
- KS2 boys' football (years 3-6)
- KS2 girls' football (years 3-6)



### Tuesday:

- Puzzle club with Mrs Townsend (all years)
- Young Carers with Mrs Black (invitation only)
- Art club (all years)
- Drama class with The Drama Centre (year 1 upwards—must be 6)



### Wednesday:

- KS1 striking and fielding (EYFS—year 2)
- Gym trail with Mrs Newton (invitation only)
- KS2 computer skills with Mr Pickup (years 3-6)



### Thursday:

- Art club (all years)

### Friday:

- KS2 striking and fielding (years 3-6)
- Netball (years 5 and 6)



**Please note that drama class is new! We have sent out a letter with information today. Bookings must be done through the link on the letter.**

## Rewards and achievements in school

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

EYFS	
Madison R	<b><i>Determination</i></b>
Ollie P	<b><i>Determination</i></b>
Year 1 and 2	
Bonnie R	<b><i>Determination</i></b>
Bonnie T	<b><i>Co-operation</i></b>
Esmee D	<b><i>Excellence</i></b>
Year 3 and 4	
Josh O	<b><i>Excellence</i></b>
Esme S	<b><i>Imagination</i></b>
Zion O	<b><i>Determination</i></b>
Year 5 and 6	
Connor J	<b><i>Determination</i></b>
George W	<b><i>Excellence</i></b>
Joshua A	<b><i>Co-operation</i></b>



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** - Rudy H, Daisy J, Reti O, Noah W and Lucas F

**KS2** - Amelia S, Bobby B, Maximus H, Ava M, Holly A and Caitlin B

A big well done to our attendance winners this week:

**Class attendance -spin the wheel!** - Oak Class who got to feed and play with the chickens!

**Individual 100% attendance** - Stanley T in Maple Class



## PTA events



As we prepare for the Grange PTA Summer Fair on Saturday 27th June 2026, we're excited to share an easy way for our local community to help raise valuable funds for the school. We've partnered with local estate agents who will place advertising boards outside homes in the lead-up to the fair. For every board displayed, the PTA receive £12!

**How you can help:** We're looking for families and local residents who would be happy to have a board displayed outside their home for 8 weeks. It's completely hassle-free and a simple way to support the school. It doesn't matter where you live – whether you're on a busy road, a quiet street, or even a cul-de-sac. The aim is to have boards spread all across the town, so every location helps!

**Sign up here:** <https://tinyurl.com/mvkxm4fk>

**Get involved in the fair!** We're also looking for local community groups and performers to be part of the day – whether it's singing, dancing, martial arts, or something unique! If you'd like to perform, please get in touch.

**Thank you for your continued support – every contribution helps us create more opportunities and memorable experiences for all our children!**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS

Many 'beauty' filters smooth skin, reshape facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is 'normal' or attractive, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearances.

### PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT

Filtered images can often attract more 'likes' and positive comments. This can encourage children and young people to rely on editing tools to gain others' approval, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.

### LOW SELF-ESTEEM

Regularly viewing heavily filtered content can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and reduced self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.

### HIDDEN ADVERTISING

Some filters are linked to beauty products or trends, subtly promoting third-party brands. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, while also sharing personal data – such as facial images and usage habits – with apps and third parties.

### BLURRED REALITY

As filters become more advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish edited content from real life, especially when filters are used in everyday photos and videos.

### SEXUALISED EDITS

Certain tools can make users appear older or more sexualised. This may attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and expose young people to unsafe interactions.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### START OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them. Ask the children and young people in your care how filtered images make them feel and encourage honest discussion without judgement.

### REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL

Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of real life. Emphasise that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.

### CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS

When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This builds critical thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.

### PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE

Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, friendships, and creative interests, so that confidence isn't tied solely to online validation.

## Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids N Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She is an expert contributor for Internet Matters, offering practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, TalkTV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.



See full reference list on our website



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