

Grange Primary School

Elder Avenue, Wickford, Essex, SS12 0LR

Tel: 01268 734420

Headteacher: Mrs M Elfenich

Deputy Headteacher: Miss B Langley



Friday 9th October 2026

Rock Star Day!

On Monday, 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!



Harvest Festival

A huge thank you to the Grange community for your generous donations for our Harvest Festival assembly this week. It is amazing to see how much we have collected and we know that the Salvation Army will be amazed at how much there is for them to collect! We are always so proud of how kind and supportive our families are of others. Thank you.



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



LAUNCH DAY!

AT GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Come to school
dressed as your
favourite rockstar!



TIMES TABLES ACTIVITIES
will be taking place
throughout the day!

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.

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)



November



Tuesday 3rd	Year 1/2 trip to Hyde Hall
Monday 9th	Individual school photos
Wednesday 11th	Years 3-5 VR headset workshops
Thursday 26th	SEND parent coffee morning
Friday 27th	INSET day - school closed to pupils



December

Thursday 3rd	Whole school trip to the pantomime (funded by the PTA)
Thursday 10th	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas dinner day
WB Monday 14th	School Christmas performances
Friday 18th	Sparkle Day! Break for Christmas holidays begins



Rewards and achievements in school

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

EYFS	
Mason L	Determination
Mason N	Determination
Year 1 and 2	
Bonnie T	Imagination
Savannah W	Imagination
Dolly B	Imagination
Year 3 and 4	
Darcie J	Excellence
Evie S	Excellence
Harper Jer	Determination
Jade F	Determination
Year 5 and 6	
Logan B	Imagination
Freya G	Determination
Holly A	Excellence



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 - Heidi A, Lexie P, Ava C, Ruby B and Rudy H

KS2 - Raya G, Lucy M, Jessica B, Thea W, Molly W and Lenny C

A big well done to our attendance winners this week:

Class attendance -spin the wheel! - Hazel won teacher's choice!

Individual 100% attendance - Reggie W in Oak Class



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 week.



Joshua moved up a level at swimming.

Freya received a distinction for her grade 1 freestyle dance and her grade 2 modern jazz exams.



Elsie went up to yellow hat at swimming.

Poppy earned a green belt at 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!



A plea from EYFS

If any families have any barbies or small dolls which are similar that they no longer want, we would love to have them for the EYFS haberdashery! The idea is that the children will create clothes for them, so we do not need any clothes with them. Thank you!



If anybody has any spare guttering, Mrs Nelson would be very grateful! It is going to be used for forest schools and can be any size or shape! If you do happen to have any laying around at home or are able to get any freebies, please bring it to the front office and let them know it is for Mrs Nelson. Thank you!

School dinners

Next week will be week 1 on the dinner menu. Please talk through the options with your child before they come into school so that they know what they would like! We always discuss the options in school but some children need a bit more time! Thank you.



Dinner Menu Week 1



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Red	Macaroni cheese	Chicken burger Beef burger	Sausage and scrambled eggs	Diced chicken curry (mild or korma)	Chicken nuggets
Green	Pasta with tomato sauce or cheese	Southern-fried quorn burger	Veggie sausage and scrambled eggs	Diced quorn curry (mild or korma)	Quorn nuggets
On the side	Garlic bread	Criss-cross fries	Hash brown, beans and home-made bread	Rice and naan bread	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				

The food suppliers we use have changed the ingredients in some of the food items we get, so if your child has any allergies or intolerances, please have a look at the allergen documents on the school website [here](#). If you have not already informed us of any allergies or intolerances, please make sure you speak to the ladies in the office - thank you.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHAT'S REAL ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Children are growing up in a digital world where seeing and hearing no longer mean they can always believe. One major emerging concern is what UNESCO describes as 'synthetic media': AI-generated audio, images or video, including deepfakes, that can convincingly imitate a person's voice or likeness. As these tools become easier to access, children may encounter manipulated content, cloned voices, and fabricated messages that appear or sound real. Parents and educators therefore need to help them question what they experience online, which can often feel harder when we're experiencing it for the first time, too.

AI-GENERATED CONTENT

Artificial intelligence can now create realistic images, audio, video, and text in a very short time. Online, children may encounter fabricated news clips, AI 'influencers', fake screenshots, or entirely invented events without ever realising they are fake. The real challenge is that this content often looks polished and convincing. Parents and educators need to help children understand that professional-looking content is not automatically reliable and that all digital material should be questioned before it is trusted or shared.

DEEPFAKES LOOK CONVINCING

'Deepfakes' use AI to alter or create images and videos that appear to show a real person doing or saying something that never happened. They are sometimes used to spread false information, embarrass someone, or target people through bullying and image-based abuse. Even when others know the content is fake, the emotional and reputational impact can still be significant – and, in some cases, potentially life threatening. Deepfakes therefore need to be treated as both a digital literacy and safeguarding concern.

FALSE INFORMATION SPREADS

Misinformation is false or misleading information shared without necessarily intending harm, while disinformation is deliberately created to deceive others. Both types can spread quickly through social media, messaging apps, and video platforms. Their popularity, repetition, and confident presentation can make these false claims feel true. Children may also be more likely to trust content shared by friends, influencers, or familiar accounts, making source-checking and verification essential parts of developing their digital literacy.

VOICES CAN BE CLONED

AI tools can copy someone's voice using only a short audio sample. A child may receive a call or voice note that appears to come from a parent, friend, teacher, or trusted adult, but the audio is not genuine. These messages can be used to create panic, request money, obtain information, or pressure a child into secrecy. Hearing a familiar voice is no longer enough to confirm someone's identity, especially when a message is urgent or unusual.

ACCOUNTS MAY BE FAKE

Not every online profile represents the person it claims to be. Fake accounts may impersonate another pupil, a teacher, a family member, or someone connected to the school. They can be used for acts such as bullying, scams, grooming, or manipulation. A convincing photograph, username, or message history does not prove that an account is genuine. Children should be cautious when someone asks for their or someone else's personal information, images, passwords, money, or access to private conversations.

ALGORITHMS INFLUENCE REALITY

Many online platforms, such as social media, are shaped by algorithms that recommend content based on what users view, like, search for, and share. This means children do not see a neutral or balanced version of the world. They may repeatedly encounter similar opinions, misleading claims, or increasingly extreme content. Over time, this repetition can make an opinion feel more common or credible than it really is, because the child may never see this opinion opposed or countered.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PAUSE, CHECK, COMPARE

Teach children not to accept content as true simply because it looks professional, sounds confident, or has been widely shared. Encourage them to pause, identify the original source, check the date, and compare the claim with another reliable source. Ask questions such as: Who created this? What evidence is provided? Could anything have been altered? What is the real motive? Regular, age-appropriate practice helps children develop the critical thinking needed to navigate their online worlds.

VERIFY ANOTHER WAY

A familiar face, voice, or account is no longer enough to confirm someone's identity. If a message is unusual, urgent, or asks for secrecy, money, personal information, or immediate action, children should verify it through a separate route. They should be encouraged to call the person directly using a known number, speak to them face to face, or check with another trusted adult. Families can also agree a private 'code' phrase to help them authenticate genuine emergency messages from each other. This should be something random, non-personal, and known only to the family.

KEEP TALKING OPENLY

Create regular, non-judgemental conversations about what children see, hear, and experience online. Make sure you use parental controls where appropriate and understand each platform's age restrictions. Asking children about new platforms, influencers, unusual messages, or content they are unsure about can help open up valuable conversations. Avoid immediately blaming the child or removing their device, as this may discourage them from disclosing their concerns in the future.

SAVE, REPORT, SUPPORT

When fake content, impersonation, or manipulation targets a child, take it seriously, even if the material is fabricated. Save relevant messages, usernames, links, and screenshots without sharing the content any further. Report it through the platform, follow safeguarding procedures, and escalate concerns involving threats, grooming, sexual content, coercion, or extortion. Remind children that creating or sharing this content, even as a so-called 'joke', can have serious consequences for them and others, and may be difficult to remove once shared online.

Meet Our Expert

Philippa Wraithmell is an educator, author and digital transformation specialist with expertise in digital safeguarding, online safety, AI in education and whole-school digital strategy. She is the Founder and CEO of EdRupture and works with schools, organisations and policymakers to help create safer, more ethical and more effective digital learning environments for children and young people.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



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

