

# THE GRANGE THERAPEUTIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 2023

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. Here I am having nearly completed my first half term in my new role as Principal and I can honestly say what a pleasure it has been. I am so honoured to have this role.

When I accepted the role one key aspect I wanted to bring to the role is to ensure you as Parents and Carers feel more involved in the day to day work we do here. I want to keep you up to date with all the hard work that the pupils and staff are doing everyday.

This newsletter will also be a key way to share key dates and information.

If you have anything that you would like to see included then please contact us using the Newsletter email address.

[newsletter@knossington.rutland.sch.uk](mailto:newsletter@knossington.rutland.sch.uk)

I would like to thank those parents that I have already had contact with and I am very keen to receive any feedback on how we can continue to improve this amazing school.



We have updated the signage to welcome all visitors to the school



## NEW VOCATIONAL CENTRE

We are constantly looking at how we can provide the best facilities on site for all pupils and our new Vocational Centre is the latest addition to our already superb facilities. We will be able to provide Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Building and Construction. With this we have new staff who will be leading in these areas. Phil Gelder (Motor Vehicle) and Mark Galleozzie (Building and Construction) and they will be supported by Kev Wright and Colin Osborn.

## NEW SCIENCE LAB

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Whilst continuing with the site improvements, we have completely updated our Science lab. A new central island has been installed for pupils to be able to work more comfortably and also complete their practical lessons.



## GYM REVAMPED

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The School Gym has had its floor renewed and new Basketball rings added.



## SAFEGUARDING

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We would like to raise awareness of the risks linked to an app called " Superfy". This has an age rating of 12 and is a social chat app that, "uses cutting-edge AI to instantly connect you with just the right person to give you the answers, advice and recommendations you need".

It is reported that young people are using this to connect and meet with other young people. Unfortunately, following contact from a parent, we have had to raise a concern with external services to report that adults are using this platform as a way of chatting to minors for the purposes of grooming. We have been in contact with [info@superfy.com](mailto:info@superfy.com) and have been advised that you can report concerns through the app by entering the users' profile and on the top right-hand corner you will see the " report button".

Please do discuss this with your children to raise awareness of the risks.

If you have any concerns, please do call the school office and ask to speak to a safeguarding officer.

## THERAPY

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Here at The Grange, we have two key clinical strategies which inform our work as a Therapeutic School and help us to support our students to get the most they can from their education. The strategies are integrated at lots of levels across the school, so not only does this include the work that the clinical team do with one:one therapy and therapeutic groups, but it also involves how we think about the school environment itself, the training we provide to staff and the way we work with the students through our daily interactions. The strategies have been developed by Outcomes First Group and accredited by the British Psychological Society, so they are recognised as best practice across the country.



## Trauma Informed Practice

Our first strategy is Trauma Informed Practice, which focuses on Connection, Co-regulation and Co-reflection for students who have experienced complex trauma. This approach helps us to understand the impact of trauma on a child's early experiences and guides us to respond thoughtfully to the young person. In helping our students to feel safe and to build trusting relationships, this in turn can help them to manage the world and to engage in their education much more successfully.



## Autism Strategy

Our second strategy is known as AAD (Accept, Ask and Develop), which promotes our therapeutic approach for students who have Autism. Through our specialist understanding, we can work with our Autistic students in a way that is better suited to their individual needs and the way they see and engage in the world, which will be unique for each student. Most importantly, the AAD strategy focuses on celebrating and encouraging the wonderful strengths our children with Autism have, helping them to experience more positive emotions and make meaningful achievements.

We have lots of exciting plans for our clinical strategies over the next year, should you have any questions about them, please do not hesitate to be in touch with a member of the clinical team.

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## KEY CONTACTS

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**Jonathan Sleath** - Principal

**Melissa Chauhan** - Clinical Lead & Consultant Psychotherapist

**Peter Dolan** - Head of care

**Gaynor Donley-Williams** - Deputy Headteacher/ Quality of Education

**Katherine McKenna** - Assistant Headteacher/Personal Development/ Head of Lower School

**Owen Whelband** - Assistant Headteacher/Behaviour and attitudes/Lead of Vocational plus

**Ryan Hurst** - SENCO

**Thomas Czuchaj** - Head of Key stage 3 and 4

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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**Year 11's Leavers ceremony** - Saturday 1st July 2023 at 11am - 1pm

**Sports Day** - Tbc

**Summer Term** - Monday 5th June - Friday 21st July 2023 at 1.30pm

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# PARENTAL SURVEY

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Please find a link below for our Summer Term Parental Survey. You can help us form a better partnership between school and home by answering the questions on the survey.

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/E/YH0P3SFZFQ](https://forms.office.com/E/YH0P3SFZFQ)

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## GET TO KNOW US

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This term we would like to introduce you to the office staff, many may know their voices well, but not met in person.



Jacqui Wright  
Pupil Administrator



Laura Townsend  
Office Manager



Bev Sussmes  
Administrator

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## NEW WEBSITE

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Our website has recently been revamped. There is a whole host of information that can be found on the website. If there is anything else you would like to know please do not hesitate to contact the office on 01664 454 264 or [office@knossington.rutland.sch.uk](mailto:office@knossington.rutland.sch.uk)

[HTTPS://WWW.THEGRANGETHERAPEUTICSCHOOL.CO.UK/](https://www.thegrangetherapeuticschool.co.uk/)

This is our first edition of The Grange newsletter - if you have any ideas or suggestions as to what you would like covered please email [newsletter@knossington.rutland.sch.uk](mailto:newsletter@knossington.rutland.sch.uk).

The next change we would like to propose is to introduce a parents evening which would bridge the gap between school and home.

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