Autumn 1 - 2026

Grangefield School
Flying high. Spreading our wings.

Grangefield Reading Newsletter

What an incredible week we've had at Grangefield for our Literature Festival! We've been delighted to welcome three fantastic authors into school: **B. Ware, Olly Lendon and Charlotte Taylor.** They have inspired our children through engaging workshops, exciting podcasts and brilliant assemblies, giving pupils the opportunity to meet real authors, explore their creativity and discover the magic of storytelling. It has been wonderful to see the children so enthusiastic about reading and writing throughout the week.

There has been plenty happening in the classrooms, too! Every class has been developing their oracy skills through dramatic reading, bringing characters and stories to life with expression, intonation and confidence. Our whole-school VIPERS reading sessions have centred around the brilliant book *The Tunnel*, with questions carefully adapted to provide increasing challenge as the children progress from Year 1 through to Year 6. We have also collaborated on a very special whole-school story, with every class from Year 1 to Year 6 contributing the next part of the adventure. Alongside this, teachers have been sharing their love of reading by visiting other classes to read stories aloud. The children have also been exploring their creativity through our *Story in a Box* activity, using mysterious and intriguing objects to spark their imaginations and inspire their own storytelling.

Another highlight was our after-school **Book-Nic**, which welcomed over 180 pupils! The children enjoyed relaxing with books and listening to stories read by our teachers, celebrating the simple pleasure of sharing a good story together. It was fantastic to see so many pupils choosing to spend their after-school time immersed in books and enjoying stories as part of our wider school community.

The excitement, creativity and love of reading shown by the children throughout the festival have been wonderful to see. It has been fantastic to bring our school community together to celebrate books, authors and the power of imagination. We hope the week has inspired the children to discover new authors, explore different genres and, most importantly, continue to enjoy reading and writing for pleasure.

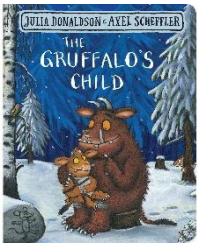
Here's what some of our pupils had to say about the week:

"I loved writing our story in a box. The items were mysterious and intriguing." — Lottie

"It was incredible seeing so many authors. I loved taking part in the workshops." — Reuben

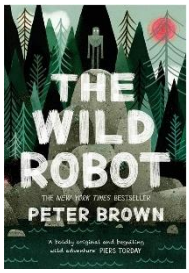
A huge thank you to our visiting authors, staff and everyone who helped make Grangefield Literature Festival such a memorable week. We can't wait to see where our children's imaginations take them next!

Book Recommendations



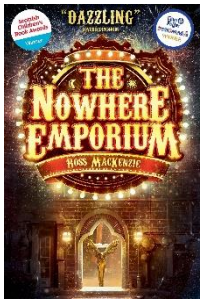
Gruffalo Granny – Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

Venture back into the deep, dark wood in this much-loved sequel to The Gruffalo! Curious about the Big Bad Mouse, the Gruffalo's child sets off on a snowy night to find him, despite her father's warnings. With its playful rhymes, memorable characters and wonderfully suspenseful moments, this is a fantastic story to share as a family, encouraging children to use their imaginations and enjoy the magic of storytelling.



The Wild Robot – Peter Brown

A heartwarming adventure about Roz, a robot who finds herself alone on a wild island and must learn to survive alongside its animals. Full of humour, friendship and exciting moments, it offers plenty to discuss together and is a great choice for developing readers who are ready for a longer story.



The Nowhere Emporium – Ross Mackenzie

When Daniel discovers a mysterious shop filled with extraordinary wonders, he is drawn into a world of magic, secrets and danger. An imaginative, atmospheric adventure that encourages children to make predictions, explore complex characters and get lost in a richly imagined world. It is also our 'Book of the Month' for KS2.

Become a Word Count Warrior!

At Grangefield, we love celebrating our reading achievements! Children can become **Word Count Warriors** by beating the total number of words they read in the previous school year. In Year 3, children who reach their target will earn a **Bronze Bookworm Badge**, followed by a **Silver Bookworm Badge in Year 4** and a **Gold Bookworm Badge in Year 5**. By Year 6, the challenge reaches its ultimate reward: children who beat their previous year's word count will have the exciting opportunity to lift our Word Count Warrior Trophy and take it home for a short time to celebrate their fantastic achievement! It's a brilliant way to encourage children to keep reading, challenge themselves and develop a lifelong love of books.

