



# Avanti Insight

Official Newsletter for Avanti Grange Secondary School

Sept 2024

## A Message from the Principal

We are delighted to welcome you back to another exciting academic year at Avanti Grange Secondary School. The start of term has gone exceptionally well, and it's been a joy to see our students settling into their routines with enthusiasm and focus.

We were honoured to have a very positive visit from our CEO Designate this week. He was incredibly impressed by the energy and ambition evident throughout the school, and we are proud of the hard work our staff and students continue to demonstrate each day.

Our Co-Curricular Clubs Programme is off to a fantastic start, with over 30 clubs now up and running. From sports and music to science and debating, there is something for everyone, and we are thrilled by the high level of participation across all year groups.

We are also pleased to announce that our Open Evening event in October is already sold out! Due to the overwhelming interest, we will be releasing more tickets soon to accommodate families eager to see our wonderful school in action.

In other exciting news, our D&T workshops and Art studios are now fully operational and buzzing with creativity. Students are making the most of these state-of-the-art facilities, producing some incredible work that we can't wait to showcase later in the year.

Lastly, following Mr Martin's communication last week regarding lunchtime systems, we have been monitoring and assessing the lunchtime queuing process on a daily basis. As a result, we are implementing a staggered lunchtime queuing system starting on Monday to help reduce wait times and ensure all students have ample time to enjoy their meals.

We look forward to continuing this term with the same positivity and energy and appreciate your ongoing support.



## Introducing: 36 Views of Mount Fuji

We are excited to share the addition of 36 Views of Mount Fuji, a series of 19th-century woodblock prints, to our school's art displays. These beautiful pieces have been selected for their deep connection to the beliefs of the Avanti Way, emphasising mindfulness, perseverance, and harmony with nature. Hokusai's series also reflects our value of Enriching Diversities, showing Mount Fuji in different conditions, reminding us that diverse perspectives enhance our understanding. Through open dialogue and embracing differences, we foster growth and a deeper connection to the world.

Next week, students will explore the links between these prints and our school's core values in a special assembly. We will also feature a single piece of this art in Avanti Insight so that you too can share in the lessons it teaches us. We encourage you to discuss the artwork and its meanings with your children –perhaps over the dinner table! It's a wonderful opportunity to deepen their understanding of how art can reflect our shared values.



This week features **South Wind, Clear Sky - (1830-32)** Hokusai's "South Wind, Clear Sky", part of his "Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji", captures Mount Fuji in calm morning light, symbolising harmony, and resilience. At Avanti Grange, this image resonates with our belief in Realising Potential. Like Mount Fuji, we aim to nurture intellectual, emotional, and spiritual growth, striving towards our highest goals.

**Courageous – Curious - Resilient**



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## The Importance of Literacy at Avanti Grange

At Avanti Grange, literacy is at the heart of our students' success. We are committed to developing reading, writing, and oracy skills through daily exposure to high-quality texts, writing opportunities across all subjects, and fostering confident verbal communication. Our whole-school Avanti Grange Reads programme, combined with resources like Bedrock Learning, ensures students have the tools they need to thrive academically and personally. We encourage parents to support these efforts at home through regular reading, writing, and even listening to audiobooks or podcasts to further enhance literacy development. Look out for our recommendations for reading, scheduled to be sent to you in the coming weeks.

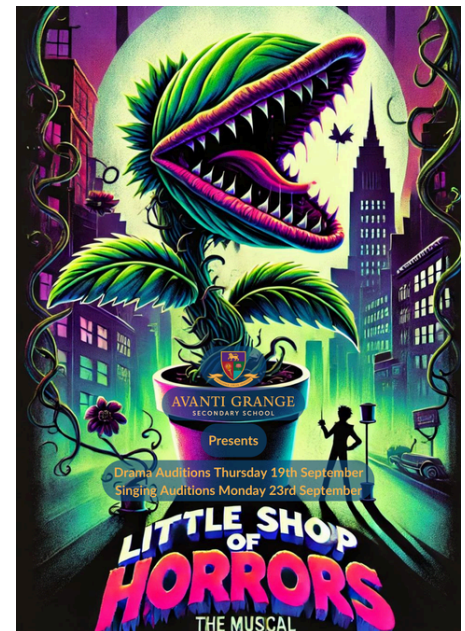
## Exciting Start to Our School Production!

We are thrilled to announce that we have just hosted our first rehearsal for this year's school production, Little Shop of Horrors! It was fantastic to see over 80 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 come together with so much enthusiasm and energy. During the rehearsal, we introduced the musical and explained the commitment required to make this production a success. The students were tasked with creating their audition pieces in groups of 3, and we're already seeing some great ideas forming. Auditions will take place next Thursday, 19th September. With limited roles available, we encourage all students to give their best in preparing. We wish everyone the best of luck and can't wait to see what they bring to the stage!

## The Sutton House Cup Returns!

After last year's nail-biting finale, with House Gratitude snatching victory by a whisker, we're back for another year of fierce competition! House Respect came oh-so-close to glory, only to be cruelly denied in the final half term. Now, with fresh faces and new energy in Integrity, Empathy, and Discipline, could one of these underdogs rise to claim the cup?

Insider whispers suggest House Courage is tipped for a second win this year, with a strong Year 7 intake and new staff backing their bid for glory. The first challenge? Cross Country! Let the games begin!



## Staff Spotlight: Lily Wrighton – Mathematics Teacher

**Why did you want to work in school?** I have always enjoyed learning, and I loved my time at school. I wanted to inspire young people the same way some of my teachers inspired me. I remember one teacher who was incredibly passionate about maths, and I strive to bring that same energy into all of my lessons.

**What would you be doing if you were not working at Avanti Grange?** I would probably be travelling the world. I love learning about different cultures and exploring new places!

**What was the last book you read?** The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

**What are your favourite hobbies?** Reading is one of my favourite things to do, I always have my kindle in my bag! I enjoy spending time with my loved ones and going on different adventures. I also love food, both eating and cooking!

**Do you have any pets?** I have 2 beautiful (but very lively) dogs.