



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Letter Exchange invite, Exploring our Heritage & The Grove Business Directory
- Autumn events: Coffee Morning at Brontë House & the 1812 Gala Dinner

Prize Day: Words of Wisdom from Becky Ives

We were delighted to welcome Becky Ives (94-04), presenter and reporter, as our Guest of Honour at this year's Prize Day on Saturday 27 June.

Sharing stories from her own journey, Becky reflected on the importance of resilience, determination and commitment - values that lie at the heart of the Grovian experience. Her words offered our students an inspiring reminder that success is rarely a straight path and that challenges can help shape who we become.

Prize Day also saw our Chair of Governors, Alan Wintersgill, launch The Grove's first Giving Week, bringing our community together to support transformational bursaries. The final Giving Week total is now in – turn the page to discover the incredible amount raised by our community!

An Evening That Can Change a Life

Join us for a truly special evening on Saturday 14 November, as we celebrate the first anniversary of the 1812 Society at our inaugural 1812 Society Gala Dinner in the Dining Hall at Woodhouse Grove.

Tickets: £100 per person | Table of 8: £760

Enjoy a drinks reception, live music, a three-course candlelit dinner, guest speaker, entertainment and silent auction, all in support of the 1812 Society Bursary Fund.

Together, we can help transform lives by giving students who might not otherwise have the opportunity the chance to benefit from a Woodhouse Grove education.

Tickets are available now – [click here to book](#).

100% of proceeds from this event will go to the Woodhouse Grove School Foundation, registered charity no. 1176406.

In support of the
WOODHOUSE GROVE SCHOOL
Foundation

1812 Gala Dinner

est. 2026

Saturday 14th November

7pm, in the Dining Hall at Woodhouse Grove.

Tickets £100 pp | Group bookings welcome.

Be The Difference. Be 1812. Reg. Charity No: 1176406

Connected for Life: The Power of the Old Grovian Association

As she approaches her second anniversary at The Grove, Eve Corry (st24-), Head of Development & Alumni Relations, reflects on the lasting friendships, connections and opportunities created by the Old Grovian network.

As I approach 22 months in post, one of the things that has struck me most is just how powerful the Old Grovian Association really is. It is a network built not simply on a shared school experience, but on friendships, memories, mutual support and connections that can span generations.

The network also has an important role to play in supporting our current pupils. I have seen Old Grovians generously share their experience and expertise through Sixth Form career insight sessions, guest speaking at school assemblies and taking part in our letter exchange initiative. Whether offering words of wisdom about a particular career, sharing lessons learned or simply telling their own story, these connections can have a lasting impact on our students. They show them what is possible and remind them that they are part of something much bigger than their time at The Grove.

As social media becomes embedded in everyday life and AI continues to grow, genuine human connection matters more than ever. Reunions, Coffee Mornings and sports fixtures give Old Grovians the chance to reconnect and strengthen the friendships that make the OG network so special.

Our first Grove Giving Week was a wonderful example of that community spirit, raising an incredible £50,878 to support transformational bursaries. Building on this success, we're delighted to announce the inaugural 1812 Society Gala Dinner, taking place in November.

The Gala Dinner invites members of our Grovian community to join us for a special evening in support of the 1812 Society.

[Click here to find out more and book tickets.](#)

We look forward to bringing our Grovian community together once again for an evening of friendship, celebration and giving.



3

Gift in Will pledges received

5

Regular monthly donor sign ups in June

£50k+

Raised during Grove Giving Week

To make a donation please [click here](#). Alternatively call 0113 250 2477 to speak with the Development Office.

Be Part of the OG Letter Exchange

Your story could inspire the next generation of Grovians. Whether you left Woodhouse Grove recently or many years ago, your memories, experiences, advice and career journey could make a lasting impact on a Year 7 pupil as they begin their own Grove journey.

Interested in taking part?

Email foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk to register your interest and we'll send you more details in September.

Photo: Year 7 pupils reading their OG letters in Form, Dec '25.



COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2026
10:30 AM - 1 PM

You're invited: Coffee & a guided tour at Brontë House

OGA Events

Coffee Morning - Wednesday 1 July 2026

As part of Grove Giving Week, we welcomed students, staff, parents, former staff, Old Grovians, the Headmaster and Chair of Governors to the Hastings-Long Gallery for our Open Archive Coffee Morning.

The grandson of former Headmaster C. W. Towlson (1922–1950) also joined us, travelling to The Grove to celebrate 50 years of Towlson House.

Following OGA Survey feedback, our next coffee morning will be held on a Saturday at Brontë House.

[Book here.](#)



Grovestonbury Family Fun Day - Sunday 28 June 2026

It was a day of celebration as we said a fond farewell to our 2026 Leavers and marked Day 2 of Grove Giving Week with a fantastic Summer Reunion and Family Fun Day. From sport and live music to a delicious BBQ, candy floss and plenty of entertainment for the children, there was something for everyone. It was a wonderful afternoon for the Grovian community to come together, reconnect and celebrate The Grove.

OGA Chair, Dan Nulty (90–97), welcomed guests before launching our Giving Week Gratitude Wall, adding the very first word: “Community” - a fitting tribute to the spirit of the day.



Grove Giving Week raises £50k+!



We're delighted to announce that the final total raised during our first Grove Giving Week is an incredible £50,878!

The week saw the whole school community come together through a fantastic range of events and activities, including the 1812 Soirée, Open Archive Coffee Morning, student House Tug of War tournament and Gratitude Wall signing. We rounded off the week by welcoming former Second Master Mr David McCarthy (53-92) and his wife, Liz, to our fabulous 1812 Summer Concert.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the week - whether by attending events, donating or liking and sharing our social media posts. We are incredibly proud of our Grovian community and the generosity and spirit shown throughout the week.

Dates for your diary:

- Coffee Morning inc. tour of Brontë House - Saturday 10 October, 10:30am - 1pm at Brontë House *
- Service of Remembrance in Chapel - Sunday 8 November, 10:30am followed by refreshments in the Dining Hall
- 1812 Dinner - Saturday 14 November, 7pm till late at The Grove *

* Tickets required

To book tickets, please visit: woodhousegrove.co.uk/school-info/buytickets/ or call 0113 250 2477



A New Home for Our Heritage



We've been working on something very special and this autumn we'll finally be able to share it.

The school archives are being given a dedicated home, offering students and all members of the Grovian community the chance to explore more than 200 years of school history.

From The Grovian and Prize Day programmes to photographs, colours blazers and more, this new space will bring this fascinating collection of memories to life - watch this space!

Back to Prize Day in the 1960s

A wonderful piece of Woodhouse Grove history has recently found its way back to us – an immaculate 7-inch vinyl recording of Prize Day from the 1960s.

Featuring the school song Χαίρετε and the Prize Day hymn O Holy Father, the record arrived just in time for this year's Prize Day! You can listen to both recordings on Grovian Voices [here](#).



We'd love to know if you listen - you may even have sung on this recording, or know someone who did!

Old Grovian Remembrances

As we remember our alumni who have passed, we celebrate the lives they led and the lasting impressions they made. While they are no longer with us, their legacy continues to inspire and connect us all.



Obituary notifications May - Aug '26 :

Peter Ackroyd MBE DL (61-69)
Thomas B Bolton (53-60) dod May '24
Katherine Tebbutt (84-86) dod June '23

"Mindful of a home which never
Distance from her kin can sever,
Mindful of our friends for ever"

Χαίρετε



Visiting The Grove today

Old Grovians are always welcome back to the school for a tour. If you would like a tour of the school today, contact our office at foundation@woodhousegrove.co.uk or call 0113 250 2477 to schedule one in advance, please provide as much notice as possible.



Aidan Robinson
(83-91)



Ben Metcalfe
(09-16)



Becky Ives
(94-04)



James Henry
(98-00)



Alistair Jacques
(69-79)



Chris Zawistowicz
(72-79)



Vincent Mak
(01-04)



Zak Memon
(14-21)

The Grove Business Directory

Whether you're an entrepreneur, small business owner or corporate leader, the directory makes it easier to find businesses within the network, build valuable partnerships and showcase what you do. By choosing to work with and support fellow Grovian businesses, we can strengthen our local business community and help opportunities flourish.

Discover new businesses. Support local enterprise. Build meaningful connections.

Explore The Grove Business Directory today and connect with the Grovian community.

[Click here](#) to view the 2025/26 online directory.

Interested in joining the 2026/27 directory? Get in touch today for full membership details, or click the link above to find out more.

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