



## A warm welcome from Mrs Sellers



97%!!!

Autumn Term has certainly started in earnest at TGS – welcome back to our students, teachers and families... the view from my window over Southampton has been rather overcast but that has not dampened our spirits and we have had a bright, fizzy and energetic start to our new school year.



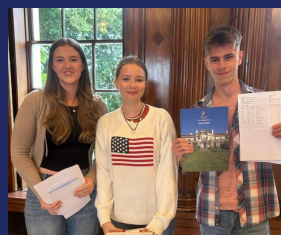
I should like to welcome our new students and parents – thank you for joining our fantastic school community we shall look forward to spending increasing amounts time with you in the near future. Year 7 certainly look very smart in their new uniforms and our new student leaders are 'rocking' their unique Gregg School tartan ties!

I should like to also welcome our new staff; Miss Vernon (Head of English & Media), Mr Bayford (2nd in PE), Mrs Wesson (Maths) and Mrs Boland (Geography) they have already made a fantastic impression with our staff and students... you will be meeting them soon.

The summer has, once again, been a busy one at TGS – we have hosted theatre productions, Summer School Activities and have completed lots of work around our estate. However, the most exciting news was in discovering and sharing

in the success of the class of 2024 on the 22nd August...

This year group achieved some amazing results and we are extremely proud of their achievement. In spite of having a very unconventional start to their secondary education, with Covid lockdowns from Year 7 onwards, they managed some stunning results with 97% of students gaining 5 or more higher grade passes in their GCSEs.



We had a record-breaking number of top grades and our value-added departmental data demonstrated many significant increases above baseline predictions for individuals. 43% of the total grades awarded were at 7, 8 and 9 and the breadth of our curriculum allowed everyone to achieve irrespective of their academic ability. A particular feature of this data set was the success of our former students that have been with our schools since their primary years - some have been with us for 12 years and they were astounded when they opened their envelopes!

This series of data truly demonstrates the power and impact of the way in which we work tirelessly with our young people and their families. We engaged and challenged these students on an individual basis and, in turn, they responded by aspiring, being resilient and putting in the additional work that was needed to perform beyond expectation.

**HUGE CONGRATULATIONS** – what an inspiration for our younger year groups they are... I certainly had to pinch myself and remember that we are not an academically selective school and, my goodness, we are so very proud!

2024/2025 promises to be a very exciting year with a vast array of clubs and activities that will be available for your children to join. We had some truly magical moments last year and this year will be increasingly exciting...we shall be launching these very soon so watch this space....

During the next few weeks, we shall be holding events and welcoming you into school to join our wider community. I should really like to see many more parents to join our friendly PTA (FROGS) or join us to support one of our many open/charitable events throughout the school year.

Please don't think you will be obligated full-time – do drop in /out and support us when you can if possible. We shall be letting you know about these dates in the forthcoming week so please do come and join us – you will be very warmly welcomed.

So...2024-25 – good luck, enjoy - we shall see you soon.

Mrs Sellers

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## Summer Student News

### Sailing Success

Congratulations to Harry O'C (Year 9) who had a successful Summer representing his country in the Tera Sailing World Championships in Copenhagen where GBR came 1st, USA 2nd and Ukraine 3rd. Harry came 8th in the event and then went on to come 7th in the UK Nationals in Southend - despite a hole in his boat!

Harry will now start GBR Regional squad winter training in an RS Pro, RS Feva and the Jnr foiling WASZP whilst still competing in the Isle of Wight Youth Championship and The Frostbite Winter Series - never a dull moment!  
Year 9 Darcy O'D had an amazing sailing



competition in Puerto Rico . She sailed in exceptionally challenging conditions against some of the best teams in North and South America. There were a 180 sailors and Darcy came an impressive 143 (in a team of 8 GBR sailors Darcy came 5th).



Darcy then went to the British Optimist National Championships in Pwllheli, Wales where conditions were strong winds and big waves.

She was the 4th British girl and 30th overall of which 15 sailors are going to the worlds event in Argentina in December.

This is a real tribute to the hard work and hours of training she has put in this year.

We wish both Harry and and Darcy the best of luck.

### Multi-talented



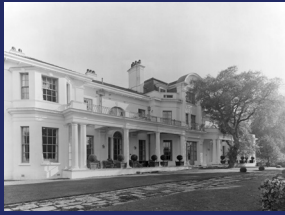
Congratulations to Year 8 student Bonny K who has been very successful in her hockey development centre trials this summer which led on to her team winning the tournament.

She has now been put forward for academy centre training (Hampshire) and will be taking part in trials in the coming months.

Bonny has also been invited to the Indatwa Cricket Foundation Tour in Rwanda in February 2025.

This is a fabulous invitation to receive and will be an amazing trip, not only being involved with the cricket but also embracing all things that come with the opportunity. Well done Bonny!

## Heritage Day



Sunday 8th September is Heritage Day and Townhill Park House and gardens will be open to the public for self-guided tours between 2-5pm.

This is a lovely opportunity to bring family members for a wander around the main house and gardens, with refreshments available throughout the afternoon. Free entry and parking.

## Year 6 Activities Morning

Do you have a Year 6 pupil or know someone that does? If so, why not sign up for our Year 6 Activities Morning on Saturday 21st September?

This will be a fun filled morning full of activities in a wide range of subjects: Maths, Science, MFL, Drama, Geography, History, RE, PE, Music, Computing, Art and Food & Nutrition.

Click on the following link to book:

<https://bit.ly/3ySts5H>

## Open Evening

Our Open Evening is being held on Thursday 3rd October. This is open to all families of any year group who are interested in finding out more about The Gregg School.



All classrooms will be open, teachers available to talk to and Headteacher presentations at 4:15 and 5:15pm, please spread the word.

To book please click on the following link.

<https://bit.ly/47dOLvi>

## European Day of Languages - Cake Sale!

We will be celebrating the European Day of Languages on Thursday 26th September.



What's happening?

The Gregg Euro Café is back on in the Hall on Thursday 26th September with all proceeds raised going to Naomi House and Southampton Hospital School.

The events below have been organised to promote languages and raise money for the above charities:

- 'The Gregg Bake Off' House Competition with cakes to be designed with a languages theme eg, flags, famous monuments etc. These will be sold at the Euro Café at break and lunchtime.
- A "guess how many sweets are in the jar" competition where you will have to say a number in a foreign language.
- Name the Teddy competition with the names being foreign language names.

So let's get baking and bring change that day to enter the competitions at break and lunchtime!

Mrs Lay

## FROGS (PTFA) News



Welcome to all parents new and old! The FROGS (Friends of The Gregg School) are a friendly group of parents and staff who organise events to raise money for the school.

New members are always welcome so please look out for the email with the dates of our next meeting.

Our next event is 'Pizza and Prosecco' which will be held at the school on Thursday 26th September. This is a fun evening and a lovely opportunity to meet other parents in a relaxed environment and watch the sunset from the terrace. Please keep an eye out for further details soon.

### FROGS Lotto

You've got to be in it to win it!

Did you know that the FROGS run a monthly lottery? For a monthly subscription of £5, you could be in with a chance of winning one of three prizes (£50, £25 and £10) each month.

All you have to do is complete the form on the link below:

<https://www.thegreggschool.org/pta-committee>

Then simply sit back and wait for our monthly draw. Fingers crossed!

### EasyFundraising

Thank you to all our supporters for raising FREE donations for FROGS. Simply by shopping online, your donations have raised over £7,700 which has made a huge difference to our fundraising. It's easy to use - all you have to do is sign up and do your usual online shopping via easyfundraising to raise free donations for the school.

There are thousands of retailers to choose from including Just Eat, eBay, John Lewis & Partners,

Amazon and many more. If you're not supporting us on easyfundraising yet, please sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/4afgHQ6>

## Textile Bank



Do you have any unwanted textiles eg towels, blankets or clothes? We have a textiles bank on site which helps raise funds for the school.

Students who use minibuses to travel to school can bring bagged textiles onto the bus and leave it on the portico. Students who arrive at school by car can leave their bags at the start of the gravel path by the car park. The grounds team will then collect the bags and deposit them in the bin.

Thank you for your support.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 8 Sep Heritage Day 2 -5pm

Thurs 12 Sep Freshers' Fayre  
13:15pm-13:45pm (Students to choose their Co-Curricular activities)

Fri 13 Sep Year 7 Curry Night

Tues 17 Sep Year 9 Bovington Museum (Group 1)

Wed 18 Sep Whole School Individual Photographs  
(smart full uniform)

Thurs 19 Sep Year 9 Bovington Museum (Group 2)

Fri 20 Sep INSET Day

Sat 21 Sep Year 6 Activities Morning

Thurs 26 Sep Year 9 & 10 Parent Meeting Battlefields Trip

Thurs 26 Sep European Day of Languages and Cake Sale

Thurs 26 Sep FROGS Pizza & Prosecco

Fri 27 Sep House Cross Country/Colour Run

Sat 28 - Mon 30 Sep Year 11 Silver D of E Expedition

Thurs 3rd Oct Open Evening 4-7pm

Please note school will close at 12:55pm to prepare for the Open Evening