



Happy Campers!

We were blessed with another weekend of fine weather for the Year 9 D of E Bronze final expedition, where five groups took part (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta and Foxtrot).

An early start on Saturday saw the groups meeting with their Assessors for briefing at their starting points. It was good to see how prepared the students were with the correct kit and a determination to do well.

Day One progressed well with Alpha and Bravo heading north from Lyndhurst and around to their overnight camp at Ferny Crofts. Charlie and Delta headed south from Lyndhurst, and Foxtrot headed north from Brockenhurst - all heading for the same campsite.



The training for D of E is designed to prepare the students for an unaccompanied, self-reliant journey, completed under their own efforts. They cannot use mobile phones to help their navigation.

They must use their navigational skills to read a map and use a compass to find their way. Being able to read the landscape around them is key if they don't want to get lost.



All the groups made good progress to the penultimate checkpoint near Beaulieu Road Station, and Alpha, Bravo and Delta walked the last stretch into camp to set up their tents and cook their evening meal.

Charlie and Foxtrot unfortunately took a more scenic last leg which added extra miles and finished with a tricky crossing in some boggy conditions. No harm done apart from some muddy clothes, and hopefully a useful lesson learned about staying focused on your navigation until the end of your journey. Everyone seem to recover after a hot meal and a reflection on the detour made the groups more determined to get it right the next day.



There were a few tired eyes on Sunday morning as students emerged from their tents at around 7am. It was good to see many of them preparing a hot breakfast ready for another days walking. Once everything was packed away, and the groups had been briefed by their Assessors, it was time to go.



There were a few groans as heavy bags were lifted onto tired backs, along with a few comments about 'If I did this again I would bring less stuff!'



Again the weather was kind and good progress was made through all the check points by all the groups.

This time there were no navigational errors and all the groups arrived at the right place at the right time. It was great to see so many of the students excelling at being able to navigate through the forest unaided and it was also great to hear the positive feedback from the Assessors who were impressed with the groups efforts.



After a final debrief from their Assessors all groups were told that they had met the requirements and so had passed. Hurrah!

But before any awards can be made students will need to complete the volunteering, physical and skills sections of the D of E award.



Well done to all who took part and thank you to the staff who gave up another weekend to make this happen (Mrs Sellers, Mrs Gibbs, Mrs Pickett, Miss Lissaman and Mr Cooper).

HPL Presentations



On Tuesday 4th June, a group of Year 6 pupils from The Gregg Prep joined Year 7 and Year 8 students to give presentations on subjects that they have been researching independently as part of the HPL program.

The presentations covered a very wide range of subjects including famous women in history, medieval weapons, the conservation of coral reefs, the history of Japanese art, the James Webb telescope and a reading in Swahili.



The audience were impressed with the fluency of the presenters, how well they knew their chosen topics, and the professionalism of their supporting slides and presentation material. Well done to all involved!

Mrs Toward

Click!



Our Year 10 GCSE Photography students had a fantastic day in London visiting the Yoko Ono and Zanele Muholi exhibitions at the Tate Modern, together with the opportunity of photographing iconic buildings and cityscapes along the way.



We're looking forward to seeing the results!

Scientists of the Month



Congratulations to the following students for being awarded Scientists of the Month.

Key Stage 4: Daniel C (Year 10) for superb Year 10 exam results and for consistently good effort across the year, including answering questions during class discussions.

Key Stage 3: Molly H (Year 7) who has gained in confidence so much throughout the year and is a regular contributor to class discussions. She is kind to her peers and polite and respectful at all times.

Voicing Our Concerns

Visit by Prad Bains, Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Hamble Valley



Twenty three letters had been sent to the candidates of each of the three major parties across the constituencies in which our school community lies. The letters outlined our concerns regarding the possibility of VAT being placed on independent school fees and our first reply came from Prad Bains who quickly accepted our offer to visit our site.

Prad was very interested to be toured around our facilities, keen to understand how the school is organised, what we have to offer and how we support the students within our community.

He then spent time speaking to our Respect Ambassadors and our Respect Lead, Mrs Clifton, on the importance of such a programme and his own experience within the political sphere where he has experienced racism and witnessed inappropriate attitudes himself. The discussion moved on to politics and the students' interests in this area, including Helena's intention to study politics at university.

Several members of the teaching staff, as well as our Headteacher, the Chair of Trustees and the Bursar, joined the discussion where consideration of the proposal of VAT being placed on independent school fees took place.

Prad emphasised his position on this matter - he is against this proposal and would vote against it if elected as MP for Hamble Valley. He drew on his discussion with a resident in Whiteley who is keen to send their child to The Gregg School but may

struggle to do so if VAT is added to independent school fees.

By visiting us, Prad was able to appreciate his reasons for wanting to send her child to our school. The discussion then moved on to focus on several other pertinent issues for the locality, including the NHS and the difficulty of getting appointments with GPs, as well as pollution by the water companies into our rivers and the cost of living crisis and the pressure this is putting on residents.



We have received several positive replies from other parliamentary candidates and their positions on the proposed imposition of VAT on school fees. Caroline Nokes (Conservative parliamentary candidate for Romsey & Southampton North) and Flick Drummond (Conservative parliamentary candidate for Winchester) both responded quickly and voiced their strong support for small independent schools and their aim to vote against any proposal to add VAT on independent school fees.

We have another parliamentary candidate confirmed for a visit on Monday 24th June – Ben Burcombe-Filer who is the Conservative parliamentary candidate for Southampton Test who will be visiting us for a tour and an opportunity to meet staff and students.

Any parents who live within this constituency who would like to be part of the visit should email Jo Hillyear, Assistant Headteacher at jlh@thegreggschools.org

The Conservative parliamentary candidate for Southampton Itchen – Sidney Yankson has been in contact to visit and we are hoping to get confirmation of this shortly.

Science Museum Trip

Year 8 spent the day at the London Science Museum last week. Students worked incredibly hard discovering new facts and details about the Industrial Revolution; its origins and effects.



Thank you to all staff who helped on this trip and well done to Year 8 for being such brilliant ambassadors for our school.

Industrial Revolution Project Winners



Well done to our finalists of the Year 8 Industrial Revolution projects that were completed this half term.

The History department were exceptionally pleased with the time and effort that students had put into their projects. It was very hard to choose a winner amongst the steam engines, Cotton gins and spinning jennies! Well done to Archie (1st), Charlotte (2nd) and Boudica (3rd).



Racial Talk Feedback



Last Friday a number of Year 7 students and staff members met with Helena Boyce (Racial literacy speaker) to give feedback on her recent presentation here.

The Year 7's were pleased to see her again and couldn't wait to let her know how her presentation has had a positive effect around the school and had changed their way of thinking.

They were even more pleased with the doughnuts she bought them to say thank you!

FROGS News



Last Friday, families of all year groups enjoyed relaxing on the terrace, eating stonebaked pizza and garlic bread handmade by The FROGS. Around the grounds our House

Captains organised games and activities for children to enjoy.

Mrs Sellers was thrilled to see so many of our Year 11 parents there, some of whom she has known since their children were three years old and started at The Gregg Prep!



Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the evening and a huge thanks to our marvellous PTA, The FROGS, as well as staff and parent helpers who made it all possible. The profits from the evening will go into the FROGS fund for supporting initiatives within school.



Sports News

Hampshire Athletics Championships



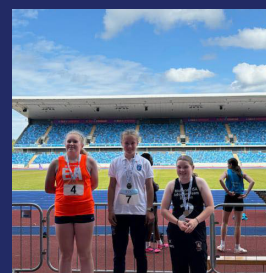
Camilla W and Jack B (Year 8) both represented Southampton Schools in the Hampshire Athletics Championships in Portsmouth recently.

They were both competing in the 800m which Camilla ran in 2.35mins in her heat to finish 6th place, which ranked her 9th overall. Jack ran the 800m in 2.36mins to finish 7th in his heat and ranked 10th overall. Well done to both!

ISA Athletics National Championships

Superstar Bonny K (Year 7) represented London West at the ISA Athletics National Championships in the discus.

Bonny threw 16.99m to take gold at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham which hosted the Commonwealth Games! Well done Bonny!



Open Day



We would like to invite you all to our Open Day this Saturday 22nd June 10am – 1 pm.

Bring your family and friends to wander around the school and gardens, take part in activities, listen to music, watch drama sketches and enjoy refreshments in our beautiful grounds. We look forward to seeing you!

Charity News

Mini Clarendon Way Walk for Naomi House

It was great to see the whole school out participating in our Mini Clarendon Walks to raise money for Naomi House.

The students were in excellent spirits as some chose to walk and others to jog or run round the route. All children were keen to complete as many laps as possible, as not only did each lap mean more sponsorship money raised but also points for their Houses.



The students showed their considerable support for our key value of legacy by taking to the track to raise money for a charity which actively supports families and children within the local community.

The figure-of-eight circuit around the front and back field was 700 metres (0.44 mile) in total. There were several students who completed a considerable number of laps, including Henry R who walked and ran 30 laps, carrying on after school with Jerzy B.

In addition, we had several parents walk with their children and Lucia E and her mum completed an additional six laps each to add to the Trojan House total. Spartan did the most laps of the grounds with a total of 975 laps!

Many staff completed laps during the afternoons with several striding out to raise money and House points, while other preferred a mindful meander around the grounds.



The atmosphere was buzzing as the children walked the lovely grounds in their chosen groups, cheered on by motivational House Captains.

A big thank you to all students, staff and parents who participated, supported and sponsored the event.

Our Clarendon and Mini Clarendon walks have raised over £1,200 so far. This is a fantastic amount and if you would like to donate to the fundraising page the link is below:

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

LRC Focus



The LRC has some useful displays to acknowledge PRIDE month of June and also a section for the Euros, which may be of interest to keen footballers.

Further Education

Please see below details of open events at a number of local colleges which may be of interest to Year 10 students.

King Edward Sixth form Open Evening for Year 10 students:

Thursday 27th June 6-8pm. Please complete this enquiry form in order to attend the evening, or email registrar@kes.hants.sch.uk.

Peter Symonds Open Evening:

Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th July 5.30-8.30pm. Register on their website. <https://psc.ac.uk/>

Gardens Open Day

We would like to invite you to our Gardens Open Day on Sunday 7th July 2-5pm where you can explore the gardens and see them at their summer finest. There is FREE admission and parking and a classic car display.



Dates to Look Out For

June

Sat 22nd June – Open Day 10pm – 1pm
Wed 26th – Summer Concert 6pm
Thur 27th – Year 6 Moving Up Day
Thur 27th June – D of E Presentation Evening
Fri 28th June – Sports Day

July

Mon 1st – Fri 5th – Camp Week
Sun 7th – Gardens Open Day 2-5pm
Tues 9th – Juniors House Cricket
Wed 10th – Townhill Park Language Leaders Visit
Wed 10th – Senior House Cricket
Thur 11th – Achievement Evening – Turner Sims
Fri 12th – End of Term