

# DATES TO LOOK OUT FOR

Tuesday 8th October - London West Art Competition

Wednesday 9th October - Y 10 & 11 Evening performance of War Horse

Thursday 10th October - Year 9 Geography Fleming Park

Thursday 10th October - Class of 2024 Presentation Evening Barton Peveril

Friday 11th October - GCSE Drama Tour and Workshop

Monday 14th - Wednesday 16th October - Year 11 Textiles/Art/Photography/Geography Mock Exams

Wednesday 16th October - Jane Austen Event 4:30-6pm

Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th October - Year 10 Battlefields Trip Belgium



## TGS News

4th October 2024 Autumn Term - Issue 3

### We did it!

#### Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition



It was an early start on Saturday 28th September as our intrepid Year 11 Silver DofE students arrived at school around 6:30am.

After a quick kit check, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie boarded the minibuses for the drive down to Wareham in Dorset to meet their DofE assessors.



Then began their three day, 50km hike which would take them across the Purbecks.

The forecast for the weekend was looking a bit dodgy but the weather on Saturday was sunny.



All routes are planned by the students who had to submit detailed maps and route cards to their assessors in advance.

The assessors checked in with their groups at various points to see if they are keeping to schedule and also judge their camp craft at the campsites.

Each group made their way south through Wareham and onto the Purbeck Heathland. Only using maps and compasses to navigate, the groups followed various paths and tracks to their first overnight stop at Burnbake.

The warm weather meant that pitching tents and cooking was an easy task and an improvised game of cricket using a tennis ball and a water bottle was the evening entertainment!





However, a glance at the weather report bought about a sense of foreboding about the next day...

To avoid the worst of the incoming storm all groups were up early and off an hour before the planned start times on their route cards.

Alpha and Bravo crossed the Purbeck ridge in the morning, then made their way down through Swanage and back up to Acton Fields campsite, our second stop. Whilst Charlie headed towards Studland before crossing the ridge and entering Swanage and up to Acton.

As the students arrived, the wind was picking up and tents were pitched tight in against an old stone wall for protection.

Food was cooked quickly wherever shelter could be found, followed by an early night into their tents to weather the storm.



Overnight the rain came in and the winds picked up to over 50mph, but it's amazing what you can sleep through when you're tired after a day's walking!

A quick check around 9pm by staff to make sure the tents were still pegged down, brought very little response from the sleepy teenagers. Finally, the howling wind abated and the sun rose on the morning of the last day. Any low spirits from the day before vanished as the end was now in sight.

Students broke camp, setting off towards Corfe Castle. Bravo climbed the ridge to sit and have lunch looking down at the iconic view, while other groups took a more relaxed approach and decided to stop on the heathland for food.



The afternoon saw all groups crossing a very wet and boggy Stoborough Heath, before walking through Wareham to the finish. There was a sense of relief as heavy bags were pulled off aching shoulders and raided for any last food items before catching the minibuses back home.

Congratulations to everyone on our first ever Silver DofE expedition groups!

It was hard work and a challenge, but everyone passed with much praise from the assessors.

Over the three days, there were highs and lows but all our students showed grit and determination to finish in the somewhat challenging conditions.

So well done all and make sure you get your other sections signed off!



Thanks to the staff that made it possible: Mrs Sellers, Mr Gillespie and Mrs Gibbs who came on the weekend to supervise and Miss Webb back at base.



Without you giving up your weekend and Monday none of it could happen.

Mr Cooper

*A huge thanks to you too Mr Cooper!*



## Bovington Trip

On Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th September Year 9 travelled to Bovington Tank Museum in Dorset for our annual trip to kick start our studies about WW1.

The students had the opportunity to carousel three different workshops on 'Tommy in the Trenches'; travelling back in time to the recruiting office, arrival in Flanders and into the trench itself, developing a growing understanding of what conditions might have been like.



They also had the opportunity to have a session inside a WW1 tank, which is the only one of its type in the world, an experience that is not open to the general public.



Great enjoyment was had when the students took part in a workshop about medicine and surgery on the Western Front, with plenty of role play as either patient, stretcher bearers or doctors and nurses.



In the latter part of the day students were able to travel around the whole of the very large tank museum to look at the development of tank warfare across the twentieth century including the Russian T34, WW2 USA Sherman tanks and Hobart's Funnies used on the British landing beaches of Normandy in 1944 such as amphibious ones, flail tanks and path laying ones.



This leads beautifully into our studies of WW2 after Christmas.

We were complimented by the education staff and shop staff about the excellent behaviour and politeness of our students and it was a pleasure to be out with them.

Lots of Respect points and Learning Habits were awarded for the work that they completed.

Well Done Year 9!

Mrs Walker



## Personal and Social Development

Each year we review our PSD (Personal Social Development) curriculum and the policies that correspond with the subject. Part of this is our Relationships and Sex Education Policy.

Currently, the government has not released any new guidelines around the content of the RSE curriculum, and therefore we still follow the guidance outlined in the most up to date

Relationships and Sex Education policy published by the government in 2020.

Please could we ask that you read the RSE Policy which can be found here and in the policies section of our school website and offer any feedback, comment or questions via email to Mrs Upson-Dowie, Head of PSD on [mdo@thegreggschools.org](mailto:mdo@thegreggschools.org).

The Curriculum Map for PSD and our PSD Policy can be found on the PSD Firefly pages here should you wish to look at this in more detail.

Thank you,

Mrs Upson-Dowie

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## Year 10 Work Experience Launch

There was a lot of excitement amongst our Year 10 students last week as we launched The Gregg Work Experience 2025 which will take place during Activities Week: 7th-11th July.



Using the work experience placement database, which has been put together by our careers provider EBP South, our Year 10's began their research into different companies across the south that provide work experience placement opportunities.

Alternatively, many of our Year 10 students are keen to spend the week working with family members, family friends, or other organisations where they already have contacts including local gyms and primary schools. Work experience is a fantastic opportunity for

students to build key employability skills and to get a feel of what it is like to work in their particular area of interest.

A letter was sent to parents and carers on Wednesday 18th September so please do check your inbox if you have not done so already, as the email contains further details about how to organise a work experience placement.

Our Year 10 students are aware that it is their responsibility to contact companies and organise a placement so we would appreciate your support with this. We will also help the students where we can in tutor times and PSD lessons.

All students have now received an 'own-placement form' that needs to be signed by the employer once the employer has agreed to provide your young person with a work experience placement.

The form needs to be returned to me by Friday 31st January 2025. Please do contact me on [mdo@thegreggschools.org](mailto:mdo@thegreggschools.org) if you have any further questions.

Mrs Upson-Dowie

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## Scientist of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Scientist of the Month:

Key Stage 3 - Louis H for a great start to Year 8 Science asking lots of questions and completing his work to a high standard.



Key Stage 4 - Izzy E for great effort and attitude to her Year 10 work this term.

## What's New in the LRC

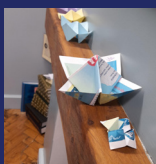
We are constantly updating the books on offer at the LRC so there's always something new for students to discover and become immersed in.

Some of our new additions since term began include:

- The Cats we Meet Along the Way
- Crook Haven - the School for Thieves
- Percy Jackson series
- Wolf Road
- The Darker Side of Light

amongst others many others.

In addition, students have made some 'pretties' (the teeny tiny fortune teller) to decorate the LRC!



### Upcoming news

The Book Buzz selection is imminent for Year 7 and Year 8. More details about this soon!

## European Day of Languages - what a great success!

Firstly, we would like to say a massive well done and thank you to all of the students who made and brought in cakes for our European Bake off!

We were overwhelmed by how wonderful all of the cakes looked and tasted. This year parents who came in for our MacMillian Coffee Morning judged the cakes (which was a great help as I don't think any of us could have done this alone!).

It was lovely to see so many parents and families at our MacMillian Coffee Morning, thank you for coming. It was such a success that we will most certainly be doing this again next year.

In the end, winners were chosen in three categories; so we would like to say a huge well done to Noah H and Lucia E who won the prize for most professional cake, Pollyanna I, Amelie M and Lilian M who won the cake with the most effort and Henry C who won the most creative cake.



There was such a wonderful buzz in the hall at break and lunchtime where many cakes were bought and eaten.



Well done to Emilia T who correctly guessed the Teddy Bear name as 'Enzo' and took this teddy home with her and also well done to Darcey who won the jar of sweets.

We raised a total of £203.25 from our MacMillian Coffee morning and a total of £331.69 for Naomi House and Southampton Hospitals School from our cake sale and activities.

Well done to all of our Year 7 students who were so creative in producing wonderful posters to advertise our Euro Cafe. We were again astonished at how wonderful and professional these posters looked.



The chosen winners for these were:

In 1st Place - Ryan J, 2nd place - Charlotte C, 3rd place - Izzy M. M and Rose O' C. (joint) Runners up: Georgia R, Amie S, Sophie H, Florence B, Immy B, Angus P and Lilian M.

Some of our Year 8 classes also enjoyed a passport hunt in their languages lessons, where they had to hunt for different pieces of information



about a variety of European countries, allowing students to learn a little more about cultural aspects as well.



Not only have we raised a phenomenal amount from our bake sale and coffee morning, we hope that the children also further appreciate the importance and usefulness of languages!

Thank you as always for your continued support with these events.

Bis nächstes Jahr/ hasta el próximo año/ à l'année prochaine!

The MFL Department

## Birds of Prey

Last Friday we welcomed children from Southampton Hospital School to join our Year 8 students in handling the birds of prey from Sharandys Birds of Prey in our grounds.

It was such a lovely opportunity for all the children to get together and to get up close to these fascinating birds.



One of their students Christian (Year 9) very kindly wrote an article for us about his experience:



Last week, on Friday 27th September, myself and three other pupils from Southampton Hospital School were lucky enough to be invited to The Gregg School to participate in a lesson about birds of prey. The birds we viewed were extraordinary species. Their talons were honed and razor sharp, perfect for eradicating their prey.

### Eagle Owl

This phenomenal owl can be found on the North Yorkshire Moors. There are currently 60 breeding pairs. They have the grip strength of a grizzly bear, taking anything up to the size of a goat. Sadly, this owl isn't very intelligent, contrary to popular belief that owls are "wise" birds. Their eyesight is nothing short of spectacular and they can spot their prey from afar. Their eye colour is orange, which indicates that they hunt their prey at dawn/dusk.



### American Kestrel

Yet another amazing species of bird, the American kestrel can adapt to any climate and environment. It packs a predator's fierce intensity into its small body. The American kestrel is the smallest and most common falcon in North America but is endangered.



### Little Owl

This small owl was introduced to the UK in the 19th century. It can be seen in the day, usually perching on a tree branch, telegraph pole or rock. It favours lowland habitats such as farmland, parkland and orchards. It only grows to about 20 cm tall.



I 100% enjoyed the session and was very impressed by the amazing feats of the birds

of prey. I learned lots and would definitely recommend it to other people if they get the chance. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Christian (Year 9)

(All photographs are originals taken by Christian)

## FROGS News

Thank you to everyone who came along to the FROGS AGM and Pizza and Prosecco evening last week. It was lovely to welcome so many new members.

We are very grateful that the FROGS have funded six rowing machines and new netball goals for our students! Any visitors to Open Evening last night will have already seen one of them in action!

## House Cross Country

After a week of torrential rain, our cross-country course was certainly ready for an afternoon of racing. Fortunately the rain finally stopped an hour before our first race and the sun shone through for our students from Year 7 to 11 to compete the annual House Cross Country Race.

The race course was 1.2km which took students around the sunken garden, dip, front pitch and back along the 'wibbly wobbly way'.



Students have had the opportunity to practice in their PE lessons and after school.



Trojan were once against victorious followed by Spartan, then Roman.



### Individual House Cross Country race winners

	1st	2nd	3rd
Year 7 Boys	Charlie G	Angus P	Ryan J
Year 7 Girls	Amber G	Annabelle G	Isabelle O'C
Year 8 Boys	Charles DT	Jonathon M	Bertie B
Year 8 Girls	Bonny K	Lucia E	Molly H
Year 9 Boys	Harry L	Jack B	Archie L
Year 9 Girls	CamillaW	Eva MM	Jana SA
Year 10 Boys	Oscar I	Sam AR	Harrison S
Year 10 Girls	Jessica HC	Anna M	Emily B
Year 11 Boys	Rhett WM	Fergus N	Benji F
Year 11 Girls	Alex D	Elisa C	Mika L



## House Points

	1st	2nd	3rd
Year 7 Boys	Spartan	Trojan	Roman
Year 7 Girls	Roman	Spartan	Trojan
Year 8 Boys	Trojan	Spartan	Roman
Year 8 Girls	Trojan	Roman	Spartan
Year 9 Boys	Trojan	Spartan	Roman
Year 9 Girls	Roman	Trojan	Spartan
Year 10 Boys	Trojan	Spartan	Roman
Year 10 Girls	Trojan	Spartan	Roman
Year 11 Boys	Trojan	Spartan	Roman
Year 11 Girls	Roman	Spartan	Trojan

Trojan = 240 points  
Spartan = 190 points  
Roman = 170 points

The winners of the Cunliffe Cup 2024 went to the fastest boy of the day, Rhett WM (Year 11) and the fastest girl Camilla W (Year 9).



## Sports News

### Girls Football Southampton Schools League



Well done to the senior girls football team who beat Deer Park in the torrential rain. It was a great whole team performance with the goals scored by Ella, Jana and Lexi

### ISA Girls Football Tournament

Well done to all of the girls who competed in the ISA 6-a-side football tournament at LVS Ascot School.



The U15 team finished 3rd place in the cup competition and received bronze medals, whilst the U13 team got to the quarter finals of the plate competition.



On Wednesday, the senior girls competed in another Independent Schools match. This time against Brighton College. It was a very hard fought game against a very good side.



The game was nail-biting right to the very end with Jana SA scoring the winning goal in the last three minutes of the game. This goal sealed a fantastic hat-trick by Jana and with a goal from Lexie P as well, The Gregg won the game 4-3 and progress through to the next round of the ISFA cup.

Well done girls!

### Southampton Schools Cross Country League

Well done to everyone who represented the school in the Southampton Schools League races in the past two weeks.

### Second League Race notable performances:

#### Junior girls

3rd Camilla W, 4th Amber G, 7th Anabelle G and 9th Eva M-M



#### Junior boys

8th Jack B, 11th Charlie G, 13th Euan H, 16th Angus P, 18th Daniel R, 24th Jacob S and 27th Jonathan M



#### Inter boys

4th Tobias C, 5th Jamie R, 6th Oli S and 7th Jamie A

### Third League Race notable performances:



#### Junior Girls

4th Amber G, 5th Annabelle G

#### Junior Boys

7th Jack G and 8th Jack B

#### Inter Boys

3rd Sam A-R, 6th James L and 7th Jamie R

### Boys Football

Congratulations to our fantastic U16 team who won 3-2 against St George's in the Southampton Schools FA U16 League. Our goals were scored by Rhett WM, Aedan H and Benji F in a very intense game. Well done boys!



### Sports Team of the Week

Team of the week are the Senior boy's football team (pictured previously).

### Sports Performer of the Week



Sports performer of the week was Amber G Year 7 for her excellent performance in cross country.

## Charity Colour Run



Whilst staff calculated the results for the House Cross Country competition, our Heads of House took the opportunity to set up a Colour Run to have even more fun racing around the school grounds and raising money for charity.



Each subject department had a colour station and staff enjoyed throwing paint at our students as they ran by! More than 175 students took part and raised a total of £1300. The money raised from the Colour Run will be split between the charities Naomi House and Sport Relief.

Our Heads of House wish to thank our students, parents and staff that supported the afternoon and we are already looking forwards to making next year even bigger, better and messier!

Miss Brenton



## Student News

### Rowing

#### River Thames

Congratulations to Year 9 student Marty S who was part of the Hamble Sea Scouts rowing team who took on the 22 gruelling miles Great River Rowing Race with his U16 team and won! What an achievement!



#### River Itchen

Southampton Amateur Rowing Club rowers Henry H and Wickham L have recently competed in a number of Regatta's including The South Coast Championship and more recently at the Itchen Imperial Junior Rowing Regatta where they came first in the J14 boys river quad!



Henry also competed in the doubles finishing second in what was very stiff competition from clubs across Hants and Dorset.

Congratulations to all!

### Dancing Champion

Congratulations to Luca I (year 7) and his dance partner who became the International Vice Champions Under 12 and bronze medallist in Under 12 against the World. Well done Luca!





## Open Evening

A huge thank you to the students that supported our Open Evening last night. It was a wonderfully successful evening with many prospective families enjoying the presentations, activities in classrooms, refreshments and chatting to teachers and students.



Well done to our Head Boy and Girl, Zhane and Etty for presenting twice alongside Mrs Sellers to a busy Hall each time.



Thank you to parents for supporting the evening by managing the logistics. Our student helpers are so fantastic at these events - they really help to showcase the school.

The Marketing Team