

DATES TO LOOK OUT FOR

Sunday 20th October - Year 10 Battlefields Trip returns
Monday 21st October - Friday 1st November - Half Term
Monday 4th November - GCSE Light Photography Workshop
Wednesday 6th - Saturday 9th November - St Ives Residential Trip
Thursday 7th November - Year 9 Romeo and Juliet Theatre Trip
Friday 8th November - ISA Swimming Gala
Monday 11th - Tuesday 12th November - Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday 12th November - Odd Socks Day
Friday 15th November - Children in Need Day
Tuesday 19th November - Open Morning 9:30-11:30am



TGS News

18th October 2024 Autumn Term - Issue 4

A word from the Governors

Hello, my name is Jo (Joanna) Preston, and I am the Chair of the Gregg Schools Trust.

I would like to update you on some recent changes to the Governing Body/Trustees.



Ian Galvin has sadly resigned as a Governor and we thank him greatly for his contribution to the school. We are, however, delighted to announce that Rob Humby has recently joined us on 1st October 2024.

Below is a brief introduction from Rob:



'I am married to Karen and we have three children: Peter, Richard and Claire who all attended The Gregg School from 2001 - 2012.

As a proud father of three children shaped by The Gregg School,

I am keen to share my support for the newer generations.

I bring with me experience as a small business owner and a passionate Hampshire resident who has spent 18 years working hard for my community. Over the last two years I have been leading Hampshire County Council - a £2.6 billion organisation - in wide reaching responsibilities including care of our county's most vulnerable residents, providing schools and support for our children, along with developing partnerships with the vast range of industries and some universal infrastructure services.

I am keen to give back to the school that helped shape my children and bring my range of experience to work with the other Governors and show what is possible when we all work together for a common aim'.

Although John Watts and Vince Davies have recently resigned from their roles as Governor/Trustee after many, many years of dedicated service to allow them to spend more time with their families, they remain committed to the Trust and have kindly offered to remain as Advisors to the Trust so we can call on them and their immense expertise still at any time.

We would still like to recruit another one or two Governors, particularly anyone with either a legal, financial, marketing, early years or building/maintenance background. If you know anyone

who may be interested in helping to shape the future of our school, please ask them to get in contact for more details:
clerk@thegreggschools.org

These are exciting times for the Trust and I am delighted to be working with such a wonderful team of people to help shape the future.

Jo Preston

Future Chef

Future Chef Heats

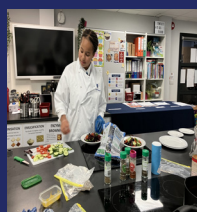
Following Head Girl Etty T's success in last year's national Future Chef competition, The Gregg School held the school heats of Future Chef during our Open Evening on Thursday 3rd October.

Four talented chefs from Years 9 and 10 came head to head, each showcasing impressive skills, flavour and professionalism.



Our judging panel, consisting of both teachers and our head students, including Etty, all devoured the dishes and shared comments such as 'The flavour and texture of the burger was delicious or the burger is "Banging"'.

Khosi RV wowed judges with her very challenging souffle, beautifully spiced soup and gorgeous presentation of her salad whilst Oliver A made a smash burger with homemade fries and fabulously light brioche bun.



The results were incredibly close with 1 point between each of the contestants.

The winners were Jessica L and Olivia S who both served their own versions of homemade pasta carbonara.



Olivia also made a sumptuous rosemary and garlic focaccia bread. Judges were blown away by the restaurant quality flavours and skill in both dishes.

Jessica and Olivia will now develop their dishes ready for the regional finals where they will compete to impress professional chef judges.

Well done to everyone who took part. Mrs Grice

Junior Future Chef Bake Off

This year, The Gregg School are also running a Junior Future Chef competition for Year 7 and 8. For this, you will cook a French savoury tart at home and send us pictures of what you have made.

Two winners will be picked and we shall send photographs of your work to the Future Chef head quarters where a panel of professional chefs will choose an overall winner.

Champion French Savoury Tart Criteria

- Please cook your tart at home and email a photograph of it to school.
- It must include photos of you making each process.
- Produce a savoury French tart using a homemade shortcrust pastry.
- The tart can be shaped however you wish e.g. round, square, oblong.
- The tart should have a minimum of 4 portions, maximum 8 portions.

- The tart filling is up to you, but we are looking for a French inspired dish.
- Focus should be on seasonal ingredients and minimising food waste/using an ingredient in its entirety.

Chef Tips

- Explore different flavours by roasting your vegetables. You can also try pureeing your roast veg and swirling through your filling.
- Why not try making a relish or chutney to be served alongside your tart? Play around with sweet and sour to make your dish stand out.
- Consider classic French tarts such as Quiche Lorraine, or use classic French flavours, such as onion, Gruyère and garlic.

Please send you entries to Mrs Grice and Miss Gibbs. Good luck!

emg@thegreggschools.org
srg@thegreggschools.org

World Mental Health Day



Thursday 10th October marked World Mental Health Day and Young Mind's 'Wear it Yellow' Day.

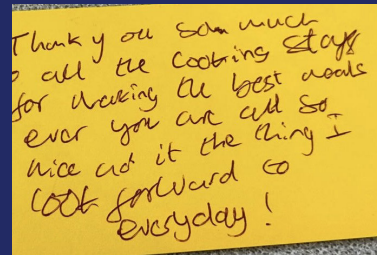
It was wonderful to see so many students and members of staff wearing something yellow to highlight the importance of 'Mental

Health within the work place' - the theme for this year.

Students had an assembly which focused on the importance of being aware of our own mental health and what it means to be mentally healthy.

Resilience is a core value, however it is not just about the 'bounce back', resilience is having a core set of values to know what you are personally bouncing back to.

As young people grow and develop this core changes and develop resilience. Life is constantly changing and it can be daunting to know who you are. This was highlighted in recent assemblies and discussed with students in PSD lessons, about finding what is 'normal' for you.



Students were also invited to take part in a yellow treasure hunt around the school, where staff displayed images and yellow items that

make them happy. Students found sports tops, ducks, Highland cows and even a fluffy virus - this was a House competition with Trojan House being victorious!

Students also shared heart warming messages of gratitude for their peers, staff, and for life in general. A little ray of yellow to brighten each other's day....

There is a wealth of information regarding Mental Wellbeing online. Kooth (<https://www.kooth.com/>) is an excellent resource for parents and students should you need advice, alternatively please contact Mrs Crowther on hac@thegreggschools.org for support or advice.

Mrs Hannah Crowther
Designated Mental Health Lead

Geography Rivers Trip

Last week, Year 9 Geography students spent the day at Fleming Park measuring river width, depth, velocity and sediment shape and size, to see how this varies as a river travels downstream.

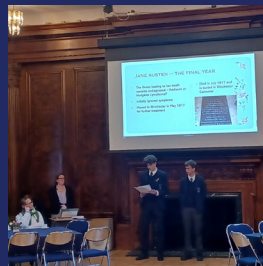




They also developed skills of field sketching and seeing how Fleming Park is managed to allow people to enjoy their recreation in an urban area.

The students also compared noise, traffic and environmental quality survey at two locations in Fleming Park to show the difference between an area near a main road and childrens' playground/ residential area.

Their final task was examining biodiversity in the park area and considering the interdependent relationships that exist and the range of plants/ animals that inhabit it.



their Monday co-curricular club) on the Regency period. This covered topics such as the role of women, men and women's fashion, pastimes, war, art and literature and why it is indeed called the Regency period.

We were then treated to some Year 9 and 10 students participating in elegant Regency dancing and the girls looked splendid in their colourful Georgian dresses and gloves. This was followed by some in depth research on the life and work of Jane Austen presented by Rhett W-M and Gethin S. We certainly learned a lot from this.



Jane Austen Soiree



Wednesday 16th October saw six departments coming together to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Jane Austen which will occur in 2025. We took this early opportunity to begin to look at the life and work of Jane Austen.

We were delighted to welcome Sue Chopping from the Hampshire Archives Trust and Dr Gillian Dow, Associate Professor and Co-Director of Programmes from the English Department at Southampton University, for our lovely afternoon tea event. The soiree began with the Music department, represented by Hien L playing the piano to welcome parents and invited guests as they arrived in the Main Hall.

Zhane M, our Head Boy, gave a welcome speech followed by selected Year 8 History students who presented their slides on the research they had been doing (in



The Drama department provided an interpretation of Austen's work with Polly H, Natasha S and Daisy W reading a rehearsal of some adapted scenes from *Pride and Prejudice*. They performed admirably and certainly brought Austen's work to life.

Whilst a most beautiful afternoon tea was served by the students to our guests at their tables, the History students entertained our guests with a game or two of Whist (a very popular card game of the period) which we had been learning in our project club and then taught to our guests.



There was also an opportunity to look at the displays provided by the Art department which covered a very popular art form at the time - portrait silhouettes.

Students had completed some impressive silhouette creations in their Art lessons.

The English department, as well as providing the Jane Austen research, had also provided an interesting display of students' creative writing.

Finally the Food and Nutrition department, aided by Mrs Grice, provided a display of Regency food,

having cooked some lovely cakes and goodies from the time period.

Parents said what a delightful event it was and to see some of their children really blossom in what they were doing.



One parent commented on how much they had learned and how delicious the tea was. Another on what a lovely intimate event it was and how enjoyable it was.

Our University and Hampshire Archives guests were delighted with the afternoon and we look forward to developing our links with these organisations going forward.



Many thanks to Mrs Tween for overseeing the running of the whole event and to all the students who performed so admirably.

Mrs Walker - Head of History

Musicians Wanted

Does your child play any of the instruments below?

If so, please encourage them to come along to Orchestra on a Monday lunchtime!

Preparations are in full swing for our Christmas events and we would love to see as many students as possible taking part! No minimum level required).

Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, French Horn, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Tuned Percussion (or Piano).

Miss Parrott

Drama News

What a term it's been in the Drama Department!

Well done to all our students for embracing comedy to tragedy and everything in-between.

However, special mention must go to our most recent "Oscar of the Week" winners. Henry N in Year 8 has been an absolute star as we start to work on our whole school production. He has been positive and enthusiastic and has been willing to step up and help where needed. Well done Henry.



The other Oscar winners were the GCSE Drama Year 11 class, who performed their final devised piece at the start of October. The piece had an engaging plot line and showed amazing teamwork. I am so proud of you all.

The GCSE Drama students and I also visited The Mayflower Theatre to see "War Horse", have a backstage tour and a puppetry workshop with Puppetry Director, Lewis Howard.



I will leave Amelie B and Freya S (both Year 10) to tell you more about that! Next term, we have three more theatre visits to look forward to, so we are looking forward to reviewing those in due course.

Finally, musical rehearsals for our March production have begun! Miss Parrott and I are already impressed by the talent in our cast, and can't wait to perform on the Theatre Royal Winchester stage again in March.

We can tell you more about this in January.

Shows you might want to catch in half term:

- Mayflower: War Horse until 19th October
- Mayflower: 101 Dalmatians 22nd-26th October
- The Haymarket Basingstoke: Dracula 24th-26th October
- New Theatre Royal Portsmouth: Science Museum the Live Show 27th October
- Mayflower: Grease 29th October- 2nd November
- MAST: Family Fun Day 2nd November

Mrs Azor – Head of Drama

GCSE Drama Tour

War Horse Overview

The Year 10 and 11 Drama GCSE students went to see War Horse at the Mayflower Theatre on Wednesday. The show used lots of different puppets which the students got to have a closer look at on the backstage tour they went on afterwards. The horse puppets, Joey and Topthorne, were extremely detailed, each one is made of a metal cage which is strong enough to support the actors. Each puppet required three puppeteers which were supporting the whole cage.



The set was very minimal with only a screen which stayed on the whole time and some smaller pieces of set which were moved on stage when they were needed.

The screen was made to look like a piece of torn sketchbook and during the show it showed Joey's perspective. It was an emotional story but an amazing experience.

The Backstage Tour

On Friday the group who went to war horse got to have a look around the behind the scenes of the production. They went backstage and had a puppeteering workshop. During the tour we got to see the theatre wings and had an explanation of how everything gets moved in when it's time for a change in show, as well as talking about all the roles which go into making the shows as amazing as they are.



We went onto the actual stage to get the actors' perspectives and we also got to see the fly which is where all the floating bits of set are stored. In the workshop which was hosted in the Mast we were shown how to make puppets come to life.

We got to have a go at making a puppet to control and got to see how the professional puppeteers make the puppets look real. It was very interesting and we really enjoyed it!



Amelie B

War horse was a great experience and was overall an engaging show. Seeing the puppets live was really interesting because you could see every little movement they made.

The show was extremely emotional and had both heartbreaking and heartwarming parts which most definitely made me and a few others tear up.

Freya S

Leaver's Presentation Evening

It was lovely to see so many of our 2024 Year 11 leavers at Barton Peveril College last week for their Presentation Evening.



The evening was a great opportunity for the cohort to catch up with each other and a fitting celebration of their fantastic GCSE Results this year.

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded prizes for Outstanding Achievements in Public Examinations:

Emily A, Jake B, Jessica C, James C, Carrie F, Hannah G, Lucas H, Henry P, Katie P, Jemma R, Sarah-Jane R, Ed V and Sophia W.

Year 9 News

Well, where did that term go!? I would like to say huge congratulations to all the students in Year 9 for taking a big step up in both their studies, and their co-curricular efforts.

Year 9 is an important transition year, but they have embraced the challenges well and are also being great mentors to the new Year 7 students. Well done all!

As you know, we have a wonderful "Respect" programme at The Gregg, which is woven through a number of areas of the school. One of which is the awarding of Respect points (represented through stickers in the student planner).

Last year, Khile M achieved the highest number of

Respect points in the whole school! An amazing achievement for this young lady, who received the Respect Shield this week and will keep it for the whole year. Khile was presented with the shield by her tutor, Mr Piggott, during our Year 9 assembly this week, and was congratulated by the whole year group. Well done Khile.



As our Year 9 students and parents know, we have a half termly "Kindness Hero Award" in our year group. Throughout the half term, students can nominate someone in their year group who goes above and beyond in their acts of kindness. I am thrilled to report that this half term, I received over 20 nominations.

They were: Emilia H, Daisy Q, Lilly P, Darcy O'D, Sophia A, Khile M, Aurora S, Noah H, Poppy D, Elliott S, Jay J, Isaac K, Lexi Pr, Pollyanna I, George W, Harry O'C, Lois B, Jerzy B, Zoe B, Jana S-A, Rory S.

We like to visit the "Kindness Boomerang" regularly, and all of these students should be proud that their kindness has come back to them and been recognised by others.

However, our overall Kindness Hero this half term was Harrison H in 9TPA. Harrison exemplifies kindness by being a truly supportive friend, who is trustworthy, kind and helpful to others. He is mature, thoughtful and caring, and thoroughly deserves the trophy he received this week. Well done Harrison!



Future Mastermind Champions

Finally, you may have seen on our social media pages that this week saw the first contest of our Year 9 Inter-Tutor Cup. We held an exciting quiz during lunchtime on Tuesday, with six rounds of questions. Each round had been written by a tutor group, and the quiz was attended by over half the year group, who gave up their precious lunch break to compete and represent their tutor groups.



It was fabulous to see the students using their various skills and knowledge to come together on this, and a massive WELL DONE to 9TPA who walked away with the trophy (just pipping 9EHA at the post). Year 9 are already looking forward to the next round of the Inter-Tutor Cup...watch this space.

As the evenings grow darker, days get damper and nights colder, I would like to wish all of our Year 9 families a truly restful and enjoyable break, ready for the delights of the Christmas season when we come back.



I have enjoyed this term, and look forward to hearing all about your adventures when we return (parents please email me with any special achievements, events or info).

Mrs Azor – Head of Year 9
naz@thegreggschools.org

FROGS News



Please join us for The Gregg School and FROGS Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November 11am - 3pm. FREE entry and parking. As well as student run stalls we also have a lot of exciting small businesses to help start your Christmas shopping including:

Fudge, stocking fillers, wooden Christmas decorations, bath products and skin care, bags, paintings, prints, cards, ladies clothing, jewellery, scarves, ceramics, candles, home accessories The Gregg School honey and much, much more!

Refreshments will be available including mince pies and mulled wine!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sports News

Elite Sport



Our Elite Sport students from Year 7 & 8 enjoyed a visit from Eastleigh FC.

Students had an anti-racism assembly followed by a training session and worked on improving their dribbling, speed and control. They finished the session with an enjoyable match.

U16 Netball



The U16 netball team had their second Southampton Schools netball tournament this evening and had some great results.

They had wins against Oasis Mayfield, Wildern, St George and Bitterne park. Well done girls.

Senior Girls Football

Another win for the senior girls football team who won 4-0 against St Marks yesterday. Goals were scored by sister's Ella NS and Libby NS and two goals were scored by Jana. Well done to the team.



Cross Country League Race 4

Last Wednesday was the Southampton Schools Cross Country Championships Race 4 hosted at The Gregg.



We had lots of individual medalists and the Year 10 boys won their team event! Well done everyone.

Year 7 Girls

1st Amber G, 2nd Annabelle G and 6th Isabelle M-M

Year 9 Girls

2nd Camilla W and 5th Eva M-M

Year 7 Boys

2nd Charlie G, 4th Ryan, 8th Angus, 12th Jacob S, 13th Daniel R, 17th Ruben C, 18th Harrison S

Year 9 Boys

4th Jack B

Year 10 Boys

2nd Oscar I, 3rd Tobias C, 4th Harrison S, 6th Jamie R, 7th James L, 8th Oliver S and 9th Jamie A



House News

With close matches and competitions it is congratulations to Roman house who are winners of Year 10 house football with final results:

1st Roman, 2nd Spartan and 3rd Trojan



Student News

Congratulations to Year 8 student Bonnie K who has joined the Southampton FC U14 Academy Squad for 2024/25 as goalkeeper. Brilliant news Bonnie.



A plea from the Bees!

Our bees need your help! To keep our bee colonies stimulated through winter they need nectar to feed on. As this is hard to find naturally during the cooler months they are supplemented with a nectar substitute.



To make this we use white cane sugar. If you are able to donate a bag of white cane sugar to help feed the bees please can you send it into school with your child. There will be a donation box in the portico by reception. Thank you for your support.

Odd Socks Day

We will be supporting the annual Anti-Bullying Alliance Odd Socks Day on 12th November.

Odd Socks Day helps raise awareness of bullying and it is now part of our Respect Programme.

All our students have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school for the day, but it is not just in school; adults are also encouraged to wear odd socks to work too!



In 2023, over 5 million children, thousands of parents, hundreds of workplaces and lots of celebrities and influencers got involved. In previous years, Ant and Dec, Emma Willis, Brian May, Craig David, Sir Mo Farah and Anne-Marie have donned their odd socks!

It is a wonderful united way to highlight the need for inclusivity and to help encourage the importance of the issue of bullying.

Open Mornings

Do you have a younger child about to start primary school or a Year 6 looking for a senior school? Or know someone who does?



Why not come along to one of our Open Mornings in November and see the schools in action?

The Gregg Prep Open Morning is being held on Wednesday 13th November and The Gregg Senior school is on Tuesday 19th November - both run from 9:30-11:30am.

Please book your place via the links:

The Gregg Prep Open Morning, 13th November
The Gregg School Open Morning, 19th November

Outdoor Learning



Over the past couple of weeks Year 7 have made use of the last of the apples with the apple presse to make freshly squeezed apple juice! It was pronounced very tart but delicious and went beautifully with crackers and the apple chutney that they had made in their previous outdoor learning session.

A true taste of Autumn. Great teamwork, Year 7.

Mrs Webb

