



# TGS News

6th December 2024 Autumn Term - Issue 7

## Charity News

### Run Santa Run!

Staff and family joined hundreds of Santas in Winchester on Sunday. The festive runners took a scenic 5km route around the city in aid of one The Gregg School's main charities this year, Naomi House.

Our sprinters, walkers and everyone in between, had a great time running in the cool mizzle and were delighted to receive a mince pie and Santa key ring at the end!



Thank you to Mrs Hillyear for assembling the school team and to Naomi House & Jackspace and volunteers for their excellent organisation of the event - a fantastic way to start the festive season!

Well done to Mr Cooper who came 4th in the event and was the first of our Gregg School contingent past the post with a very impressive time of 19:08s over 5km!

Well done Mr C!



If you are able to support our staff in this event please donate using the link below thank you.

<https://bit.ly/492clMh>

## Southampton Hospital Schools



As a year group, Year 9 will be working to try and help develop the outdoor spaces at the Southampton Hospital School, through fundraising and hands-on work!

On Wednesday Mrs Azor, Mrs Sellers and Mrs Ekin went on a research trip there with seven Year 9 students.

These students are part of a group of 31 Year 9's who have signed up to take on the challenge of developing the hospital school garden. The hope is that the garden becomes a wonderful place for the students at the hospital school to learn, relax and recuperate!



The students enjoyed seeing the actual locations they are working with and are already generating some fab ideas! They will now feedback to the rest of the group, and begin putting their ideas into action!



Thank you to all the staff at Southampton Hospital School for accommodating us. Watch this space!!

Mrs Azor

*P.S. If any of our Year 9 parents (or any other parents) would also like to get involved in transforming the hospital school's outdoor space, please let me know (naz@thegreggschools.org)*

## Coronation Medal

On Sunday 24th November 2024 the Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire Hon Hugo Cubitt came to the RNLI Calshot Lifeboat Station to present the King's Coronation Medals.



The King's Coronation Medal is presented to volunteers with five years service, at the time of the coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla on 6th May 2023.

The UK has issued over 400,000 coronation medals to individuals, including armed forces personnel, prison staff and frontline emergency workers.

Mrs Carrier was amongst the eight lifeboat crew present to be awarded her medal.

This year also marks Mrs Carrier's 30 years of volunteering with the RNLI's Calshot Lifeboat. A truly impressive dedication to the cause - you're an inspiration Mrs Carrier.

## Autism Ambassadors

Did you know two of our Student Support staff - Ms Love and Ms Turnbull are Autism Ambassadors within School and have vast experience in this field. Their specialism is understanding and supporting our ASC students.

As an Autism Ambassador their role is:

- To enable Autistic/SEND students to have a voice and to feel enabled.



- To raise awareness and understanding amongst colleagues.
- To identify and influence reasonable adjustments that need to be made within and around the classroom.
- To recognise when students need extra support or are becoming 'burnt out'.
- To use creative ideas and approaches when working with ASC/SEND students.
- To build knowledge and best practises to implement within School.
- To create social opportunities for our ASC students which are both stimulating and engaging and enable the growth and development of their social skills.

Our Ambassadors recently attended the 2024 Autism Ambassador Conference at Hampshire County Council which was extremely informative for them.

The conference had several guest speakers who spoke on sensory difficulties and barriers to education.

They would like to recommend the following article/speaker - Michael Barton – The Autism Advantage: Making the Most of Neurodivergent Talent in School/Workplace

<https://www.michaelbarton.org.uk/talks>

If you would like to arrange an informal meeting or have a discussion with our Autism Specialists please email either [dal@thegreggschools.org](mailto:dal@thegreggschools.org) or [atu@thegreggschools.org](mailto:atu@thegreggschools.org)

#### An Autism Christmas

*Twas the night before Christmas. and all through the house...*

*The noises were different, with more people about.*

*I don't like not knowing, what to expect  
I need my routine and space to reflect:*

*I want to keep eating, my usual food  
Not talking to visitors, doesn't mean I'm rude.*

*I love all my presents and having no school,  
But it can feel overwhelming, with new rituals*

*and rules.*

*I may not react, like other children do  
But I really am grateful, for my presents from you.*

*So be gentle with me, be patient and kind  
And remember your world, looks different to mine*

*Anon Parent.*

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## Weddings, Facility Hire and B2B at The Gregg School

If you are planning an event such as a wedding or party, why not consider using the beautiful facilities we have here at Townhill Park House?

We hire out many of our fabulous indoor and outdoor spaces during the weekends, evenings and school holidays, to our Gregg School communities. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

If you are a wedding planner or have any bridal or events associated business and would like to become one of



our recommended suppliers with Townhill Park Weddings and Events, I would love to hear from you!

Looking ahead for 2025 and beyond, events in the pipeline are a food festival, wedding fair, antiques day, flower show, literacy festival, wellbeing and holistic therapy weekend and creative arts and crafts week.

Specialist weekend courses in cooking, art, beekeeping, outdoor learning and many others are all on their way too!

If you have a specialism or skill and would like to chat about running a day or weekend course on site, please let me know.

### B2B (Business 2 Business) Directory

We are also putting together a B2B company directory for parent and family members of The Gregg Schools to advertise their businesses free of charge to other parents on our school Firefly platform. An online form will be emailed out to you soon.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Jo Ekin  
Events Manager  
events@thegreggschools.org

## HPL Talk Caroline Egerton

On Tuesday Caroline Egerton, Commercial Director at Estee Lauder gave a fascinating HPL talk about working in finance and business.



It was great to hear all about Caroline's different job roles, her education and training, and what she has enjoyed in her different career roles.

## Calling all Alumni!

It's always a pleasure when former students and staff get in touch, or visit, to update us on where they are and what they are doing. Whether you left The Gregg School in the 1940s, 1950s or even in 2024 please make sure you sign up to the Greggonians Alumni Association.



Simply click on the link below to sign up and receive emails and newsletters from The Gregg School Alumni Association.

<https://www.thegreggschool.org/alumni>

## Elf the Musical Trip



What a fabulous and festive night at the Mayflower Theatre on Tuesday!

Mrs Azor organised a large Gregg Community trip to see "Elf The Musical".

Staff, students and their families all thoroughly enjoyed this fun and frivolous show and it has certainly put us in the Christmas spirit!

## Shoot the Hoop

Tuesday saw Round 2 of the Year 9 Inter-Tutor Cup!

After the quiz last half term (won by 9TBA), this time, students took part in a "Shoot The Hoop" competition.



Tutor groups scored an automatic number of baskets based on the number of competitors, then had 10 minutes to score as many baskets as possible!

This was followed by a bonus round of 1 minute for 1 tutor representative to add to the total.

A fab time was had by all, and it was lovely to see the tutees working as a team!



Congratulations to the winners, 9EHA!

Mrs Azor

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## Bookworms

A reflection on 2024 has proved what a strong and positive school of readers we have here at The Gregg.

The most borrowed book of the year was the graphic novel Heartstopper by Alice Oseman and since the start of the academic school year Wings of Fire by Tui Sutherland was the most popular read. What was YOUR book of the year? I would love to know.

Have you got a Secret Santa coming up, need some stocking fillers or simply fancy a new book?

From now until the end of term, why not have a look at the book sale in the LRC - with new books all going for £1 each. Something for everyone - get them quick!



Ms King

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## FROGS News

### Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre was a burst of activity again this year! We had a huge raffle, gift stands of all varieties and lots of entertaining stalls and activities run by our teachers and students.

Our mulled wine and cafe were very popular again and our visitors really got into the festive spirit - leaving with bags of shopping, wreaths, pots of Gregg honey, handmade wooden Santas, newly created bracelets and big smiles!



Thank you to everyone who came along to support the fayre and an especially large thank you to the staff and parents who gave up their time to set up, run stalls and clear away at the end. This is a large event and many hands made it run very smoothly this year - please sign up again next year!



A huge thank you to our fabulous FROGS for your time planning, organising and running the day.

Everyone's support was very worthwhile - we raised over £2,500 towards our FROGS charity which supports school initiatives and activities.

### Easyfundraising

Please remember to use Easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping.

Over 8,000 retailers will donate to The Friends of Gregg School at no extra cost to you - so you can raise donations when you buy gifts, decorations, your festive food shopping or anything else!

Please sign up and help us raise more.

<https://bit.ly/3CIUgH2>



## Student News

### Returning Dance Champion!



Year 7 student Luca I has kept up his winning streak and recently won both the ballroom and latin categories at the National Championships for the second time. Well done Luca!

## Sports News

### Continued Success

In the ISFA shield, our U15 girls football team took the long drive to Surrey to play at the stunning Charterhouse school.



We managed to win 2-1, having gone 1-0 down early in the first half. Amelie W and Izabelle E put in an incredible amount to our defensive effort but player of the game goes to the match winner Lexi P who scored to put us into the next round!

Well done girls!

### Netball

Last week the Year 7, 8 and 9 netball teams played against Perins School. There was some fantastic netball on display from all teams but our

Year 9s put in an especially great performance winning 12-9.



The Year 9 team were also sporting our new netball dresses which all teams will be able to wear when they play matches going forward!

### ISA Swim

Well done to Year 7 student India N-J who very much enjoyed representing the London West Region at the Independent Schools Association National Swimming Finals last Friday.

India was thrilled to swim in the actual Olympic pool from the 2012 Games, at the stunning London Aquatics Centre, Stratford.

The breathtaking venue is state of the art, and the 50 metre competition pool has 10 lanes and is 3 metres deep, which ensures it is very fast for racing. Amongst a strong and highly competitive field, India represented The Gregg School and contributed towards the London West Regions overall competition winning score of 421 points.



India swam in the last leg of the Year 7 Girls 200M (4x50M) Medley Relay, achieving 4th place with a time of 2:31.19.

In session two, she went on to swim the second leg of the Year 7 Girls 200M (4x50M) Freestyle Relay, securing a hard fought bronze medal, with a time of 2:13.21.

This was India's first taste of competing in swimming at a national level, and she is now focused on pushing her success further.

Year 11 student William PL also took part in the competition and came 4th in the individual butterfly and was also part of the winning medley relay team (swimming butterfly).

Well done to both!



## House News

### Row-a-thon



Our house captain elves have been busy painting and creating our house 'sleighs' for the 'Row Across Lapland' charity house row-a thon next week.

Reminder to Key Stage 3 students to sign up for the event on Thursday 12th December.

Deadline for sign up is Wednesday 11th December.

### House Netball

#### Year 7

Congratulations to Trojan winners of the Year 7 House Netball:

1st Trojan, 2nd Roman and 3rd Spartan





## Year 8

Year 8 also competed in house netball last week and congratulations to Roman who were the winners!

1st Roman, 2nd Trojan and 3rd Spartan



## Get into Medicine Conference

There is a 'Get Into Medicine Conference' for Year 10 and 11 students hosted by Medic Mentor.

Saturday 14th December 9.30-3.30. Register here: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lw6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

These LIVE virtual conferences offer a comprehensive guide through the entire medical application journey, allowing students to gain key insights into the university application process, connect with doctors and medical students, and gain a clearer view of a future in medicine.

**NHS**  
**CAREERS DAY**  
FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2025

Are you in Year 10?  
Interested in finding out more  
about careers in the NHS?

Why not apply to take part in our  
NHS Careers day?

On the day you will:  
Take part in a clinical skills session  
Find out about NHS Careers and Apprenticeships  
Take part in activities with staff working in Allied Health &  
Healthcare Science professions

Apply for a place by  
scanning the QR code

## Dates to Look Out For

Wednesday 11th December - Whole School Carol Concert St James Church West End

Wednesday 11th December - Thursday 12th December - Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening

Thursday 12th December - Year 7 & 8 Mother Goose Pantomime Visit

Thursday 12th December - Festive Wear Day

Thursday 12th December - Christmas Lunch

Thursday 12th December - Choir performing at Haskins

Friday 13th December - End of Term 12:30pm

Monday 6th January 2025 - Return to School