THE GREGG

THE GREGG News

24TH APRIL | SUMMER TERM| ISSUE 12

THE GREGG SCHOOL EXPEDITION TO CHINA

Join the adventure!



We have an exciting trip to China planned for the summer of 2027!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Information Evening, led by our trip provider, True Adventure, before the Easter holidays. If you were unable to join us, a recording of the session is available to watch here:

China – The Gregg School 2027

Students who are interested in taking part can sign up via the True Adventure website by completing The Gregg School application form.

This will be a terriffic opportunity for our students and will include training, practical skills sessions, and a prep expedition before travelling to China.

If you would like further information about this trip, please contact Miss Carter.

COOKING EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP

As part of our ABIDE week celebration we are running a West African cooking workshop on Tuesday 19th May.

The 90 minute session is designed to be hands-on and creative, while also giving the opportunity to explore West African cuisine. It's suitable for all abilities, for students from Year 7 to Year 10.

The aim is for students to go beyond cooking and begin to learn about the heritage which inspires the food whilst creating restaurant style dishes.

The session will run from Tuesday lunchtime, and you will be finished by the end of the day. The cost of the session is £35.00 and includes all the ingredients except your choice of protein for the dish. We have 12 places available, please see Mrs Grice or Miss Gibbs to sign up.



UNIVERSITY MATHS CHALLENGE

The University of Southampton invited our pupils to take part in a mathematics challenge by tackling a series of creative, thought-provoking mathematical problems at home. The Junior Challenge was open to students up to Year 8, while the Senior Challenge extended to Year 10. The competition encouraged students to think beyond the standard curriculum and explore mathematics in new and exciting ways. It also supported teachers in sparking meaningful mathematical discussions and connecting with the School of Mathematical Sciences and its outreach programmes.

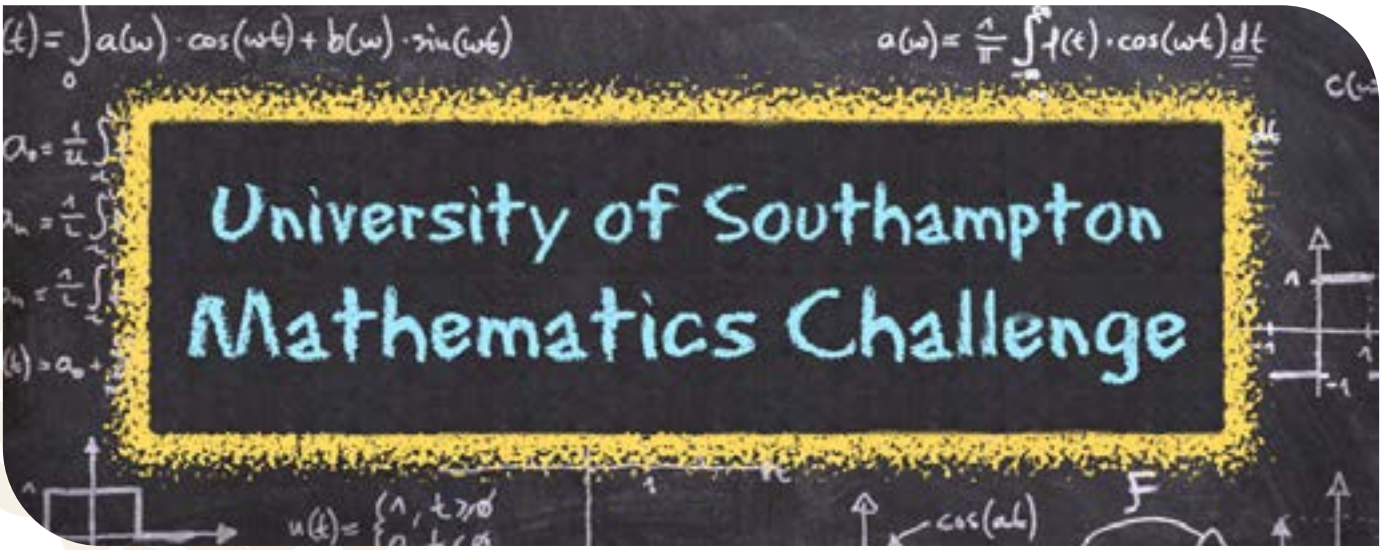
Well done to Alissa from Year 9 and Miles from Year 7 for submitting particularly strong entries. Both have received a Senior Teacher Commendation from our Maths Department for their hard work. We look forward to hearing their results soon.



Barry and Kerrie are discussing their pets during a poker game. Barry tells Kerrie that he has at least one dog at home.
When Kerrie asks what breed, he answers cryptically: "If I have a Labrador but not a Staffie, I also have a Collie. I either have both a Collie and a Staffie or neither. If I have a Collie, then I also have a Labrador."
What breed or breeds does Barry have at home?



5. Sue Sips Serendipitously
Relaxing on the plane to her latest skiing holiday, Sue ordered a 330ml can of lemonade, which the flight attendant served her in a completely filled cylindrical glass of radius 3cm. She drank some of it immediately before the plane hits turbulence, resulting in the plane and thus the glass to become tilted at an angle of 30° to the vertical. None of the lemonade was spilt, but only just!
How much lemonade has Sue drunk, to the nearest ml?



SCIENTIST OF THE MONTH

Well done to Rowan B and Richard P.

Rowan was nominated for his high level of enquiry and well thought-out and challenging questions in class.

Richard's diligence and punctuality with handing in his work has made him April's scientist of the month.



WELL DONE YEAR 10!

Today marked the end of the mock exam period for our Year 10 students. Of course, these amazing youngsters are well-versed in class assessments and tests by now, but this was the first time they had experienced what “the real thing” will look like.

I have to say I have been incredibly impressed by their attitude towards these mocks. Every morning and afternoon session started on the Sundial Lawn with a calm atmosphere and students responded positively to the rules, ensuring they had the correct equipment with them as well as handing in their phones, watches and headphones.

On talking to the students, it was very evident that the vast majority of them had really put thought and effort into their revision, and were keen to achieve their personal best at this time. I am sure many of them will be delighted by their marks. We will be supporting all students to reflect on their results and identify areas they can work on in the future with a focus on revision techniques and timetables, and the importance of sleep and good diet to help them achieve their best.

Please do give them ALL a massive pat on the back from me, I am so proud of them!

Wishing our year 10 students and families a well-deserved and restful weekend,

Nicky Azor

Head of Year 10 & Head of Drama





DON QUIXOTE

A great night was had at the Mayflower Theatre by our students, their families and staff.

This time, we watched Birmingham Royal Ballet’s “Don Quixote”, and what a treat it was!

We were in awe of the dancers’ strength, athleticism and skill, whilst also being dazzled by beautiful costumes, sumptuous sets, and creative lighting. The icing on the cake was the stunning sound of the Royal Ballet Sinfonia. Pure delight!

Thank you to everyone who came along, and Mrs Carrier for her help. Our next show will be Matilda on the 30th April. Please contact Ms Azor if you would like to attend.

MUSIC CLUBS SUMMER TERM







INTERESTED IN HELPING TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE GREGG SCHOOL?

Following the exciting news of the joining of our two schools this September, we have a new position available for a Governor on our Board of Directors. This is an opportune moment for a current parent to join our team and help shape the future of our new through-school – from Reception to Year 11.

Our school is unique in this area, through its small class sizes, beautiful location and nurturing ethos, and has the distinctive advantage of being truly independent. Whilst other schools have been incorporated into large consolidated groups, our school is wholly run by our governors, who are directly responsible for our strategic intent and therefore able to make impactful and agile decisions, acting in the best interests of our pupils, families, teachers and business going forward.



We are looking for someone who has some time to give to our School. Financial, legal, charitable, HR, management or educational experience would be a bonus, although experience in other areas would also be carefully considered.

Our parents are key stakeholders in our business and we would welcome you to get in touch with us should you (or someone you know) be interested in joining our Board of Directors as a Governor.

Please express your interest by contacting Nathalie Heinst, Clerk of the Governors, on nhe@thegreggschools.org or myself shs@thegreggschools.org and we can provide you with further information.

We forward to hearing from you.

Mrs Sellers

SCHOOL PHOTOS

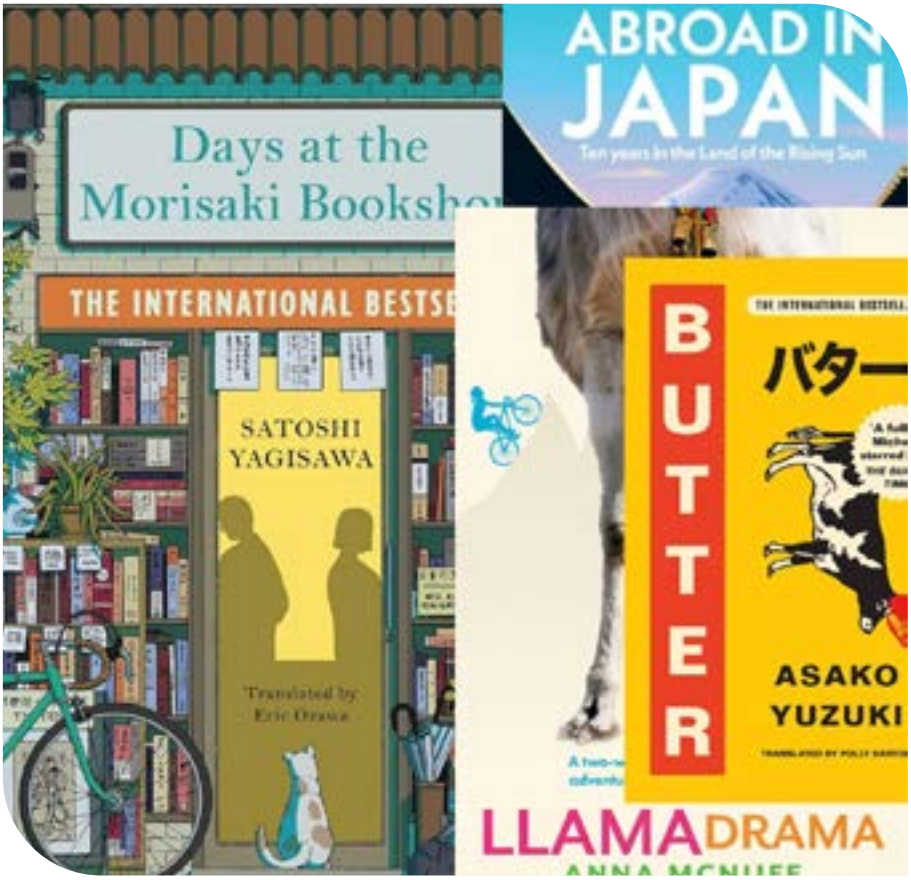
Tutor group and the final Year 11 group photographs will be taking place on Thursday 30th April.

Students should wear full uniform including their blazer. If your child has PE on their timetable, and you would prefer them to have their photo taken in full uniform rather than PE kit, please ensure that they bring it in to school.





EXPOLORING THE WORLD THROUGH BOOKS



As part of the National Year of Reading, we are celebrating our staff and the books they read. This month, we are featuring Miss Carter, one of our international trips leaders and an avid traveller.

Over the years, she has given our students the opportunity to experience the wider world, leading adventures to Peru, Borneo, Malawi and Iceland, with exciting plans currently underway for a trip to China. When she's not travelling Miss Carter continues to explore the world through her reading - discovering new places and cultures from the comfort of her armchair.

Why I Read (and Why I Read the Way I Do) By Miss Carter

I love getting lost in stories from somewhere else. I naturally drift toward foreign literature because it lets me step into another culture or another moment in time. Reading becomes a kind of travelling, sometimes even better than the real thing. I'm also someone who reads several books at once. It means I can switch depending on my mood or how tired I am. If one book takes a while to get going, having something lighter on the side keeps me reading. Recommendations are one of my favourite ways to discover new books. There's something special about reading something a friend or family member loved. And honestly, nothing beats the airport bookshop. That little pocket of time before a flight, browsing shelves, spotting new titles, choosing a story to take with you feels like a ritual. In a world full of stories, it's nice to share the ones that stay with you.

LEGO CLUB



Do you love building and Lego? Then come and join Lego Club. The club meets every Tuesday lunchtime.

If you are having a spring clean out and have some spare lego, please send it in. It will be put to good use by keen builders!

SHARE YOUR NEWS



We love celebrating the amazing things our students do outside of school.

Please send in any news that you would like us to share in our newsletter to us at:

marketing@thegreggschools.org

Reading My Way Through Japan.

Over the past month, I've been reading books set in Japan after travelling there over Easter. I love reading about places I'm visiting (or have just visited) because it adds another layer to what you see. Usually I start with recommendations from Lonely Planet, but this time friends came through with some brilliant suggestions.

Butter by Asako Yuzuki

This was my first deep dive into Japanese fiction, and I had no idea what to expect. It's technically crime fiction, but nothing like the crime novels I've read before. Instead of fast-paced twists, it focuses on relationships, emotions, and the slow, careful development of its characters. The descriptive style took a little getting used to, but by the end I didn't want it to finish. The characters felt so vivid. I've since discovered there's a sequel, which is definitely on my list for this year.

Days at the Morisaki Bookshop by Satoshi Yagisawa

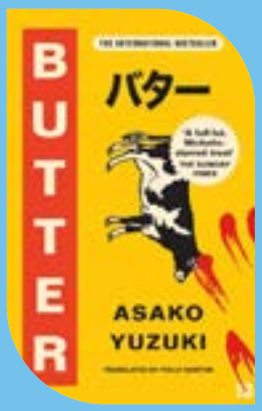
This one is set in Jimbocho, the district in Tokyo where I stayed, completely by accident. It's known as a booklover's paradise, full of second-hand bookshops. Reading this after wandering those streets made the neighbourhood feel even more alive. It's a short book but surprisingly impactful, especially in how it captures the pressures, contradictions, and beauty of Japanese culture.

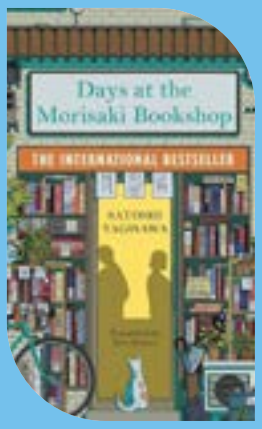
Abroad in Japan by Chris Broad

Written by an Englishman who moved to Japan to teach after university, this book has hints of Bill Bryson's humour. Within twenty pages I was ready to pack up and go teach in Japan myself, and the nostalgia took me straight back to finishing university and living abroad. Reading it while actually being in Japan even changed parts of our itinerary, nudging us toward some lesser-known places and experiences we might have otherwise missed.

Llama Drama by Laura McDuff

I'm currently reading this one, recommended by a friend. It's an autobiography about two women cycling across Central America, full of adventure, challenge, and curiosity. What I love about travel and travel writing is how it nudges you to be brave, to trust in the kindness of strangers, and to step into life a bit more boldly. I'm not planning to cycle the Andes anytime soon, but I am definitely planning a trip to Bolivia and









NETBALL

Year 8 Netballers Strike Gold Again!

Before the Easter break, we took two Year 8 netball teams to compete in the Southampton City Schools Tournament - and once again, both teams were outstanding.

Across the day, our players showed exactly what we pride ourselves on: hard work, determination, resilience, and brilliant teamwork, all delivered with smiles and positive attitudes. Both teams performed superbly, never giving up and supporting one another throughout every match.

Our A Team had an exceptional tournament, going undefeated and finishing as gold medal winners - a fantastic achievement and thoroughly deserved!

Well done to all of the students who took part and represented the school so brilliantly. A special mention must also go to Namrita, who once again did a superb job coaching and umpiring for the B Team - thank you for your continued commitment and support.

This tournament marks the end of another successful netball season as we now turn our focus to athletics. We can't wait to see what our students achieve next!



SPORTS CLUBS

This summer term we have the following clubs for students to join.

Athletics - Monday after school

Crickets Nets - Tuesday lunchtime

U15 Cricket - Tuesday after school

Tennis - Wednesday after school

Golf Club - Thursday lunchtime

U14 Cricket - Thursday after school

Gym & Weights - Friday Lunchtime

Social Rounders - Friday Lunchtime



FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE GREGG









COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS







Sparsholt Open Evening 29th April
Year 10&11 Open Event 5-7.30pm

Itchen College Open Evening
Open Event 5.30-7.30pm

Barton Pervil 30th April
Year 10 Open Event 4.30-8.30pm

Peter Symonds 1st & 2nd July
Year 10 Open Evening 5.30-8.30pm

Bitterne Park Sixth Form
Spaces available for September 2026

KEY DATES AT SCHOOL

Thursday 30th April
School Photographs

Tuesday 12th May
Year 8 Trip to Bovington Museum

Thursday 21st May
ABIDE Cake Bake

Friday 22nd May
Year 7 Trip to Marwell Zoo

25th to 29th May
Half Term

Monday 8th June
Charity Event - Mini Clarendon Walk and Bus Pull

Saturday 20th June
The Gregg School GreggFest

Saturday 27th June
The Gregg School Open Day

Thursday 3rd July
Sports Day

Monday 6th July
Camp Week Years 7-9
Work Experience Year 10

Wednesday 15th July
End of Term 12.30 Finish

Wishing all of our families a wonderful weekend!