THE GREGG

THE GREGG News

22ND MAY | SUMMER TERM| ISSUE 14

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AWARD



Day One began with a rather unpromising weather forecast, but that didn't deter our three Silver DofE teams, who set off for the Purbecks on Saturday morning. They arrived in Wareham to meet their assessors before beginning their 16km walk to Burnbake campsite. Their routes took them through the lovely walled town of Wareham and across the Purbeck Heath national nature reserve. All groups made good time through their first checkpoints until some encountered the boggy conditions of Hartland Moor. By the time they emerged on the other side there were a few with wet boots but all were in good spirits.



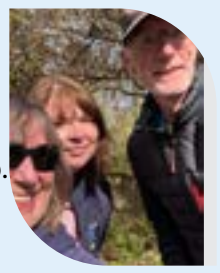
Thankfully the weather held and only delivered a few short showers before the final leg. This took the groups through the wooded area of Rempstone Heath, which made navigating more tricky. After a few wrong turns and some key lessons learned on how to use a compass and map properly, they all arrived at camp. Tents were pitched and meals cooked before a well earned shower!



Day Two brought more overcast skies but again the showers held off. All three groups made their way across Godlingston Heath towards Studland. After a few right turns and a few wrong turns, all three groups made it through Studland and began the long slog up Ballard Down. They enjoyed a well earned break at the top, with stunning views across the Purbeck coastline. It was then an easy descent into Swanage and back up towards Acton campsite in Langton Matravers. This was a long day's walk of 17km with heavy rucksacks, so students were relieved to finally arrive at camp and pitch their tents.

Day Three was an earlier start with groups leaving the campsite at 8am. There were no navigational errors that day and despite being overcast again all groups followed the ridge into Corfe Castle and along to the final checkpoint near Tyneham. The three days walking was approx 35-40km in total but all made it despite some of the supervising team having to rush off and purchase a few knee bandages to patch up the increasing number of aches and pains. We also had a sole fall off a boot on the final leg! However, the students seemed to thoroughly enjoy the experience, and the assessors were very pleased with their progress, passing them all with flying colours. Well done to all the students who have spent the 5 months planning the expedition. It's great to see all their hard work pay off.

Thanks again to Mrs Sellers, Mrs Gibbs and Mr Cooper who supervised the trip.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE PRACTICE WEEKEND

25 students took part in the Bronze DofE practice weekend, giving them a chance to put 16 weeks of theory into practice.



Friday night was spent putting up tents and cooking their meal on a Trangia, followed by a navigational exercise around the school grounds. After a reasonable night's sleep, we set off for the New Forest to walk a 12km route. This introduced the students to a variety of paths from cycle routes to minor tracks and tested their compass skills. It also gave them an idea of what it feels like to walk 12km carrying a heavy rucksack!



All groups had a great day under the guidance of our staff, who were available to intervene and help put them back on track if their navigation went astray. We were also fortunate with the weather, having no rain despite the forecast earlier in the week. Group Charlie were treated to a rare sighting of a white-tailed eagle (Mr Cooper was most excited by this) and for the first time, all groups made it back slightly ahead of time.

Well done to all the students for completing their practice and thank you to Mr Bayford, Mrs Gibbs, Mrs Wynn and Mr Lerego who volunteered their time to make it all possible.





SCIENTIST OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Scientists of the Month.

Reuben C was nominated for his hard work and perseverance with his Science work.



Milly C achieved an excellent mark in her GCSE Biology mock exam, reflecting her positive attitude to learning and the consistent effort she applies in class.

BOVINGTON TANK MUSEUM

On Tuesday 12th May, our Year 8s travelled to Bovington in Dorset to visit the Tank Museum. The visit is designed to bring their study of the First World War to life, while also creating a meaningful link to their forthcoming studies of the Second World War, which they will begin in September.



Students took part in three workshops comprising 'Tommy through the Trenches', a workshop experience inside a First World War Mark 1v tank and an artefact handling workshop on Hitler's rise to power in 1933.

We were impressed with how our students eagerly embraced the activities. There were some great responses to our fact finding mission in the afternoon when we had more freedom to explore the tank story hall. Students were fascinated to find out that modern tanks now have aircon and a toilet!



It was great to have our students praised by the museum team and shop staff for their behaviour and politeness. It was also lovely to hear comments from the students such as '*It was really cool*', '*I wanted to stay longer*' and '*I learned so much*'.

It was an absolute pleasure to be out with the students and many thanks to the other staff for supporting this trip.

Mrs Walker

Head of History



ALUMNI



Congratulations to Fergus N, Alumnus from class of 2025, on his debut with the Hampshire Rugby under 17 side for their game against Middlesex on the 10th of May.

SHARE YOUR NEWS

We love celebrating our students' achievements outside of school.

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

marketing@thegreggschools.org

ABIDE WEEK

In support of our Respect Programme, which runs throughout the school year, this week we have proudly celebrated ABIDE with activities focused on **A**cceptance, **B**elonging, **I**nclusion, **D**iversity, and **E**quity. It has been an inspiring time for both students and staff, reinforcing our shared commitment to nurturing a community where every individual feels valued, respected, and empowered.

Throughout the week, students have taken part in a wide range of lessons and activities designed to encourage thoughtful discussion, broaden perspectives, and deepen understanding of different identities, cultures, and lived experiences. These opportunities not only enriched their academic learning but also supported personal growth and empathy - qualities that are integral to a well-rounded education.

Our classrooms became spaces where young people could explore important questions such as:

· What does it mean to truly 'belong'?

· How can we challenge stereotypes and inequality?

· Why is diversity a strength in any community?

By embedding these themes across subjects - from literature and history to science and the arts - we ensured that inclusion is not seen as a standalone topic, but as a core principle that underpins all areas of learning.

There were many exciting activities, projects, and student-led initiatives taking place throughout the week. To ensure these are given the attention they deserve, we will be publishing a special follow-up newsletter article after half-term, showcasing highlights, student reflections, and examples of the fantastic work produced.

We very much look forward to sharing these celebrations with you soon.



MUSIC CLUBS SUMMER TERM





COMPUTING

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Raspberry Pi Coding Challenge (previously known as the second round of Bebras). The following students have all been awarded and STC and a Certificate of Participation: Rowan B, Alfie C, Darcey A, Charlotte C, Daniel R, Sophia H, Luca H, Isaiah N, Zachariah S, James S, Iona W, Daniel H-F and Bernard T-M.
A special mention to Hien L in Year 11 who came 1st Nationally!





A group of six Year 9 students recently competed at the Global Underwater Hub's annual STEM Challenge competition at the SAAB in Segensworth. The initiative offers pupils an opportunity to learn about the UK's £9.4 billion underwater industry, which includes the offshore energy, marine science, maritime robotics, aquaculture, and defence sectors.

Team SEAL were tasked with designing, building, coding, operating, and marketing a model wheeled ROV constructed using Lego Spike sets, with the concepts pitched to a judging panel of industry experts who then decide the winner of each heat.

Alongside applying the skills pupils are being taught at school, the STEM Challenge develops their problem-solving, project management, presentation, and teamworking skills, whilst they also receive insight into a range of potential career paths. Congratulations to Caitlin V, Skye H, Alissa O, Ava D, James W and Finlay M for taking part.



Another two students have completed their iDEA Bronze Award. The iDEA (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) Bronze Award is the beginner-level digital and enterprise skills certification. Often described as the "digital equivalent of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award," the programme aims to boost employability and confidence by letting you earn digital badges through fun, bite-sized online challenges. Congratulations to Caitlin V and Sophie C.





PANTO AUDITIONS



Calling all local, young performers!

Join the magical world of "Sleeping Beauty" at Theatre Royal Winchester as part of their Panto Community Ensemble.

Are you 16 or older (16 by 31 August 2026)?

Do you have a flair for dance, acting and singing?

If so, this is your perfect opportunity!

To be part of the magic, sign up to their audition day:

Saturday 20th June 2026
9.30am – 1.00pm

The Paul Chamberlain Building, University of Winchester

Places are limited, so don't snooze and book your place NOW by filling the form available here: Panto 2026 Community Ensemble Auditions | Theatre Royal Winchester

Application deadline: Sunday 14th June 2026 at 11.59pm

GCSE FOOD TRIP

Our Year 10 GCSE Food students had a tour around Eastleigh College, recently. Students were shown around the Hair and Beauty, Art and Photography and Engineering departments, before having a tour of the kitchen and treated to a meal at the East Avenue Restaurant.

Eastleigh College's level 2 students prepared and cooked our food, whilst we enjoyed the atmosphere in the Restaurant. Students chose from dishes on the lunch menu such as Goat Cheese and Spinach Tortellini, Coronation Chicken Salad, Celeriac Steak, Hunter's Chicken, Chocolate & Amoretti Torte and Coconut & Lemongrass Pannacotta.

We look forward to seeing how the trip inspires our students with their recipe ideas and presentation!

Miss Gibbs and Mrs Grice







HPL MURDER MYSTERY

Our Year 7 and 8 HPL students spent an afternoon being detectives last week. Mr Lerego set them a dastardly murder mystery to solve, and the students turned the atrium into an incident room, working in teams to analyze evidence, re-enact the crime and narrow down a list of suspects to find the 'cryptic killer'.

Teamwork, critical thinking and creative ideas were in abundance as a dangerous criminal was brought to justice!







STUDENT NEWS



Another Sailing 1st place position in the Under Sixteens category for Harry O'C - this time in his foiling WAZSP at the WAZSP Grand Prix on 9th and 10th May at The Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

It was a weekend of two halves on the Solent, Saturday bringing wonderful sunshine and glassy, technical sailing conditions contrasting with Sunday where sailors found themselves, in high winds gusting 15-20 knots and short, steep chop.



Bonny had an extremely successful month winning both JPL Cup for Southampton FC and also the Carolyne Boyles County Cup.

Well done Bonny!

BEACH CLEAN

Year 8 students got 'hands-on' with environmental action through their Geography "Legacy Work" project, taking responsibility for protecting our local coastline.



As part of their homework, students spent 30 minutes collecting litter from coastal areas, carefully recording what they found using photographs. This real-world data will now be used in lessons to investigate plastic pollution and its impact on marine environments.

One student reflected, "I was surprised by how much plastic we found in such a short time, it really made me think about how our choices affect the sea."



The project contributes towards STCs and house points and has been a fantastic example of students working collaboratively and positively to make a difference in their community.

Interested in shaping the future of The Gregg School?



Following the exciting joining of our two schools this September, we are seeking a new Parent Governor to join our Board of Directors.

This is a unique opportunity to support the strategic direction of our thriving through-school, from Reception to Year 11.

As a genuinely independent school, our governors play a vital role in shaping decisions that directly benefit our pupils, families and staff.

We welcome expressions of interest from parents who can offer some time and insight. Experience in finance, law, HR, management, education or the charitable sector would be valuable, though not essential.

To find out more or to express your interest, please contact

Nathalie Heinst, Clerk to the Governors at nhe@thegreggschools.org, or Mrs Sellers at shs@thegreggschools.org

We look forward to hearing from you.

STUDENTS NEWS



Congratulations to Jack W for an excellent performance at last weekend's Southern Regional BMX Race.



Last weekend Libby attended the ESF football tournament in Minehead, with her football team U13 Atalanta performance squad. The ESF is the biggest football tournament in the UK!

At the end day 1 Atalanta finished top of their table after winning every match. On day 2 they continued their unbeaten streak and finished the day as tournament champions.

As tournament winners they have qualified for the Champion of Champions National final which will take place on 20th June at St George's Park, home of England's national teams.

SWIMMING GALA



Our school swimming team The Quays to compete in the annual Southampton Schools Swimming Gala. The standard of competition was exceptionally high, with a record number of schools taking part. Each student competed in an individual race and two relay events, proudly scoring points for The Gregg.

Both our girls' and boys' teams finished in second place in their respective categories, resulting in an impressive third place overall based on total points.

We are incredibly proud of our swimmers and cannot wait to return to the pool next year!

Results:

Year 7 Girls 2nd - Team (Megan, Isla, Maya, Elsie)

Year 7 Boys 2nd - Team (Henry, Zachary, James, Bernard, Jornah)

Year 8 Girls 6th - Team (India, Kaelin, Kim, Annabelle, Amber)

Year 8 Boys 2nd - Team (Charlie, Angus, Harrison, Joe)

Year 9 Girls 1st - Team (Lottie, Lucia, Emelia, Louise, Harriet)

Year 9 Boys 3rd - Team (Charles)

Year 10 Girls 5th - Team (Lexie, Aurora, Lilly)

Year 10 Boys 4th - Team (Noah, Sam, Declan, Archie)

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 and Weights - Friday Lunchtime

Social Rounders - Friday Lunchtime





HOLIDAY CLUB

GoSport Activity Centre delivering their Ofsted-registered Holiday Activity Camps throughout Half-Term and Summer 2026 at Townhill Park House.

These camps offer children, aged 5–15, the chance to enjoy a wide range of outdoor and creative activities.

Sessions include archery, climbing, bush craft, STEM challenges, cookery, LEGO robotics, team sports, axe-throwing and more!

Bookings for all holiday periods are now open.

www.gosportactivitycentre.co.uk/holidayactivitycamp/southampton





Friends and Family welcome to join us at our

OPEN DAY

Saturday 27th June 10am-1pm

Book Your Place

COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS







Marchwood Construction & Marine Tech Centre 10th June
Open Evening 4.30-7pm

KES Sixth Form 26th June
Open Evening 6-8pm

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

Brockenhurst College 1st July
Year 10 Open Evening 5-8pm

Bitterne Park Sixth Form
Spaces available for September 2026

KEY DATES AT SCHOOL

Monday 25th to Friday 29th May
Half Term

Wednesday 3rd June
Year 7 Trip to Hampton Court

Saturday 6th- Sunday 7th June
Bronze DofE Expedition

Sunday 7th June
Clarendon Way Walk

Monday 8th-Tuesday 9th June
Year 8 Parental Consulations

Wednesday 10th June
Yr 7-8 Mini Clarendon Walk

Thursday 11th June
Yr 9-10 Mini Clarendon Walk

Thursday 18th June
Year 11 Trip Thorpe Park

Saturday 20th June
The Gregg School GreggFest

Tuesday 24th-Wed 25th June
Year 7 Parental Consulations

Wednesday 24th June
Summer Concert

Friday 26th June
Year 7 Trip Hengistbury Head

Saturday 27th June
The Gregg School Open Day

Thursday 2nd July
Sports Day Southampton Sports Centre

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

Tuesday 14th July
Achievement Evening

Wednesday 15th July
End of Term 12.30 Finish

Wishing everyone a Happy Half Term break!