THE GREGG

# THE GREGG News

26TH JUNE | SUMMER TERM| ISSUE 16

## GREGGFEST

### CELEBRATING COMMUNITY AND CHARITY

**Through our Legacy programme we support local charities with different activites throughout the year, but last weekend's GreggFest was an exceptionally special and personal fundraising event for the School.**

Spearheaded by parent and staff member, Lisa Edwards, the day was her way of celebrating the community and charities that supported her through her own battle with cancer. Her aim was clear;

*'Celebrate Life, bring the community together and raise an incredible amount of money for charity'.*

We are immensely proud of our school community, who came together to create, donate and celebrate such an incredible day.

We hope everyone not only enjoyed the day, but also left with a deeper understanding of just how foundational community and charity are to our School.

# GOODBYE YEAR 11

Last week, The Gregg said 'goodbye' to the Year 11 class of 2026 with two key events: the first a trip to Thorpe Park to celebrate the end of the GCSE exams, and the second a final assembly where the whole school was able to come and say 'farewell' to the Year 11 cohort.

The Thorpe Park trip took place the day after the final GCSE examination. The Year 11 students have impressed us all with their focus, hard work and maturity during this particularly demanding exam period, and the trip was the perfect way to let out all of that stress and tension. Unfortunately, high temperatures and excessive queueing time threatened to take all of the fun out of the trip, but with a bit of last minute reorganization, the group were able to extend their time in the park so that they could enjoy full access and have opportunity to try out the wettest and scariest rides. Needless to say the students had a brilliant time!

The following day, they met again for a final assembly, in which Mr Lerego and the Year 11 tutors used the opportunity to display photographs of the students, in school and whilst participating in enrichment activities, over the years. Nobody was safe from the display of an embarrassing photograph on the big screen! The assembly ended with a morning tea in the marquee on the Sundial Lawn, and a long session of shirt signing, firstly between the Year 11 students, and then by the rest of the school during break. Of course, the teachers also took the opportunity to sign a few good luck messages.

As the assembly ended, Mr Lerego bid an emotional 'farewell' to the students, for whom this was their last official day in school as a Gregg student. However, we will see them next week at their Class of 2026 Prom, and for results day in August, before our final celebration farewell in the Autumn.

# SCIENTIST OF THE MONTH

Congratulations James T and Camilla W for being nominated by the Science Department as 'Scientist of the Month'.

James has been choosen for his impressive end of year test result and consistently positive attitude towards Science throughout the year.

Camilla's nomination was in recognition of her excellent result in her end of topic test in Physics.

# JUNIOR UKMT

Congratulations to the forty students in Years 7 and 8 who took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. This national competition tests students' ability to apply logical thinking, connect their mathematical skills to real-world situations, and develop strong pattern-spotting techniques.

For many of these students, this was their first experience of the challenge, and they performed brilliantly. An impressive 26 students achieved a Bronze, Silver, or Gold award - a superb accomplishment. Gold awards are only given to the top 8% of students nationally.

Special congratulations to Evie R (Year 7) and Sophie G (Year 8), who both achieved Gold and were awarded Best in Year.

These students, along with Tam L (Year 8) were invited to take part in the next round of the UKMT, which was held in June. At this round, all three did amazingly well and achieved a Bronze certificate - only achieved by the top 5% of students nationally.

# STUDENT NEWS

We are delighted to share that Milo has been awarded a Merit Certificate in a Maths Challenge set by the University of Southampton. He was invited to an awards ceremony on 3rd June, where he received his certificate from Professor Nils Anderson.

We would also like to apologise for an error in our April newsletter, where Milo was mistakenly named as "Miles". We are pleased to correct this and properly recognise his fantastic achievement.

Oscar came 2nd in Long Jump with a PB 5.61m and 1st 400m with a time 54.1sec

Well done Oscar!

## A RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK

This week, our Excellence students participated in an Escape Room activity to test their Critical Thinking Skills. The scenario involved a mysterious Arctic Researcher, Dr Carter, who was in hiding due to threats on her life and career from a sinister anti-conservation organisation. In order to facilitate her escape, the students had to crack a series of puzzles to reveal part of a code that opened an online vault of evidence that would free Dr Carter to carry on her work conserving marine life.

The students had a number of requirements to fulfil, including time constraints per puzzle, time penalties for forfeiting a challenge and for accepting clues, and also the need to be in a specific location at a specific time to solve each puzzle.

Despite the extreme heat, the students enjoyed the activity thoroughly, commenting: *"I really enjoyed the escape room activity because it challenged my brain and I liked how we could independently make our way around the school"* and *"It was not an easy challenge, but it was very fun because we had to use our brains and apply ourselves"*.

## STUDENT NEWS

Connie was awarded her Chief Scout's Gold Award and also a trophy for being nominated for the Paul Roebuck Award by 32nd Butlocks Heath Scout Group.

The Chief Scout Gold Award is the top award for Scouts. It shows that the recipient is adventurous, has helped their community and learnt around the world. It also means they have gained skills, worked in a team, completed their challenge awards and six activity or staged activity badges.

James recently competed in Round 2 of the 2026 Summer series with his club, Knightwood BMX. He made it to the final and achieved 2nd place.

# SOUTHAMPTON SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

Year 7 and 8 Students from across Southampton gathered at The Sports Centre the Cuniliffe Cup Athletics Competition. With great conditions and a fantastic atmosphere, our students delivered outstanding performances across a wide range of track and field events.

**Track Events**

The sprint races were fast and closely contested, producing some excellent results. A standout highlight came in the 200m events, where Bethany R and Primose both secured impressive first-place finishes with strong, confident runs.

In the 100m finals, Evie and Abi ran superbly to finish 4th and 5th respectively, showing great determination against strong competition.

Middle-distance events also saw great performances across the team.

- Amber and Jonny dominated the 800m, both taking 1st place in their races, and Alice finished an excellent 4th in her age group
- Annabelle secured 2nd place in the 1500m
- Bethea finished 3rd and Will 4th in the 1200m.

The relay races were a highlight of the day, with both the Year 7 and Year 8 girls' relay teams achieving excellent 2nd place finishes, thanks to strong teamwork and smooth baton exchanges. The Year 7 boys finished a close 4th place.

**Field Events**

The field events saw some exceptional performances:

- Amber won the high jump with 1.41m, the highest jump of the entire competition!
- Annabelle won the long jump, alongside her 1500m success
- Evie secured 1st place in the long jump
- Sophie took 1st place in the javelin
- James won the discus with 1st place
- Seren achieved 2nd place in the javelin
- Jonny performed strongly to finish 2nd in the long jump
- Charlie secured 2nd place in the shot put
- Bayar achieved 3rd place in the high jump
- India finished 3rd in the discus

Overall, the team produced an excellent combined performance:

Girls' team: 2nd place overall

Boys' team: 5th place out of 14 schools

Throughout the competition, pupils demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, supporting one another and celebrating success together. The atmosphere was positive and encouraging across all events.

We are now looking forward to our upcoming Sports Day, where students will have another opportunity to compete, represent their houses, and continue building on this fantastic success.
Well done to everyone involved and thank you to the staff and organisers for making the event such a memorable experience.

# STUDENT NEWS

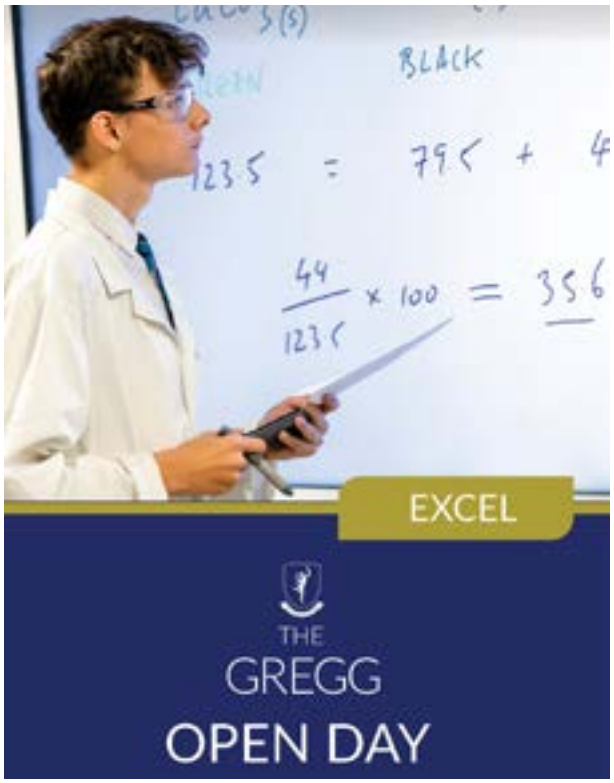
Well done to Sophie in Year 8 for being awarded 'player of the year' as well as 'shooter of the year' for the U13 Hampshire Netball Player Development Programme 2025/26 season. The PDP is made up of 20 u13 and 20 u15 girls all of whom have been selected for the England Netball county pathway.

# CRICKET

A fantastic season for our Year 7 and 8 cricket team, who remained unbeaten in the league, finishing strongly with a well-earned victory over Boundary Oak in their final match.

Charlie delivered an outstanding innings of 40, while Alex added 17 from six balls. The impressive batting was matched by excellent bowling from Dan, James and James.

Captain Ryan led the team superbly throughout the season.




## COME AND SAY HELLO!

We warmly invite you to join us for our Open Day on Saturday 27 June, **which is now taking place at the earlier time of 9am-11.30am** to allow everyone to enjoy their visit in the cooler hours of the day.

Do gather your family and friends to enjoy a relaxed wander through the classrooms and beautiful grounds.

Chat with the teachers in their classrooms, visit the GCSE art display in the Hall, enjoy the pupils' music performances and keep hydrated and fuelled with refreshments on the Terrace. Our Outdoor Classroom in the woods will offer a cool refuge and follow the Story Trail for a quiet read.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday.

Book your place on our website using this link. We look forward to welcoming you.

## JOIN THE FRIENDS OF TOWNFILL PARK HOUSE GARDENS

Do you love gardens, gardening, or simply spending time outdoors with like-minded people?

We are proud custodians of the beautiful Grade II Listed Gertrude Jekyll Gardens at Townhill Park House and are looking for new volunteers to help keep them thriving for future generations to enjoy.

The **Friends of Townhill Park House Gardens** is a welcoming group of enthusiastic gardeners and plant lovers who began restoring these historic gardens in 1997. Thanks to their dedication and hard work, the gardens have been returned to their former glory and continue to be a treasured local asset.

As we look to the future, we need more people to help continue this important work.

**How You Can Get Involved**

- Join our friendly committee, which meets a few times each year to discuss planting plans, events and fundraising.
- Help open the gardens to visitors on four occasions each year.
- Volunteer alongside our small and dedicated gardening team to help maintain and enhance the gardens.

**An Exciting Year Ahead**

In 2027, Townhill Park House Gardens will be featured in the National Garden Scheme (Yellow Book). As one of the founding member gardens of the NGS, we have been invited to take part in celebrating the organisation's centenary year—making this a particularly exciting time to get involved.

**Who We're Looking For**

Enthusiasm is the most important qualification! Gardening knowledge is welcome but not essential. We are looking for people who would enjoy being part of a friendly community while helping to care for a unique and historic garden.

If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you.

Email: events@thegreggschools.org

Help us preserve and celebrate one of Southampton's most beautiful historic gardens.

# COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

**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

**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

**Thursday 3rd September**
Prep and Year 7 term starts

**Friday 4th September**
Years 8-11 term starts and buses run as usual

*Hopefully see you at Open Day on Saturday!*

# 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**