

THE GREGG SCHOOL 2025-2026 *Always moving forward!*

We made it – albeit slightly warm, partially melted, to the Summer Holidays!

It's been quite a year at The Gregg School. We've just witnessed our outgoing (Class of 2026) Year 11s sit their GCSE examinations and have a beautiful evening for their Prom at New Place a couple of weeks ago. As always, we feel a strong sense of pride and happiness, tinged with a little sadness as they move on in their next steps. As usual, everyone looked beautiful and there were some exciting and original forms of transport!

We are confident that they will continue to uphold the success of previous years – the Class of 2025 secured a brilliant 97% 5 or more higher grade pass rate at GCSE last year – including the all the core subjects. A truly remarkable achievement for a non-academically selective school. Every one of those students went on to further their educational journey and we are regularly 'in touch' with them.

I could not be prouder of our current students' achievements too – having attended each end of term assembly, it was fantastic to hear what students have been doing alongside a rich offering of 'their best bits', including some pictures of 'out of school achievements' that were sent in by Year 10 parents!

The Gregg School is a magical place to grow up and we hope that you feel we help our teenagers, and their families, navigate those 'interesting years' with considerable aplomb. We seek that balance between support and cajoling, guiding and strongly suggesting – which we can only do so in partnership with our parents, so

thank you for your ongoing support in this relationship.

Every team in our school works for the benefit of our students, to get the very best out of them. We recognise our privilege as individuals to be able to influence, shape and encourage that journey for every single young person. I think we have the best job in the world, but I may be a little biased!

This year we have used our grounds, woodland and beautiful gardens at every opportunity and we are blessed to have such an inspiring setting in which to reside. We have included outdoor education as a firm foundation on our curriculum plan – it doesn't just add the obvious benefit of enriching the curriculum, it also gives us the space and time to think, reflect and focus on our broader skills and wellbeing. We are one of only a handful of secondary schools that is engaging in this important area of education in this way and it has been truly valued and enjoyed by our students this year.

In September, we will be welcoming our Prep staff and pupils on site and have been constructing exciting new buildings and spaces – not least of which the 'Attenborough Building' – our new outdoor classroom that will enhance learning for all. We have much work to do over the summer but I am confident that we will be 'ready to go' by September.

The Prep put on a spectacular Awards Day at Townhill Park last Thursday, showcasing their talents and celebrating their achievements with their families.

That evening, we held a farewell to Winn Road for our alumni: a

final chance to wander around the buildings and reminisce about all that took place within those walls. I was delighted to be able to catch up with some of my own classmates (no need to specify when that was!).

Our Achievement Evening 2026 witnessed more prize winners than ever before. In addition to the Bronze Mercuries, that have been awarded in recent assemblies, we welcomed 120 of our student prize winners (and their families) with Silver, Gold and Platinum awards into school. It was a very warm evening but a fantastic opportunity for us to join together in celebration in the success of those students who have worked extremely hard, and participated in a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities this year.

It's that '360' personal development experience we wish for all our students because we know that these very important formative years have life-long impact.

Our students are aspirational for life. They are resilient for life. They are applied for life and they grow up into very decent human beings – of whom we are most proud.

Thank you for your continued faith and support in me and my staff team. We shall passionately continue to deliver our aims for your families for many years to come!

Have wonderful summer break, see you in September!

Mrs S Sellers



CAMP WEEK

WHAT AN EXCITING WEEK FOR OUR STUDENTS!



Year 7 headed to the Isle of Wight, where they enjoyed games on the beach and faced their fears by soaring to new heights on the 3D swing and Leap of Faith.

Meanwhile, Year 8 travelled to Wales for an action-packed week of gorge walking, climbing to the summit of Pen y Fan, and, of course, enjoying a well-earned ice cream after their adventures!

Year 9 crossed the Channel to France, taking in the sights of Paris, enjoying boat rides along the Seine, and experiencing the magic of Disneyland Paris.

Students who stayed closer to home for The Greeg School Adventure Week had a great time, spending their days sailing, tackling team-building challenges, and trampolining.

All of our students have had an incredible adventure, forging new friendships, building confidence, and creating memories that will last a lifetime. To see photos from the week, look in the School Photos folder in the Parents' Quick Links section of Firefly.

A huge thank you to the staff who organised and accompanied these residential and activity weeks. Your enthusiasm, dedication, and support made these amazing experiences possible for our students.



PAULTONS PARK



Year 7 Key Skills students enjoyed a trip to Paulton's Park as a reward for all their hard work this year.

They navigated the theme park in groups, allowing them to build resilience by overcoming fears of rides.

They made independent decisions and had responsibility over their own schedule whilst being supervised in a safe environment.

It was a fun and memorable day out for all!



MEANWHILE BACK AT SCHOOL...



During the students' Camp Week, members of staff swapped their usual classrooms and offices and got hands-on with projects designed to enhance our school environment and create a lasting legacy for students and staff. Teams worked across the campus on a wide range of projects, from transforming learning spaces and creating artwork for the new Prep buildings to gardening and weaving fences from coppiced Lime. Staff rolled up their sleeves and got involved with painting, pressure washing, and other practical tasks as part of the aptly named "Team Grunt".

There were also plenty of creative projects, with a group of sewing enthusiasts gathered to create some new waterproof cushions to be used for outdoor learning and another designing and making decorative toadstools. Larger scale projects included remodelling the area outside DT, creating outdoor planters, reorganising the Music Department ahead of its move, and developing new library and reading resource areas.

There was a tremendous team spirit throughout the week and a fabulous amount of effort and time was given to improve the school for future generations and leaving a meaningful legacy across the campus.

Thank you to everyone who took part and to the companies who donated materials to help make these projects such a success.



HISTORY PRIZE GIVING



Our Hampshire Archive competition winning students attended the Hampshire History Archive Awards with our Head of History, Mrs Walker, where they were recognised for winning both the individual and group categories.

The awards were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Mr Nigel Atkinson.

It was a wonderful to celebrate their achievements, and a proud moment for all involved.

The Winners' Cup is now proudly on display in our trophy cabinet in Room 1.

ACHIEVEMENT EVENING



On Tuesday we had the opportunity to celebrate the considerable achievements of our students at Gregg School Achievement Evening.

This year, we had over 120 prize winners, with 35 students achieving a Gold Mercury Certificate and 27 students earning Platinum. 80% of our students took part in a Valor activity this year and 105 have earned a Valor or a Valor Additus certificate.

Photographs from the evening can be found on Firefly.



PROM

Our Year 11 students enjoyed their much anticipated end of school prom. A huge amount of effort went into planning the event, and both students and staff looked incredible in their carefully chosen outfits!

We are looking forward to welcoming them back on the 20th of August for GCSE Results Day.



SUMMER SCIENCE EXHIBITION

Twenty one Year 10s and two teachers thoroughly enjoyed the trip to the Royal Society, London, on Friday 3rd July for their Summer Science Exhibition. En-route we took in a few landmark sights of Westminster and notable statues in Parliament square, before having a picnic lunch in St James Park with the much loved pelicans!

The exhibition programme included an array of different topics such as 'Thunderbolts and Lightning' (a student favourite) how iron-based nano-materials are revolutionising cancer treatment in healthcare, the science behind magic sponges and dishwasher tablets, how the Euclid space telescope is mapping dark matter, and Mr Lloyd's favourite - the Cornwall geothermal project, producing electricity and heat for homes, whilst also harvesting lithium and hydrogen from the hot geothermal waters.

Additional talks on 'symbiosis', 'wardrobe to water' and 'green chemistry' ensured that our time was over all too soon, before we headed back home.

Mr Lloyd - Head of Science



HENGISTBURY HEAD

Our Year 7 students had a fascinating trip to Hengistbury Head, one of the South Coast's most important geographical sites.

Hengistbury Head provided students with the opportunity to practise their coastal surveying skills and observe a range of geographical features including ecosystems and how man has shaped the area through tourism.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to bring their classroom learning to life while developing their fieldwork and observation skills. One student was so inspired by the experience that they wrote a report about the trip. You can read all about their visit and what they learned on the next page of the newsletter.



GEOGRAPHY COMES TO LIFE AT HENGISTBURY HEAD - A STUDENTS' VIEW

Written by Isaac B

On Friday the 3rd of July, year 7 visited Hengistbury Head for a Geography field trip to investigate coastal process and carry out varieties of geographical surveys.

When we arrived, we recorded our observations and learned about the different activities we would be completing throughout the day. At our first survey site, we investigated the size and shape of rocks along the coastline. We found that the rocks closer to the shoreline were smoother, while others further away were larger and rougher. We learned that coastal erosion and wave action in the English Channel gradually wear down rocks over time, making them smoother and more rounded.

We then continued to do our geographical surveys, using our fieldwork equipment to measure and compare the rocks. Every three metres we selected a rock and recorded our observations. We found that as we moved closer to the coastline, many of the rocks became more angular and irregular in shape. Comparing different locations helped us to understand how coastal processes affect the coastline and influence the size and shape of rocks.

One of the most interesting parts of the trip was a demonstration of long-shore drift. Our teacher threw an apple into the sea and observed how the waves moved it along the coastline. The apple travelled towards the shore at an angle approximately 45 degrees with the swash before being pulled straight back by the backwash. This process is repeated several times causing the apple to move back and forth until it eventually it is washed back onto the coast. Seeing this happen in real life helped us understand how long-shore drift transports material along the shoreline.

Later in the day, we walked around Warren Hill and completed a sketch of the headland and surrounding grassland. We then climbed the steep pathway to the top of the hill. Although it was quite a climb, the view from the top was worth it. We could see the English Channel stretching out in front of us and the coastline disappearing into the distance.

My favourite part of the trip was standing at the top of Warren Hill and looking out across the English Channel. I have always enjoyed looking out across the English Channel and following the coastline, so this was definitely the highlight of the day for me. The dark blue water looked amazing, and the view gave me a completely different perspective of the area we have been studying. I would recommend visiting Hengistbury Head because of its beautiful scenery, interesting geography and fantastic views.

Another enjoyable part of the day was having an ice cream with our friends after completing some of our fieldwork. It was a nice opportunity to relax, enjoy the sunshine and take in the beautiful coastal surroundings.

Overall, the visit to Hengistbury Head was both educational and enjoyable. The trip helped me improve my understanding of coastal erosion, long-shore drift and other geographical processes. Seeing geography in action made the topics we have studied in class much easier to understand, and it was an experience I will remember for a long time.



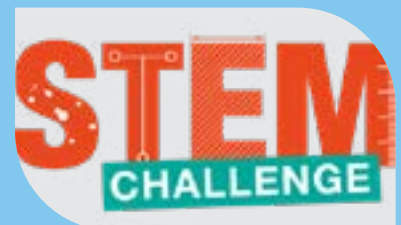
COMPUTING

Key achievements in the Computing calendar have seen all Key Stage 3 students participating in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge with a record number of students volunteering to participate in the second round, known as the Coding Challenge.

Additionally, a small group of students were selected to participate in the Global Underwater Hub STEM Challenge.

I am immensely proud of all students who have pushed themselves to complete their IDEA awards - some may say it is the digital equivalent of the Duke of Edinburgh award!

Mrs Gibbs



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The MFL Department has enjoyed a vibrant and enriching year, filled with opportunities for students to explore languages and cultures beyond the classroom.

The academic year began in spectacular fashion with European Day of Languages on 26th September. The hall transformed into the much-loved Eurocafé, bursting with colour, flavours and activities.

Students took part in fun challenges such as guessing the French, German or Spanish name of a teddy and writing the number of sweets in a jar in a foreign language. The annual cake-bake competition impressed once again, drawing in crowds and showcasing some truly stunning internationally themed creations.

October brought an exciting joint MFL and History trip to Munich and Nuremberg. Students explored historical landmarks, sampled local delicacies, enjoyed bowling, and embraced every chance to practise their German. The trip offered a memorable cultural immersion and a valuable boost to students' language confidence.

Throughout the year, Year 9 students worked towards their Language Leader Award, a highlight for many. As part of their Valor Aditas Award, they trained in how to teach a language, gaining hands-on experience and developing leadership skills that will serve them well in the future.

This term we rounded off the year with a staff-and-student pétanque competition in the school gardens. With sunshine, friendly rivalry and a holiday atmosphere, it was the perfect end-of-year celebration.

Mrs Lay - Head of MFL



SOPHIE'S LEGACY DESIGN COMPETITION

Sophie's Legacy, one of the charities we support through our fundraising, has launched a creative summer competition for children. Young artists are invited to design the official medal for the 2026 Christmas Fun Run, with the winning design being turned into a real medal for all participants to receive. Email your design to events@sophieslegacy.org.uk by 4 September. Please include your name, age, school, and parents' contact details.

The winning design will become the official 2026 Sophie's Legacy Christmas Fun Run medal! This is a wonderful opportunity for children to get creative over the summer holidays while supporting a charity close to our school community.



MATHS

The Maths Department has had another busy year, with lots to celebrate and plenty of achievements to be proud of.

Year 10 and 11 students completed exams in Maths, Statistics and Additional Maths, showing real determination and progress throughout the assessment period. Students also enjoyed enrichment opportunities, including visits to Bletchley Park and Maths Inspiration, where they explored how mathematics shapes problem-solving, technology and creative thinking beyond the classroom.

Across all year groups, participation in the UKMT Challenges was strong, with many students earning Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. Several achieved scores high enough to qualify for follow-on rounds.

The department is proud of everything students have achieved and looks forward to building on this success in the next academic year.

Over the summer, students have been set optional Maths homework, which the department highly recommends students complete to help maintain the skills and momentum shown throughout this year.

Mr Dullaghan
Head of Maths



FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Some of the highlights from this year include students across KS3 developing their practical skills, making a wide variety of sweet and savoury dishes. We also lit the Pizza oven and made some delicious homemade pizzas!

We successfully ran the Future Chef competition, where Louis H (Year 9) and Tom C (Year 10) won the school heat and went on to the regional final. The boys produced exceptional plates of food however narrowly missed out on a place in the finals. Both boys impressed the judges with their talent, determination and hard work.

Year 10 visited Eastleigh College where the students learnt about the courses on offer, before having a tour of the kitchen and enjoying a three-course meal in the Restaurant.

To celebrate ABIDE week, students signed up to participate in a hands-on cooking workshop. They followed instructions from Chef Shirley (from Shirley's Jollof Paste). The food smelt amazing and the students loved being involved!

Mrs Grice



PETANQUE

The annual House petanque competition took place this week in the beautiful sunshine.

This year's winning house was Trojan, with Roman in second and Spartan in third.



A YEAR IN OUTDOOR LEARNING

We have enjoyed an incredible year in Outdoor Learning, embracing the changing seasons and deepening our connection with the natural world. Guided by the principles of the Forest School ethos, our programme has encouraged hands-on exploration and a growing appreciation for the wildlife and habitats that make The Gregg such a special environment.

Autumn Term

We began the academic year celebrating all things autumn. Students harvested apples from our orchard and transformed them into chutney, which was proudly sold at the Christmas Fair. Through these seasonal activities, pupils developed an understanding of where food comes from and gained a greater appreciation of the natural resources around them. Observing the changes in the landscape also helped children recognise how plants and animals prepare for the colder months ahead.

Spring Term

Our focus then turned to identifying, appreciating and protecting local wildlife. Students explored habitats, learned about biodiversity and considered the important role that every species plays within an ecosystem. Linking closely to the Forest School curriculum, these experiences encouraged children to become responsible environmental stewards while developing respect for the living world around them.

Summer Term

Spring's themes of new growth and new life continued into summer as we explored ecosystems in greater depth. We finished the year surrounded by the blossoming colours and abundance of school's unique flora and fauna. Students observed seasonal change first-hand, identified a variety of species and reflected on how interconnected plants, insects, birds and other wildlife are within our school environment.

Throughout the year, students have learned new skills, embraced challenges and developed their communication, teamwork and leadership abilities. Most importantly, they have had the opportunity to build a lasting connection with nature, increasing their confidence, resilience and appreciation of the wildlife that surrounds our outdoor learning classroom.

Mrs S Webb



STUDENT NEWS



Congratulations to Bethany in Year 8 for securing a place to represent The Gregg School at the Gothia Youth Football World Cup in Gothenburg, Sweden this July.

She will be playing for The Prep School Lions Girls 14 Team.



Alicia's Charity Run

'On the 20th of June I participated in a 5km Cancer Research Pretty Muddy Run. Together my team has fund-raised £548 for this very important cause.

The obstacles this year were amazing and I really enjoyed this run. I finish this school year with a total of 3 charity races'.

SPORTS DAY

Our Sports Day was a huge success and few long standing school records were also broken.



Well done to the winners of our Victor Lidorums award:

- Year 7 Jonny P and Seren T
- Year 8 Amber and Annabelle G and Ryan J
- Year 9 Bonny K and Theo K
- Year 10 Jana S-A and Harry K



Record Holders

Boys

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	G. Smith 2014 50.9s 10.6	A. Payne 2015 51.20s	A. Payne 2015 51.20s	A. Payne 2015 51.20s
200m	J. Preece 2016 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s
400m	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s
800m	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s
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Girls

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	G. Smith 2014 50.9s 10.6	A. Payne 2015 51.20s	A. Payne 2015 51.20s	A. Payne 2015 51.20s
200m	J. Preece 2016 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s	G. Smith 2014 1:10.1s 12.5s
400m	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s	G. Smith 2014 2:40.1s 24.4s
800m	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s	G. Smith 2014 5:50.1s 5:50.1s
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ROUNDERS



Our junior rounders team beat Woodlands and St Anne's in their last game of the season, meaning they are unbeaten in the league this summer!

Even more impressively they managed to win with 4 players short! Well done girls for your brilliant performances and great teamwork.



WEIGHTS CLUB

Being a keen weightlifter myself, I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing my gym and weights club students (Years 7-11) show interest in becoming stronger and improving their fitness.

They have all shown great discipline and measurable improvement in their physical fitness and technical skill.

They have mastered their sets and repetitions, safely adding small weight increments when technique is perfect and have increased in confidence over the weeks. I am very proud of you all!

Having entered regular DEKA competitions and recently achieving a new personal best of 18.23mins, I am keen to look into entering regular members of the club into the DEKA Youth Competition next year. Please register your interest with Miss Turnbull.

If you also are a member wishing to continue this club in September, or a new member wishing to sign up, please see me or email atu@thegreggschools.org

Mrs Turnbull



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



EVENTS AT THE GREGG



HERITAGE DAY 2026 EVERYDAY HISTORIES

13th September | 2–5pm

Join us to explore the rich and surprising stories behind Townhill Park House.

From Regency Society and early Black history to WWII espionage, maritime training, and the story of The Gregg School, discover how this unique place has evolved over time.

Learn about the Middleton family, the Swaythlings, Operation Mincemeat, the beautiful gardens designed by Gertrude Jekyll, and our links to Southampton's maritime past.

See how one place connects people, culture, war, and everyday life through history.

Come along and uncover the stories hidden in plain sight!



YEAR 6 ACTIVITIES MORNING

Know someone in Year 6 looking to start Year 7 in 2027? Please ask them to come and join the fun!

Saturday 26th September 2026 | 8.45am–12.20pm

Starting secondary school is a big step, and our Activities Morning is designed to help Year 6s feel confident, excited and ready for the adventure ahead.

They can:

- Meet future classmates and make new friends
- Explore our spacious campus
- Get to know our teachers
- Take part in exciting mini lessons and activities

Set within 23 acres of beautiful woodland and grounds, our School's pupil-centred approach and small class sizes create a calm environment where children thrive academically and personally.

Please forward this [link to your friends and family](#).

GOVERNOR UPDATE

Three of our current governors will be sadly leaving us at the end of this academic year – Lee Jones, Rob Humby and Ann Withers. We are deeply grateful to them for their dedication and hard work over the last few years and will miss their expert knowledge, wise counsel and great sense of humour.

However, I am delighted to announce that two new governors have joined us this month – Jenny Harper and Sarah Hobby. Below is a short biography about each of them.

I hope you will join me in offering our sincerest thanks and heartfelt best wishes for the future to Lee, Rob and Ann, and to welcoming Jenny and Sarah.

Wishing you an enjoyable summer break.

Jo Preston - Chair of the Gregg School Trust



Jenny Harper

I am delighted to be joining The Gregg Schools Trust as a Governor/Trustee. My son is just about to finish at The Gregg School having attended since Year 7.

I am originally from Bristol, however I came to Southampton in the 1990s to study English at the University of Southampton.

I worked in Sales for Yellow Pages for 18 years before shifting to a career in Education in 2013. I am teacher-trained, and have worked as a Learning Support Assistant and an English Tutor.

I presently work at the University of Southampton in their Disability and Inclusion Department supporting disabled students. Alongside this, having completed an MA in English in 2018, I am also studying for a PhD in English Literature.



Sarah Hobby

I have been really looking forward to joining The Gregg Schools Trust as a Governor/Trustee. I was educated in Southampton and have spent over thirty years working in education in both the UK and internationally. Most recently, I served as Head of Primary at an international school in Riyadh, with responsibility for the strategic oversight of the curriculum and whole-school improvement.

I now live on the Isle of Wight and have three grown-up sons. I was particularly drawn to The Gregg School because of its ethos of nurturing confident, compassionate and responsible young people, and its commitment to knowing and valuing each individual.

I have a keen interest in curriculum development and in providing opportunities for young people to broaden their horizons through cultural experiences and international learning.

COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

A banner for an Open Event at Eastleigh College. The left side has a blue background with white text. The right side shows a smiling woman at a laptop with a green overlay at the bottom right.

Open Event

Tues 13 October
17:00 to 19:00

Eastleigh College

- Full Time Courses
- Part Time Courses
- Online Learning
- University Level Courses
- Apprenticeships

#CreatingBetterFutures

Your future starts **here**

A banner for a Year 10 & 11 Open Event. The background is a purple-tinted photo of a crowd at an outdoor event. Large white text is in the center, and two colored bars at the bottom contain event details.

**YEAR 10 & 11
OPEN EVENT**

23RD & 24TH SEPTEMBER, 4:30 - 8:15PM

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Barton Peveril College 23rd and 24th Sep
Open Evening 4.30-8.15pm

Eastleigh College 13th October
Open Evening 5-7pm

Taunton College 14th October
Open Evening 6-8pm

Fareham College 15th October
Open Evening 5-7pm

KES Sixth Form 15th October
Open Afternoon

Southampton College 21st October
Open Evening 5-7pm

KEY DATES AT SCHOOL

Wednesday 2nd September
Inset Day

Thursday 3rd September
Prep and Year 7 term starts

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

Sunday 13th September
Heritage Garden Open Day

Tuesday 15th September
Year 8 Information Evening

Thursday 17th September
Year 11 Information Evening

Friday 18th September
Inset Day

Tuesday 22nd September
School photographs

Thursday 24th September
Euro cafe and cake sale
Year 10 Information Evening

Friday 25th September
House Colour Run
Flu vaccine (Prep School)

Saturday 26th September
Year 6 Activities Morning

Thursday 1st October
Year 7 Information Evening

Wednesday 7th October
Flu vaccine (Senior School)

Thursday 8th October
Open Evening

Thursday 15th October
Year 9 Information Evening

19th - 30th October
Half term

Monday 2nd November
Start of term

Wishing you a lovely sunny Summer Holiday!

