



The Gregg School FutureChef heats, held on our Open Evening, were a closely fought contest. There was some exceptional cooking from the eight Year 9 and 10 pupils who took part and visitors were wowed by the talent and level of cooking on show.

The winners from this years' school heats were Layla K with her delicious homemade gnocchi with a creamy mushroom sauce and Louis H with his curried spinach stuffed chicken with a sweet potato rosti.

Layla and Louis will represent The Gregg School in the regional finals, which, for the second-year running, will be held at The Gregg School in December. Layla and Louis will compete against the best school cooks in the south. A huge well done to everyone involved!



It is not only our FutureChef competitors who have been excelling in the kitchen. We have been so impressed with all of our Star Bakers in Food and Nutrition classes. Well done everyone and keep up the good work!

Miss Gibbs





PREP FOREST SCHOOL

Reception and Year 1 started their Autumn Term Forest School sessions with a litter pick around the school grounds. It provided a great opportunity to discuss the importance of looking after our environment, putting litter in the bin and keeping our world clean.

The children have also been learning about the structure of a woodland. They created their own clay sculptures and explored the different layers of the woodland, finding suitable homes for their creations within the natural environment.

Meanwhile, Year 6 began their sessions by hunting for bugs and creating mini bug hotels to provide shelter for the mini-beasts they discovered. They found a wonderful variety of creatures, from woodlice and stag beetle larvae to a newt. The newt was carefully returned to the pond, ready for our next session, when the children went pond dipping. Pond dipping proved just as exciting, with the children discovering dragonfly nymphs, damselfly larvae and even a fish! After some investigation, we later discovered that our fish was a chub.

What a fantastic way to explore and learn more about the wildlife living in our school grounds!



RECEPTION



Reception have been busy developing their phonics skills by learning their Phase 2 phonemes. They have also been exploring weight, using the scales to compare different resources and discover which are heavier or lighter.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed the wet weather this week and have loved putting on their wellies to explore different areas of our outdoor environment in the rain!





PREP SCHOOL COUNCIL

Last week, we held School Council elections in classes across the Prep Department. The School Council will play an important role this year in ensuring that the pupil voice is heard. Well done to those who were successful in the election and are now School Council representatives for their class.

Year R – George

Year 1 – Ted

Year 2 – Arthur

Year 3 – Fatima

Year 4/5 CG– Fadhel

Year 4/5 PMP – Seren

Year 6 – Ilya

The councillors had their first meeting on Thursday 8th October and were presented with their badges to wear with pride in assembly the following day.

ART AND CRAFT CLUB

In our lunchtime Art and Craft club the children were kept busy sticking autumn leaves onto cardboard cut out hedgehogs. They used mini fir cones for their noses and drew on black eyes. The end result was *spike-tacular!*



COMMUNITY TRIP



On Tuesday 13th October our Reception and Year 1 pupils made their first local community visit to West End library. They enjoyed exploring the library and listening to some super picture books. They also looked at the menu at The Hatch Café and plan to go back with coins to order their own baby chinos next time!



YEAR 7 VISIT WARNER BROS. STUDIOS



Our Year 7 pupils enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London, where they spent the day immersing themselves in the magic of the Harry Potter films.

The day began with the Creating Creatures workshop, giving pupils an insight into the imaginative process behind some of the wizarding world's most memorable creatures. Following the workshop, pupils explored the studio tour; discovering iconic sets, props and costumes from across the Harry Potter series.

After lunch, pupils continued their journey through the studios, taking in highlights such as Privet Drive, the magnificent dragon perched above Gringotts Wizarding Bank, and many other famous locations and film-making secrets. Adding to the excitement, the studios were celebrating their seasonal Dark Arts event. With Halloween and autumn in full swing, pupils encountered Death Eaters, enjoyed themed performances, and learned more about the darker side of the Harry Potter world.



HPL TRIP LANGUAGES AT WORK

Our keen linguists were invited to take part in a Languages at Work event held at Lore Nelson School in Portsmouth.

The day was aimed at showing them the opportunities available to linguist and the wide range of careers options for individuals who have mastered multiple languages.



ETHICS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

Last Friday, we were privileged to welcome Professor Simon Kolstoe from the University of Portsmouth to talk to our HPL and Sociology pupils about medical research ethics. Professor Kolstoe is the University's Professor of Research Ethics and University Ethics Adviser, with extensive experience in research ethics, integrity and governance, including work with national research ethics committees and organisations such as the UK Health Research Authority.



Image University of Portsmouth

During the session, Professor Kolstoe spoke to our students about research methods, ethical considerations in medical research, vaccinations, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the ethical use of artificial intelligence. Through a range of activities and discussions, they were encouraged to think critically about how research impacts society and why ethical decision making is so important.



SCIENTISTS OF THE MONTH

Ned E and George T, have been nominated as our KS3 and KS4 Scientist of the Month by our Science Department.

Ned was chosen for his positive attitude to learning and George for his excellent scientific review submission.

Well done to both for their hardwork.



ART & TEXTILES



Our pupils have created some wonderful pieces of art this term. Last month's GCSE Art trip to Salisbury inspired impressive Lino prints. The Year 8 Birds of Prey workshop was used to create research projects about owls. Year 9 have been combining graffiti art and textiles with screen printing and embroidery. A special mention also needs to go to Amelie B whose submission to the ISA Art Competition Textile category was Highly Commended.



HOLLYBROOK WAR CEMETRY

Our History students visited Hollybrook Cemetery to take part in an event held by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Army, the Navy and the Royal British Legion. Isaiah N and Bethany R laid a wreath on behalf of the school.



COMPUTING COMPETITION

To celebrate Ada Lovelace Day, in honour of the mathematician and writer who is considered to be one of the world's first computer programmers, our Computing department is taking part in the Samsung Solve For Tomorrow competition, challenging our pupils to think creatively about solving problems.

The focus of the challenge is solving Safer Online problems. To take part, please see the Computing page on Firefly.

How do you help people stop scrolling when apps are designed to keep them watching?

How do you tell what's real when AI can create almost anything?



CIPHER CHALLENGE

We are excited to announce that the Southampton University Cipher Challenge is now open to all students!

The Cipher Challenge is a national competition run by the University of Southampton that puts your problem-solving, logical thinking and mathematical skills to the test. Participants can work independently or as a team, working through a series of increasingly challenging encrypted messages, learning about the fascinating world of ciphers, codes and cryptography along the way.

More information can be found on the FireFly task or by visiting:

www.cipherchallenge.org

Learning Habits and STCs are available for participating.



NETBALL



The Gregg School recently took two teams to the Southampton Schools Year 9 Netball Tournament, and the girls were outstanding throughout the competition.

Both teams demonstrated fantastic commitment, teamwork and determination, playing some excellent netball against strong opposition. Our Blue Team showed great resilience and team spirit, losing only one game in their group and working incredibly hard in every match. Their efforts earned them an impressive 4th place overall.

The Pink Team had a remarkable tournament, remaining undefeated throughout the entire competition. They played with great fluency and confidence, seamlessly integrating new players into the team and producing some excellent performances along the way.

A special mention goes to Tam, who was named Blue Team Player of the Tournament for her determination, effort and never-give-up attitude. For the Pink Team, Sophie G and Poppy shared the Player of the Tournament award in recognition of their outstanding teamwork, leadership and consistently high-level performances.

US SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Our GCSE PE and HPL Sport pupils took part in a presentation by Athleticadmix. The talk explored how sporting talent can open doors to exciting scholarship opportunities at universities across the United States.

They were told about the pathways available to aspiring athletes, as well as the academic, sporting and personal benefits of studying overseas through a sports scholarship programme.



For copies of the presentation slides or further information, please contact Mr Bayford.



STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to Lillie S in Year 9, whose entry to a Bank of England banknote design competition has been nominated for the final selection stage. Lillie's design will now be considered alongside other finalists. Should her entry be chosen, it could feature on a future banknote! We wish Lillie the very best of luck in the final round.

READ FOR GOOD

Do you love reading and raising money for a good cause? Miss King is running a sponsored reading challenge over the half term holiday.

The readathon is being run by the Read For Good charity with money raised going buy books and pay for visiting Storytellers for children in hospital.

You can take part using this [link](#).



ISA SWIMMING



The Gregg School swimming squad represented the school brilliantly at the ISA London West Swimming Gala at Surrey Sports Park. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to compete against schools from across the region and showcase their swimming ability in a highly competitive environment.

With seven club swimmers in our Year 9–10 girls' category, some of our swimmers took on the additional challenge of swimming up an age group, allowing more pupils the opportunity to compete. Emilia I, Kim S, Kaelin W and Louise M all stepped up and performed admirably against older competitors.

It was also fantastic to see four pupils making their debut for The Gregg School swimming squad. Elizabeth E, Olivia G and Beatrice PL, all in Year 7, represented the school for the first time, alongside Year 8 pupil Alexandros R.

There were some excellent performances throughout the gala, with five medal-winning swims:

Noah H – 2nd, 100m Breaststroke

Zach E – 2nd, 50m Breaststroke

Lucia E – 3rd, 100m Backstroke

Kaelin W – 3rd, 100m Backstroke

India N-J – 3rd, 100m Breaststroke



Beyond the results, we were particularly proud of the determination, resilience and superb team spirit shown by the whole squad.



SCHOOL COLOURS

To help you plan when you order your school uniform, our supplier School Colours have shared the following delivery schedule with us.

Delivery Schedule 2027

The School will receive a delivery on the 2nd & 4th Friday of every month with the following exceptions.

DECEMBER – The last Delivery will be 10th December.

MARCH – We will make 1 delivery on 12th March.

JULY – The last delivery will be 9th July.

AUGUST – We will restart the fortnightly deliveries on 27th August.

HOUSE FOOTBALL

The annual Year 7 and Year 8 House Football competition provided plenty of excitement for our pupils. Well done to all the players who represented their Houses!

Year 7



Year 8



SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY



Our Year 9 girls finished in the top three positions at the Southampton Schools Cross Country Championship. Well done to Amber G 1st place, Anabelle G 2nd place and Elsie D 3rd place.

KS4 BADMINTON

Well done to Amelie, Jana and Elise who represented the school at the KS4 District School Badminton competition.



HOUSE FOOTBALL



The Year 9 Girls' House Football tournament produced plenty of goals, excitement and House spirit on the front pitch. The 9Y girls played the first half of each match, with 9X taking over for the second.

Roman led after the opening half, inspired by Anabelle G, who was unstoppable up front. The second half saw Spartan fight back strongly, beating Roman and drawing 3-3 with Trojan, with Libby and Amy producing some excellent play. Trojan captain Bethany also impressed, leading her side to a thrilling 4-3 victory over Roman.

Despite the second-half fightback, Roman's strong start was enough to secure the overall title.

1st Place - Roman

2nd Place - Spartan

3rd Place - Trojan

Well done to all the Year 9 girls who represented their Houses!



STUDENT NEWS



We are delighted to announce that our Year 9 rugby players, Angus P and Charlie G, were both selected for the South West Saxons U14 boys touch rugby team.

The summer touch season finished at the England Touch Junior Nationals 2026 tournament in Nottingham over the August bank holiday weekend. The South West Saxons played against regional teams from all over England including the champions from 2025. They fought well and having not lost any of their games entered the play offs in second place. They then won the semi final and played the reigning champions in the final where they won 5:3 and finished English Champions.



Congratulations to Bonnie, who helped Hampshire U16s secure victory in their match against Dorset. Bonnie produced an outstanding performance, saving two penalties, helping Hampshire to win.

FEVA WORLD CUP WORLD CHAMPION

Harry O'C' s sailing journey reached a new high this summer when he competed in the 2026 RS Feva World Championship held in Travemünde, Germany, as part of the RS Games Festival. Sailing with his partner and helm, Cassius Day from Ryde School, they managed to successfully navigate five days of qualifying and finals to win and be crowned World Champions.

The event started with drama when, in the first qualifying start, a major gear failure occurred on Harry's boat, resulting in a broken boom. This put them out of the first day of racing, which, fortunately, given the strong wind and sea conditions, was the only race that day. This setback had to be taken into account on day two, where the pair had to show true grit to pick themselves up from the disappointment and push for some good results. Some incredible sailing led them to win all the qualifying races that day, setting them up for the final series in a leading position overall. Conditions remained challenging for the three days of finals, with three to four races held each day in shifty winds.

Harry and Cass showed depth in their talent, navigating two erroneous protests from Italian sailors and managing to stay ahead despite strong challenges. The final day saw the two race to an unassailable position going into the last race, meaning celebrations were guaranteed on the sail back to the beach. A fantastic award ceremony crowned them World Champions with an impressive trophy as the reward.



VALOR SAILING CLUB

Our new Gregg School Sailing Club has got off to a fantastic start, with pupils enjoying the opportunity to develop their sailing skills and build confidence on the water.

If you would like your child to take part in this after school club, our next course will start after the Easter holiday. To register interest, please contact Miss Webb at

sjw@thegreggschools.org.



GYM AND WEIGHTS CLUB

It has been great to welcome our new Year 7 pupils to Gym & Weights club. They have demonstrated outstanding dedication, teamwork, and personal growth. Our youngest lifters have stepped into the fitness suite with a positive attitude, quickly mastering the basics and building a strong foundation for their health and fitness journeys.

Here is a breakdown of their progress, achievements, and what they have been focusing on:

- **Stretching:** Pupils have memorised a routine of static stretches targeting major muscle groups, including the hamstrings, quadriceps, chest, and shoulders, to improve flexibility and aid recovery.
- **Form First:** Pupils have successfully learned the mechanics of key compound movements, including the squat, deadlift, and overhead press.
- **Bodyweight Mastery:** Before moving to barbells, pupils perfected their technique using bodyweight variations and light dumbbells to ensure joint safety.

The dedication of all pupils is already paying off, with noticeable improvements across the board:

- **Confidence Boost:** Many pupils who were initially intimidated by the gym environment are now walking in with high confidence, eager to try new exercises.
- **Strength & Endurance:** Over the last four weeks, we have seen a general increase in overall muscular endurance and core stability across the cohort.

Well done to all of the Gym & Weights club members! I hope you will continue after half term. If any new members would like to sign up in November, please see or email Miss Turnbull - atu@thegreggschools.org



REVIEW RSE POLICY

We are currently reviewing our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy.

As part of this review, we would like to gather feedback from our parent community on the updated policy. The policy can be found on our [website](#).

We would greatly appreciate you taking a few moments to read it and provide your thoughts. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us ensure the policy reflects the needs of pupils and the school. Any feedback should be sent to Mr Cluett, Head of PSD, on hjc@thegreggschools.org before 16th November 2026.

SAVE THE DATE



Join the FROGS

Would you like to get more involved in school life, meet other parents and help organise events?

Our PTA, FROGS (Friends of The Gregg School) is always delighted to welcome new members, whether you can attend meetings regularly or simply lend a hand at events throughout the year. For more information about joining, please see our [website](#).



COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

Brokenhurst College 17th October

Open Morning 9am-12pm

Southampton College 21st October

Open Evening 5-7pm

CEMAST and CETC 10th November

Open Event 5pm-7pm

Eastleigh College 11th November

Open Morning 5pm-7pm

Fareham College 17th November

Open Morning 5pm-7pm

KEY DATES AT SCHOOL

19th - 30th October

Half Term

Wednesday 4th November

Fireworks Night

Thursday 12th November

FROGS Meeting 7-8pm

Monday 16th November

Charity Day - Odd socks

Tuesday 24th November

Open Morning

Thursday 3rd December

Winter Concert

Saturday 5th December

Christmas Fayre

Sunday 6th December

Santa Fun Run in Winchester

Thursday 10th December

Pantomime Yr 7& 8

Friday 11th December

House Quiz

End of Term 12.55 Finish

Monday 4th January

Start of Term

Wishing you a wonderful half term!