



HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME



Welcome to Autumn Term 2025!

It's always fantastic to see our new Year 7 students as they experience their first few days at The Gregg School. What a gorgeous bunch they are, looking smart, especially with the girls wearing our new bespoke, The Gregg School (patented) plaid skirts!

Our staff are already enjoying teaching our new students who promise to be a very strong, ambitious cohort. If they were searching for inspiration, they need not look any further than the class of 2025...

In August, we were proud to celebrate the outstanding GCSE results of our Class of 2025. An impressive 95% achieved five or more high-grade passes, with 15 subject areas attaining a 100% pass rate at higher grades. English and Maths saw exceptional success, each with a 95% pass rate. Over half of our students in this year group gained at least one grade 8 or 9. Many of our students earned a selection of results that were way above their baseline predictions and we couldn't be prouder of them. We wish them every success as they embark on their academic journeys at college.

At the end of 2025 we said goodbye to two of our longest serving members of staff – Mrs Goodchild and Mrs Hiley – with combined service of over 60 years – we hope that they enjoy their retirement – the Autumn will, for the first time in years, seem rather quiet! Let's hope they plan to make the most of taking family holidays during term time.

In turn, we welcome our new Head of English, Mrs Board, a new second in Student Support, Mrs Boyd, and another new Student Support Assistant, Miss Wells. Mr Cluett has eagerly joined the PE team assisting Mr Bayford as he manages his new team, Year 8! Our grounds team has been joined by Pip Jones, who, in spite of the endless rain seems to be enjoying assisting the team in their newly refurbished Sunk Garden.

Quietly, behind the scenes, Mr Bartlett has built a low ropes course in our woodland during the Summer, and we were pleased to open our gardens and grounds once more to the public on a slightly soggy Heritage Day last weekend.

So, as we rapidly make way into the second half of September, I hope that all of our students have embraced the wide range of clubs and activities on offer and are looking forward to another exciting year at The Gregg School. In my opening assembly I talked about us all realising our *Personal Best* and the *Power of One* - what we can all do as powerful individuals to make a difference, both personally and in our school community... so, let's see what we can do!

As parents and families – you can help us by joining our PTA, The FROGS, who do a great deal to support our school with raising funds for the 'extras' or lending a hand. We look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

Looking ahead, we will be hosting a number of exciting events in our beautiful grounds including: a Fireworks Night, an Exciting Christmas Fayre and an Elegant Regency Ball - the finale of Hampshire's Jane Austen 250 as that annual year of celebrations draws to an end.

We hope you'll join us and share in the fun!

Mrs S Sellers



GCSE Results 2025



The Gregg School has once again demonstrated that small class sizes, a focus on student wellbeing and giving students opportunities to expand knowledge outside of the classroom and enjoy their secondary school years, leads to success.

Congratulations to those hard-working students, their teachers and supportive families.

These are results for us all to be proud of!



95%

Students achieved
Grade 4+ in
English Language
and Maths

95%

Students achieved
5 or more GCSEs
Grade 4+

76%

Students achieved
at least one
Grade 7-9

91%

Students achieved
Grade 4+ in
Combined Sciences

100%

Students achieved
Grade 4+ in Foreign
Languages, Creative
Arts, Sciences, RE,
Child Development,
and Further Maths

42%

Of ALL Grades
were 7-9

WELCOME TO OUR SENIOR LEADERS



Marc Verhille

Favourite Subjects Maths, PE & French

Hobbies Football, Golf and Movies

Goals For The Year To create positive change within the school.

Charlotte Newhouse

Favourite Subjects Drama & Biology

Hobbies Playing Netball

Goals For The Year To have the best final year ever!



Ethan Robinson

Favourite Subjects Physics

Hobbies Sailing & Computer Programming

Goals For The Year To do well in GCSE's and have fun.

Namrita Bagri

Favourite Subjects DT, PE & Maths

Hobbies Basketball and Gym

Goals For The Year I would like to fulfil my role through representing the school, promoting an inclusive environment, or creating change and opportunities for students.



CO-CURRICULAR

We consider learning beyond the classroom an important part of being at The Gregg School and offer a huge range of lunchtime and after-school activities for students to enjoy.

Students are able to earn Valor points through attending co-curricular activities.

Here is a selection of some of the clubs available this term:

- History Club
- Orchestra
- Science Club
- Duolingo
- Coding
- Jazz Band
- Stop Motion Film Club
- 3d Printing
- American Football
- Cross Country
- Industrial Cadets

A full list of the Clubs can be found on Firefly.





THE GREGG OUTDOORS

We're thrilled that our Year 8s will be continuing with their Outdoor Learning studies, in addition to our new Year 7s!

The Gregg Outdoors offers students a unique opportunity to learn in a way that's very different from traditional classroom subjects—immersed in nature across our beautiful woodland, orchard, heritage gardens and school grounds.

This year, our focus will be on the changing seasons and hands-on

exploration of local wildlife, ecology, and sustainability. Students will develop practical skills in conservation, survival, foraging, and more - such as making chutney from apples grown in our own orchard!

Beyond fieldwork techniques such as observation and analysis, students will gain a deeper connection with the natural world and our rich local environment.

Personal, social, and emotional development is at the heart of everything we do, with emphasis on:

- Teamwork, communication, and cooperation
- Independence, resilience, and determination
- Leadership, kindness, and respect

Let's hope these sunny autumn days continue!



CAREERS - COME AND INSPIRE!

Parents, can you help?

As part of our PSD and Careers programme, we are excited to invite parents into school to talk about their careers and help our students learn more about the world of work.

Whether you're in healthcare, construction, hospitality, tech, education, the arts — or any other field — we'd love for you to share your journey and experiences.

Why take part?

These talks help the students to develop a real insight into a range of different industries which, alongside PSD lessons and careers interviews, inspire them to start thinking about their next steps.

What's involved?

You'll be invited to speak to a class or small group of students in an informal setting. It's a great opportunity to answer questions and inspire the next generation.

If you have a career that you are particularly passionate about and would like to share your insight with the students, or if you know anyone else who might be interested, please get in contact with Mrs Upson-Dowie at

mdo@theggreggschools.org.

Thank you for helping us bring learning to life!

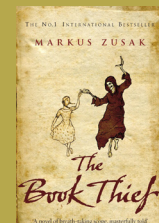


MRS KING'S BOOK CORNER



The First Year by Matt Goodfellow

'A perfect portrait of friendship, family and new beginnings.'



The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak

The power of books and words is beautifully told in this life affirming piece of work based during World War 2



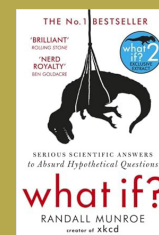
Komi Can't Communicate by Tomohito Oda.

This book is a wonderful way into the world of manga. The socially awkward teen is mistaken as being coolly reserved and the quest to make 100 friends.



The Last Life of Lori Mills by Max Boucherrat

A unique and unforgettable gaming adventure happens when Lori is home alone for the first time with spine tingling and funny twists throughout.



What If by Randall Munroe

Finally, a non-fiction pick that gives smart answers to silly questions. Packed full of mind blowing fun and factual delights ...like how much physical space does the internet take up, actually??!

SPORTS NEWS

Year 10 & 11 Netball Tournament – First Fixture of the Season

The Year 10 and 11 girls kicked off their netball season with the first tournament of the year. Always a challenge so early in the term, especially with limited training due to the weather, the girls showed great determination and spirit.

It was fantastic to welcome some new recruits into the squad, who gained valuable experience playing competitive matches for the first time. The team started against a very strong side from KES but quickly settled into their rhythm, moving the ball down the court with confidence and defending with resilience.

After a series of tough fixtures, the girls secured 5th place overall – a solid performance and a great foundation to build on



AFC Sholing in the community

Huge thanks to AFC Sholing head coach and academy coaches for coming into the Gregg to deliver an expert football session to our Year 10 footballers in their games lessons. They also handed out some tickets and made our students aware of the education courses that can be accessed through Sholings new state of the art facilities.'



YEAR 10 PARENT & CURRY EVENING



Thank you so much to all the families and staff who attended the Yr 10 Parent Info Evening & Curry Night!

It was great to be able to celebrate how brilliantly the Year 10s have started the year, as well as discuss a wide range of topics and events coming up.

This was all followed up by a chance to catch up with other Yr 10 families and some year 10 tutors over a delicious curry, cake and beverages from Thomas Franks, our catering team. Thank you!

Mrs Azor will share the information from the evening within the next few days, but in the meantime, if you have any questions following the presentation this evening, please get in touch with Mrs Azor

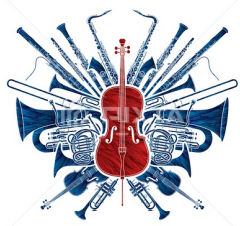
naz@thegreggschools.org



MUSIC AT THE GREGG SCHOOL

Our Music Department offers a diverse range of opportunities for students to explore and develop their musical talents. Take a look at the timetable below to see what's on offer. Whether you're an experienced performer or just beginning your musical journey, there's something for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you!

See Firefly for times.



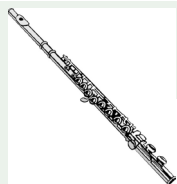
Monday Lunch – Orchestra – woodwind, brass, strings, drums/percussion and piano (to play tuned percussion)

Tuesday Lunch – Jazz Band – woodwind, brass, guitar, bass guitar, double bass, drums, singing.



Wednesday Lunch – Choir – boys & girls from any year group, singing a mix of pop, musical theatre, and traditional songs.

Thursday Lunch – String Ensemble – Violins, Violas, Cellos, Double Bases.



Tuesday break – Flute Choir

Thursday after school - Music theory – any ability, working towards the grade 5 theory exam.



Thursday after school - Keyboard Club – improve your keyboard skills with a teacher's guidance, or come along and make your own music Logic Pro.

Friday Lunch – Rock Band – Singing, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Piano.



INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

30 minutes per week individual tuition. Takes place during school time.

- Drums
- Singing – classical, pop, musical theatre
- Piano – pop, classical, jazz
- Guitar – electric, classical
- Bass Guitar
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Flute
- Oboe
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass

See Miss Parrott if you are interested.

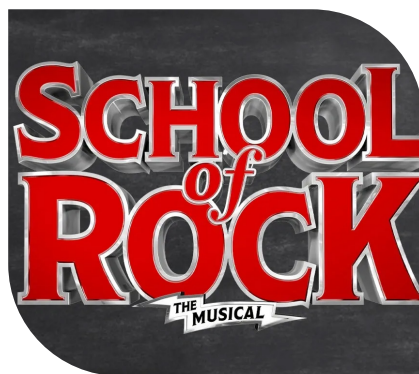


SCHOOL MUSICAL - ROCK ON!

This week Miss Parrot and Mrs Azor revealed **The School of Rock** as this year's school musical. They had a great group of 77 students attend the first meeting and are looking forward to auditions next week.

Save the Date!

The show will be performed at The Theatre Royal Winchester on the 10th and 11th of March 2026.



#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- UNDERMINING TRUST**
Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.
- ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS**
Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.
- MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT**
Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.
- GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM**
Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.
- CONFLICT WITH PEERS**
Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.
- ERODED CRITICAL THINKING**
Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- I WANT TO BELIEVE**
- CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS**
Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.
- PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING**
Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.
- MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR**
Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.
- REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES**
Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert
Brendan O'Keefe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.

See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>

[@wake_up_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

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#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**



RSHE POLICY

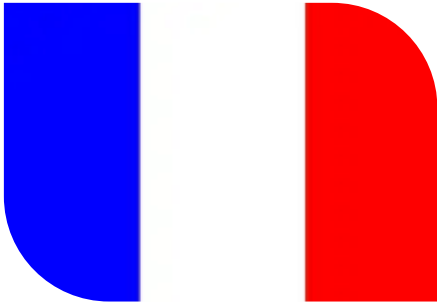
As you may be aware, the new statutory guidance on relationships, sex and health (RSHE) education was released over the summer.

We are currently in the process of updating our RSHE policy and PSD curriculum. In the meantime, information about what will be covered in PSD lessons this half term will be sent out via email.

If you have any questions about PSD and RSHE please do not hesitate to contact me, Mrs Upson-Dowie at mdu@thegreggschools.org



EURO CAFE



We're excited to celebrate the European Day of Languages on Thursday 25th September.

This annual event highlights the rich linguistic and cultural diversity across Europe and encourages language learning at all ages and we will be celebrating in various ways in school, including a cake sale for students at breaktime - so please ask your child to get baking!



We will also be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning from 9:00am to 10:30am for parents. We warmly invite you to join us for tea, coffee, and a selection of freshly baked European pastries.



It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with other members of our school community while supporting a great cause—donations to Macmillan Cancer Support will be gratefully



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



received.



Year 6 Activities Morning

Saturday 27th September
8.45am - 12pm

For all pupils who will be in Year 6 this September, join us for a morning of fun activities. Meet the teachers and get to know the beautiful grounds.

Choose your combination of activities when you book:
<https://tinyurl.com/44h7ndj3>



Open Evening

Thursday 9th October
4.30pm-7pm

Welcoming all families who would like to discover more about The Gregg School. Mrs Sellers will be giving introductory presentations at 4.30pm and 5.30pm.

Visitors are welcome to wander around the gardens and visit the teachers and students in classrooms. There will be activities available to keep children entertained and also refreshments.

Please share with your friends and family!

Book online here:
<https://tinyurl.com/4wxudknc>



COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS



Barton Peveril
24th & 25th September

Brockenhurst
27th September

Peter Symonds
1st & 2nd October

Sparsholt
4th October

Itchen College
9th October & 11th October

Fareham College
14th October

If would like to attend any of these events please make sure you book your place on the college website.





TOWNHILL PARK EVENTS

5TH NOVEMBER 2025
GATES OPEN 5.30PM

**THE
GREGG
SCHOOL
FIREWORKS
NIGHT!** FIREWORKS, FOOD AND
FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

TOWNHILL PARK HOUSE, CUTBUSH LANE,
SOUTHAMPTON SO18 3RR 02380 472133
WWW.TOWNHILLPARKHOUSE.CO.UK/WHATSON
EVENTS@THEGREGGSCHOOLS.ORG

ADULTS £10
U16 £7.50
UNDER 5'S FREE



 *Mr & Mrs Middleton*
of Townhill Park House, Cutbush Lane, Southampton SO18 3RR

Invite you to help them celebrate the birthday of

Jane Austen
at her 250th Anniversary

Regency Ball
Saturday 13th December
6.30pm - carriages 11pm

Tickets £95

Invitation includes:
Regency ball called by Dr Helen Davidge of Georgettes of Oxford
Live music on period instruments
Canapes with tasting bowls & sumptuous desserts
Cards and entertainment with Miss Austen and friends
Complimentary pre-ball dance workshop
Licensed Bar - all set in beautiful, historic Townhill Park House

Ticket Sales: <https://www.townhillparkhouse.co.uk/box-office>
Information: events@thegreggschools.org
Dress Code: Regency

**THE FROGS AGM
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER
18:00 - 19:00
MAIN HALL
SELECTION OF REFRESHMENTS

**PLEASE, COME ALONG AND SEE
HOW YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT
YOUR SCHOOL WITH FUTURE
EVENTS**

THE GREGG SCHOOL
TOWNHILL PARK HOUSE
CUTBUSH LANE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO18 3RR

 The Gregg School 

**CHRISTMAS
CRAFT FAYRE**
29th November 2025

11am-5pm
Plenty of free, level parking with disabled access.

**Handmade gifts and treats
for the whole family!**

*Creative crafts, food, mulled wine, afternoon
teas, raffle, games, story time with Santa,
and loads more! Come for a browse!*



The Gregg School, Townhill Park House, Cutbush Lane,
Southampton SO18 3RR Tel: 02380 472133
www.townhillparkhouse.co.uk/events@thegreggschools.org



KEY DATES AT SCHOOL

Wednesday 24th September
Munich Trip Parents Information Evening

Thursday 25th September
MacMillan Coffee Morning
Euro Cafe
Yr 8 Parents Information Evening

Friday 26th September
Whole School Cross Country
Charity Colour Run

Saturday 27th September
Year 6 Activities Morning

Tuesday 30th September
Yr 9 Trip to Bovington Tank Museum

Wednesday 1st October
Yr 7 Parent Information Evening

Thursday 2nd October
Yr 9 Parent Information Evening

Thursday 9th October
School closes at 1 PM for Open Evening

Friday 10th October
Year 9 Trip to Fleming Park River
Wear Yellow Day

Mon 20th to Fri 31st October
Half Term

Wed 5th to Fri 7th November
St Ives Art GCSE Trip

Monday 10th November
Anti-bullying Odd Sock Day

Thursday 13th November
The Gregg Prep Open Morning

Friday 14th November
Children In Need Day

Thursday 19th November
Open Morning

Thursday 4th December
Winter Concert

Friday 12th December
Festive Wear Day
Rowing Challenge

Thursday 11th December
Year 7-8 Panto Trip

Friday 12th December
Festive Wear Day

Monday 15th December
Carol Service

We hope you have a great weekend!

