



Grey Court School e-Bulletin

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Head's Line

Dear All,

I would like to thank all the students who performed and assisted in the Music Concert. We now have the basis for a string section for our orchestra and the choir was very good indeed. All the acts performed well and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our thanks also go to the staff members, the Parents Association and parents who supported the evening.

Our senior citizens party went really well and they were really impressed with the children (as they should be). We will try to do more activities for them throughout the year.

With only one week to go until Christmas, most departments will be completing key assessment tasks with Year Groups. Please ensure that your child continues to complete homework and contact us if you need any further information.

Could I ask that you check your child's uniform: (blazer badges fixed on, boys' top buttons in place, black shoes, pencil cases fully equipped), etc over the Christmas holiday and ensure they are ready for the start of the new term.

Please read the Sporting Stag. The students continue to perform really well and we are enjoying some Grey Court successes.

Please note that I hold Parent Clinics every Thursday 5-7pm. If you have anything you would like to discuss regarding your child please contact the Headteacher's PA Debby Pace on dpace@greycourt.org.uk to arrange an appointment time or telephone the school on 020 8948 1173.

New Staff in January 2009:
Mr. Maltby — Asst Headteacher—Student Services (English)
Mr. Ali—Asst Headteacher—Staff Services (English/Mathematics)
Mr. King—Head of Humanities Faculty

We say goodbye to Mr. Gatehouse, Ms. Mutch and Mr. Jacobs and thank them for their work in the English and Humanities Departments. We wish them well in the next stage of their careers.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kind regards as always
Maggie Bailey



Maggie Bailey | HEADTEACHER

[Key Dates](#)

School finishes on 19 December 2008 - Phased dismissal for students from 1pm

Spring Term 5 January to 3 April 2009

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Latest News

Could parents please send back the consent letters for the HPV injections that are being given in January. Also could we have the consent letters for the measles/mumps injections.

Many thanks for your help.
Ms. Grimshaw

Due to the present bout of cold weather many students have been choosing to come to school in scarves, hats and coats. We would like the opportunity to mention that all such winter garments are allowed, but they should not be worn instead of the school blazer and should be taken off immediately in lessons.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Year 7

Head of Year 7
Mr. Andy Low

Extra-Curricular - following on from above, some of you requested details of extra curricular activities going on inside school which were not of a sporting nature:

Mon 1.20pm Choir
 Mon 1.20pm String Group
 Wed 1.20pm Keyboard Club
 Wed 3-4pm Drama Club
 Wed 3-4.15pm Cooking Club for Years 7 and 8—see Miss Harris or Miss Stacey for in-

gredients lists
 Fri 3.15pm Language Club

International Links

A special thanks goes to the following Year 7 students who helped as translators or did presentations to our international guests.

Burcak Dikmen and Ezgi Kocer as Translators.
 Alex Khela, Alex Swaysland, Joshua Moore, Molly Vine, Morgan Campbell and Eloise Emery for presentations.

Uniform

Please can I remind parents that with the cold weather a number of children are wearing inappropriate school wear. Girls are not permitted to wear socks and tights at the same time. Either thicker tights or trousers need to be worn. The boys need to be aware that hoodies will be confiscated if worn.

Many Thanks
 A Low

Year 8

Acting Head of Year 8
Mr. Chris Rhodes

During the final week of term the year 8s will be having their Christmas celebration assembly. This will be the opportunity to celebrate the success and achievement of the year group during the first term. The staff are busy preparing all the certificates which will be given out for attendance and achievement and the attainment of merits. Students should be doing all they can to obtain the highest number of merits possible before the final count on Friday the 12th

December. We are also working on making the assembly a fitting tribute to a very positive start to year 8.

Some year 8 students have been attending street dance sessions after school which culminated in their final performance this week. In front of an expectant year 8 cohort they produced an excellently choreographed routine and finished to rapturous applause. Well done to all those who participated. The dance classes will be continuing after Christmas for anybody who would like to be involved.

All students are completing various subject assessments at present and should be preparing hard. Thanks to all parents who have spent time with their children helping them revise.

Thanks for your support.
 C. Rhodes

Year 9

Acting Head of Year 9
Mr Dave Winch

A big thank you to Year 9 students, Henry Allan-Lowe and Joe Nellis, for their fantastic artwork on the jungle habitat mural in the Science corridor. They have spent hours of their own time on this project and it has certainly brightened up the area.

The 11 Year 9 girls who attended the clothes show, had a great day and were very well behaved. They really enjoyed seeing the fashion show in particular, which was an eye opening event for them!

Ms. Harris

Ms. Price



*“at Grey Court School
 our core values of
 achievement, innovation,
 inclusion and
 accountability provide
 the basis for academic
 excellence and future
 success for all..”*



Year 10

Head of Year 10 Mr Andrew Burton

Artsrichmond have appointed Anthony Blair of 10M as joint Richmond Laureate with another student from St. Paul's School. Anthony has already received his award and bursary at the Orange Tree

Theatre. Grey Court School has also received a cheque for £50 for the purchase of school books/equipment. This is an outstanding achievement and a credit to the school.



Year 11

Head of Year 11 Mr Andrew Burton

I would like to wish all Year 11 students every success in their forthcoming mock exams. Exams start on the 11th December and run right through until the end of term. Can I remind students that they should attend all exams in correct uniform. If students do not have an exam then they should be at home revising. The mock exam period is a very important time for Year 11 as it will give a much clearer picture as to what grades students can expect to receive in their GCSE's. The expectation is that students should now be working extremely hard and concentrat-

ing fully on the next few months. Being organised and meeting deadlines are key to achieving targets. However, I hope that all students find the time to relax and have a mince pie (or two!) over the Christmas break and come back ready to complete the final leg of their school careers. Merry Christmas!!

Mr A Burton

[YEAR 11 JANUARY GCSE SCIENCE EXAMS](#)

Year 11 Science GCSE exams are taking place on the following dates Chemistry module C2 (all students inc 10A1) 15th January. Biology module B3 (Triple students only) 12th January and Physics

module P2 (Triple students only) 19th January.

All students have been provided with the relevant revision guides and each student will receive a work book before they leave for the Christmas holidays.

As you can appreciate each exam grade will have a significant impact on the final GCSE grade obtained for the year 11 GCSE course.

Each exam will comprise of 25% of your child's GCSE Science grade, it is of the utmost importance that they prepare well for the exam and ensure that they are properly equipped on the day.

Miss Woods

Other News

The LRC is open in the morning from 7.30am and then after school until 5pm. During the exam period Year 11 will be given priority if they wish to use the area for revision.

Extra Curricular

Students must bring a note and PE kit with them to lesson even if they are not taking part for one reason or another.

PLEASE NOTE there is always PE kit passing through lost property—can you please ensure your sports kit has an appropriate name tag to enable us to return it to you.

Sports fixtures/training

There are no fixtures this week

Year 7 rugby league training on Monday. 3-4pm.



	Lunch Clubs (13.15-13.55)				After school (15.15-16.15)				
	Gym	S/Hall	Field 1	Field 2	Gym	Playground	S/Hall	Field 1	Field 2
Monday		Volleyball KS3 AW			Y10 & 11 Girls Hockey@Tiffins 4-5pm			Rugby League Harlequins	Fixtures
Tuesday		Badminton KS4 SJC			Rowing KRC	Netball 7&8 AW	Basketball KS3 MXA/BR	KS4 Girls Football Football Y7/10 SW	
Wednesday		Badminton KS3 SJC				Netball 9,10 & 11 AW	Sports Hall Athletics Y7 SJC	Rugby Union Scottish	Fixtures
Thursday		5-a-Side Y7 SCW			Trampoline M8		Volleyball KS4 AW	KS3 Girls Football	Fixtures
Friday	Table Tennis ALL MXA				Trampoline M8		Tennis Y7 H&P TC		Fixtures

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The Sporting Stag

Harlequins RL @ Grey Court

Exciting Times for the Grey Court Year 7 Boys. November 2008 saw the first time that Rugby League was trialled on the Year 7 curriculum at Grey Court School. Harlequins RL CSC and Development Officer for Richmond, Jimmy Giblin has been working closely with Head of PE, Steve Willmore to deliver Rugby League to the Year 7s after hugely successful Carnegie Champion Schools festivals. The school entered teams into four of the Competitive Edge Festivals, and were this year's surprise package of the borough, finishing as close runners up in the Year 11 and Year 9 competitions.

Grey Court School Sports Coordinator (SSCo) Steve Colvin and Head of PE, Steve Willmore organised a Coach Teacher moderation day with Quins RL at the school off the back of the Champion Schools programme. Jimmy Giblin from Harlequins RL Community Team put Steve Colvin and the rest of the PE teaching department through their paces this week, bringing them all up to speed with the latest schools Rugby League coaching. The school have already created school-club links with local Rugby League club the Richmond Warriors, as they begin to develop their own curriculum programme for both boys and girls in the future.



Steve Willmore said, "Grey Court got so much out of the Champion Schools festivals and all the boys really enjoyed themselves. There is definitely a demand for Rugby League at school and its great that we can capitalise on the interest and build for next year".

Grey Court School Year 10 Rugby League Team with Steve Willmore at the 2008 Carnegie Champion Schools Festival

Year 10 Rugby
Ewell Castle 12, Grey Court 0.

This the boys first competitive fixture since they have been at Grey Court and they were superb even though we lost the game. They were playing against a team who play 12 games a year and who have been together as a team for ages. Our commitment and tackling were excellent throughout and both the referee and their PE teacher commented on how well we played. This team will develop the more we train and play and the boys now have to commit themselves to training to reap the benefits in fixtures to come. Well Done boys, magnificent effort and performance.

Year Seven - 5-a-side tournament.

Grey Court were crowned champions at the 5-a-side tournament held at HCC on 3rd December. We entered two teams in the tournament. Our 2nd team drew two and lost one, unfortunately this was not enough to see them through to the semi finals. Our 1st team started off poorly but improved as the league stages went on and managed to qualify for the semi finals. In the semi final we played Teddington and won 2-0, we played extremely well. This meant we had to play Orleans Park in the final who beat us in the group stages. Again, we played really well, their goalkeeper made some great saves to force the game to penalties. Jonathan Gramback (goalie) made two excellent saves in the penalty shoot out whilst Danny Knight and James Bottomley scored to earn Grey Court the title. The boys showed tremendous character to come back and win the tournament and we played some excellent football along the way. Congratulations lads.

S. Willmore

Free air pollution message alerts for staff, parents and pupils

Have you been diagnosed by your doctor as having asthma, emphysema, bronchitis or heart disease? Alternatively, do you care for children with these conditions?

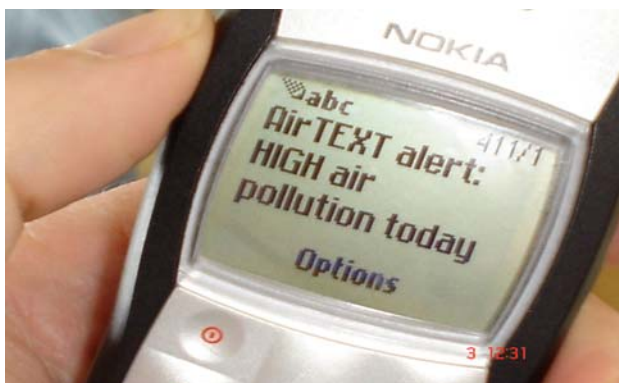
If so, you could benefit from a unique air quality information service.

Richmond Council has signed up to a service, called airTEXT, which sends alerts and health advice to people with asthma, emphysema, bronchitis or heart disease.

These **free** alerts come straight to your home phone, mobile or email on days of elevated air pollution.

The alerts will advise you of some simple steps you can take to reduce the likelihood of any impacts for the above conditions. These include taking your inhaler or angina spray with you, taking extra doses if symptoms worsen, and avoiding strenuous outdoor activity on polluted days. If you care for someone with the above conditions it may help you to look after them.

Any Richmond upon Thames resident can sign up for the service.



To sign up or find out more about the service go to www.airtext.info or call the Council's Special Projects Team on 020 8891 7729 or email specialprojects@richmond.gov.uk

Parents should however be aware that exercise is important for children with breathing problems so please do not curtail normal activity unnecessarily. Mark Spitz, Paula Radcliffe, Ian Botham and Paul Scholes all have asthma! Asthma.org.uk has a useful page about asthma at school at http://www.asthma.org.uk/all_about_asthma/for_parents/at_school/index.html which is worth a look.