

Bulletin



Friday, 4 December 2020

Dear Grey Court Community

Academic Tutoring Day (ATD) A big thank you to all those parents and children who participated in our first ever virtual ATD. I am sure that you found it a worthwhile and useful experience, and have a greater understanding of your child's progress. In addition, thank you for the extremely valuable feedback that we have received in response to our parent survey. Thank you to Mr Bashford and my staff for ensuring the success of this important day.

Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day We have endeavoured to maintain some semblance of normalcy and will be holding our annual Christmas lunch and jumper day—albeit it a socially distanced affair. Details will be available shortly, and I would like to thank Ms Price and her team for all the work that will be going on in the background to ensure that this event is a success.

Y11 and Y13 Exams I would like to wish all our Y11 and Y13 students who will be writing exams next week all the very best. Y11s are to please pay particular attention to the time changes which are only applicable for next week. Mr Gordon Walker has already sent information to the Y11 parents and students about these changes.

OAP Christmas Hampers We have been overwhelmed with your generosity! Thank you, once again, for answering our appeal and helping us spread a some Christmas cheer. We have no doubt that our OAPs will be delighted when they receive the hampers.

Christmas Panto The VPA has been very busy with rehearsals and the Y7s are looking forward to watching the socially distanced panto on Thursday. This will be recorded and will go live on our website on Thursday, 17 December.

Lastly, should you wish to discuss any concerns you may have about your child with me, please contact my PA to make a virtual appointment.

Kind regards—Chris Rhodes

"Going above and beyond for every child, every day." Chris Rhodes, Headteacher

PDW

The topics for PDW this fortnight are as follows:

Y7 this week: What is the House of Commons?

Y7 next week: What is the House of Lords?

Y8 this week: Healthy eating hacks from grey Court Sixth Formers

Y8 next week: How can you help someone with allergies?

Y9 this week: Hobbies and Options

Y9 next week: Reasons for choosing different GCSE options

Y10 this week: What is a Cult?

Y10 next week: What is Right Wing extremism?

Y11 this week: How can you talk to others about contraception?

Y11 next week: Consent

As always, if you have any questions about our PDW curriculum, please email Ms James hjames@greycourt.org.uk

Grey Court School Christmas Cards are now on sale

Designed by Y7 students. There are 16 pairs of 8 winning designs for just £5, packaged in cellophane and with envelopes included.

Parents/carers may place orders on Scopay on the tab Xmascards2020 which can be found under the Other products menu. They should then ensure their child has a record of the purchase (a receipt photograph or note in Planner) which can be shown to any member of the Art Department who will then process and provide the order.

Please contact Ms Bowie (Subject Leader for Art) if you have any questions.



Ham and Petersham Local History Book

The Ham and Petersham Association has donated several copies of a local history book to the school which we are delighted to have added to the school library. Parents are welcome to purchase their own copy, click [here](#) for £20 incl delivery. For every book sold the school will receive £3."

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#KS3

#Y7

Firstly, thanks for all your engagement with our academic tutoring day. Students have impressed me with their independence and initiative in completing their targets with help from you, as parents. We hope that the process was valuable in understanding how you child has settled in at Grey Court, and any particular areas which need focussing on.

With the easing of lockdown, we are delighted to begin to resume some of our sports and extra-curricular activities. At Grey Court we encourage students to take advantage of as many opportunities as they can at the school, whether this be inside or outside of the classroom environment. I encourage students to get involved with as many of the activities on offer as possible as we move toward Christmas.

Although different this year, we are making a big effort to create a festive atmosphere at the school. We have our Christmas tree outside reception, and the music department have been busy recording our orchestra playing some Christmas classics. Y7 students are also lucky enough to be able to watch our school Christmas pantomime this coming Thursday. This will be held in the hall in a socially distanced format. In the final week of term students will have their annual Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch and celebration assemblies, more details of which will follow next week. We hope this will help instil some festive cheer for our Y7s.

Celebration Awards

Here are the winners of last week's celebration awards:

7M: Leo S , Sacha F

7A: Aleeza B, Lev T

7E: Yasmin D, Marcus L

7W: Jack T, Sol M

7R: Baraka K, Muhsin A, Ula M

7B: Matthew H, Ana M

7C: Eshwa H, Samuel E

7O: Paige A, Miranda CD

Mr Day, HO Y7

#Y7LendingAHelpingHand

Help with naming our Motor Neurone Disease Mascot

The Y7s have been helping me raise money for Motor Neurone Disease (MND) - a charity close to my heart since losing my mum 2 years ago to it. I also support my local branch with their newsletter and fund-



raising. Currently, our lovely mascot does not have a name so the Y7s have been creatively generating a range of wonderful options. The winner will win a voucher to spend in the shop of their choice and a goodie bag for their form and it is just £1 to enter. If you can help your child rummage down the side of the sofa for the donation or do some washing up in return, any support would be appreciated.

Thank you - Mrs Igoe, SSO Y7

Teaching and Learning

We were really pleased to see what a success the live lesson run-through was on 20 November. It showed how far staff and students have come in being able to roll this out with so few problems. Obviously, we are all hoping we won't be in a position where this is a necessity but it is encouraging to know that we're prepared in the event of any year groups being forced to work from home. The Teaching and Learning teams are continuing to work on their Blended Learning Handbook which will go live with staff before Christmas. Even without a lockdown, the way we are teaching and the are students learning, has changed drastically over the last 9 months and we are making sure we respond to this.

Ms Hurley, AHT Teaching and Learning

#KS4

Academic Tutoring Day We hope that you found Academic Tutoring Day a useful experience for you and your children. This first progress check is always an important one as it provides all of us with a clear insight on the areas of strength and those areas of opportunities for each student. Each of your children has been asked to complete their Academic Tutoring Day questionnaire through a Google form, please do take the time to ask them about this and to engage in the target setting they are asked to carry out. If you are struggling with this process please contact the tutor that is allocated to your child.

Y11 Trial Exams (start on 7 December)

Y11 Trial Exams start on the 7 December, an exam timetable and revision booklet has been emailed or uploaded to Google classroom for every student. Please take the time to read through the booklet with your children as it outlines what will be in each exam. In the past, students that made use of this revision booklet tended to perform better in the exams. Those students who don't check what will be in their exams and instead just revise everything tend not to perform well. Included in the booklet is the exam timetable which should be used to inform revision planning by students. I appreciate that these exams are a stressful time and we, as a KS4 team, are on hand to offer support throughout. As I mentioned last week, the DfE has stated that exams will go ahead in the summer and we are working towards this plan. These Trial Exams are always held at this time of year and provide a valuable guide for students, parents and us, as teachers, to the progress that is being made.

Please also note that there are changes to the school day for this week of exams, these only apply for this week:

- Y11 arrive at school at 8.35am for their morning exam
- Y11 will leave school at 2.35pm and there will be no P7

Y10 STARS OF THE WEEK

Alfie Carslake has been working hard to catch up since switching to Music Technology from another subject. He has also been supporting other students by teaching them what he has learned so far.

Mohammed Al-Darraj for amazing work in Computing

Y11 STARS OF THE WEEK

Shaquille Moses has shown a good attitude in History and especially in History interventions

Paul Gozar for excellent work in English lessons

Thomas Wicking for excellent work in English lessons

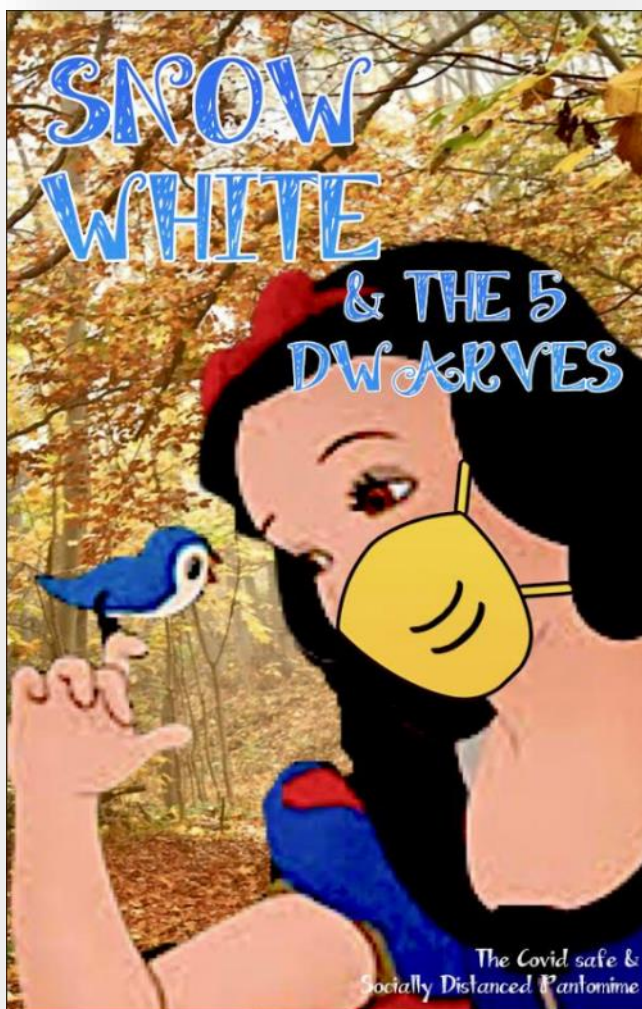
#Attendance

Please report any absences to the Attendance Officer - Teresa Carver email address:
attendance@greycourt.org.uk
before 8.00 am.

If your child is absent for more than one day it is necessary to contact the school on a daily basis.

If you phone the students attendance line: 0208 948 1173 Ext 104, please speak audibly and keep your message brief, include your child's name, tutor group and the reason for their absence.

Should you need to go into more detail, please contact your child's SSO/and or tutor.



VPA Exams/Practicals

Monday, 14 December:

Y13 Pho exam P3—P7 (HMA), digital media suite

Tuesday, 15 December:

Y11 Music
P1—P6 (PMI), MUA

Tuesday, 15 December:

Y11 Drama
P1—P6 (ABU), 6DR

Wednesday, 16 December:

Y13 Art
P1—P6 (CBO), 6Art

Thursday, 17 December:

Y11 Drama Exam
P1—P6 (ABU), 6DR

#VPA

Ms Burton is pleased to announce this year's Christmas Pantomime with performers from Y7 & Y8 involved:

Snow White and the Five Dwarves: A Covid Secure and Socially Distanced Panto

The cast list for this year is as follows:

Character List (Y8) Pre-Recorded Scenes

Narrator 1: Joris Bohnson: Ben Hislop
Narrator 2: Felix Marchis
Narrator 3: Janik Buchbinder
Narrator 4: Pretty Petal: Amaani Akbar-Qadri
Narrator 5: Alfred Noble
Narrator 6: Alex Donnell
Narrator 7: Matthew Van Rooyen
Narrator 8: Elliott Wilson-Ward
Narrator 9: Dan Lowe
Magic Mirror: Elsie Hobson & Hareer Karimie
Sneezy: Etienne Walsby
Doc: Joe Belfield
Dame (Prince's mother): Xavier Mtandabari
Clements: Morgan Jeffrey
Price: Azelea Ovuike
Parent 1: Tom Faulkner
Parent 2: Beth Bucklow
Aladdin: Lucas Melo-Foxton
Cruella de Vil: Libby Knowles
Rapunzel: Eimante Anikiejeva
Gingerbread man: Thomas Lowe

Character List (Y7)

Snow White: Charlotte Jackson
Queen Rhodie: Bronte Jackson
Prince: Issy Agraviador
Gary (Huntsman): Luke Gilbert
Carl Rona (Best friend): Stan Stoller

Happy: Charlotte Alexandre
Grumpy: Aaron Khiytani
Bashful: Sacha Crivellari
Sleepy: Kosta Ljubcic
Dopey: Sophie Robinson



PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES.

Forests are masterpieces of the beauty of nature. Forests not only add beauty to our environment, but also cleanse the surrounding air. It is undeniable that forests have many positive effects on our weather. Forests also promote the growth of wildlife. They are the natural habitat of many species of birds and animals. We also acquire a great deal of wealth from forests in the form of wood which can be used to increase a country's development levels. Moreover, forests are an important treasure for the pharmaceutical industry.

Worldwide people from different countries travel to enjoy the beauty of some great forests which also adds to the attraction of a country. Yet it is sad to say that the world is really backward when it comes to understanding the value of forests. Knowing the value of forests would enable countries around the world to take steps to protect their forests and use the yield from forests to build economic stability.

Rafiq Muhammad (Y11)



A man doesn't plant a tree for himself. He plants it for posterity.— Alexander Smith

Sixth Form

Y13 Mock Exams

Y13 Assessment week:
Monday 7 December 2020

During assessment week students will be on exam leave for the whole week. Should they want to attend lessons then subject teachers will provide students with revision materials or they can revise from home.

[Year 13 trial exam info booklet](#)

A note from Ms McNicol

Dear Y13s

I hope you have a copy of the exam timetable and know when your exams are taking place - including mop up sessions.

Before an exam you must wait in the sixth form library area until you are told to walk over to the main school hall. Ms Higham and myself will take you to the main school where we will wait until the exams team calls us into the hall. As soon as you enter the building you are under exam conditions and so must remain silent. You will be asked to leave your bags at the back of the hall. Please note all phones must be switched OFF (not set to silent) and put in your bag. If a phone goes off in your bag during a formal exam your exam may be invalidated.

If you are sitting your exam in a small room environment, for example, if you have use of a computer, you should wait in the sixth form library until you are called into your room by the exams team.

Also please note, that in order to facilitate staggered start times and movement around the school, afternoon exams start at 12.50pm.

Good luck everybody
Ms McNicol

Y12 Friends and Founders Careers Event Thursday, 10 December Talks between 4-7pm

We have an exciting programme of talks just for Grey Court students! The programme will be released on Monday and will include Grey Court alumni, parents and contacts of the school. **We have a range of people from; psychology to law, marketing to politics and health care to film and many more!**

The talks will take place every 30 minutes between 4-7pm and we expect students to log on, engage and ask questions. We have run this event the last 6 years and many students reference their conversations in their personal statements, so we can't stress the importance of these conversations. Students will be expected to attend at least one talk but can sign up for as many as they like.

If you have any questions about the event please feel free to ask Miss Corrighan: bcorrighan@greycourt.org.uk

UCAS

We continue to have a very successful UCAS cycle and currently have three students with medical interviews, four with Oxbridge interviews and eight students who have received all of their offers from Universities already.

This week Birmingham and Surrey University have both announced a grade reduction for students in acknowledgement of the disruption that they have had over the past year which is fantastic news for those who have applied or been offered a place. There are a few students who have not yet submitted their UCAS applications and it is essential that those come in as soon as possible so that we can add references and check them over. Even if students are planning on waiting until their mock results, they still need to submit now so that we can make sure the application is ready.

Model UN Conference

On Wednesday, 9 December, we will be running a Model United Nations conference within school. Model UN is effectively a mock version of the real United Nations conferences attended by countries around the world in order to come up with a solution to world problems such as climate change, War and more relevantly, response to Covid. We are looking for students to take part in this which will be held during enrichment on Wednesday, 9 December. You can sign up in pairs or individually and will be assigned a country that you will represent. The motion we are arguing this year is the global response to Covid. If you are interested please email me (Daisy Whitlie 12B - dwhitlie15@greycourt.org.uk) or speak to me or Miss Higham about signing up.

ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE

The day will start after lunch in which delegates will lay down their opening speeches highlighting their position on the matter.

The open debate will start in which countries can debate the content of the opening speeches and come up with ideas to resolve the issue.

Delegates will split into smaller groups to attempt to come up with a resolution they can propose to the group

Once all of these resolutions have been presented, delegates vote on which they would like to see passed and which benefits their country the most.

UNLIKE THE REAL UNITED NATIONS, MONEY IS NO OBJECT AND THERE IS NO RISK OF SPARKING GLOBAL CONFLICT!

Many thanks to Y12 student, Daisy Whitlie, Secretary General of Grey Court's Model UN committee for organising this initiative.

Y12 DRAMA

Congratulations to the Y12 Drama students who, without any prior warning from me, spent a whole double lesson performing as each other!

Their impressions were very funny and occasionally insulting, but sustained for the whole time. They had prepared costumes to look like each other and clearly studied each other's physicality and vocal attributes. Sophie's impression of Edie's laugh was hysterical...like a puppy yelping.

I found them very difficult to teach!

Well done Ella, Alfie, Sophie, Edie, Alba and Kitty...that was good fun!

Mr Page

Y12 STAR OF THE WEEK

Tess Lewisohn for her outstanding work in Media and her contribution to the department. Tess is highly skilled in Adobe Premiere Pro and has created, in her own time, a number of trailers/edits as part of her portfolio. She is also supporting the VPA Department by editing the Virtual Christmas Concert with Mr Frago and Miss Howell.

Y13 STAR OF THE WEEK

Eve McDermott for starting the Sixth Form Literary magazine. She is compiling an anthology of the best independent literary and art work that the Sixth Form have to offer and is even including some features from aspiring Y11 writers. Publication is planned for January so watch this space!

What's on this winter?

A compilation of communication and diversity media events for students to engage in over winter has been put together by **Alice Warrington**.

Please see the end of this bulletin for details.

Careers' Webinar for Parents

Online event
10 December 2020
7:30 PM

InvestIN provides students aged 12-18 with the opportunity to work alongside top professionals in some of the world's most competitive and desirable careers - law, medicine, investment banking, engineering and many more.

[Register](#) now for their free-of-charge 'Live Online' event where executives from these industries will tell you:

The most in-demand skills top employers are looking for, and how to get them

The role you can play in helping them achieve their aims

Guidance on work experience, interview techniques, LinkedIn profiles and more



Accessing support

Remember your tutor, Ms McNicol, Ms Higham and Ms Matthew are available to talk but we recognise you may want to talk to someone outside of school and outside of your family.

Off the record	Talkoffthe-record.org	Online counselling and support
The Mix	0808 808 4994	Open everyday 13.00 for 1:1 support and guidance
Relate	0300 100 1234	Live chat and counselling
Kooth	Kooth.com	Online support for young people Mon-Friday 12.00-22.00 Sat-Sun 18.00-22.00
Childline	0800 1111	1:1 counselling and support, advice and information
Samaritans	116 123	Support for young people in crisis
Shout	To start a conversation, text the word 'SHOUT' to 85258	24/7 text support, to listen, support and advice

London Interdisciplinary School - new university opening in September 2021

A new university is opening in London with its first cohort starting in September 2021. The London Interdisciplinary School (LIS) offers an undergraduate degree in interdisciplinary problem solving. The university has been set up by a diverse group of academics and industry professionals with the view that the modern workplace needs people who can tackle the complex and interconnected problems facing humanity. LIS feels that the current university system can't evolve quickly enough, and so they are hoping to provide a new solution. Below is an extract from their mission statement.

Global events show that the world is complex. Leaders in politics, business and academia need knowledge that spans beyond the siloed nature of our current higher education system. We're building a brand new university that will give students the knowledge and skills needed to address social and global problems in an increasingly interconnected world.

Applications are made directly to LIS and can be made as well as a UCAS application. All applicants will be interviewed. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2021. Click on this [link](#) to find out more and to access the applications system.

The “lockdown” university experience: is it worth it?

After a summer of uncertainty and educational drama involving cancelled examinations, centre assessed grades, retakes, rethinks, retracted statements, remarks, appeals and a return to school in more bubbles than an 1990s Aero bar - I was surprised to see so many of our year 13 students opt to take up their place at university. My thinking went along the lines of, “Why would one want to leave the comfort of a warm family house with plentiful wi-fi and a ready supply of brioche for a socially distanced remote experience with a furloughed student union for ten thousand pounds a year?”

However, when UCAS publicised statistics stating that 410,420 students had accepted university places (a rise of 1% on the previous year) and that a lower proportion of students than normal were deferring a year, I nearly choked on my *Times Good University Guide*. *‘This will not be supported when they ACTUALLY go back at the end of September,’* I sagely thought, but then I was actually shown pictures of Grey Court parents and staff members with undergraduate age children packing their charges off with their North Face holdalls to cold regional outposts such as Durham, Manchester and Leeds.

This was then followed by tabloid exposes (which I refused to read) of Toga parties, Freshers’ week shenanigans, and pictures of students being walled up in oubliettes and made to self-isolate.

And as I write this piece there are now reports of a staggered migration of students back to London in a convoy of buses that was last used by authorities to ferry the police around the country in the 1982 miners strike! Furthermore, there are rumours that students who fail the test will be quarantined in a Northern gulag digging a trans -Pennine cycle lane over Christmas! Humbug.

So, in the spirit of classic investigative journalism I resolved to post a number of leading questions about the current university experience to the class of 2020 in order to ascertain and print the responses:

1. How (if at all) has your experience of university been disrupted by the pandemic?

All of my lectures are online and socialising opportunities have been reduced. Also, during the current lockdown, sport clubs have stopped and pubs, bars and restaurants are closed.

I ended up moving to an entirely different university! I was in my second year at the University of Bristol when the pandemic began and for various reasons (mainly living costs, not wanting to go on a year abroad in a pandemic, mental health) decided to apply to transfer to a university in London. Since September I have been a second year European Politics student at KCL.

2. What has been your experience of teaching - real or online - at university?

My lectures are pre-recorded online, my tutorials are on zoom and my seminars are face to face at the University (but with the option to attend seminars via zoom). Personally, I like the lectures being pre-recorded online because it allows me to watch them at my own pace - I can pause the video or slow down the speed at which the academic is talking if I don't understand something or I'm finding something difficult.

I actually haven't found online teaching too bad, the way my course works is lectures are uploaded for us to watch whenever we want and we have scheduled seminars on MS Teams. This gives you a lot more time and freedom without having to worry about commuting in for seminars (and more sleep if you have gams!). My attendance to classes has massively improved with the flexibility it provides. It's a bit more isolating than teaching was pre-Covid, but if you're happy to focus on academics I don't think the online experience is necessarily any worse.

I had some in person seminars before we went into lockdown. It was definitely nice to be in a room with people but we had to wear masks and social distance which made it less engaging, I actually found myself preferring online classes because it's less hassle.

3. Have you still been able to enjoy the social experience university provides?

I have not been able to get the social experience which University students had prior to the pandemic. However, I have enjoyed socialising with my flatmates. I've not completely been hindered in meeting new people, but it has definitely been hard beginning a new university with Covid measures and lockdown restrictions in place and have definitely relied on the friends I have from Grey Court and Bristol who live in London.

Thinking back to my first year at Bristol, I didn't really make any friends in halls and relied heavily on society socials and meeting people in seminars, neither of which are really able to happen in the current situation. So I would definitely be weary of the social situation as a first year in a new environment, as halls can be luck of the draw. Some people really get on with their flatmates, others really struggle with the random allocation. So I'm not sure how it would work out if Covid restrictions are similar by next September.

4. Do you consider university to be value for money?

University is expensive. However, a University degree is essential or desirable for a lot of jobs. Therefore, I think that it is worth the money.

I think in terms of getting a degree, careers support, societies, access to events it is valuable to go to university. In my time at university I have done internships funded by university careers services and had access to lots of different activities through societies. And of course eventually I shall have a degree to my name!

In terms of living costs, I think it really depends on the person but is something to maybe be more aware of when choosing a university because there can be a lot of variation in the cost of living whereas fees are fixed. I personally decided to move home and transfer to a different university during the pandemic as I found the cost of living quite stressful at Bristol and was uncertain if I would be able to work part time to supplement my income as I had been in previous years. Again, completely depends on the person, but good to consider in these unstable times, especially if teaching might be online anyway.

5. Would you advise current GC year 13 students to take a gap year or go straight onto university next year?

Personally, I would not advise GC year 13 students to take a gap year. Instead, I would advise them to go straight to University. This is due to the uncertainty and reduction in opportunities for one to do things on a gap year such as work or travel. Therefore, I would advise year 13 students to use this time to gain qualifications such as a degree while there are fewer other opportunities. Although, I did take a gap year and really enjoyed working at GC but coronavirus restrictions stopped me from doing travelling which I wanted to do.

This is a tricky one, I think if I was in their position I would probably take a gap year and hope that there will be more certainty around covid the following year. Taking some time out to work, volunteer and just mentally recuperate after what is an incredibly stressful time to be a sixth form student is probably not the worst idea. My boyfriend's younger sister was meant to start at St Andrew's this year and decided super last minute to take a gap year and I think it was definitely the right decision for her. But equally some of her friends went to uni and are having an enjoyable time. I think just do what is right for you, but don't feel like there should be any rush to go to university straight away (I know my friends who have graduated into this job market would definitely be envious of the chance to delay your graduation by an extra year or so).

Now – you might have guessed by now that only two students actually replied BUT their answers felt so considered and informative that I felt they were more than worth printing in order to add to the debate rather than provide a definitive answer to an experience that is currently being lived through! Moreover, one conclusion I have drawn from the answers is that online lessons are a significant innovation that will be here to stay long after the miasma has passed.

Thanks to the two “outstanding” members of the Grey Court alumni who replied.

Mr Clements, Deputy Headteacher

Careers@GreyCourt

by Ms Corrighan (Head of Careers)

We are coming close to the end of term but there is still lots of careers related activity in school. **Y8** are working on their Gradu8 careers challenges, we look forward to seeing what their career aspirations are. **Y12** are taking part in our annual 'Friends and Founders' careers event on Thursday, 10 December, as well as working on CVs, interviews and other essential employability skills. **Y11** and **Y13** students are getting all their sixth form/college and university applications in and offers are coming in thick and fast! Next term, **Y9** will be looking at their GCSE options and there will be lots of information and advice to come especially from the options guru that is Ms Price. Finally, with National apprenticeships week in February and National careers' week in March there will be lots more to come next term for all year groups:



Post-16 Open Events & Applications

Grey Court Sixth Form

Application deadline: 15 December

Kingston College

Open event: 9 December

Please register via their [website](#)

Hampton & Richmond FC Academy

See flyer at the end of this bulletin

Trial date: 21 December - to book a place email: academy.manger@hamptonfc.net

Careers advice

If you need any support contact Miss Corrighan bcorrighan@greycourt.org.uk

New Virtual Work Experience (VWEX) Opportunities

February half-term:

Virtual work experience is on the up in this current climate - there are some great opportunities and these will look great on any applications! We encourage students to apply as soon as possible to have the best chance of success. Opportunities may close early if many applications are received. Check them out below:



Virtual Work Experience – A week at Spotify

Dates: 15 to 19 February 2021 (Half Term)

Time: 10:00 – 15:00

Age: 16+

Application deadline: 25 December 2020

Portland

Virtual Work Experience with Portland Communications

Date: 15 to 19 February 2021

Age: 16+

Application deadline: 15 January 2021



VWEX The Office of Communications- Ofcom

Dates: 15 to 19 February 2021

Age: 16+

Application deadline: 15 January 2021



Opportunities

Dates: 15 to 19 February 2021

Time: 10:00-16:00

Age: Y10

Application Deadline: 15 January 2021



KINGSTON CARERS' NETWORK
Improving the lives of carers in Kingston

A Network Partner of
CARERS TRUST

Young Carers' Project

Richmond & Kingston Carers' Centre are the only organisations in the borough with a team dedicated to supporting the needs of young carers (aged 5-18) and as such have a wealth of experience and expertise in issues which affect their lives.

They provide:

- information and advice, including 1-to-1 support
- opportunities to meet other young carers
- fun activities, outings and breaks away from home
- regular drop ins
- awareness raising of the needs of young carers, particularly in schools
- advocacy and whole family support
- quarterly newsletter

Please contact Ms Igoe at cigoe@greycourt.org.uk if you feel your children is a young carer and not already known to us and you would like further support.



See details for the Carers' Christmas quiz which will take place on the 17 December online via Zoom

Apps and self care websites for young people:

[Emotional health care](#) service for young people

[Emotional health care service](#) leaflets for young people

[Families Under Pressure](#) - parenting advice

#Wellbeing

December Wellbeing Calendar

Click [here](#) to download



Richmond & Kingston CARERS' CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Instead of their usual Carers' Christmas lunch, this year they will be running an online Christmas Quiz. **CLICK HERE** for full details.

Food Glorious Food

#BreakfastClub

Breakfast is available to purchase from the silver canteen each morning from 07.45am to 08.15am. There are allocated areas for students to eat breakfast. A member of staff is on hand to welcome and supervise students.

Students who are in receipt of the free school meal allowance will have an additional £2 allocated to their accounts each morning for purchasing breakfast.

#MENUS

Click here to [download](#) the menus

#Fundraising

Did you know that you can donate to Grey Court School while you shop without spending any additional money?

Nearly everything you buy online can be done so through one of these two sites and, each time you shop, your retailer donates a % of the value of your basket to charity - and that could be Grey Court.

easyfundraising.org.uk
giveasyoulive.com

Here's what to do:

1. Visit the website
2. Sign up using your email address and select a password
3. Choose the charity you wish to support and, yes, **Grey Court Education Fund** or the **Grey Court PA** is ready and waiting for you to select
4. Download the laptop donation reminder. It automatically prompts you to use the service each time you shop **or**
5. Download the app for your phone

Now, you can shop as usual, knowing that every time you do, those retailers are donating to Grey Court.

If all our parents come together to buy their weekly shop online via the donation portal, the transformative effect of those donations would be extraordinary.

Only shop at Amazon? No problem.....

Smile.amazon.co.uk does the same thing/.

Once you've signed up (and yes, Grey Court Education Fund is on here too) you simply do all your usual Amazon shopping on smile.amazon.co.uk. Usually the website prompts you to redirect, taking all the hassle out of extra charitable giving this festive season.

Thank you, in advance, for helping us this festive season!

Please, please, please sign up to Easy Fundraising (see below)

Grey Court PA Easy Fundraising in 4 simple steps

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greycourtpa/>
2. Click 'support the cause' and type in your name and email address
3. Choose to either get donation reminders or click no thanks
4. Download the Easy fundraising app to your phone or use the Easy fundraising website.

#PANews

ORDER COLLECTIONS

Park Brewery Ales & Christmas Goody Bag orders can be collected from New-man House on:

Friday, 4 December between 4.30pm and 6.00pm.

Saturday, 5 December between 09.00am and 10.30am

We still have 40 Christmas Goody Bags to sell so don't fret if you haven't managed to buy one. You can do so by visiting our [website](#)

You will be bagging a delicious Christmas pud and chocolates, and raising money for the school.

If you buy your Christmas Tree from The Palm Centre 25% goes to the school

Every year **The Palm Centre** generously donates 25% of the takings of any Christmas Trees to Grey Court - so considering the trees are beautiful and high quality, and even the visit to the Palm Centre is a festive experience, why buy your tree from anywhere else?!

Please use the flyer at the end of the bulletin.



TRY YOUR LUCK with the SCHOOL LOTTO Next draw: 5 December £25,000 Jack Pot!

For every **£1 ticket** you buy, 40p will be donated to the school and 36p will go towards a prize that must be won by someone supporting Grey Court School. Not only are you supporting your school, but you have the chance to win cash prizes every week.

Congratulations to Ms S who won £29.70 last week!

£32.70 guaranteed prize for the next draw (this will increase as tickets are sold!)

Buy your [ticket](#) ASAP. The current special offer automatically enters you into a draw to win a NINTENDO SWITCH MEGA BUNDLE

(For any queries about the Old Lotto please continue to contact Gillian at gcpalottoclub@gmail.com)

Sports Stag

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Matilda Dibb who has been awarded **Girls' Sports Scholar** of the month.

Her performances in the recent cross country unit of work as well as the virtual London Youth Games cross country competition were brilliant. She clearly has a natural talent for running and her sheer determination and work ethic will stand her in good stead.

Well done Tilly!

Ms Shaw, HO Girls' PE



Y8 girls' cross country

Overall Top 5:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------|
| 1st | Rosie McDermott (Aztec) |
| 2nd | Elise Dobson (Trojan) |
| 3rd | Rosa Duncalf (Spartan) |
| 4th | Julia Ciasnocha (Aztec) |
| 5th | Charlotte Delaney (Roman) |

Overall points:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 1st | Spartan (41 points) |
| 2nd | Roman (55 points) |
| 3rd | Aztec (58 points) |
| 4th | Trojan (72 points) |

Inter-house Results

Y9b girls' cross country

Overall Top 5

- | | |
|-----|--------------------|
| 1st | Livia Morton-Smith |
| 2nd | Koyuki Lowe |
| 3rd | Yael Erasmus |
| 4th | Uma Senanayake |
| 5th | Lily Huddart |

Overall points:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 1st | Trojan (42 points) |
| 2nd | Roman (45 points) |
| 3rd | Aztec (54 points) |
| 4th | Spartan (72 points) |



Y9b boys' cross country

Overall Top 5

- | |
|-------------------|
| Alex Szyda |
| Max Wyett |
| Josh Tong |
| Jared Ovuike |
| Freddie Dickinson |

Overall

- | | |
|-----|---------|
| 1st | Aztec |
| 2nd | Roman |
| 3rd | Trojan |
| 4th | Spartan |

The best thing about sports is the sense of community and shared emotion it can create.

Bob Costas

Sports Extracurricular Timetable

From 4 December 2020

Click [here](#) to download

Book Stag

Salutations from the weekly periodical of the school library. It is a compendium of current trends and interests forwarded by the students and staff of Grey Court.

News

Costa Children's Book Award Shortlist announced

The Costa Book Awards honour some of the most outstanding books of the year written by authors based in the UK and Ireland. There are five categories - First Novel, Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book - with one of the five winners chosen as Book of the Year in January. This is the shortlisted books for the children's book award.

Wranglestone by Darren Charlton

In a post-apocalyptic America, a community survives in a national park, surrounded by water that keeps predators at bay. When winter comes, Peter and Cooper must work together to herd the Dead from their shores before the lake freezes over. As love blossoms a dark discovery reveals the sanctuary's secret past, forcing the boys to question everything they've ever known.



Voyage of the Sparrowhawk by Natasha Farrant

An epic journey of police chases, storms at sea and unexpected puppies. Set in the aftermath of the first World War, it follows two orphans as they take their narrowboat across the Channel in search of lost loved ones and a place to call home.



The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates by Jenny Pearson

Freddie's journey wasn't meant to involve Big Trev and the onion-eating competition or the loo-exploding pear-and-potato turnovers. And Freddie definitely didn't expect to end up on national television in a Supergirl costume. But journeys never take you where you think they will.



The Great Godden by Meg Rosoff

This is the story of the summer when everything changes. In a house by the sea, in a big, messy family, one teenager watches as brothers and sisters, parents and older cousins fill hot days with wine and games and planning a wedding. Enter the Goddens – irresistible, languidly sexy Kit and surly, silent Hugo. Suddenly there's a serpent in this paradise – and the consequences will be devastating.



From the bestselling author of Echo Mountain and Newbery Honour-winner Wolf Hollow, Beyond the Bright Sea is an acclaimed best book of the year.

The moving story of an orphan, determined to know her own history, who discovers the true meaning of family. 12 year-old Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny isolated piece of the starkly beautiful Elizabeth Islands in Massachusetts.

Book of the Week



Abandoned and set adrift in a small boat when she was just hours old, Crow's only companions are Osh, the man who rescued and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their fierce and affectionate neighbour across the sandbar. Crow has always been curious about the world around her, but it isn't until the night a mysterious fire appears across the water that the unspoken question of her own history forms in her heart. Soon, an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.

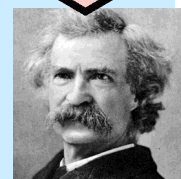


Vivid and heart-wrenching, Lauren Wolk's *Beyond the Bright Sea* is a gorgeously crafted and tensely paced tale that explores questions of identity, belonging, and the true meaning of family.

An adventurer and wily intellectual, Mark Twain wrote the classic American novels 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' and 'Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.'

Born on November 30, 1835, in Florida, Samuel L. Clemens wrote under the pen name Mark Twain and went on to author several novels, including the two major classics of American literature.

Happy Birthday



"All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called Huckleberry Finn"

Ernest Hemingway

AR Stars of the Week

To acknowledge the effort that year 7s & 8s put into their reading. This week stars have been picked because of they have earned the most points in their classes.

7aD

Yasmin Dempster
Alfie Evans
Ilias Ismail
David Jackman
Toby Lester
Ryan Mullen
Angel Rose
Tyler Stride
Chloe Blower

7aL

Nidhi Patel
Jasper Sguiri

7aV

Aleeza Bilal
Sacha Crivellari
Elizabeth Toibayeva

7aX

Timur Demiray
Samuel Ellisdon
Zac Emmerson
Felix Hodgkinson-Last
Oliver Sayers
Charis Wilson

7bL

Sasha Fedczuk

7bV

Andrzej Fedczuk
Isabella Leguel
Sophie Lightfoot

7bX

Ben Clark
Finn Davis
Alec Georgiev
James Glanville
Lars Hesse
Micah Smith

8aV

Scarlett Clarke
Ruby Greenfield
Joshua Harwood-White
Mia Kirkwood
Annabel Locherer
Linus Orsinger
Bertie Thomas
Olivia Woolner

8aX

Mia Memaripour

8bC

Christopher Adam
Janik Buchbinder
Anusha Ejaz
Otavio Froes
Jessica Nesbitt

8bL

Mariia Plakhotniuk

8bV

Joseph Belfield
Rhodri Chow
Grace Hooper
Shiven Kothari
Joseph Woodall

8bX

Anna Marcus

What's On This Winter ?

Communications and Diversity

SMALL AXE

MUST-SEE THIS WINTER:

Small Axe is a collection of 5 films depicting Black British stories. Directed by Steve McQueen, this project has been in the works for 10 years and focuses on a part of

our history we often brush over - The British Civil rights Movement. Described by the BBC as '*Love letters to black resilience and triumph in London's West Indian community*' these vivid stories of hard-won victories in the face of racism are a must watch for those who want to learn about the British Civil Rights movement.

Link to Small Axe:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p08vxt33>



Poetry LGBTQ+ Open Mic Night (on zoom)

Upcoming dates: 6 December and 20th December

- Free entry
- 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to read their poetry for 5 minutes each.

This event is run on a pay what you can basis so you can pay as little as you want!

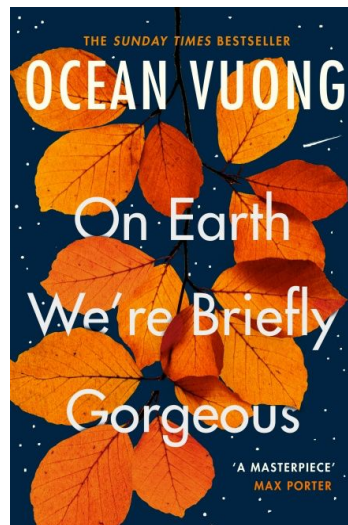
This is a great opportunity for creative queer people to showcase their writing and perhaps find some supportive people and inspiration!

This event takes place every month but there are only 15 slots available for poetry

But you can also apply to be a member of the audience!

Link to sign up:

<https://prideinlondon.org/event/poetry-lgbt-open-mic-on-zoom-1szz0LeJdL07S9YeAgFrJR/>



Book of the Season:

'On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous' is the tale of a Vietnamese mother and her son, with this book being framed as a letter written by the son

to his mother, who cannot speak English. Telling the story of 'Little Dog's' life, Ocean Vuong explores what it means to grow up in a first generation immigrant household and the struggles that come with that, whether that be language, sexuality, or the complicated history left behind. This book is beautifully written and is also relatively short so anyone can pick it up and have a go, I promise you it will be worth it.

What's On This Winter ?

Communications and Diversity

Singer of the Season: Arlo Parks

(taken from <https://www.arloparksofficial.com>)

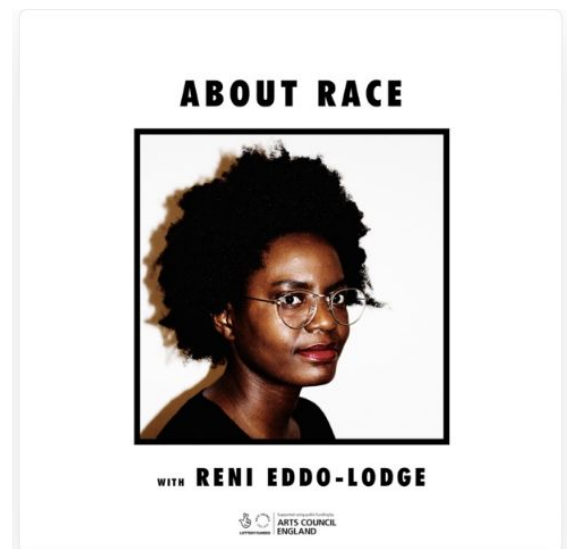
Arlo Parks is a singer-songwriter from London. In her words she spent most of school feeling like that black kid who couldn't dance for shit, listening to too much emo music and crushing on some girl in her Spanish class. Her songs are confessional and tender, mainly inspired by Portishead and Earl Sweatshirt.

Her music is both calming and catchy and she explores themes of depression, what it means to be a queer black woman in 2020 and identity.



Podcast of the Season: 'About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge'

After Reni Eddo-Lodge's book 'Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People about Race' made records in the Bestseller charts this summer, she has released a podcast in which she dives into the complex and multi-faceted discussion of race. Featuring key voices from the last few decades of anti-racism activism, About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge looks at the recent history that led to the politics of today. Have a listen to further involve yourself in becoming actively anti-racist and aware of the culture we live in today and its intrinsic links to racism.



Some websites to find further resources/ information about Diversity:

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/help-and-advice> - if you'd like any information on LGBTQ+ issues

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zs9n2v4> - to learn more about 'anti-racism'

<https://lgbt.foundation/meet-the-team> - an LGBTQ+ UK charity that provides lots of helpful information on queerness and offers support and guidance, as well as shows you where to go in local areas.



VPA
PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

DEC. 17TH. VIA ONLINE LINK
5:00PM



Christmas 'from your couch'

FEATURING.....

'SNOW WHITE AND THE FIVE DWARFS'

BY AMANDA BURTON

EDIE BING, KITTY FINNIE & ELLA TROUSDALE

And Songs and Music by Year 10 Students

**Please consider donating to the VPA Faculty
Production Fund to support future events**

You can do this via Scopay on the website-

www.scopay.com/greycourt



SNOW WHITE

& THE 5 DWARVES



The Covid safe &
Socially Distanced Pantomime

25%

for the school
when you bring
this flyer

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SCHOOL



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Christmas trees

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Visit our website www.palmcentre.co.uk/safe-christmas to learn what measures we have put in place to make your shopping experience Covid-safe.

The Palm Centre, Ham St (opposite Riverside Dr.), Ham, Richmond, TW10 7HA

We're open from Monday to Saturday, 9 AM to 4 PM. Free parking available on site. Capacity restrictions apply.

* This offer is applicable only to Christmas trees and cannot be combined with any other promotional offers available.

TRAIN TO TEACH VIRTUAL EVENT

TRAIN TO TEACH IN KINGSTON AND RICHMOND

THURSDAY 7TH JANUARY 2021
16:00-18:00



If you have the above attributes then a career in teaching is for you.
Grey Court Teaching School is hosting a Train to Teach virtual event where you
will receive first-rate advice from teaching experts on your training options,
learn about university-led training and talk to practising teachers.

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OFFERED TO ANYONE THAT HAS A DEGREE

Places are limited so book your place ASAP at

www.eventbrite.co.uk

and search for Grey Court School events.



**EVERY CHILD,
EVERY DAY
ACADEMY
TRUST**



Teaching



Every Lesson Shapes a Life



Come and train with The Every Child Every Day Trust Schools and reap the rewards in knowing that you have made a positive impact in the learning of our young people – a reward that has lifelong results for the future aspirations of children and families

You have a degree ☒

You have a passion for education ☒

For the cost of £350 you will receive 6 virtual training sessions, a 5 day placement (dates tbc) and a wealth of invaluable experience.

Dates are as follows:

11th January 2021

20th January 2021

25th January 2021

3rd February 2021

8th February 2021

15th February 2021

Please register your interest on:
www.eventbrite.co.uk by searching
for Grey Court School
<https://tinyurl.com/y4rj6bfm>

For more information please contact
dplumridge@greycourt.org.uk

Teaching ☒

Every Lesson Shapes a Life

FOR 16-18 YEAR OLDS

HAMPTON AND RICHMOND BOROUGH ACADEMY

TRIAL DATES RELEASED:

10.30 AM @THE BEVEREE, TW12 2BX

27TH OCTOBER 2020

21ST DECEMBER 2020

Contact to Register:

academy.manager@hamptonfc.net



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from **£50.00**



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from **£175.00**

CHRISTMAS ORDER DEADLINES

Framed Prints & Canvases
7th December

Unframed prints & USBs
17th December

Digital Files to download
22nd December

The more **unframed prints or digital files** you buy,
the lower the price per item becomes.

Plus order by your **Early Bird Deadline**
to get **25% OFF**

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or email customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net

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