eBull

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etin

Grey Court School | 13 September 2024

"…a school where all pupils flourish" - Ofsted 2024

The cover photo: early morning triathlon session

24-25 Term Dates

School Events

Sports TT

Sport SOCS

Extracurricular TT

Education Fund

ScoPay

Weekly Menus

Grey Court JustGiving QR Code

#KeepInTouch

The Uniform Shop

Thursdays 3:15-4pm

Contact:
sniss@greycourt.org.uk

Kingston Hospital Charity

We would like to congratulate **Nicholas P**, **Anthony P**, **Andy F** and **George A** on their achievement on Saturday 7 September 2024.

The boys took part in **Night to Remember** for Kingston Hospital charity. They finished their walk in under 4 hours in 3hrs 53 minutes - an incredible experience and achievement for all.

They had the pleasure of meeting up with 2 British rowers: Lola Anderson and Holy Dunford, both of whom took part in the 13-mile walk fundraising for Kingston Hospital charity.

The boys raised £250.

Well done, boys!

Mr Willmore
Director of Sport

Night to Remember

Saturday 7 September

FRESH
WAFFLES
MIX
MATCH
Only at
29
328
361
364
Night to REMEMBER
GREAT BRITAIN
GBR

GREAT BRITAIN
GREAT BRITAIN

Huge Thanks

For the second consecutive year, the "Fifty Shades of Grey Court" team took to the Thames in a dragon boat to raise much needed funds. They raised £1400 in donations with a further £330 in Gift Aid.

A HUGE thank you to our intrepid dragon boaters - we really appreciate your support!

e Duke
nburgh

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

The first session is on Thursday 26 September (3-5pm) in the main hall.

It is important that students attend all sessions to ensure they have completed the compulsory training required for the expeditions. If there are any issues and they are genuinely unable to attend on the day, a parent must contact the Bronze team, explaining the circumstances by email.

All tents need to be available and ready to use for the camp set up training session - please email us at the earliest opportunity if the group that your child is in does not have enough tents to cover the size of the group, as we have a very limited supply of school tents. The tents should be the same ones they will be using for the expeditions.

Similarly **suitable food, plates, bowls and cutlery need to be brought to school for the cooking session** (we only provide the fuel and Trangiers/ pans to cook with).

Please note: **All students, without fail, must attend school on time, both Monday mornings following the expeditions, regardless of how tired they may well be.** Non-attendance directly impacts us being able to offer this amazing opportunity to future students at the school.

Bronze DofE Sessions and Expedition Dates: https://bit.ly/bronze-dofe-24-25

GREY COURT SCHOOL

G-FEST 2024

SATURDAY
21ST SEPTEMBER
2PM - 8PM

GATES OPEN 1:45PM
(Sandy Lane entrance)

COLOUR FUN RUN STARTS 2PM

TICKETS

Child: £5 • Adult: £10
Family of 4: £25
Famiy 5+: £30

AVAILABLE FROM
https:// www.pta-events.co.uk/greycourtschool/

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
GREY COURT SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Information

G-Fest

BEN KEMPTON

What's up?

What's up?

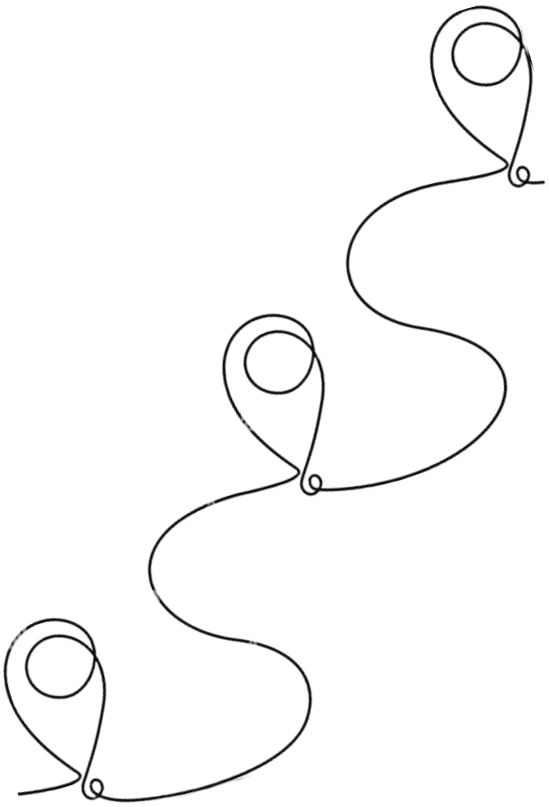
Ben Kempton is new to Grey Court School and our English Department. And we are a rather inquisitive bunch – or so we are told! Anyway, back to Ben! We learnt (on the grapevine) that he had (rather impressively) walked 825km from Portugal to Santiago de Compostela in Spain (plus an extra walk to Finisterre) by himself (who would do that?)

Ben stayed in albergues (hostels for the pilgrims) along the way, and met incredible people from all over the world – every day. And wrote about his experience for i Travel.

Frankly-speaking, this is a fascinating read. As he was told "…*the Way gives you not what you desire, but what you really need…*'

A bit like:
'You can't always get what you want. But if you try sometime you'll find you get what you need…' – Rolling Stones

Plans for the summer '25 – sorted!



"…There was something daunting yet exhilarating about looking north, over the masses of pastel-coloured rooftops, wondering what lay ahead; the thrill of the unknown.

My next two weeks were spent walking alongside rivers, through farmland, vineyards and forests, passing medieval towns such as Tomar and Coimbra, in 30C heat, eating bifanas (traditional pork sandwiches) and pastel de natas – largely by myself.

At first, I found the isolation difficult, but, as one Camino veteran told me while creaming her sore feet in the bed next to me at a hostel in Rabaçal, "the Way gives you not what you desire, but what you really need"….

KS3+4 News

Year 7

It has been a wonderful start to the academic year for our new cohort of Year 7 students! We have seen record numbers attending our Thursday morning running club and the trials and training sessions for various teams have also had huge turn-outs. The non-sporting extra-curricular timetable is due imminently so there will be further opportunity to get fully involved in the "extra" side of life at Grey Court that forms such a big part of the experience.

We have also managed to have 100% attendance on one of the days this week! It has been a brilliant start, with so many students getting into school. We are aiming to beat last year's Year 7 attendance of 98%!

I will be sending a letter home detailing the upcoming CAT tests for Year 7 students. This is not anything for the students to be concerned about, nor is it something that they can revise for. It is to provide us with a data point, which also supports putting the students into the correct sets for some of their subjects.

We have Parents' Information Evening on the 26th September, which is a great event for parents to get further information about life at Grey Court. Further details will be sent out imminently.

Could we also issue one final rally call for students to have their names inside all items of uniform. In the excitement of the new term, we have multiple blazers and tracksuit tops being left in changing rooms or wrongfully picked up and it is very difficult to return them to their rightful owner without the names inside.

Mr Ridley
Phase Leader

Year 8

We have had a great start to the term with Y8.

Firstly a big well done for their fantastic attendance. Students have managed to gain a huge number of achievement points reflecting on their excellent behaviour and attitude to learning. In addition, a large number of students have already thrown themselves into extra-curricular activities that the school has to offer. I would like to encourage students to try out a club over the next few weeks as it is a great way to develop friendships within the year group whilst developing new skills.

Mr Rhodes delivered this week's assembly, covering key notices and expectations for the year. He also discussed the development and progress goals for Y8 students this year.

Miss Saccheri
Deputy Phase Leader

Y8

Year 9

Year 9 has had a really fantastic start to the year - uniform and attendance has been superb. Everyone has taken the ethos of maturity to heart and behaviour has been brilliant with lots of learning taking place. Year 9s celebrated their hard work for the Gradu8 programme by having fun on the inflatables on Friday - a well-earned reward!

Assembly this week was delivered by Mr Rhodes and covered key notices and expectations for the year, including some information about summer's GCSE results.

It was also lovely to see so many parents at Year 9 information evening - if there are any questions outstanding please feel free to contact me or Mr Day.

Finally, well done to the following for winning the weekly form tutor awards:

Luke Owide Vieira
Yutaro French
Emilia Dashper
Gabriela Santiago
Spencer Hunt
George Dickinson
Scarlett Mullen
Lilly Lauder

Ms Sutcliffe
Deputy Phase Leader

Year 10

A big welcome back to the new term! Year 10 have had a fantastic week as they start their KS4 journey. Teachers and the pastoral team have been impressed with students' conduct and motivation to do well in lessons so far; so let's keep the momentum going!

This week students have been reminded of the uniform policy, extra curricular clubs to get involved with and how to keep safe on the streets.

Mr Rhodes delivered an assembly outlining the new improvements in the school, and reminding the students of the support they have available to thrive at Grey Court during their GCSEs.

Please note that Friday 27 September is the deadline for GCSE options change requests. We are not able to make changes beyond this point. Parents must confirm by email to Ms Price (vprice@greycourt.org.uk) that they agree to any changes requested by their child. We are looking forward to seeing what the new year brings!

Ms Woods
Head of Year

Y10

Year 11

Year 11 have had a great start to the year! Behaviour points are low and the number of achievement points are amazing. Keep up the good work! Cedar are currently taking the lead for conduct points, with Elm not far behind!

This week, Mr Rhodes delivered an assembly outlining the improvements in the school and reminders of general conduct . The reminders which are pertinent for the year group include the uniform policy and following the one way system. It is essential the cohort lead by example and support the younger years during the transition period.

Over the next few weeks, students will be given an insight into Post 16 options during PDW sessions. It is important for students to be actively looking at colleges and sixth forms to enquire about open days and applications. To support this process, Miss Corrighan has organised a careers event on Thursday 3 October which will be a good opportunity for students to engage in conversations about their future prospects. We do expect to see all of Year 11 there, and of course, parents and carers are more than welcome. More information will follow.

Mr Khan
Head of Year

Y11

Stars of the week

Year	Student	Subject	Comment
7O	Hasan Malik Dogru	English Language	Excellent contributions
10C	Laurie Forest	English Language	Excellent contributions
11E	Ki Lodge-Williams	English Language	Excellent engagement in class
8O	Junior Bloomer	English Literature	Excellent engagement in class
9C	Ifan Mchardy	English Literature	Excellent contributions
12F	Lucas Melo-Foxton	English Literature	Excellent contributions
13B	Sophie Ravichandran	English Literature	Excellent homework
13F	Izzy Southard Woodard	EPQ	Excellent homework
7E	Dries Verhaeghe	Accelerated Reader	Excellent contributions
8B	Alex Prestigiacomo	Accelerated Reader	Outstanding achievement

English

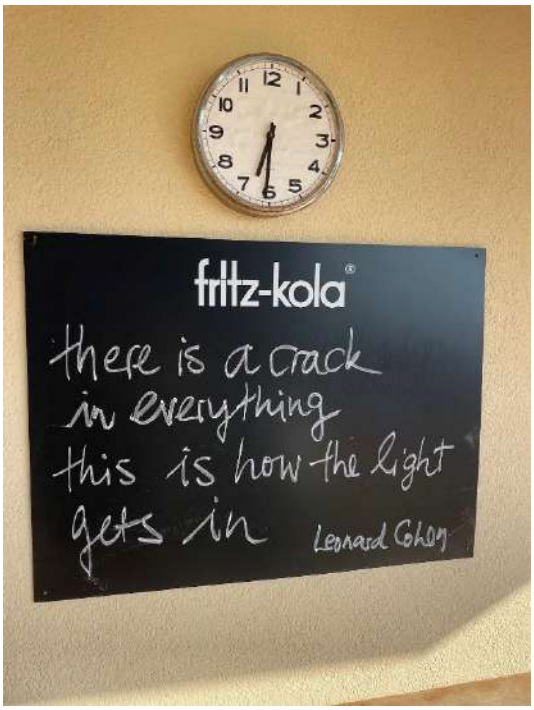
There is a crack in everything: this is how the light gets in

Mr Clements

The publication of this humble ebulletin: the first of the academic year 2024-2025 comes at juncture when the temperature on my cycle across Ham Common has started to drop and the warm days and restful embrace of the summer holidays are fading faster than the yellow petals of the sunflowers on Ms Rahmani's (Empress of administrator's) newly acquired allotment.

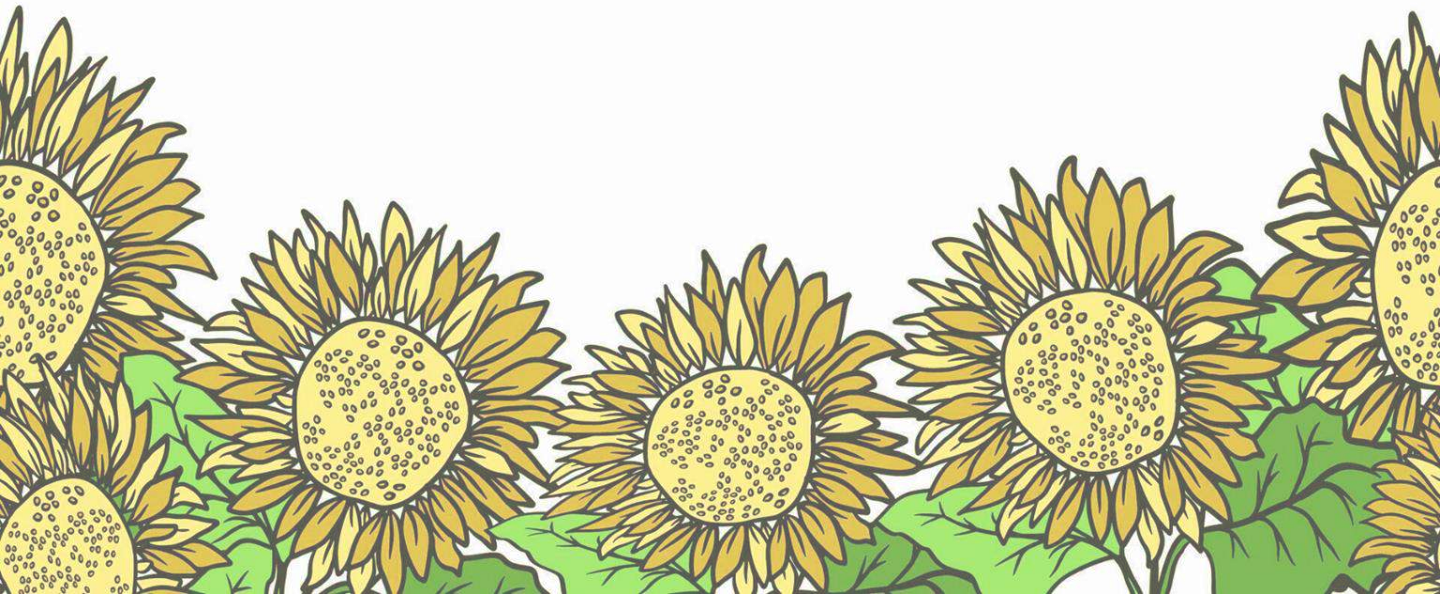
The summer season proved to be one of celebration, as propelled by the momentum of an "outstanding" Ofsted judgement, we recorded record results, record Sixth form recruitment and a record number of students into Russell Group universities. Mr Rhodes and Mr Day celebrated the acquisition of fistfuls of Oasis tickets, Ms Weston accepted a marriage proposal, Ms Clark produced an Arsenal supporting baby and Mr Gordon Walker sent me Instagram reels of him perusing Wisden's almanack under the artisan windmill he'd rented off Antalya.

Draped in my own towel sipping a Fritz Kola by Naturbad Leustetten in Germany's Bodensee foothills I could perhaps be forgiven for feeling quite content? At which point I spied the following inscription by Leonard Cohen etched in chalk onto the pool cafe's blackboard: "there is a crack in everything: this is how the light gets in."



The proclamation of success and the lift it brings is only fleeting - an analysis of any set of exams results or Ofsted report always reveals a series of cracks, gaps and omissions which leaves me feeling we could do better…next year. How can we raise the participation of girls in computing? Why don't we organise a work experience trip abroad? What is stopping us from matching the performance of grammars across every subject? Has anyone enquired whether Ham Polo club has an outreach scheme? Can we reach 98% attendance? How can I effectively mentor a talented head of department? When will the sensory garden be finished? Maybe we should build a concert hall?

Questions float and flicker alongside the Bodensee sunbeams. My aspiration for the coming year is that as a body of staff, students and parents we use the light revealed by the cracks to see the way ahead.



Food

What's Cooking?

Chef *of the week*

~~Mr Rhodes~~
Ted Savage

Our year 9 cohort have started their second week working on cultural foods and different cuisines whilst learning core skills that links to the KS4 GCSE course. Shepherd's pie rolled around at a wonderful time as the temperature has started to drop.

Ted worked so hard to produce a wonderfully balanced Shepherd's pie, he even learnt some culinary skills from the school's not-so-secret chef, Mr Rhodes.

Well done Ted, the dish looks wonderful!

Food

chef
of the week

Recipe of the week

Food safety learning has begun for our year 10 cohort.

The first dish of the term; paella or a similar skilled rice dish. With that in mind, here is a tasty paella to try at home.

Also it is a healthier version of the dish so it is a win-win.

Paella Recipe

KS3 *Update*

As we welcome new students and familiar faces, it means our Grey Court cooks return to the kitchen. A big thank you to all parents and carers for supporting your children's education, food is such an important subject. The knowledge and skills are crucial life skills so a big thank you.

Letters for this academic year have made their way to all with the contribution towards ingredients, and thank you to those parents/carers who have contacted me with any issues regarding allergies and intolerances.

Year 7 were first to cross the threshold in T5 last week. They started to learn about safety and hygiene as this environment is very busy and very dangerous. They learnt the core knife holds 'bridge hold' and 'claw grip' to ensure safety whilst preparing a range of ingredients and put in the practice by creating their 'fruit fusion' salad. Parents/carers if you don't already, now is a good time to hire an apprentice in the kitchen to practise those chopping skills.

Year 8 are now on a 6/7 week rotation meaning cooking every single week and a lot of core concepts covered in detail ahead of year 9. The practical lessons have been curated to ensure they still cover the main elements and topics inline with the GCSE specification at the KS3 level. Watch this space for some wonderful dishes.

Year 9 are working extremely well with Mr Rhodes and myself on cultural foods and cuisines. Fajitas done and dusted with reference to core temperatures and onto food provenance and producing Shepherd's pie. More photos to follow of this rotation of year 9s, as I personally know from last year they are a hard working bunch of students.

FOOD SAFETY
All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.

Explain what technical cooking skills you have learnt
Discuss how you could adapt ingredients to accommodate for special dietary needs
Present your findings about food provenance
Evaluate how you could improve your dish
Be concise when describing processes in food science
Evaluate the proportions of vitamins and minerals in your dish
HYGIENE AND SAFETY
Food Processo

KS4 *Update*

Year 11 have started their NEA 1 food investigation coursework which means our students are working to tight deadlines currently. When they start their investigations I will share some of the ideas.

Year 10 start their KS4 GCSE food preparation and nutrition journey. Starting with food safety, to ensure they understand the main concepts of food safety and personal hygiene. Similarly to last year's cohort, they began to gain more understanding about pathogenic bacteria and the different types of non-pathogenic bacteria which are used in food production. Looking at temperature zones, food storage and handling before making their own Paella or rice dish. This year’s cohort are very eager to cook and we had a range of different curries, rice dishes being plated in school this week.

Ms Campbell
Head of Food and Nutrition

ALLERGENS
Plastic Containers
Disposable Containers

Clubs

timetable

What is the Chemistry Club?
The Salters' Chemistry Club is an exciting online platform for students aged 11-14, aimed at making chemistry engaging and accessible. Through interactive content, students can explore real-world applications of chemistry and discover exciting career opportunities in the field. Nationally, over 800 schools take part every year. Every weekday at 8am, new content and activities are shared, including:
•Videos
•Infographics
•Fill in the blanks
•Guess the element
•Word searches
•Quizzes
Learners can log in from anywhere in the world and enjoy bite-sized activities that explore different topics in chemistry.
Last year, we had fantastic participation, and over the summer, our students ranked 4th nationally in activity on the platform!
Why Join?
•**Interactive Content**: Fun, dynamic activities that bring chemistry to life.
•**Real-World Relevance**: Learn how chemistry shapes industries and everyday life.
•**Career Exploration**: Discover the wide range of careers in chemistry.
How to Get Started:
•Students can sign up using their school email and will be verified by a teacher or technician.
•**Watch the Overview**
•**Sign Up Here**

Best of all, it's completely free! This is a fantastic opportunity to enrich students' understanding of chemistry in a fun and supportive environment.

For more information, feel free to contact Mr. Gundry, Head of Chemistry."

DRAWING MATTERS

2024

Grey Court

'Drawing Matters' is run by experienced practicing artists, Stuart Simler and Tahira Mandarino, who bring with them a broad range of skills from Fine Art and Ceramic backgrounds at BA, MFA (Hons) This course is for all pupils who have an interest in Art and especially drawing, which is an important part of childrens creative development. We encourage freedom of expression alongside learning new techniques and skills.

Dates & Times:
16th Sept - 25th Nov: Mondays 3.15 - 4.15pm
Year Groups: 7 to 10
Cost: £115 - 10 weeks (all materials included)
(no class: 4th Nov.)

How to apply:
If you would like to book a place for your child on these classes please email:
Stuart: **stuartsimler@mac.com**

Payment terms BACS: Company name: Raw Ground Arts Limited
Sort: 40-26-12 Account: 32189860
Cheques made payable to: Raw Ground Arts Limited and sent to:
56 Cedar Avenue | Twickenham | TW2 7HE

Grey Court School is keen to ensure this opportunity is open to all students. Should you wish for your child to take part but need financial assistance, please contact C. Bowie: cbowie@greycourt.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming your young artist onto the course.

Stuart & Tahira

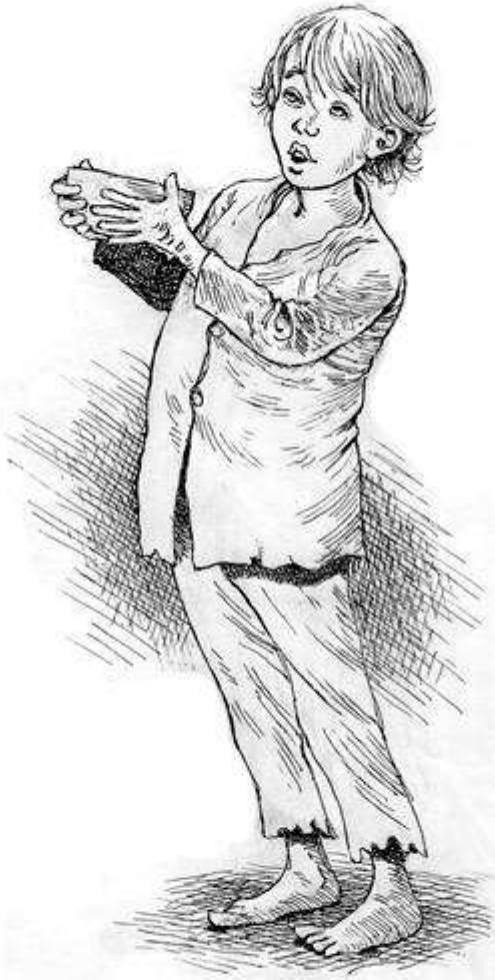
*For terms and conditions please visit: https://www.rawgroundarts.com/drawing-matters

RAW GROUND ARTS
RGA
www.rawgroundarts.com
LONDON

Oliver!
photos

This incredible performance took place last term.

Please click the **link** to see some photos of our talented actors



CLICK PHOTOGRAPHY @ GREY COURT

Autumn 2024

Monday 3.10-4.10pm Y7-9 & DofE

The Click Photography Club is a fun and exciting introduction to Photography.
Students can use their own cameras or use our Canon Dslrs.
Click is an Approved Provider for DofE candidates

Alphabetography, Composition, Phoneography, Light Painting, Land Art, Autumn Leaves, Stop Motion, Selfies, & Ghosts

Classes begin on Monday 23rd September 2024
9 weeks Fee £90

Grey Court is keen to ensure this opportunity is open to all students. Should you wish for your child to take part but may need financial assistance, please contact Ms Price by email vprice@greycourt.org.uk

Click Photography Workshops is run by award winning reportage photographer Philip Hollis & Sheridan Morley, former Nikon UK Fashion Photographer of the Year

Bookings @
clickphotographyworkshops.com
or email **clickschools@gmail.com**

Elizabeth Samuels
Drama School

LAMDA

Classes at Grey Court

GREY COURT SCHOOL

Year 7 - Year 13

Why LAMDA?

- Builds confidence and empowers you to become an effective communicator
- Develop your vocabulary, reading ability, conversational skills and memorisation
- From Grade 6 onwards, earn UCAS points to aid your entry into higher education
- Work towards an exam in the summer term

Why Elizabeth Samuels?

- A leader in LAMDA tuition supported by a team of highly experienced teachers
- 100% exam pass rate at Merit level or above, with 90% at the highest level of Distinction
- Unique LAMDA teacher training that ensures lessons are delivered to the highest standard

Where & When?

- 30 minute classes take place during the school day at Grey Court

How do I signup?

- **Visit: www.elizabethsamuelsdrama.com/greycourtregistration**

Careers Update

Welcome back after the summer holidays and the careers team are looking forward to supporting students on their career journeys as they move from one phase of education to another.

Whether you are in Year 7 just starting school; studying for GCSEs or BTECs in Year 10 or 11 or in the Sixth Form beginning to think about apprenticeships or university. Grey Court staff encourage you to explore possibilities and make the most of opportunities aimed to develop your skills and ideas. Please click the link to read about career options and important dates.

A reminder that our **Careers Fair** will be held on **Thursday 3 October** from **6:30pm.** Details can be found in the link above.

Wellbe

PDW *What's on?*

	Tuesday 17 September, P1
Year 7	How can we best cope with change, and is it always negative?
Year 8	How can you be your best, most healthy self?
Year 9	How can we be sensible online?
Year 10	RS/Computing
Year 11	What are your Post-16 options?

	Tuesday 24 September, P3
Year 7	What are resilience and restorative justice?
Year 8	How can you help someone with allergies?
Year 9	Online gaming safety
Year 10	What do coercive, abusive and controlling relationships look like?
Year 11	Careers

Sept 2024

Self-Care September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Find time for self-care. It's not selfish, it's essential	2 Notice the things you do well, however small	3 Let go of self-criticism and speak to yourself kindly	4 Plan a fun or relaxing activity and make time for it	5 Forgive yourself when things go wrong. Everyone makes mistakes	6 Focus on the basics: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time	7 Give yourself permission to say 'no'
8 Be willing to share how you feel and ask for help when needed	9 Aim to be good enough, rather than perfect	10 When you find things hard, remember it's ok not to be ok	11 Make time to do something you really enjoy	12 Get active outside and give your mind and body a natural boost	13 Be as kind to yourself as you would to a loved one	14 If you're busy, allow yourself to pause and take a break
15 Find a caring, calming phrase to use when you feel low	16 Leave positive messages for yourself to see regularly	17 No plans day. Make time to slow down and be kind to yourself	18 Ask a trusted friend to tell you what strengths they see in you	19 Notice what you are feeling, without any judgement	20 Enjoy photos from a time with happy memories	21 Don't compare how you feel inside to how others appear outside
22 Take your time. Make space to just breathe and be still	23 Let go of other people's expectations of you	24 Accept yourself and remember that you are worthy of love	25 Avoid saying 'I should' and make time to do nothing	26 Find a new way to use one of your strengths or talents	27 Free up time by cancelling any unnecessary plans	28 Choose to see your mistakes as steps to help you learn
29 Write down three things you appreciate about yourself	30 Remind yourself that you are enough, just as you are					

Support for Parents 'Helping teens' series

Achieving for Children's mental health support teams are delivering a series of webinars for parents of secondary-aged children and young people. The 'Helping teens with…' series of webinars covers a range of common difficulties experienced by children and will aim to share evidence-based strategies to help parents and carers with these difficulties. In the third and fourth columns of the table, you will find the sign-up links.

Regrettably, the webinar on the topic of Understanding Changes in the Adolescent Brain scheduled for the 18 and 20 September has been cancelled. Any parent who booked this session is requested to book the next session which will be held on the 5 and 7 February. If you would like information on this topic, we would recommend that you obtain a copy of **this** book: *Blame my Brain: The Amazing Teenage Brain Revealed* by Nicola Morgan.

We know that many parents of children with ADHD could have ADHD themselves and this can bring about significant challenges for everyone in a family. We are therefore pleased to introduce to our community a new, 5-week online course for couples to help support them and to make family life better. **Please note, it is not essential that either one or both parents are diagnosed with ADHD.** The topics covered over the weeks can support any family struggling with managing some of the challenges that arise in any 'ADHD household'.

Why should I attend? *Couples and ADHD: Making Your Family's Life Better* is an online 5 week couples course aims to provide the information and strategies couples need to strengthen their bonds and their family's happiness.

What will the sessions cover?

Session 1: Introduction to How ADHD Impacts Couples

This session provides an overview of how ADHD is likely impacting both of you and your relationship. The presence of symptoms – and responses to those symptoms – encourage specific patterns that can stress your love for each other.

Session 2: Parent-Child Dynamics and What To Do About Them

The most important negative pattern that most ADHD-impacted couples face is Parent-Child Dynamics. In this pattern, one partner is inconsistent while the other over-functions to compensate for that inconsistency. This leads to resentment and anger that poisons your interactions. But it's a hard pattern to get away from.

Session 3: Communication Techniques that Work

Communication in neuro-diverse couples brings its own challenges. In this session we will discuss and practice three different communication strategies shown to improve your relationship.

Session 4: Tasks and Chores

Chances are good that the two of you are in what we call the 'Chore Wars.' This fighting over who does what, how it's done, and when it's done are typical of ADHD-impacted relationships. We will provide a path to tackle the issue.

Session 5: Family Dynamics

ADHD is highly heritable. Since ADHD Embrace largely works with families, we are dedicating this session to issues that come up across generations in families impacted by ADHD.

Who will be running the course? Couples 'expert' Ashley Paradise, Senior Consultant, ADHD & Marriage Consulting and Melissa Orlov, Founder of ADHDmarriage.com

When does it run? Online, starts 16th September and every week for 4 more weeks, 8pm - 9:30pm

Cost of course: £120 per couple

How do I book? Click here!

NEW WEBINAR: Dyslexia and co-occurrence with ADHD

When is it? Tuesday, 24 September, 8pm-9:30pm on Zoom.
Why has ADHD Embrace organised this webinar?
Research shows there is much higher chance of children who have ADHD also having dyslexia. Find out more detail about the co-occurrence and practical help to support your children.
What will it cover?
- What is dyslexia?
- Dyslexia and co-occurrence with ADHD
- Monitoring for characteristics of dyslexia
- Strategies to support children with dyslexia and ADHD at home and in school.

Who is the speaker? Eryn Caddick, Specialist Assessor, SENCo and Teacher at Dyslexia Assessment Surbiton.
How do I find out more info & book? Click here.

Sixth Fo

Welcome back!

It is lovely to have the Sixth Form full of students ready to start a new school year after the amazing success of the outgoing Year 13 cohort.

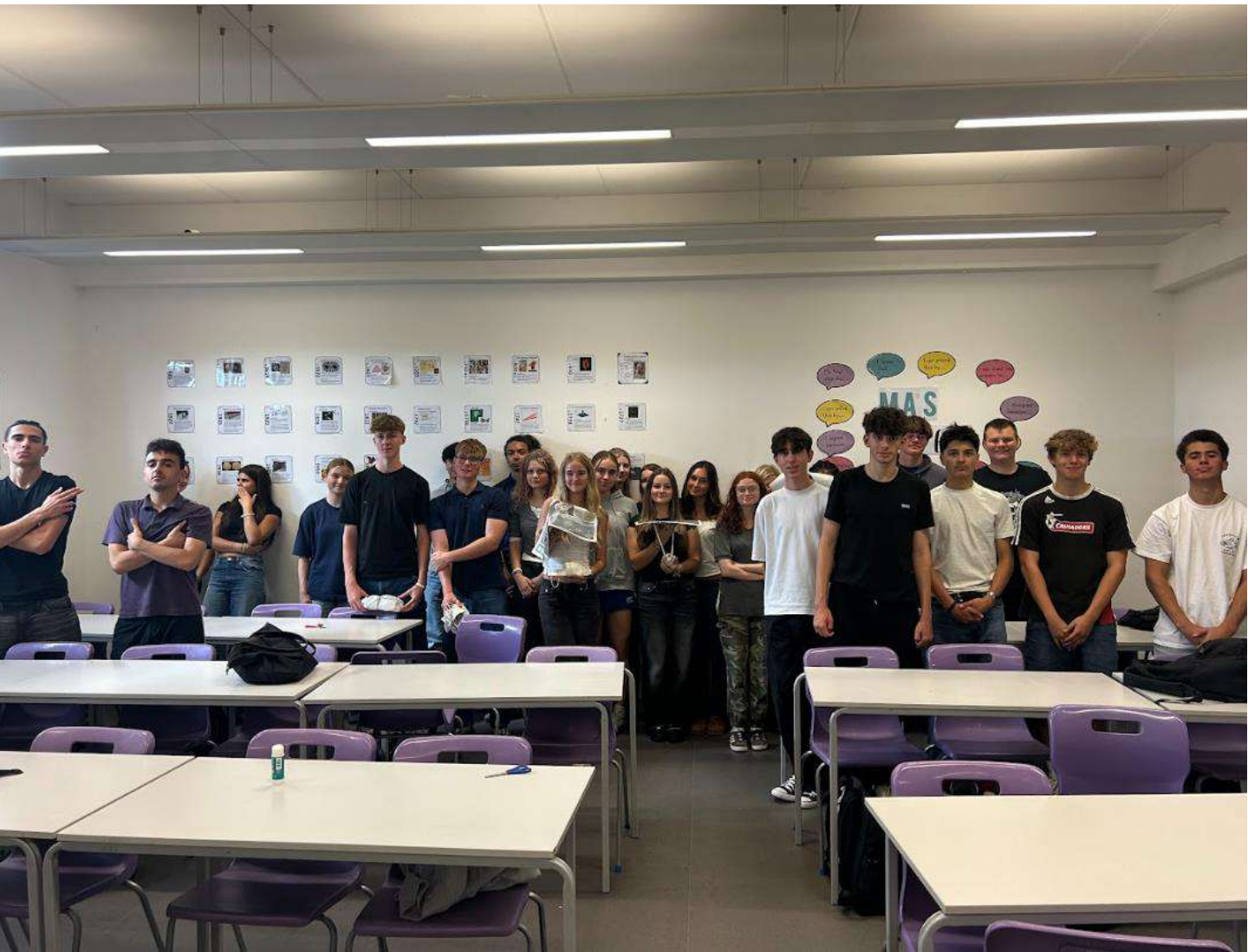
Year 12

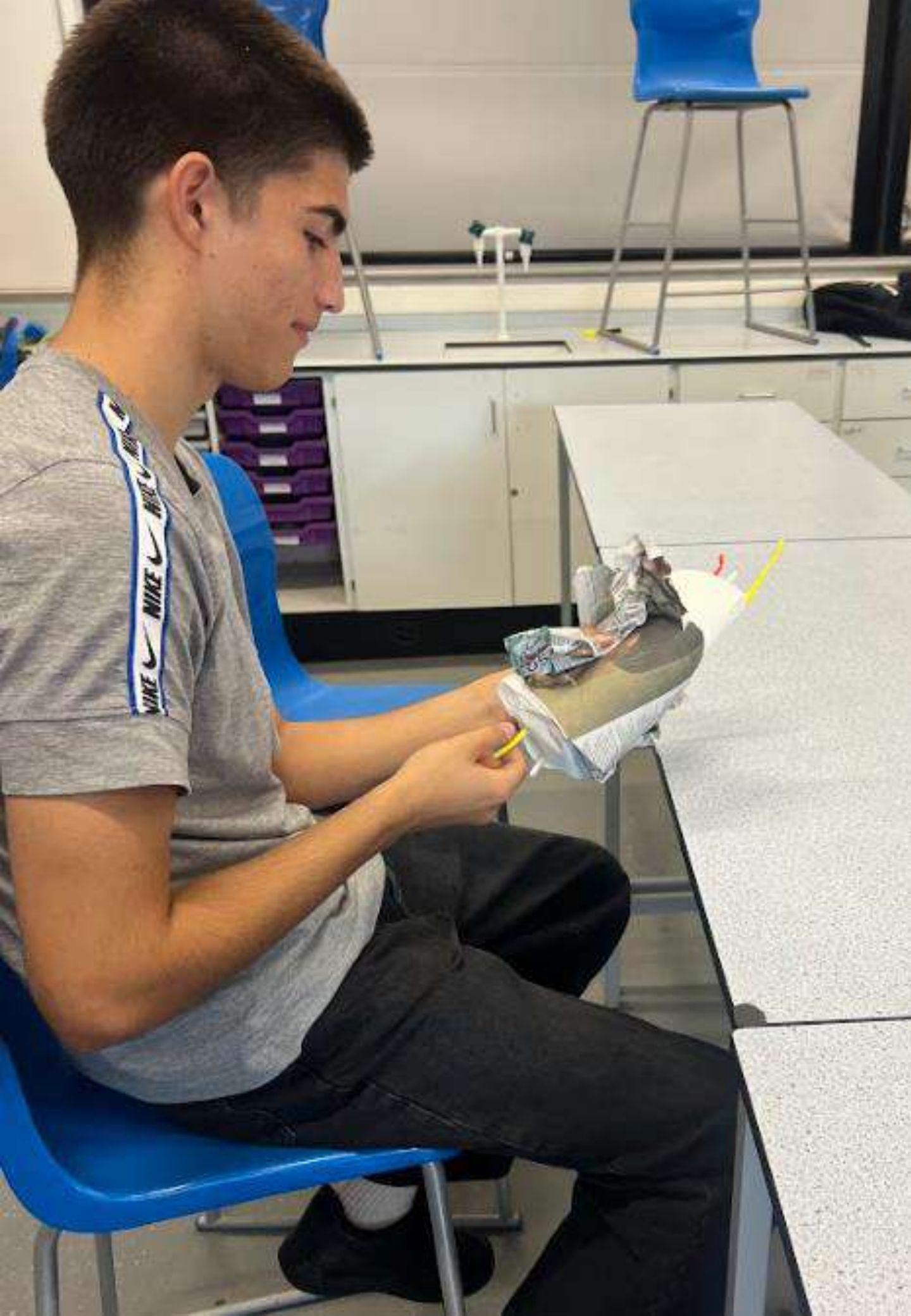
Year 12 Threshold Assessments
This week all year 12 students have sat their threshold assessments for Maths and the science subjects. These will be marked by teachers over the next week and results will be handed back to students the week after. These will be marked as either 'A' - above the required standard, 'S' - at the required standard and 'B' - below the required standard.

What happens AFTER assessment week
If you gain a grade "at or above the standard" for the threshold assessment you will work towards preparing for the first round of A-level style assessments in early October. If you receive a "below standard" grade you will be given the opportunity to change onto a more suitable course if places exist on it. If you opt to continue you will be provided with appropriate subject specific targets in order to build your capacity for the October assessments. Although, it should be noted that these are likely to require a higher level of expertise to pass as they will be marked using "A-level" standards.

Year 12 students have seamlessly adapted to the demands of sixth form life. It has been encouraging to observe their commitment, as many diligently engage with their homework and bridging work on laptops during free periods. The positive atmosphere within the building is brilliant, and it is wonderful to see our new external students acclimating to their new environment, making friends, and thriving.

In their first week, Year 12 students participated in a series of activities with their new tutors. These included a study skills workshop, a session on the dangers of vaping, and the 'egg drop challenge,' designed to enhance STEM skills and promote teamwork. The Year 12 tutors and sixth form team were notably impressed with the students' inventive approaches to protecting their eggs (or water balloons, as a vegan alternative) and their demonstrated ability to work and communicate effectively within their teams.




NIKE

Trip to Royal Holloway Uni

All of Year 12 were treated to an inspiring and motivating trip to this beautiful and prestigious university as part of their induction into Sixth Form. They were given valuable insight into university life, including a study skills session, a tour of the campus and a really useful Q&A session. The students were engaged and enthusiastic and it gave them a chance to reflect on life after Sixth Form.

Chocolate bars or rocks?

In Ms Shackley's lessons this week, Year 12 Geography students were analysing chocolate bars and applying them to different types of rocks and their formations.

Year 13

Year 13 UCAS applications
The big focus for students this half term is completing and submitting their UCAS applications. Our internal deadline for this is October half term. Once students have clicked 'submit', their applications come to the Sixth Form team, when we check everything and add in predicted grades and a reference. We will then liaise with each student to double-check everything before we submit to UCAS.

Year 13 Assessment Week
We are running an assessment week for Year 13 next week. There are a number of reasons for this:

1. UCAS predictions - while we do have the results for the summer assessments we want to give them an opportunity to get a better grade.
2. Providing an accurate picture of where all students are so that staff are able to support.
3. Getting them back into A Level mindset as quickly as possible.

These are going to be run within lessons and each subject will set an exam paper that is between an hour and an hour and a half long. Subject teachers will communicate the content of the assessments to students in lessons and an overview will be posted in google classroom.

Sixth Form Applications

Sixth Form Applications for September 2025 Open on 20 September

The applications system will be available via the sixth form section of the website from 20 September and will remain open until 5 January 2025.

All applications must be made via this form. Any applications received after 5 January will be classified as 'Late' and will only be considered once we have processed our on-time applications.

Miss Fincham's Oxbridge Group

This week students should be tweaking their personal statement and making final amendments ready to submit to UCAS. The school deadline for forms to be submitted is the 27 September to ensure the checks and administration can be completed by the sixth form team in time for the University deadline in October. Students also need to ensure they have signed up for any pre-interview assessments that are required by their subject. Students need to be focusing time on this preparation as these tests are highly competitive. This is another reason to ensure that the UCAS form is submitted as early as possible.

EPQ with Miss Fincham

This week students have been required to upload their evidence onto the EPQ classroom to prove they have done an appropriate amount of research over the summer holidays. If they have not completed this preparation they will not be able to continue with this qualification. The taught sessions for EPQ start this week in enrichment and are a compulsory part of the course that all EPQ students are required to attend. This involves explicitly taught sessions which is vital to success in completing the project.

Sixth Form Careers Information

We produce a **Weekly opportunities bulletin** for our sixth form students and parents/carers to access.

We encourage our students to check this every Friday via Google classroom and take advantage of these opportunities which could be work experience, uni-taster courses, careers talks and more.

We also advertise apprenticeships which many students might like to be aware of if pursuing that pathway after sixth form, it's important to be proactive and explore these options.

Please see this week's bulletin: 13/09/2024 Sixth Form Careers opportunities

Save the Date!

Our annual Careers Fair

We will be hosting our annual careers fair for year 11 and sixth form students and parents/carers on **Thursday 3 October 6.30-8pm** in the school hall and library.

More information to follow but this is one of the many sixth form events we put on throughout the year to support students.

SportsN

Welcome to Grey Court PE and School Sport

Please take the time to read through our PE **Information**

This details uniform, PE kit, lesson expectations, the sport timetable, X, Google classroom, forms and information for trials, and SOCS information.

This week in sport

A good performance from our Yr9 Football boys in their first game of the season. A 3-1 defeat on the day, but a good run out for the squad

Hard fought 2-2 draw for the u13B team. Oscar and Quinn with the goals. Jack D was POM.

Well done, boys!

Succes

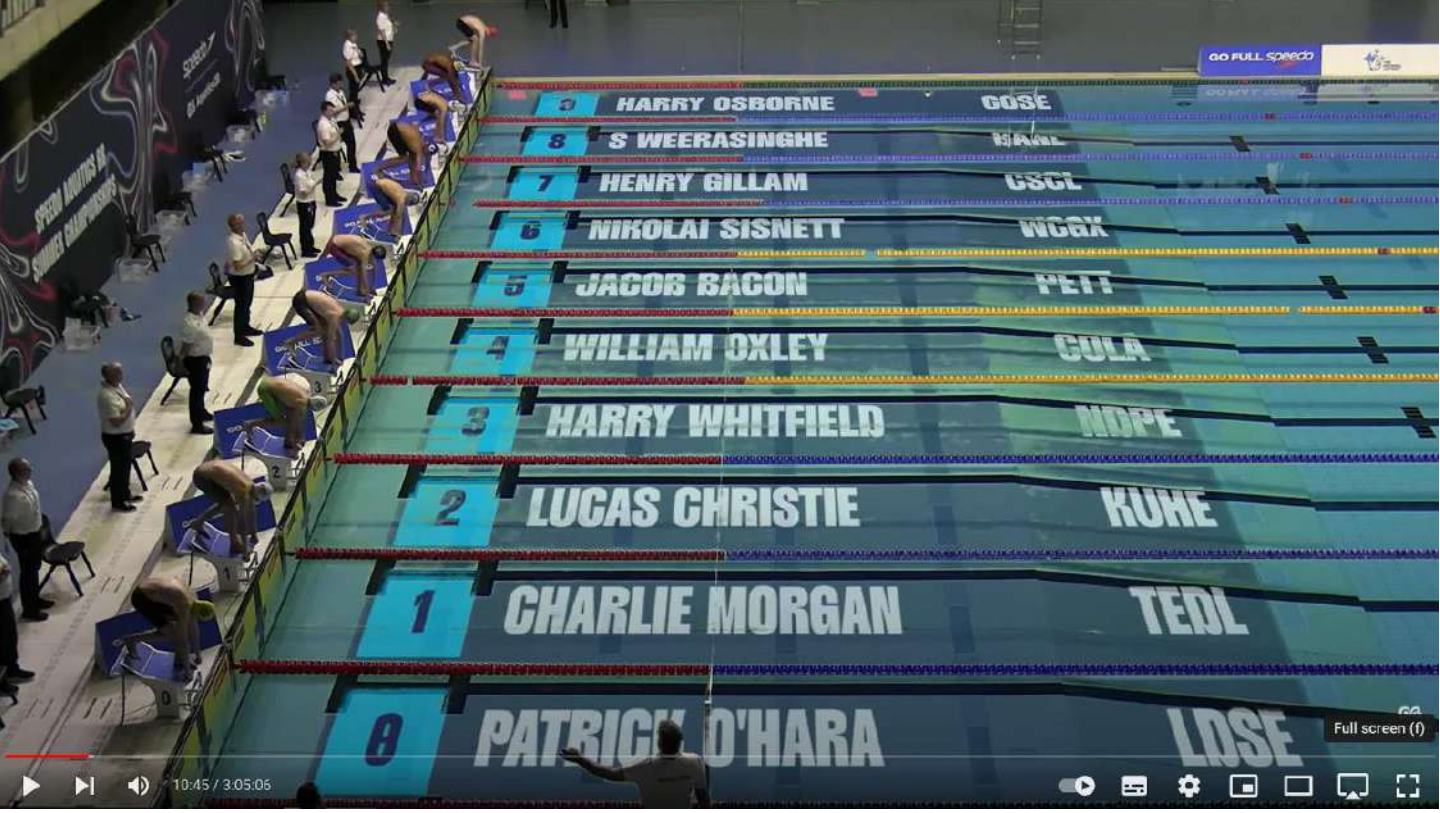
Congratulations to Year 11A band Roman House who won the Inter House volleyball competition.

Well done!

Succes

Congratulations to 10a Roman House - Inter House volleyball competition champions.

Well done!



Congratulations to **Charlie Morgan** who performed brilliantly in the Nationals in Sheffield. He got PB's in all his races. Charlie has also just been selected for the Swim England National Age Group Development Programme (NAGDP) 2024 – 25, which is an amazing achievement.

<u>Results</u>

British Nationals (Aquatics GB Summer Championships) – 1500m 13th in the 14 year old category (17.37 mins)

English Nationals (GoCardless Swim England National Summer Meet) – Charlie was 3rd in the 14 year old category for both his races

400m – 4.27 mins

800m – 9.13 mins

Swim England National Age Group Championships – Rother Valley Park Lake (Sheffield) non-wetsuit swim – 5k - 6th in the 14 year old category 1.05.57.

Congratulations to **Matilda Bowers** who completed her **football referee course** this summer. She will referee some games for Grey Court School.

Well done, Matilda

Congratulations to **Noah Kenny** who won a bronze medal in the J14 coxed quad at the **British Junior Rowing Championships in** July for Brentford Boat Club. They won their heat, and the semi final. The final was a nail-biting race with them lying in 4th place until the last few meters; they took the bronze by 0.1 seconds.

Well done, Noah

Congratulations to **Ida Teggarty-Sparks** who competed in the **Open Water National Championships** at Rother Valley Country Park on 27 July - and came 5th in England in her age category.

The race was 3km around a lake and Ida finished in 42:03. (photo on next page)

Well done, Ida

Success

Ida Teggarty-Sparks

SUCCESS

What's on ...

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OPRO ARE THE LEADING SUPPLIER OF BESPOKE MOUTHGUARDS WORLDWIDE

OPRO have worked to create a bespoke Instant Custom-Fit mouthguard for your school.
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To order this design or choose your own from our brand new and exclusive range, please click below.

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GreyCourt10

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OPRO ARE PROUD TO BE THE OFFICIAL SUPPLIER OF

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Your child will be taking part in *rugby/hockey/lacrosse*. In the interest of your child's safety, it is mandatory that a mouthguard is worn to participate in these sports.

We work with OPRO, who are the largest manufacturers of Custom-Fit mouthguards in the world. OPRO have launched their revolutionary Instant Custom-Fit mouthguard which is a dentist level mouthguard that can be fitted at home.

Benefits of the Instant Custom-Fit mouthguard:

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- You can choose between 3 protection levels and add anti-microbial protection to the mouthguard
- Made in OPRO's manufacturing facility in Hertfordshire, the Instant Custom-Fit offers the highest level or protection as worn by professionals
- Prices start from just £29.99 plus you will receive 10% off if you use the following code **GreyCourt10**
- No waiting for your mouthguard! The Instant Custom-Fit can be manufactured in as little as 2 days. Once fitted at home it's ready to use
- You will receive a complimentary Self-Fit mouthguard to practise the fitting process with and this can be used as a spare mouthguard for the season

To order an Instant Custom-Fit please follow the steps below:

1. Visit https://opro.info/GreyCourtSchool
2. Choose the mouthguard you'd like to purchase
3. Enter the discount code at checkout to receive 10% off
4. Your OPRO Instant Custom-Fit will be sent to the delivery address provided
5. Follow the fitting instructions included with the mouthguard
6. Your mouthguard is now ready to use!

If you have any questions about the products or OPRO's service please contact their customer care team directly on 01442 430690 or email info@oprogroup.com.

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COME JOIN OUR YOUTH GIRLS RUGBY SECTION AT ROSSLYN PARK!

MONDAYS
16:00-18:00

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U12, U14, U16
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Rosslyn Park FC, Priory Lane, Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 5JH

U14s

Richmond Rugby

YEARS 8/9

TRY GIRLS RUGBY

Richmond Rugby provides a welcoming environment for all girls to develop and have positive experiences through rugby

Bring your child for 3 FREE Richmond taster sessions

- Every Sunday from 11:15am - 12:45pm (September - end of April)
- Delivered by DBS cleared, qualified coaches
- Family-friendly, fun environment for parents and children
- All shapes and sizes welcome: no prior playing experience required
- Tournaments throughout the season and end of season tour
- Individual player development and pathway
- Full bursaries available (free membership, kit and all holiday camps) for eligible children

For more information, please contact Jonathan Besser
jonathan_besser@yahoo.com | Website: richmondfc.co.uk
Richmond Rugby Club, Athletic Ground, Twickenham Road, TW9 2SF

YEAR 12 BOYS FOOTBALLERS WANTED

TWICKENHAM SAINTS FC are looking for new players for their U17s* team to play in local FA League on Saturday Mornings.

Come to a Friday evening Astro training session

For more info please ask parent or guardian to contact:
Andy Stickland - 0786 222 1358 / andyfw1@me.com

www.twickenhamsaintsfc.org

SAINTS

* Under 17-years-old as of 31 August 2024

RICHMONDLIVE FESTIVAL

CELEBRATE MUSIC AND DANCE

Save the date

Saturday & Sunday
14 & 15 September 2024
11am – 5pm

Venue:

Marble Hill House
Richmond Road, Twickenham
TW1 2NL

Free Event

Taster Sessions - Arts and Crafts - Games
Prizes - Food and Drink - Live Performances
and more...

Thank you to Marble Hill House and Friends of Marble Hill House for funding this event.

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RICHMONDLIVE FESTIVAL LINE UP

14 SEPT

Yoga with Lotus and Laurel
11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Ukrainian Dance ensemble "Stefania"
11:50 AM – 12:50 PM

Powerjam Band Project
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Boundless Dance
1:40 PM - 1:50 PM

Freedom Tango
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

The Basement Door
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

15 SEPT

Yoga with Lotus and Laurel
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Tuesday Blue
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Upahaar School of Dance
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Lauren Haith School of Dance
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

O'Connor Irish Dance
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Twickenham Academy of Dance
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

DanceWest
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

***Please note timings are subject to change**

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Way2Work Open Day 2024

You are invited to attend Way2Work's open day September 2024

Guildhall Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1EU

96% pass rate

94% of apprentices would recommend Way2Work to a friend

Friday 20 September

Drop in any time between 11am and 4pm

What is covered on the day

- Apprenticeship information
- Careers advice
- Speak with ex apprentice
- Chat with employer and competitions

Way2Work Apprenticeships

Please reserve your ticket for the event on Eventbrite as spaces are limited!

Scan the QR code

At Way2Work we deliver apprenticeships in:

Business administration

Events, housing, marketing, digital and IT, sales and distribution

Customer service

Social services, PA roles fitness technology, aerospace, finance

Early years educator or early years practitioner

Day nurseries, private nurseries

Teaching assistant

Primary, secondary and special schools

Contacts and social media:

Phone: 020 8831 6353

Email: way2work@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Website: www.way2work.org.uk

Facebook: Way to Work AchievingforChildren

Linkedin: Achieving for Children Way2Work

Twitter: Way2WorkJobs

Instagram: afc_way2work

Parking information:

Rose Car Park is the closest car park

Kent Road, Kingston KT1 2NB is a five minute walk away

achieving for children

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Looking for simple ways to make your money go further? This workshop makes managing your money easy, even if you've never budgeted before.

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- **Manage Bills with Ease:** Use the simple 'piggy banking' method to stay on top of your bills.
- **Start Saving for What Matters:** Learn strategies to begin saving, even on a tight budget.

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themoneycourse.org/join

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"Superb course with really informative hosts who were so knowledgeable, welcoming and helpful."

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achieving for children

Champions for children and families

Guildhall 2
High Street
Kingston upon Thames
KT1 1EU

Enquiries to:
richmond.admissions@achievingforchildren.org.uk

TO ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN YEAR 9 June 2024

Dear parent or carer,

RE: Schools that admit pupils at the beginning of Year 10

You are receiving this letter because the Government has made it a legal requirement that all Local Authorities must write to parents and carers of all pupils in Year 9 to tell them about schools in or within travelling distance of the Local Authority area that admit pupils at the beginning of Year 10.

The Government wishes to ensure that parents and carers are well informed about all the options available for children of this age.

This letter is for information only and it does not mean does not mean that you are required to move your child from your existing school if it is the best option for them.

For the great majority of children the school they are already attending will remain the most appropriate place for them to continue their education. So if this is of no interest to you, please disregard this letter.

University Technical Colleges are set up by universities and business and specialise in one or two technical subjects. In years 10 and 11 they offer a similar GCSE curriculum to a typical secondary school, including English and Maths, as well as their specialist subject. You can find out more at www.utcolleges.org

Studio schools are similar to UTCs in that they have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience. They have a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school. You can find out more at www.studioschoolstrust.org

A list of all schools in the London area which admit pupils into Year 10, together with contact details, can be viewed on Achieving for Children website..

The application process is set out on the website for each school.

I remind you that you do not need to do anything if your option is for your child to remain at their current school.

Yours faithfully,

Samantha Scott
Head of School Admissions