

All this week's news

eBulletin

Friday 20 May 2022

Ham Open Gardens

Sunday 22 May from 12pm to 5pm

On Sunday, the Grey Court School Allotment and Wildlife Club will be taking part in Ham Open Gardens, and will showcase their area to members of the public to raise money for local charities.

Once every two years, this event provides the opportunity to go 'behind the garden wall' of a selection of the most beautiful private gardens in Ham. The event takes visitors on a fascinating journey through a variety of gardens which reflect the diversity of the area's rich history.

This year's *Ham Open Gardens* will include lots for the family to enjoy. Guests will be treated to the sounds of the excellent Salamander Saxophone Quartet, who will be situated on Ham Common and will play a range of classical pieces and requests. In addition, there will be a barbecue on nearby South Avenue run by the local Scout group from 12pm, and delicious home-made teas served from 1pm to 4:30pm at St Thomas Aquinas Church near the pond on Ham Common.

To purchase tickets, please click this [link](#).



School Calendar

21-22 Term dates

22-23 Term dates

23-24 Term dates

Events

2022 GCSE, GCE & BTEC Summer Exam Timetable

EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB TIMETABLE

Summer Sports' Timetable

The School Menu

Breakfast Club

Daily from 7:45am to 8:15am

THE NOTICE BOARD

PA 
Appeal

GoFundMe

Digital Screens
for Science 

CLEAR YOUR CUPBOARD...

If you have **any Grey Court uniform** that your child no longer needs, please consider donating it to **The Uniform Shop**. Please contact Ms Niss (sniss@greycourt.org.uk)

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All the action...



from the football tournament

CHAMPIONS



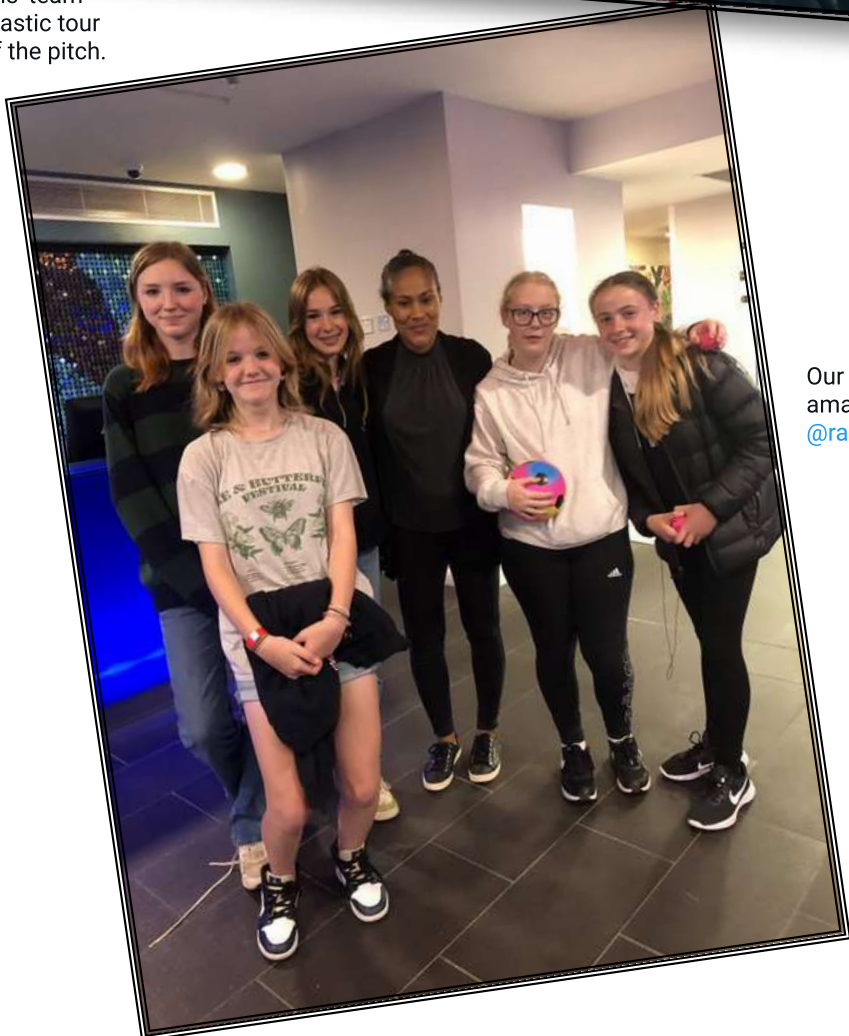
Congratulations to the year 9 football squad who were crowned ESF champions at Bognor over the weekend. An outstanding achievement boys!



Congratulations to our
[@ESF_Football](#)
Outstanding Player
Award Winners for a
brilliant tournament!



The Y8 girls' team
had a fantastic tour
on and off the pitch.



Our Y8 girls and the
amazing
[@rachelyankey11](https://www.instagram.com/rachelyankey11)

The Y7 boys won our last game 2-1 after a superb second half performance. George and Milo with the goals.



A great goal!

Great goal in the last Y7 girls' match from Sara A, coach and girls very happy about a 2-0 win to finish the tournament





We are very proud of Amy and Yana representing Kingston in the [@LdnYouthGames](#) cycling on Sunday, they both performed brilliantly with Amy coming 7th and Yana 14th out of 34th competitors. Thanks to James [@the_cyclecoach](#) for his support throughout



Summer Sports' Timetable

Our **SPORTS' SUPERSTARS** *Congratulations to*

Neve, Bade (Y8), **Skye, Bea** and **Madi** (Y11) who competed in the Basketball England's National Final Fours that took place in Manchester over the May bank holiday weekend.



Read the **article** 'Knights Basketball make Richmond history with National Championship' published on 5 May by James Merchant



Richmond
Rugby



MULTI SPORT CAMP

**31st May
&
1st June**

£85 for one day, £60 for both days
Camp runs from 10am – 3pm



NEW OFFER!

Early drop off at 8am for £10
Later pick up at 5pm for £10



Open to all abilities, everyone welcome!

**All coaches are at least RFU level 2 qualified
& DBS checked**

Rugby, Football, Cricket, Ping pong & more!

To book your Half Term Camp places scan here



or

**CLICK
HERE**

Richmond Rugby Club - Athletic Ground - Twickenham Road - TW9 2SF

Email: communitydept@richmondrc.co.uk Call: 07975 506 881

Y7

Mr Day

Today our students participated in mufti day in aid of the Ukraine appeal. It was excellent to see so many students contribute to the appeal.

On Wednesday students completed their latest PDW morning. This time students looked at periods and attraction. During my walks around the classes I was pleased to see all students behaving excellently and contributing responsibility to the sessions.

Next week is the last week before half-term. We have reiterated to students that we have high expectations of all students right up until the half-term.

We're so incredibly proud...

See our year 9 boys in the County Cup Final. We have enjoyed a great season and thank them for all their hard work. Dylan scored our goal in the final following a superb cross field pass from Elijah.



Y8+Y9

Mr Ridley

A huge well done to all the year 8 students that have just sat their end of year examinations. I hope the results that you receive justify the hard work that you put into your revision!

The year 9 end of year exams will be after we come back from half-term, and the revision booklet will be distributed very soon.

Students worked well during the PDW focus morning on Wednesday, and a big thank you to all the tutors who led those sessions.

We're so incredibly proud...

of our year 9 boys football team, who made it through to the County Cup Final against Hampton Boys' Independent School. This is the first Grey Court team to make it that far in the competition since a certain Declan Rice's year group, all those years ago. The final was held on Tuesday in Dorking and the boys were fantastic and took the lead, only narrowly missing out on going 2 nil up. Unfortunately, Hampton Boys managed to equalise and then steal the win with a second goal. The end result was 2-1, but what a phenomenal achievement to get all the way to the final, considering the strength of football in Surrey. Congratulations to the team.



The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create -

Barack Obama

Do you remember, back at the Mogos, when Mr Rhodes made the announcement of the launch of the Grey Court Visual and Performing Arts scholarship, there were audible, incredulous, gasps of disappointment from our current year 7's who would have loved the opportunity to study more arts in the curriculum...sorry guys, but stand by GC for our first cohort of VPA scholars in September '22.

We are overwhelmed by the level of interest in, and the volume of applications for, our inaugural scholarship, starting in September, and had the very difficult job of offering invitations and creating a waiting list. The calibre is a little daunting with such a wealth of talent and experience in these year 6 artists, sculptors, musicians, directors and actors.

We cannot wait to welcome them and are hoping for a kick-start to their GC experience with tour of a local theatre before they've even left year 6! We'll also invite them in to see our upcoming production of **Legally Blonde**....tickets on sale soon!



GCSE Exams

We have been so impressed with our year 11 students as they started their GCSE exams this week. They have ticked off some significant milestones in their exam timetable and we hope that students are feeling happy or happy enough with how their exams have gone. We have one more week before a break during half term.

Please can I stress that students don't have study leave and should not leave the school site at any point. When students do leave the site without permission it creates a significant safeguarding concern for us and you can imagine there is some fairly frantic searching taking place to locate the student. As a school we don't have study leave as we believe it does not allow students to maximise their potential. Instead, we completely rewrite the timetable for year 11 students so they each receive revision lessons from their teachers before each exam they face. Therefore, students will have received a new **Passport to Success Timetable**, from the 16 May, to take them through the exam season.

The school day will run in a similar way with regards to timings:

8.30am: go to registration or line up for their exam

P1 & 2: normal timings for Passport revision sessions or an exam

Break as normal

P3 & 4: normal timings for Passport revision sessions

P5 & 6: normal timings for Passport revision sessions or an exam

2.45pm: PM registration

2.55pm: dismissed (this might be slightly later for students taking an exam in the afternoon who have extra time)

Please look out for Ms Weston's letter that outlines all the details for Record of Achievement Assembly, ROA, the Prom and leavers' hoodies.

Year 10 Exams

Year 10 students will sit their end of year exams in the weeks of 20 June and 27 June. A revision booklet that outlines each topic and additional support will be sent home next week. In addition, the year 10 exam timetable will also be sent home next week.

Important Information

Please click on the links below to view the activities per year group, and remember to fill in the Google form and make payment before the **27 May** deadline.

Year 7 Letter

Year 8 Letter

Year 9 Letter

Year 10 Letter



Summer Activity Week

11 - 13 July

Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick

by Mr Clements

It is currently the Summer Season in Grey Court which means that I get to spend my lunchtimes supervising the students on the field. I am not sure who enjoys this festival of fun more, but I do get the impression (from observing my year 10 English class) that many students are obsessively preoccupied with playing some sort of ball game at lunchtime. I therefore journey to the field with a Sainsbury's bag full of balls I have confiscated or found on the roof or in the brambles over the past year and distribute these to eager groups of Year 10,11 and 12 students.

Pride of place in the Sainsbury's bag is a 1998 Champions League Ball from the home leg of a Pathonaikos versus Arsenal tie which was bequeathed to my two sons by my dad's Greek neighbour on the Bognor Riviera. The neighbour, Stathis, claims to have been on the bench during the game and was a good friend of Stratos "the turbo" Apostolakis who played in the tie, which Arsenal incidentally won 2 - 1. However, when pumped up this ball was so hard it appeared to have been stitched together with pieces of The Parthenon and stuffed with some missing bits of the Elgin marbles. As, like many modern spoilt and indulged children, my sons will only play on 4G pitches with Champions league balls made of gas-filled micro-balloons of equal size, the 90s relic sat in the shed until, in a grand gesture of magnanimity worthy of a Mr Rhodes Christmas gift pouch, I bequeathed it to Grey Court!

Since I have relayed this tale to the students - they now literally fight to have the privilege of playing with this Champions League antique. In fact Ms Higham has reported that when I had to miss a lunchtime for an appointment (which Faizan Egiz) has speculated was for hair transplant) a bout of wailing and mass flagellation broke out that was so loud we received complaints from the Priest at St Thomas of Aquinas church whose matins had been interrupted

by supersonic noise levels emanating from our verdant school field.

With regards to ball games alongside the requisite jumpers for goalposts style "pick-up" games that speckle the field like islands in a South Pacific archipelago, the more skilful and considered students will play endless concentric rounds of keepy-uppy. However the year 11s seem to have perfected a hybrid of quidditch, rugby and murder ball which involves a student such as Marcus Rodgers launching the ball high up into the stratosphere, a large group massing like a rugby XV for a line-out, a collective leap, and an individual attempt to lump, kick, headbutt, flick, volley, or bundle the ball into a goal hat has been reversed and chained up by the PE department! This is accompanied by yells of delight and lots of caressing one another until the ball invariably ricochets off George Davis' mullet into the brambles.

This is the point where the very large oak bough that I carry around the school comes into its own as I am then required to wade into the bramble bush, parting it like the red sea with repeated swipes of the stick, until a ball is recovered and returned to the gleeful pack. I do get the impression that most of them would unthinkingly spend their summers engaged in this pursuit up until they are at least 25, at which point they will have probably qualified as PE teachers.

Richmond's Volunteer Fair

Thursday 26 May 2022, 2pm - 6pm

Looking to volunteer with a local organisation?



Be part of Team Richmond

Come and meet a great range of local groups

RHACC, Parkshot, Richmond, TW9 2RE

Register for your place now

<https://richmondsvolunteerfair22.eventbrite.co.uk>

We'll keep you updated with important event information



SCAN ME



***have fun - gain skills - make friends
make a difference***

t: 020 8843 7940

e: volunteer@richmondcvcs.org.uk

www.richmondcvcs.org.uk

Registered charity number 1075259



PDW *update*

Ms James

On Wednesday of this week, students enjoyed our penultimate PDW Focus Morning, and discussed and explored the following topics:

Year 7: Rethink Periods and 'Feeling attraction'

Year 8: Drugs and the Law and the Influence of drugs and alcohol on decision making

Year 9: Inclusion, belonging and extremism, and Metacognition - how do we learn?

Year 10: Dealing with provocation and Post-16 options



Wellbeing



Help with Exams

Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period. Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour.

It's worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and thinking about how you will react and respond on the day if they don't get the result that they, or you, are hoping for.

Guides for parents

Exam time

Manage exam stress

ADHD Embrace News



Click [here](#) for news and events

WELLBEING SUPPORT GROUP



**Come and meet Billie from the charity MIND
for support and advice to improve your
emotional wellbeing**

**Every Thursday 3.30pm to 4.30pm
at Ham Youth Centre**

A safe space where you can talk about uncomfortable feelings you are having such as anxiety and depression.

Realise you are not alone and learn strategies to deal with these feelings and ways you can boost your mental health.

Ham Youth Centre, Ham Close, Ham TW107PL

For 11 to 19 year olds



**achieving
for children**



Careers' Update

FOLLOW THAT DREAM



Careers' Update

by Miss Corrighan, Head of Careers and Career Advisor



Can you HELP our sixth formers by offering a work experience opportunity? Work experience will be held for our year 12s in July, and we are looking to place the last few students. This could be in person or virtual. We appreciate many people aren't back in offices yet and hybrid working is the new way of life for some! However, if you would like to support us, please get in touch with Miss Corrighan (bcorrighan@greycourt.org.uk) for more information.

#Y10 PDW Day was held on Wednesday and our year 10 students looked at their post-16 options. They used a great programme ([Unifog](#)) to look at careers, colleges, universities, apprenticeships and much more.

During the summer term, they will have careers interviews to discuss the next steps after year 11. In addition, year 10 will also take part in an university trip and careers' day as part of activities' week.

OPENDAYS

College/Sixth Form Open Events

Click **here** to see all the college/sixth form open days

Career Opportunities

Some interesting opportunities came through for our sixth form students, but would be of equal interest to our KS4 students and their parents/carers. See the [18/05/2022 Careers opportunities](#) for a range of opportunities from work experience, university tasters, careers events & much more!

The UCAS Cycle for 2023 Has Begun

We hope the parents who attended our Higher Education Evening on 12 May found it useful and edifying. The presentations shown are linked below:

[Grey Court Higher Education Evening 2022](#)

[Royal Holloway University Higher Education Presentation](#)

Year 12s started the UCAS university application process this week. They were shown a presentation from Royal Holloway and then all students logged into UCAS to register and to start entering their personal details. We will be supporting year 12s through every step of the application process and expect that all sections of UCAS forms are completed (except University/Course choices) before they leave for the summer break. This includes having a good first draft of a personal statement loaded into UCAS.

Please bear in mind that when a student submits their application it comes to the school and not directly to UCAS. We then add predicted grades and a reference before sending it to UCAS.



Life Skills Enrichment Session at Kew Gardens

We are very fortunate that 'Mind' has organised a Life Skills Wellbeing Session at Kew Gardens on 25 May. This amazing trip to Kew Gardens to see how plants and outdoor life can benefit our mental health. We only have 60 places available for the trip which will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Year 12s should use [this form](#) to sign up for a space.



Stars of the Week

Felix Stone: for a fantastic work experience interview! He dressed to impress and was well prepared by showing an interest in some of the charity work the company had done in Zambia. Felix is going to Lipmann Walton & Co Ltd who are based opposite the stunning grounds of Hampton Court and deal in Metal Trading.

George Butler: for securing an amazing placement with KPMG due to networking at our careers talks and sheer perseverance, well done George!

Melissa Kennedy: for gaining a place at the Prestigious London College of Fashion summer school in July.

Holly-Anne Sheahan-Lambert: for receiving a Jack Petchey award for her amazing photography skills.



Student Leadership Elections

A reminder that your application needs to be with Mr Taylor by Friday 27 May.

Elections will take place during the week beginning 13 June

Miss Fincham's Oxbridge Update

Students attended an Oxbridge meeting on Monday. We discussed and edited their supercurricular records in preparation for writing the first drafts of personal statements. . Students confirmed their chosen degree subject and research entry requirements and past exam papers. Students were also provided with a link to the EPQ preparation course to begin planning for this AS if they are currently on three A levels.

For those interested in a Law degree there is a Law in Action event which you can book. See the link in the Oxbridge classroom.

MedSoc

The medical society was once again supported by Dr Ella Van Den Begin. This week they focused on the UCAT and BMAT exams. The registration, application, revision and testing itself was addressed with Dr Van Den Begin sharing some useful tips alongside the key information. UCAT registration opens on Tuesday next week and pupils should register as soon as they can. Pupils can register **here** and key dates are also on this page.

The next MedSoc session will be after half term when the pupils will be focusing on their personal statement and ensuring it is customised for a medical application. Pupils should be working on the first drafts of their statements in advance of this session.

Weekly Opportunities Bulletin
18/05/2022 Careers opportunities

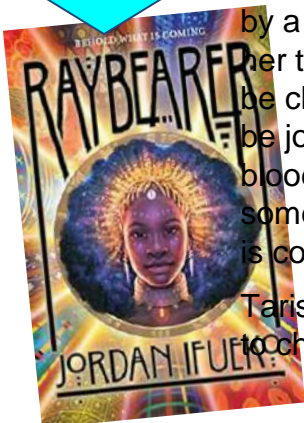
Book of the Week

Lyrical and bewitching, Ifueko's lush fantasy hinges on a sinister Council and the bond that both unites and destroys its members.

'Only one thing is more powerful than a wish, and that is a purpose.'

Tarisai has always longed for the warmth of a family. She was raised in isolation by a mysterious, often absent mother known only as The Lady. The Lady sends her to the capital of the global empire of Aritsar to compete with other children to be chosen as one of the Crown Prince's Council of Eleven. If she's picked, she'll be joined with the other Council members through the Ray, a bond deeper than blood. That closeness is irresistible to Tarisai, who has always wanted to belong somewhere. But The Lady has other ideas, including a magical wish that Tarisai is compelled to obey: kill the Crown Prince once she gains his trust.

Tarisai won't stand by and become someone's pawn - but is she strong enough to choose a different path for herself?



Jordan Ifueko is a Nigerian American writer of fantasy and young adult fiction. Her mother is from the Yoruba tribe while her father is from the Bini tribe. She is best known for her novel *Raybearer*, which became a New York Times bestseller. She also writes short stories, which have been published in *Strange Horizons*.

Ifueko's debut novel *Raybearer*, inspired partly by her West African heritage, was nominated for the Andre Norton Award and the Goodreads Choice Award for best Debut Novel and best Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction. The novel was honoured as one of the American Library Association's (ALA) Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults and ALA Top Ten Best Fiction.



In September 2021, it was announced that Netflix will be adapting *Raybearer* into a television series.

AR Stars of the Week

Accelerated Reader Stars are chosen because they have excelled at Accelerated Reader, whether it is because they have passed a lot of quizzes, earning lots of points whilst maintaining a high average pass percentage. These particular students should be praised and rewarded.

7 Ash
Charlie Page

7 Beech
Oscar Ballantine
Nikolas Meredith
Freddy Song-Dusoir

7 Cedar
Hashem Abdallah
Alyssia Capper
Isla Reindorp
Nathaniel Woodward

7 Elm
Jessica Collins
Hani El Sayed Ali
Moujan Rezaei

7 Maple
Oscar Black

8aC
Fabian Dobbs
Ilias Ismail
Ki Lodge-William
George McCann

8aL
George Fennell

8aV
Noah Cervantes
Sacha Crivellari
Eva Logan-Wilson
Gabriel Shaw

8aX
Archie Baker Jones
Amelia Davies
Dylan Ellis
Aaron Khiytani

Danilo Pajovic
Ernest Pidduck
Jake Sansbury
Lillian York

8bL
Che Bell
Kipling Scrivener

8bV
Kin-Yee Leung

8bX
Isaac Duru