



Grey Court School  
**eBulletin**

2 December 2022

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# Beautiful *Allotment News* Bulbs and Brilliant Baubles

Grey Court allotment students were busy during lunch break on Tuesday planting dwarf Daffodil bulbs to add a splash of spring colour to the school grounds in the new year.

Students perfected their bulb planting technique with the guidance of Ham United Group volunteers, using bulbs kindly donated by Simon Cavanagh from Richmond Housing Partnership.

Simon explained to students how there are at least a dozen different types of Daffodil each with their unique size and shape. The dwarf Daffodil is more hardy and less likely to get damaged in high winds or heavy rain.



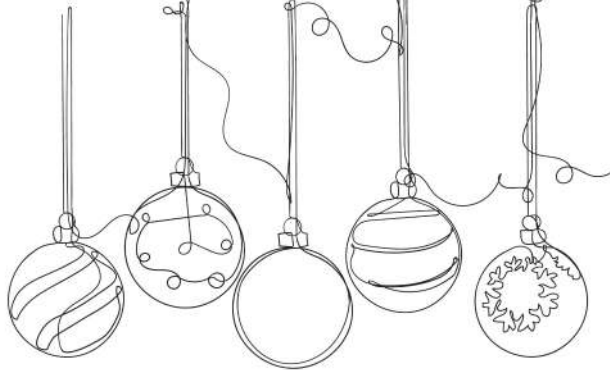




Amongst other activities, students also harvested juicy fresh raspberries and topped up the leaf litter mound with fallen leaves.







Grey Court allotment attendees also joined forces with KS3 VPA scholars to participate in a collaborative project with Ham House. Students spent their free time industriously designing and decorating forty wooden ornamental discs to transform into Christmas tree decorations.

These festive designs will adorn a Christmas display in the grounds at Ham House, to bring some Christmas cheer to the site through the creation of nature inspired Christmas tree decorations.

The display will be located on the south terrace at Ham House, which will also be hosting other seasonal activities.

The VPA scholars will also perform Christmas carols in the gardens at Ham House on the South Terrace on **Wednesday 14 December between 2-3pm.**

Thank you to the VPA department for their support with coordinating this project.

**Ms Munday**



Zachary Pender (Y7)



# The Notice Board

## School Calendar

22-23 Term Dates

23-24 Term Dates

Events

## The Uniform Shop

Open Thursdays

3pm to 4pm

PA Appeal

GoFundMe

Digital Screens  
for Science



easyfundraising  
feel good shopping

## Sports **Timetable**

## Extracurricular **Timetable**

## Breakfast Club

*open everyday*

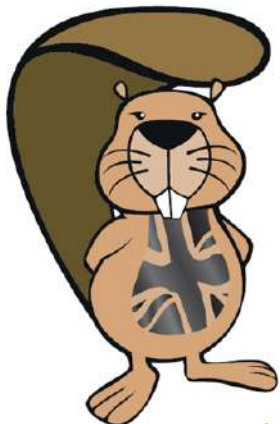
The Silver Canteen  
from 7:45am to 8:15am

## School Menus

**Breakfast Club**

**Weekly**

# What is Bebras?



- The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students.
- It is organised in over 50 countries.
- The top 10% of all participants are invited to participate in a second challenge. The Oxford University Computing Challenge.
- 765 students took part in the challenge this year from Grey Court School from years 7 to 13.
- Certificates are awarded by points all students will receive either a: participation, merit, distinction and best in school (for the top scorer in each age category).
- Students and parents will receive these directly via email.
- 65 students have been invited to the Oxford University Computing Challenge which takes place in the week beginning 16 Jan 2023. Ms Teague will be in contact with these students individually to explain next steps.



**UK Bebras 2022**

## **The following students were awarded a Best in School Certificate:**

### **Junior Competition (year 7)**

Josie Bryant (7E)

### **Intermediate Competition (years 8 and 9) Joint Top Scorers:**

Joseph Bailey (Y8)

Isik Bade (Y9)

### **Seniors (years 10 and 11)**

Xavier Mtandabari (Y10)

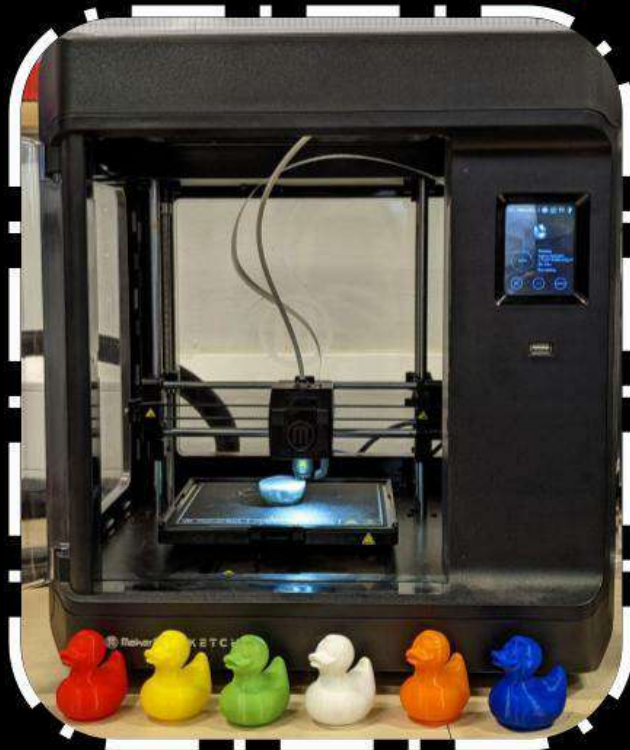
### **Elite (years 12 and 13)**

Mikel Van Dyk (Y12)



**DO YOU NEED A NEW WOGGLE FOR SCOUTS?**  
**DO YOU NEED A NEW FIDGET TOY?**  
**DO YOU WANT TO LEARN A NEW SKILL?**  
**DO YOU JUST WANT TO USE THE 3D PRINTER?**  
**USE OURS!**

**YOU CAN COME TO  
CREATIVE COMPUTING  
CLUB ON A WEDNESDAY  
(3-4PM IN T1) AND  
DESIGN SOMETHING  
YOURSELF OR MAKE ONE  
AT HOME OR FIND A FILE  
YOU WANT TO PRINT ON  
THINGYVERSE!**



**SO FAR WE'VE PRINTED: DUCKS, WHISTLES, ARTICULATED FISH SKELETON, A  
WORLD CUP, DOOR STOPS, GYROSCOPIC KEYRINGS AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**WE HAVE NEW COLOURED FILAMENT AND CHARGE TOP  
PER GRAM. COME AND SEE MS TEAGUE IN T1 FOR  
MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST A 3D PRINT !**

*An appeal from a parent*



HELP

*us Support Maggie*



# #Match4Maggie

## We are asking for help for a family friend!

14-year-old Maggie is currently in hospital and urgently needs a stem cell transplant to cure her Acute Myeloid Leukaemia.

It's a race against time looking for a near perfect match from anywhere in the world through the international stem cell registry. It could be anyone - regardless of gender, blood type etc. It could be you. To give Maggie - and all the other blood cancer patients in desperate need - the best chance of finding their match, we urgently need to get thousands more people on that database.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

REGISTER FOR A FREE SWAB TEST: It takes one minute to fill out an online form to check your eligibility and register for a free swab kit. For those aged 16-30, register through

[www.anthonynolan.org](http://www.anthonynolan.org)

and for those aged 30-55, registration is best through

[www.dkms.org.uk](http://www.dkms.org.uk).



Thank you.

Emma Gibbons on behalf of the Banyard family

[www.match4maggie.com](http://www.match4maggie.com)

# CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

*raising money for Grey Court School*

**Spread a little cheer this Christmas.....**

Order a mixed case from Taylors Fine Wine and you'll be doing 2 amazing things:

- Supporting your local independent retailer
- Raising money for Grey Court School

Taylors have discounted their mixed cases so you get a good deal and GreyCourt gets a donation for every box purchased.

**Cheers!**

The offer applies to any mixed boxes.

1. Visit [www.taylorsfinewine.co.uk](http://www.taylorsfinewine.co.uk)
2. Choose your mixed case(s)
3. Put "greycourt" in the comments box when you purchase.

## *Christmas comes to* **THE PALM CENTRE**

*Come choose from hundreds of premium quality Christmas trees of all sizes, wreaths, stands, and winter flowering plants.*

**MENTION GREY COURT SCHOOL TO OUR SALES TEAM  
FOR 25% OF THE TREE SALE TO GO TO THE SCHOOL!**

*Open 7 days a week in December, in Ham St, TW10 7HA  
Mon - Sat from 9 AM untill dusk, Sun from 10 AM until dusk.*

[www.palmcentre.co.uk](http://www.palmcentre.co.uk)

# Year 7 News

We are quickly approaching the last two weeks of term. We have lots to look forward to, including celebration assembly, the Xmas panto and tonight the year 7 disco!

A quick reminder about our food donations for Christmas. The collection box is based in reception and we are looking for tinned items or biscuits so that we can spread some cheer amongst our elderly.

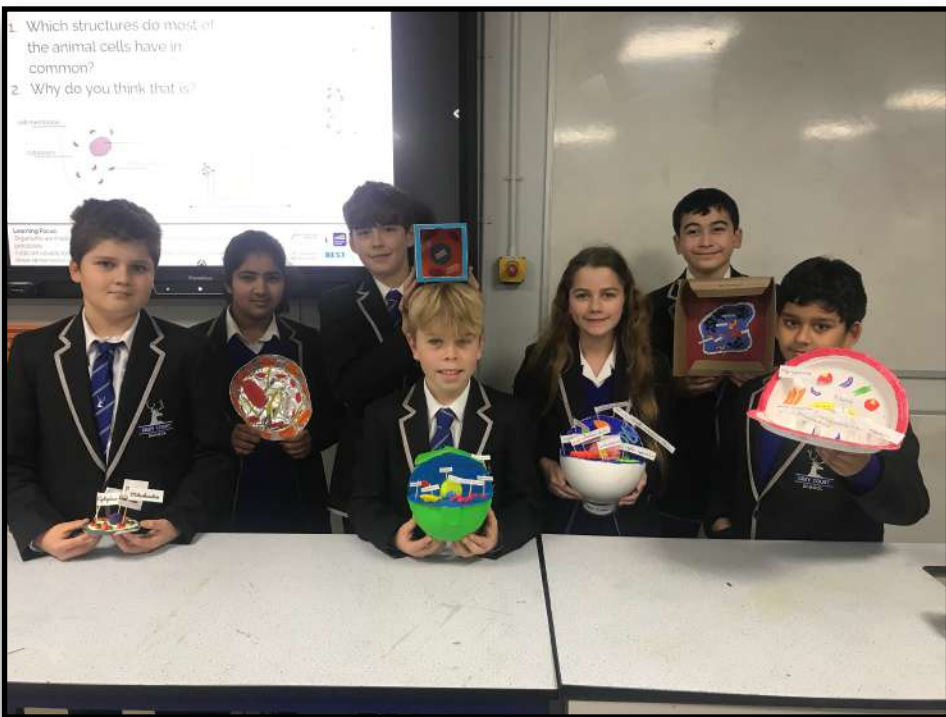
As the weather turns colder a reminder that students may wish to wear coats, hats and scarves to keep themselves warm. As the night darkens earlier cyclists are reminded of the importance of lights for their bikes and wearing bright clothing for safety.

**Mr Day**





This half-term in science, year 7 have been studying cells, the basic building blocks of life, with Ms Holmes. Here are some of the class proudly displaying their 3D models which they made at home from resources they could find. Well done to all those who used their creativity to produce some excellent models.



# Year 8 News

This week 8 Ash have kick started their GRADU8 enterprise challenge! This is where every student is given £1 and try to turn it into as much profit as possible in one week. All year 8 tutor groups will get a week allocated for this throughout the year. This week we have had 8 Ash selling treats in the playground - they are going like hotcakes! Some students have taken to washing cars to raise their money; others have even set up shop outside their home selling loaves of bread! 8 Ash has done a fantastic job at working together and re-investing their profits. Hopefully 8 Beech can rise to the challenge when it is their turn in January!



# Year 9 News

It was fantastic to welcome the year 9 students and parents back in for Academic Tutoring Day last week. The day ran very smoothly, and we have received some lovely feedback from the parents regarding their child's progress and the ongoing support of the school. A reminder to all year 9 students that if you have not written your 2 SMART Targets into your planner, please remember to do so as we will be reviewing your progress.

*Academic Tutoring Day*

Last week in assembly, Mr Gundry spoke about the impact on plastics on the environment and showed the students the huge amount of plastics that students have collected for the Science Department over the past month. All of the plastic will be used to create a sculpture for the school to reduce it going into landfill. This week we are joined by Mr Murphy, where he will be focusing on the topic of '*achieving your potential*' - something that will continue to be a focus with GCSE options within sight! **This week's top 5 achievers are: Sacha Crivellari, Brook Quinton, Daniel Thorz, Oliver Hislop and Emily Phipps. Well done for continuing to show engagement, enthusiasm and focus! Keep it up!**

*Assemblies*

A reminder that although the weather is getting colder, students still need to follow the uniform policy and hoodies are not to be worn in school.

- Ms Howarth

*School Uniform*

*Top Achievers*

This week's top 5 achievers are: Sacha Crivellari, Brook Quinton, Daniel Thorz, Oliver Hislop and Emily Phipps. Well done for continuing to show engagement, enthusiasm and focus! Keep it up!



# ATTENDANCE

## *Matters!*

Top tutor and year group attendance for the week beginning the 28 November

<b>Tutor Group</b>	Attendance %
7 Beech	<b>98.8%</b>
8 Ash	<b>97.5%</b>
9 Beech	<b>96.6%</b>
10 Cedar	<b>94.8%</b>
11 Maple	<b>96.4%</b>

<b>Year Group</b>	Attendance %
Y7	<b>97.1%</b>
Y8	<b>95.4%</b>
Y9	<b>93.6%</b>
Y10	<b>94.0%</b>
Y11	<b>95.1%</b>

# LAMDA

## Classes at Grey Court

**Starting January 2023  
for Year 7 - Year 10**

### 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](http://www.elizabethsamuelsdrama.com/greycourtregistration)

# #Y10

Students have been reminded again this week about conduct both in school and outside and around our local community. On the whole, I am incredibly proud of how year 10s conduct themselves and act as positive role models for the rest of the school and younger pupils. I would like them to uphold this out of school, especially when on buses and when in places with the general public so that the esteemed Grey Court reputation is maintained. Mr Rhodes and tutors will also be building on this next week in assembly and tutor times, with a specific focus on appropriate language and behaviour.

Reports are being emailed out to parents that were unable to attend Academic Tutoring Day. Please endeavour to speak with your child's tutor if you were unable to attend Academic Tutoring Day so that you can help your son/daughter track their progress and facilitate target planning for the remainder of the year.

With two weeks left to go, we are having our final push on Attendance and Achievement - those with the best attendance and conduct points will be celebrated in our usual fashion during the last week of term. Well done to Cedar with the best attendance this week at 94.8% - still a little shy of our 96% attendance you target. Year total was 94% this week - I'm being optimistic and hoping for 100% for the last two weeks of term!

**Ms Clark**

# KS4 News

# #Y11

After a busy week knuckling down with trial exams, I want to congratulate my wonderful year group on their excellent behaviour during this time. The mock exams are a stressful time for Y11, but watching you all line up everyday prepared and ready, walking around the school site revising and preparing for the upcoming exams, is great to see! I hope you all take this weekend to reflect, rest and decompress, so that you can enjoy the rest of the Autumn term.

As we draw close to the end of 2022 it is crucial that we make the most out of the days we have left of Y11. Well done to 11 Maple who smashed it this week being the highest achieving form with 96.4% let's try to get as close to 100% over the next couple of weeks. Additionally, a huge well done to 11 Rowan, who are steaming ahead with 687 achievement points. Countdown to the celebration assembly!

Lastly, parents if you were unable to come to ATD reports will be sent out electronically this week. If you wanted to speak to myself or the KS4 but didn't get a chance to please send an email to [lcomrie@greycourt.org.uk](mailto:lcomrie@greycourt.org.uk).

**Ms Comrie**



# Languages

## STARS OF THE WEEK

8	<b>Niccolo De Ceglie</b>	French	Excellent contributions
9	<b>Daniel Bite</b>	French	Excellent engagement in class
11	<b>Sofia Sehgal</b>	French	Excellent contributions
12	<b>Otti Day</b>	French	Excellent contributions
13	<b>Euan Janes</b>	French	Extremely hardworking and motivated
8	<b>Coco Mtandabari</b>	German	Excellent contributions
9	<b>Omran Walli</b>	German	Excellent engagement in class
10	<b>Erin Napper</b>	German	Excellent engagement in class
11	<b>Victoria Mendrala</b>	German	Excellent progress in the subject
7	<b>Erin Stoller</b>	Spanish	Outstanding achievement
8	<b>Luca Grima</b>	Spanish	Excellent engagement in class
9	<b>Philine Zoeller</b>	Spanish	Excellent test results
10	<b>Xavier Mtandabari</b>	Spanish	Excellent test results
11	<b>Jannat Haidrani</b>	Spanish	Excellent progress in the subject
12	<b>Olivia Castro Doncel</b>	Spanish	Excellent engagement in class
13	<b>Vera Slivoski</b>	Spanish	Excellent contributions
7	<b>Karlo Gordon</b>	Mandarin	Excellent engagement in class
8	<b>Ismaeel Bukhari</b>	Mandarin	Excellent engagement in class
9	<b>Maya Sills</b>	Mandarin	Excellent assessment grade
10	<b>Kihyeon Lim</b>	Mandarin	Excellent engagement in class
11	<b>Pablo Paz-Cundy</b>	Mandarin	Excellent engagement in class

# Christmas Lunch Arrangements

The cost of the Christmas lunch is **£3** (drinks not included).

Please can parents ensure that there are sufficient funds in your child's account.

On the day of their Christmas lunch, students who wish to wear a Christmas jumper should pay **£1** towards a donation to **Crisis at Christmas**

<b>Tuesday 13 December</b>	<b>Wednesday 14 December</b>	<b>Thursday 15 December</b>
<b>Year 9</b> 11:35 - 12:20	<b>Year 8</b> 11:35 - 12:20	<b>Year 7</b> 11:35 - 12:20
<b>Year 11</b> 12:25 - 13:05	<b>Year 10</b> 12:25 - 13:05	

Please see the Christmas lunch menu on the next page



# Christmas Menu

**Roast Turkey  
or Butternut Squash Jalousie  
served with  
Roast Potatoes, Roast Vegetables  
Stuffing, & Chicken Sausage,  
Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy**

**\*\*\***

**Followed by  
Chocolate Sponge Roll  
with Vanilla Custard  
or  
Chocolate Ice Cream  
or  
Christmas Puff Pastry Mince Pie Slice**

**Cost is £3 (drinks not included)**



**VPA News**





We are so proud to announce that we have three students involved in this professional production.

**Book your tickets**



## The Merchant of Venice is finally trading!

"The energy in the room was amazing", said a member of the VPA team who dropped in to see what was going on in the drama studio after school on Monday. We were auditioning students from year 9 to year 12 for the various roles in our forthcoming abridged version of the Shakespeare classic to be directed by Mr Taktak. After some exercises and warm up work (*all were so committed and demonstrated amazing skills, in small groups, becoming a whisk!*) the students were given quite challenging scripts to work from and show their product to their peers. Each group seemed to have an understanding so quickly and produced amazing excerpts. Well done to the English team as most year 10 I remembered fondly from their year 8 studies. All the students who auditioned were brilliant and showed such enthusiasm and talent. It was incredibly hard to allocate the parts to the actors, and all were given roles, so we can announce that "The MoV Theatre Company" is formed! Congratulations all.

We are so excited to get started and, of course, welcome any support from staff and students interested in helping with set, costumes, poster design, and stage management who can commit to Mondays after school.

Our intention is to direct a short Shakespeare that makes year 8 students interested and enjoy it! Wish us good luck.

### Mr Page and Mr Taktak





# *This week's* **VPA scholarship news**

## **MUSIC**

In Music, we focused on our upcoming performances and spent our lesson learning Christmas carols in preparation for the performance at Ham House on Wednesday 14 December. The students sound fantastic already, so this should be a fantastic performance!



## Thursday 8 December

### **The Frog Prince: Christmas Pantomime & Concert**

The Grey Court School Christmas Concert & Pantomime will be held on Thursday 8 December from 6:30pm in the School Hall.

Tickets: £6 (adult) and £4 (children) via ScoPay

## Wednesday 14 December

### **VPA Scholar Christmas Carol Performance at Ham House**

The VPA scholars will be performing in Ham House on Wednesday 14 December from 2-3pm. The Christmas decorations will be up which will feature some created by the scholars themselves.



**Photo:** Decorations created by VPA scholars



# *Grey Court Christmas*

*Concert & Pantomime 2022*



*By Amanda Burton  
&*

*KS3 Drama Club  
6.30pm School Hall  
Thursday 8th Dec*

Adult £6    Child £4  
Tickets Via Scopay



# PDW + Wellbeing



# PDW

This Week

## Thursday 1 December

**Year 7:** How does media impact democracy?

**Year 8:** How can we identify eating disorders?

**Year 9:** What are the right reasons for choosing your GCSE Option subjects?

**Year 10:** Examples of extremist organisations eg Right Wing attack on Immigration centre

**Year 11:** N/A - Exams

## Friday 9 December

**Year 7:** What does it mean to British and what are British values?

**Year 8:** Who is to blame for an 'epidemic of negative body image' in the UK? The impact of media on relationships

**Year 9:** What is Neurodiversity? What is Autism and how is it an example of variation and uniqueness?

**Year 10:** RS/Computing

**Year 11:** Is Porn realistic? Realistic expectations and experiences

Next Week



*"The greatest gift  
you can give anyone  
is your time."*

At Grey Court, the health and wellbeing of our community is very important to us, especially to the Health and Social Care students as it underpins what we learn everyday. With the festive season fast approaching, sadly many people around us may experience feelings of loneliness, sadness and isolation.

This is why we are advocating for the **1 MILLION MINUTES CAMPAIGN** where we all can pledge our time to various charities that tackle the issues of loneliness. This can be donating your time on a regular basis or just as a one-off occasion. These charities include [CRISIS](#), [CARERS UK](#), or [ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK](#), and so many more.

What a great way to strengthen our community and make somebody feel special. You may have seen this on ITV's Good Morning Britain but here is the link for more information [1 MILLION MINUTES](#)

**Mrs Braham**





## Telephone Support Service for Parents from Off The Record Twickenham



Off the Record Twickenham provides a telephone support service for parents & guardians of young people. Our experienced counsellor can offer an hour on the phone to discuss any challenges you're experiencing, give support and listen. This can be particularly helpful when the young person is reluctant to try counselling. Our support can include looking at what you find challenging and/or ways you might support your child. What is discussed is confidential unless there is a concern about the safety of a child. Contact Off The Record Twickenham on 020 8744 1644, at [counselling@otrtwickenham.com](mailto:counselling@otrtwickenham.com) or find more information about supporting your child on our [website](#)

## Mental Health Workshops

Achieving for Children are holding mental health support workshops on different areas of children and young people's mental health for parents at Grey Court School

Please note that these workshops are for adults only. The dates and booking links are as follows:

5 December: **Body Confidence and Healthy Eating Workshop** at 6.30pm

16 January: **Self-Harm Workshop** at 6.30pm.



## **Kooth Winter Wellbeing / We're still here!**

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online Mental Wellbeing Community for young people. It is available through smart phone, tablet or computer and features activities, self-help articles, discussion boards and a team of accredited counsellors and emotional wellbeing practitioners who provide guided and outcome-focused support for each individual.

This is a fun session for young people where we will be exploring lots of interesting and safe ways to look after our wellbeing during the winter and how Kooth can help. Come along for this 1 and chase away those winter blues!

Please be aware you have registered through Eventbrite and they have their own privacy policy. We, at Kooth plc, do not store or pass on your personal data that is collected through your registration.

\*Please note this session is for young people only. You will receive the event link to your email prior to the start of the session\*

**Kooth Winter Wellbeing / We're Still Here! Tickets:  
Monday 12 December at 9:30 | Eventbrite**



# Exam Invigilators

A great opportunity  
for flexible work!

We are looking to appoint invigilators on a casual contract for the internal and public exams which are held sporadically from December to July. Invigilation will include the distribution and collection of exam scripts, stationery to students, and ensuring that the exam rules and regulations are adhered to by students and staff at all times. Previous invigilation experience is not essential as training and guidance will be provided.

## **Shifts**

Morning: 08:00 to 11:30 and/or

Afternoon: 12:30 to 16:00

Flexibility is required for finish times as exams can be shorter/longer.

## **Hourly Rate**

£11,00 per hour

**Application:** Please contact Mr Gordon Walker  
([twalker@greycourt.org.uk](mailto:twalker@greycourt.org.uk)) if you are interested.

## **Closing Date**

Submit your application by 12 December.

If you have not heard back from the school after submitting your application, please consider your application unsuccessful.



# LOVE SINGING?

Come and join our new choir - exclusively for Sixth Formers!

Speak to Miss Cowper for more details or scan the QR code below to sign up.

All of these are beneficial for students!

---

## Benefits of singing:

- Increased memory function
- Relief of stress
- A way of expressing yourself
- Confidence boost
- Builds a sense of community
- Improved mental wellbeing



# Lucky Luca

Mr Clements

*In an act of delegation that would make master of the blind pass, Mr Bashford, proud, 'I bequeathed on my young year 12, English protege, Luca Mohanty, the task of penning this week's eBulletin entry - a match report on the U18 trophy final. When he stared in a dazed and confused way at me and uttered the immortal words: "How do I write," (Rather worrying for a student studying A-level English literature!) I provided the following advice: start with a cheesy pun and read the Guardian's rugby match reports for inspiration!*

*I think that young Luca has done rather well, especially as this arrived five minutes before Thursday's 12 midnight deadline and followed Luca's appearance at our Friends and Founders evening. I think the boy has some talent - which means his mum might now refrain from sending him to boarding school after Christmas! I'm glad I could be of help!*

## **Middlesex Trophy Final** **CATASTROPHY FOR THE STAGS!** **GREYCOURT 28 CARDINAL VAUGHAN 35**

After a promising start to the game with a hard earned opening try from Grey Court's captain, leader and legend Jackson 'JACKO' Knott things were looking up for the boys in blue! However despite Grey Court's brutal efforts in defence Cardinal Vaughan were able to put an easy one past the stags following a quick decision from Vaughan's number eight from a scrum just off the 22 metre line. The pressure was still on for Grey Court's defence as Vaughan shortly fired again, scoring another quick try to end the half leaving the score 7-14 to Cardinal Vaughan at the halfway point. The stag's antlers were truly blunted!

Moreover, heads were high as Grey Court came out firing with several monstrous tackles and runs from Tom Woodward and Reece Pepper giving the boys the energy and hope they needed to find that try to get the stags back in it. With genius footwork from Grey Court's rugby equivalents of a prime MSN: Finn, Raoul and Theo - the stags found themselves just 5 metres away from that game changing try. However, misery struck as a miscommunication led to a blistering Vaughan counter attack to score and make it 7-21.



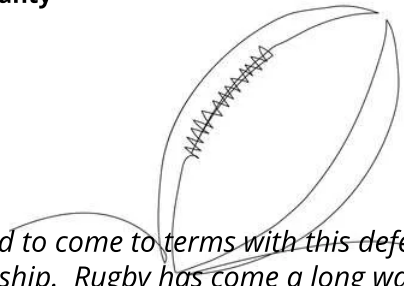
Hope was still up after wise and encouraging words from Jacko the boys demonstrated resilience fighting back instantly. A fluent play of rugby led to a masterclass finish by newcomer, James Axiom in the corner: Greycourt 14 Cardinal Vaughan - 21. The response was immediate and so after several minutes of pure grit and determination from the boys in blue we found ourselves once again 5 metres away from glory! Fortunately, a genius play from Faf De Klerk..... I mean Ruben Mauthner led to the equaliser. Glad to see he has some brains in that massive head of his!

With the momentum now in Grey Court's favour the crowd witnessed some brave runs from Ozee Ogun, charging into the Vaughan defence looking for a line break but nothing came. Greycourt found themselves defending yet another Vaughan scrum with what seemed like kryptonite under their shirts until a sloppy effort in defence led to another score from Vaughan.

Now, with only minutes left the drama intensified after a terrific line break from Gromit Theo Povey who went all the way and managed to score the crucial try for the Stags. The pressure was now on Raoul Thompson with the game on his foot..... Bang! A wonderful strike from Raoul meant the second half ended 28-28 (Still not sure about the moustache though Raoul!)

Once again Greycourt came out flying in the first extra half with an end to end effort from all the boys despite fatigue and the third degree burns from the astroturf. Who thought fake grass was a good idea? Both teams battled on through the final minutes of the match but heartbreak was with Greycourt as the trophy was cruelly snatch from under our hooves! Fortune favoured Cardinal Vaughan with a shifty try on the break to end this thrilling game of rugby!

Match report penned by Grey court's finest rugby player, English student and probably the best looking Renaissance man in the school! **Luca Mohanty**



*Whilst the boys and Mr Murphy have struggled to come to terms with this defeat, they should be proud of their efforts and comradeship. Rugby has come a long way at Grey Court since the Sixth Form's inception in 2014, and Mr Murphy's emotionally intelligent coaching alongside the opportunities it provides for fresh air and the chance for boys from year 11, 12 and 13 to showcase their talents should be applauded. In the end the memories of a glorious defeat in a professional stadium with teammates will probably live longer in the memory than reciting iambic pentameter in my A-level English lessons! So in the words of a sanguine Reece Pepper, "we may have lost but we bonded really well as a team, we'll learn from the experience, and come again stronger next year!"*

*Moreover, the really big sporting event in my life will take place next week when the U18 girls' football team will take on Surbiton girls in their first ever Sixth Form football match. We have a very talented pool of empowered female players this year who are eager to pit their talents against a championship winning Surbiton team. I have been waking up at night pondering the formation I will play - and have ditched the Christmas tree formation in favour of the monkey puzzle! Here's to victory and glory next week!*





SONG  
ACADEMY

EXPRESS  
YOURSELF

# YOUNG SONGWRITER COMPETITION 2023 #SAYS23

STAR JUDGES INCLUDE

CALUM SCOTT  
PLESTED

MIRANDA COOPER

AMY WADGE

EG WHITE

JIMMY NAPES

SACHA SKARBK

HANNAH V

TOM GRENNAN

CRISPIN HUNT

GRACE DAVIES

MICHELLE ESCOFFERY

DAN GILLESPIE SELLS

EMILY PHILLIPS

JANET DEVLIN

MAEGAN COTTONE

## GREAT PRIZES

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- YAMAHA INSTRUMENT UP TO £1,000
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# Sixth Form News





# MOVEMBER

Thank you to all those who contributed. We were able to raise £75 for Movember.

## Year 12 PREFECT TEAM

**Applications** for the next Prefect Team are now open!

Students can apply for Head Prefect roles, or for a position in charge of one of the following areas: Wellbeing, House System, Diversity, Environment.

**Application Deadline:** Friday 9 December.

## Year 12 FRIENDS AND FOUNDERS EVENING

Friends and Founders Evening was once again a huge success, thanks to the fantastic work of Ms Corrighan. Students met with a range of experts in their field, gaining vital insights into different careers and career paths. Students were also able to get advice on CV writing. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who gave up their evening to meet with our sixth formers and offer valuable advice and inspiration!



# STARS OF THE WEEK

We received a lovely email from The Russell School, where students are planning and delivering science lessons:

*"What a lovely bunch of students you've sent us! They went over and beyond on Wednesday and planned a fantastic well-thought out lesson for the children. They used great questioning and have a lovely report with our pupils."*

Well done to **Enya, Ruzgar, Mo and Katie!**

We also received a lovely email from the organisers of 'Let's Go and Learn Outdoors', who are running the Ham Lands conservation project:

*"On behalf of Friends of Latchmere Rec, Friends of Ham Lands, TCV, LGOAL and Richmond's Parks Department, I would like to say a huge thank you to the fabulous Grey Court Ham Lands team for their hard work and energy on Wednesday afternoons. Over the last 2 weeks the group have been coppicing in dense woodland to open up an area. The coppiced stakes will provide a valuable resource to help create barriers near to Latchmere Pond and Ham Pond. Under the inspirational and inclusive mentorship of Danielle Mannion, the young people are collaborating with LGOAL and FoHL to help support the fragile biodiversity on Ham Lands. Their weekly involvement makes a huge difference in supporting critical and sensitive management."*

## Library Leaders

Well done to our new LIBRARY LEADERS, Olivia, Olivia, Sofia, Zara, Noah, Minna, Marwa and Christian, who have put themselves forward for this new role run by Ms Fincham!

# Year 13

## Assessment Week

During assessment week students will be on exam leave for the whole week. Pupils are welcome to attend school to revise if they wish. BTEC Media and Business pupils are required to attend their lessons this week as normal as they do not have mock exams in those subjects.



# Year 13

## Mock Exam Protocols

Please check the seating plans displayed on the magnetic boards in the reception area. You must be wearing your sixth form lanyard as ID to be allowed to enter an exam room. **You must wear your lanyard for the duration of an exam so invigilators can identify you.**

Before an exam you must wait in the sixth form library area. You will be asked to leave your bags in a sixth form room. This is to ensure that any mobile phones are not taken into the exam room. If you have a mobile phone in an exam room it can lead to disqualification of your paper. Please wait until you are told to walk over to the main school gym or CS1. Mr Bhumbra or Ms McNicol will take you to your exam room. As soon as you enter the room you are under exam conditions and so must remain silent.

*Good luck everybody!*



# UCAS

## STARS OF THE WEEK

**Emma Lightfoot, Kenzie Bloomer and Zach Sharif for performing brilliantly at their interviews.**

**Eight Students have heard from all of their choices:**

Thomas Sinclair

Josh Delaney

Shahad Qassab

Arthur Piddick

Eddie Tong

Lily Bryant

Conor Strickland

James Castillo Olley

We are still waiting for quite a few students to submit their forms. Remember that even if you are waiting for your exam results for predicted grades you should still submit your form by going through the 'pay and send' step. This means the form comes to us to add your reference and predictions and we then send it on to UCAS once we have confirmed everything with you.

## *Congratulations*

Huge congratulations to the Sixth Form students who started their lunch time jobs with the canteen - it's lovely to see you around the school and being such wonderful representatives of the Sixth Form.



# Oxbridge UPDATE

We are almost at the end of the process for year 13. At the time of writing we have five students through to interview and they are in the final stages of preparation for interviews which are happening in the next two weeks. Good luck to all of these students. We will find out in mid January how many have secured a place.

This means the process for year 12 will be launched in the new year after the January Mocks. There will be an opportunity for students to sign up to a google classroom if they are interested in taking part in the Oxbridge programme. January mock results will be a good indication for students to see if they are likely to meet the required grade profile.

## EPQ UPDATE

Students should have submitted their draft to the google classroom for feedback from their supervisor. Students will be sent a December checklist via the EPQ google classroom to chart their progress and set work goals for the rest of December into January. As soon as they have completed mocks, students should be using any additional time to get their projects up to date. By January students should be moving towards final drafts of their essay or artefact.

## WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES BULLETIN

See the **weekly opportunities bulletin** to develop your skills and experience and find out about all the latest apprenticeship vacancies : [2/12/2022 Sixth Form Careers opportunities](#)

# Our Sports

## *Weekly Round-Up*







A tough match against [@tiffingirls\\_pe](#) for our U14B team who drew 11-11. Well done to Tess for POM

Well done to the U13 rugby squad who won the Shield competition at the Middlesex Festival. Keep up the hard work boys.



Well played to our U18 team who played against a strong Ewell Castle team. Some fantastic interceptions and shooting today resulting in a win. POM Tilly



**SHOUT OUT:** A lovely message about our students who volunteered at the year 3/4 Richmond Football competition on 1 December: *A special thanks to our Grey Court volunteers who helped set up, refed all the games, recorded the scores and helped with clear up. They make my job very easy and are a critical component in allowing us to run these competitive competitions.* John Kane





Into the 5th round of ESFA with a 3-1 away win

After losing in the first round to eventual winners Whitgift, the Yr 11 boys went on to win the Plate competition at the Regional Champs hosted by Whitgift. It was a pleasure to watch the boys as they played some brilliant table tennis. Well done Daniel, Aaron, Joe and Jamie!



Massive congrats to our U16 girls basketball team who won all their games at the Borough Tournament yesterday! the girls showed great team work and fought to the end against [@StrRCCollege](#). Well done to everyone who took part. Bring on the next stage



Superb victory for the U13 boys football team in the Surrey Cup. This was a great team performance. George R scored our winner with a delightful strike from outside the area. Well done boys.



What a great day for our gymnasts! The squads hard work and effort has paid off as 2 of the teams have qualified for National Finals next year Excellent performances all round with a big shout out to Diana for scoring 16/16 on her vault





# Boys' Player of the Month

## Thomas Barry



So far this year, Thomas has displayed fantastic effort and commitment both in his lessons and in school fixtures. He ran the second fastest time in key stage 3 for the 2.2km school cross country course, with a time of 8 minutes 45 seconds. He also finished 2nd in the Junior Boys race at Harrow in the first round of the ESAA cross country. Last weekend, Thomas travelled to St Alban's with the school for the North London Regional Finals, finishing in an impressive 5th place against a highly competitive field. Thomas has worked hard each week at our Thursday morning running club, most recently developing his speed and power through hill training. This has proved important in honing in on his sprint finish and developing his 'kick' when he gets tired towards the end of races. Up next for Thomas is the Borough cross country on 2nd December. Here he will be leading the line as part of a very strong and highly competitive Junior boys team. Thomas will be wanting to achieve both individual and team success at this competition as well as at the National Finals in Leeds on Saturday 3rd December. We look forward to supporting Tom throughout the year with his running both over cross country and on the track.



# Boys' Scholar of the Month

## Ifan McHardy



It has been a superb month for Ifan who has impressed in a range of sports for the school. In football, he has performed well as a right winger for the A team, scoring some vital goals in important matches. Most recently, he scored a late equaliser in a thrilling Surrey Cup game Vs Hollyfield, helping the U12's to eventually progress through on penalties. Ifan has also done brilliantly in his weekend rugby games for the school, demonstrating both commitment in his defensive duties whilst also posing an attacking threat going forward, with his speed and side step. In gymnastics, Ifan has been training twice a week in the school gym, and is part of our elite junior squad. Finally, Ifan has demonstrated his ability as a fine distance runner, being a valuable member of our Junior Boys cross country team that will be vying for gold at next week's Borough and National competitions.





# Boys' Team of the Month

## Junior Boys' Cross Country Team



What a superb month it's been for our Junior Boys cross country team. On Saturday 12th November they travelled to the North London Regional Finals in St Albans. There were some superb individual performances, including Thomas Barry coming home in 5th, Avery Barikor in 7th, Euan Roberts in 12th and Ifan Mchardy in 14th place. Some outstanding runs against an incredibly high quality field. Last Friday the same boys competed in Sevenoaks at the Junior Knole Run, with standout performances from Avery in 6th and Euan in 12th. Next week, these boys will be toeing the line at Borough cross country on Friday, with high hopes of sealing team gold for Grey Court. They will then be travelling straight up to Leeds for the National Finals the following day, being held at the prestigious Leeds Grammar School. We wish them all the best at both of these events, and for the remainder of the season.



# Girls' Player of the Month

## Ciara Walker



This month's girls player of the month goes to Ciara Walker. Ciara has just been selected for Middlesex U18 Rugby and she starts playing and training with the team next week. This is something that Ciara has been working towards for a number of years now and we are all extremely proud of her achievement.

Not only that but Ciara gives up hours of her free time to help with the girls football, usually in a refereeing capacity and is now also going to help out with some coaching as well.

Ciara also works extremely hard with her BTEC Sport. She is a hard working and conscientious student who has thrown herself into this new course. Ciara is a great role model to the younger students and a very worthy recipient of this month's Player of the Month.

# Girls' Scholar of the Month

## Evelyn Archer



Evie Archer is our scholar of the month for November. She has had an excellent start to her Grey Court sporting career, representing her school in netball, football and cross country. Evie has been dedicated to training for her netball and always works hard, attending early morning sessions and captaining her team in their recent match against Holy Cross where they won 4-2 and she was awarded Player of the Match. Evie has played in the U12 and U13 football teams and plays midfield attack. She has successfully scored a goal for the U12As in their game against Christ's.

At the Regional ESAA Cross Country Finals held in St Alban's, Evie competed up a year group in the combined Yr7/8 squad. She worked hard in the race and finished in 6th place overall! An outstanding run! Evie was also part of the Cross Country team that competed at the prestigious Junior Knole Run earlier this month. She put in a great effort and placed 9th out of 177 runners.

Outside of school Evie plays hockey for Old Kingstonians HC, training and playing matches weekly. Evie runs for St Mary's, training weekly, her hard work paying off at the local Park Run where she ran a 21:05 5km and was selected to represent Richmond at Parliament Hill in the special event held last weekend. Evie also manages to fit in football training and matches for Richmond Park FC.

We are very excited to see Evie progress in each of her sports and activities and congratulate her on the hard work she has put in so far this term. Well done!

# Girls' Team of the Month

## U15A Netball



The U15 Netball team our team of the month! The team has continually developed over the first part of the netball season, working on their attacking and defensive play as a team. After a few tough games and tournaments, the squad still had their spirits high as they entered the Borough Tournament.

Playing against a strong pool of local schools, the team communicated effectively, worked well in their units and made few errors. After drawing with Christs to come 2nd in the pool, they entered the semi finals against pool winners Waldegrave. It was a draw at full time (5-5). Captains Maryse and Grace shared some words of encouragement which resulted in us winning 10-5 in extra time! Grey Court v Christs for the Final. The team remained calm, made fantastic interceptions and scored well under pressure resulting in a WIN! Borough Champions!

The whole team contributed to the win: Maryse, Zia, Grace and Annabel with their excellent interceptions which were converted to goals by Loveday and Olivia. The centre court players Aimee, Rosa, Charlotte and Mia worked relentlessly up and down the court making effective passes and decisions to get the ball to goal. This was a great opportunity for the team to show off the skills they had been working on at training. They were a credit to the school and played their best netball so far this season! Well done all.



# Young Carers in Richmond Borough



## Who are young carers?

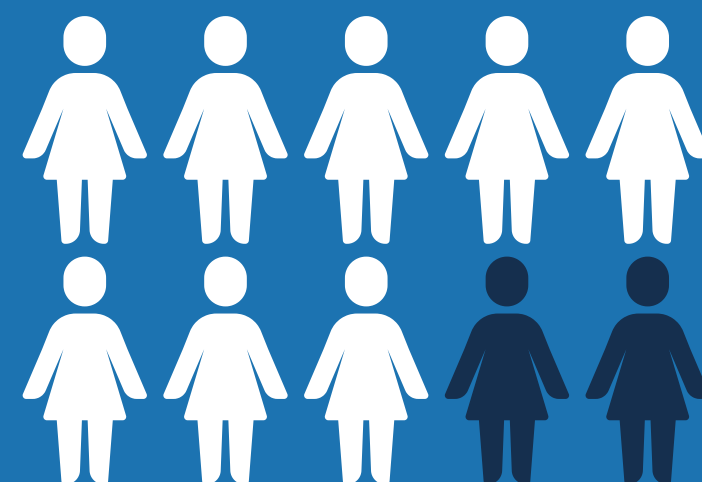
A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.

## How many young carers are there?

There are currently over **500** registered young carers in the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames

**500+**

## Which one is the young carer?



It is estimated that **1 in 5** young people have a caring role at home.

## 13 years old =

The average age of registered young carers in the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames

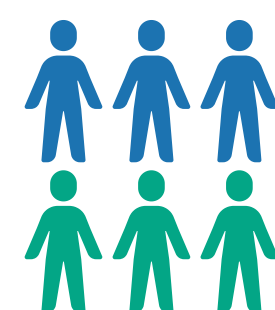
## Richmond Carers Centre offers a range of support to young carers including:

- **Free after school clubs and holiday activities**
- **1:1 mentoring and emotional wellbeing support**
- **A regular newsletter with free advice and resources**
- **Careers and education advice for young carers**

## What might a young carer do?

- Practical Tasks
- Physical Care
- Personal Care
- Emotional Support
- Managing Finances
- Medication Management
- Sibling Care
- Communication support

**3-4**



There could be as many as **3-4** young carers in an average sized classroom

**96%**

of young carers surveyed in 2021 would recommend Richmond Carers Centre to other young carers

For more info, visit our website at:

[www.richmondcarers.org](http://www.richmondcarers.org)

[http://](http://www.richmondcarers.org)



*"Being able to talk about any issue is very important to me. Being able to talk to someone who understands is very helpful and it gives me confidence"*

*- young carer registered with Richmond Carers Centre*

*"It has helped me express my feelings more. It has helped me care for my mum and brother better and has given me more time to myself to do things that I enjoy. I also feel happy knowing about other young carers and getting to meet them"*

*- young carer registered with Richmond Carers Centre*

## Contact us:



email:

[youngcarers@richmondcarers.org](mailto:youngcarers@richmondcarers.org)

Telephone:

020 8867 2383

Follow us on Instagram:

[@young\\_carers\\_service\\_richmond](https://www.instagram.com/young_carers_service_richmond)

# Richmond Carers Centre



## Young Carers Service

Our Young Carers Service supports children and young people in Richmond upon Thames under the age of 18 who are taking on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities normally expected of an adult. We work to support young carers with their emotional wellbeing, while also providing opportunities to have a break away from their role as a young carer.

- **Information, Resources & Advice**
- **Regular & Ad-hoc Peer Support Groups**
- **School Holiday Activity Programmes**
- **One to One Mentoring**



*"I like it because you get to do so many activities, have time away from your situation and I've made lots of friends. All the staff are very caring."*

Young Carer

To find out more about the support we provide to young carers, please email us, visit our website or find us on instagram.



[youngcarers@richmondcarers.org](mailto:youngcarers@richmondcarers.org)



[www.richmondcarers.org](http://www.richmondcarers.org)



[@young\\_carers\\_service\\_richmond](https://www.instagram.com/young_carers_service_richmond)



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enthralls young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK ... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

## 1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

## 2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

## 3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

## 4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

## 5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

## 6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

## 7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

## 8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

## 9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

## 10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

## Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-63204605>  
<https://sproutsocial.com/insights/social-media-algorithms/>

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# WINTER SOCIALISATION

## FOR TEENS IN KINGSTON AND RICHMOND BOROUGH

10 TO 16 YEAR OLDS

For four days in December 2022, we are offering an exciting variety of activities for young people to do at our two youth centres.

We offer a relaxed and safe space for young people where they can spend their holiday time trying out different activities, making new friends and chatting to friendly youth workers.

A healthy nutritious lunch is provided every day that young people are involved in making.

### PIPER ACTIVE YOUTH CLUB

Monday 19 to Tuesday 20 December, 12pm to 4pm  
Piper Hall Community Centre, Piper Road KT1 3EX

A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES RUNNING INCLUDING:

- STREET DANCE WITH MELODIE (BOTH DAYS 2PM TO 4PM)
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- POOL, TABLE TENNIS, GAMING, TABLE FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL, ETC
- MUSIC PRODUCTION WORKSHOP (BOTH DAYS)



### HAM YOUTH CENTRE

Wednesday 21 to Thursday 22 December, 2pm to 6pm  
Ham Close, Ham TW10 7PL

- SCHOOL OF ROCK WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE FORM A BAND AND RECORD A TRACK (BOTH DAYS 2PM TO 6PM)
- STREET DANCE WITH MELODIE (BOTH DAYS 4PM TO 6PM)
- AFRICAN DRUMMING WITH STEEL PAN AGENCY (WEDNESDAY 21 DECEMBER, 2PM TO 4PM)
- HOW TO GET IN TO BLOGGING, THEMED AROUND MENTAL HEALTH WITH VOICEBOX (THURSDAY 22 DECEMBER, 2PM TO 4PM)
- USUAL ACTIVITIES POOL, TABLE TENNIS, ART, SPORTS, GAMING, ETC ALSO AVAILABLE



Places are limited, so book your places here:

[PiperActive](#)

[Ham Youth Centre](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT BEN SKELTON

E: [BEN.SKELTON@ACHIEVINGFORCHILDREN.ORG.UK](mailto:BEN.SKELTON@ACHIEVINGFORCHILDREN.ORG.UK)

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram



achieving  
for children



# PLAY CRICKET FOR RICHMOND BOROUGH IN THE 2023 LONDON YOUTH GAMES

This is a great chance to represent Richmond Borough in the 2023 London Youth Games U13 Girls' indoor cricket tournament!

## COST

There is no charge for the training

## VENUE

Tiffin Girls School (new indoor sports hall)  
Richmond Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 5PL

## COACHES

Training will be led by Ian Tabor and Jake Dunford. Both are ECB Level 3 Advanced cricket coaches with extensive experience of coaching girls' cricket.

## MORE INFO

For more information contact:  
londonyouthgames@richmond.gov.uk

## ELIGIBILITY

Training and selection is open to all girls that live or go to school in the borough of Richmond-Upon-Thames.

Players need to be under 13 as of 1st September 2022 i.e. Year 8 and below.

Players should already have played cricket either at school or club and be of a good ability.

## TRAINING DATES & TIMES

January:  
13th, 20th and 27th

February:  
3rd, 10th and 24th

Time: 17:00 – 18:30

## REGISTER HERE:

[bit.ly/LYGgirlscricket](https://bit.ly/LYGgirlscricket)



## AVAILABILITY

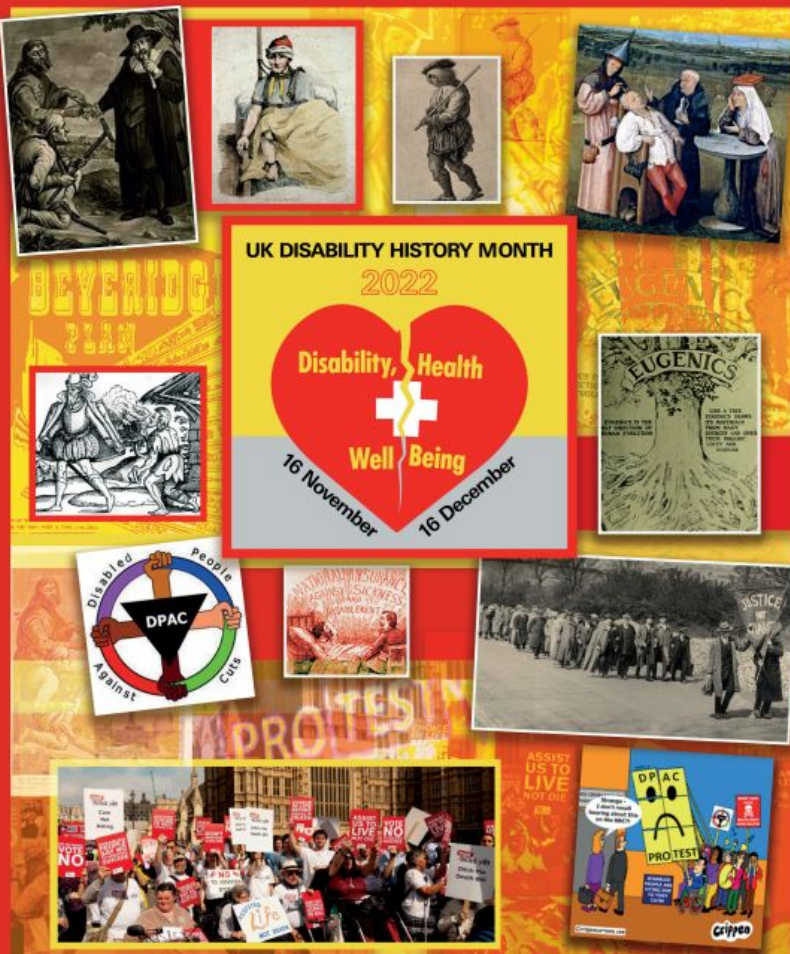
Players that are selected for the final squad, need to be available on the weekends of  
4th & 5th March and  
18th & 19th March 2023





# UK DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH

16 NOVEMBER-16 DECEMBER 2022



## Questions to discuss as a form:

- What does it mean to have a disability?
- Can you think of any examples of people with disabilities in your history lessons?
- Why is it important to celebrate UK Disability History Month?
- What can we do to challenge discrimination of disabled people in our everyday?

## The aim of Disability History Month is:

- Celebrate the lives of disabled people now and in the past
- Challenge disablism by exploring oppression over time and now
- Achieve equality

## What can we do?

- Challenge any incorrect or discriminatory language that we may hear, as well as making sure that we are using preferred language.
- Make sure we are always inclusive of all people, as we know that some disabilities are sometimes hidden.