



Grey Court School
eBulletin

9 December 2022

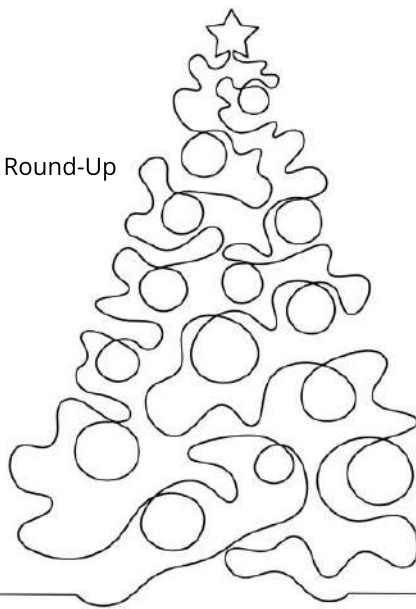


In this Edition

- 3 The Notice Board
- 4 Ned Thomas
- 6 KS3 News
- 7 Rainbows, eagles and green lakes
Mr Clements
- 10 Food + Nutrition
Ms Clark
- 16 Attendance Matters
Ms Weston
- 17 KS4 News
Ms Weston, Ms Clark, Ms Comrie
- 19 Stars of the Week: Humanities and Social Services
- 21 Christmas Lunch Arrangements
- 23 VPA News

VPA Tech Crew
Mr Allchurch

It's all hard work you know!
Mr Page
- 29 PDW + Wellbeing
- 37 Careers
Ms Corrighan
- 40 Sixth Form News
- 46 Our Sports Stars and our Weekly Round-Up
- 53 Flyers



The Notice Board

School Calendar

22-23 Term Dates

23-24 Term Dates

Events

The Uniform Shop

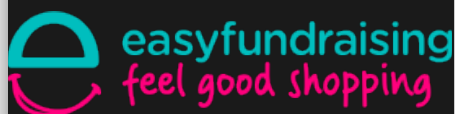
Open Thursdays

3pm to 4pm

PA Appeal

GoFundMe

Digital Screens
for Science



Sports Timetable

Extracurricular Timetable

School Tracksuits

Sheen/Richmond Sports

has the slightly older-style tracksuit available, if you are looking for a spare or cheaper option. The tops have all prints and the trackpants has the school logo.

1/4 ZIP TOP: 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, XS, L: £20 each

TRACK PANTS: 13-14, XS, L: £15 each

Please contact Nick@sheensports.com for more details and to order.

Breakfast Club

open everyday

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

School Menus

Breakfast Club

Weekly



Ned Thomas

BTEC Enterprise year 12 student, Ned Thomas, has created his own design business called 'Conceptity' and is currently selling Christmas cards from £1.75 each. Visit the [Website](#)



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
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*

KS3 News

We were delighted to see so many year 7s attend the Disco/Party on Friday. A big thank you to the sixth formers who helped to organise the event as well as Ms Thomas. A shout out also to Mrs Shore and Mr Kisby who acted ably as bouncers for the evening - and I'm glad to report there was no trouble reported! The year 7s have done fantastically so far, so it was nice to reward them with the evening and I hope that they enjoyed it.

Next week is the last week before the Christmas break. Each morning students will have extended form time which runs up to P2 - so they will not have P1 lessons all week. On Friday, we have the year 7s first ever celebration assembly, and I am looking forward to handing out lots of certificates and prizes and watching the brilliant performances that will be on show.

Mr Day

We are approaching the last week of term! The KS3 team have been very impressed with the attitude, progress and behaviour displayed by most of the students in year 9 this term - a huge well done! Those students with zero behaviour points this term will have received a letter from the team congratulating them on this incredible achievement.

We have a lot to look forward to next week, including celebration assembly and a range of Christmas and Wellbeing activities taking place throughout extended form. A lot of the year 9 tutor groups have been busy creating christmas cards to thank teachers or wish them a merry christmas, along with buying a small gift for their secret santa. This will be an extra addition to next week's enjoyment!

This week in assembly, we were joined again by Mr Murphy who highlighted some amazing sporting achievements this term! Huge congratulations for those students - you should be really proud of your accomplishments! This week's top 5 achievers are: James Glanville, Basit Ademola-Lawal, Bade Isik, Charlotte Alexandre and Tariq Alqasem Alvarez.

As the weather turns colder a reminder that students may wish to wear coats, hats and scarves to keep themselves warm but not in classrooms. As the night darkens earlier cyclists are reminded of the importance of lights for their bikes and wearing bright clothing for safety.

Ms Howarth

Rainbow Laces Campaign

The conversation in the playground and around the school environs over the last few weeks has been mainly focused around the World Cup. Students and teachers have been somewhat compromised in terms of whether we should celebrate the event as a “pure” sporting occasion or whether the the suppression of freedom of expression and identity - especially with regards to LGBTQ rights - should be a reason for viewers to boycott the event or for our own team to make some sort of symbolic stand. Moreover, whilst we cannot influence the decisions of Fifa or the British government in the short term - the PE department - never ones to shy away from freedom of expression - are once again promoting the Rainbow laces campaign as a **house competition**.

Last year we sold out of rainbow laces and we would like to promote this initiative once again. Wednesday 14th December 2022 will be our official rainbow laces day when staff and teachers alike will be encouraged to don a rainbow lace around wrist, elbow or as a traditional shoe tie.

In the words of Ms Marsh: “Inclusion has no off-season and Grey Court PE are once again supporting the *Rainbow Laces Campaign*.” You can pick up a pair of laces for £2 from the PE office or via a payment to Mr Williams using *scopay*. Whether you’re a humble Grey Court student, a sports fan, a committed gym-goer, or part of your local community sport club, it’s important that we all keep up our efforts to make sport everyone’s game year-round.

Students (especially those in Roman house) - can make a difference just by wearing a pair of rainbow laces to raise awareness of the stigma and discrimination that LGBTQ+ people in sport still face.



The H James annual politics lecture

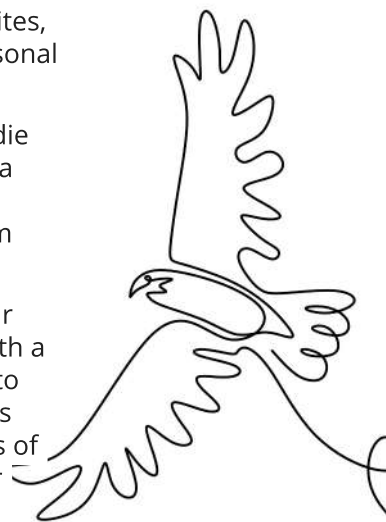
Ms James has done a wonderful job this year of overhauling the PDW curriculum. Now at the heart of our curriculum offer, it takes place for one period - on a rolling basis - every week. With each lesson often adopting a multi-platform approach and with discussion, philosophical reasoning and debate being showcased in her planning it is no wonder that personal development and well being has now moved to the centre of the Grey Court stage. As a reward, I have gifted Ms James with the accolade of an after school lecture being staged in her honour. All she therefore had to do was to persuade an eminent speaker to address the students!

Last month, we were therefore honoured to welcome Dr Michael Keating, from the American university in Kew, into our midst. Delivering an edifying lecture, entitled, "*Is the UK economy really unstable? How much did Truss do during her 44 days in office*", Mr Keating discussed the merits of austerity and government measures to limit inflation, linking everything carefully back to the A-level Politics, history and economics specifications. A rapt audience of year 11, 12 and 13 students were particularly happy that Mr Keating discussed Economic Political History, giving them a window into the 1920s economic crash. In a wide ranging discussion, that featured a Q and A session at its finale, Mr Keating also referenced: Adam Smith economics, George Osborne, Warwick University, Amsterdam Tulips, NFTs, bailouts in the US and Goldman Sachs.

The students were left with enough facts, opinions, soundbites, anecdotes and case studies to fill several exam papers, personal statements and preparation notes for university interviews.

In a moment of phonetic deduction, Grey Court student Eddie Trautman (who Ms James has described as "eagle-eared" in a soaring flight of linguistic fancy) identified Dr Keating's Australian twang right down to the sub-district of Perth from whence he hailed.

Grey Court's eternal thanks and platitudes go out to both Mr Keating for his oratory and Ms James for bequeathing us with a platform for debate. Having welcomed experts in the past to school who have delivered lectures on subjects as diverse as post-colonial partnerships in Tanzania to the inner workings of the Bank of England, we would now like to expand our offer across the year. If parents therefore have any contacts with experts, authors, professors, keynote speakers and doctors who would like to deliver talks to our KS4 and KS4 and students, please let me know at rclements@greycourt.org.uk. I will then curate an exciting programme of super-curricular opportunities for the Springtime.

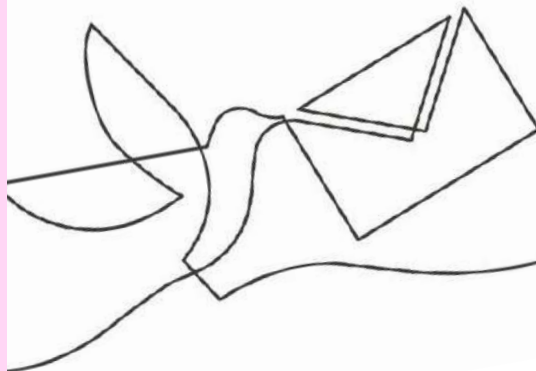


Hail Ms Corrighan

Grey Court favourite and careers counsellor extraordinaire, Ms Corrighan, has been busy this week fielding questions from the equivalent of an employability Hachi Dan (an 8th degree black belt) by the name of Sue. Bidding for our third “investors in careers” title, Ms Corrighan has had to perform the equivalent of an ushiro ura mawashi geri (a spinning roundhouse kick) with her hands tied behind her back and her legs bound - such is the impossibility of gaining this newly calibrated award.

This has meant that for months, Ms Corrighan has had to lock herself away dotting a Baima Snow Mountain Azalea Forest of “i”s and watching several seasons of “Cobra kai” back-to-back in order to prepare for this supreme test.

A scroll delivered by a Kunming Green Lake eagle with the results of this gruelling careers tri-ultra-marathon ordeal will be delivered to Dalai Lama Rhodes next week - we will wait with baited breath!



Food + Nutrition

Please see some of the wonderful things happening in the Food and Nutrition department this week.

Year 8 looked at the impact of meat production and made healthy versions of burgers - from scratch!

Year 9 looked at food choice and vegan diets with a brilliant batch of pittas and falafels. See some of our year 9s with their healthy sweet and sour chicken - with a focus on food science, sauces and gelatinisation.

Year 7s made healthy fish and chips - baking, not frying and using sweet potatoes for wedges to boost fibre and nutrients. See Ms Hunt teaching them how to coat and enrobe their fish!

Big news this week with Alba Blea and Sullivan Reader in year 10 attending the FutureChef local finals at Hammersmith and Fulham College with other schools in the London and South East England regions. Chefs commended their brilliant dishes and highlighted that Alba's dish was the 'most challenging and creative' dish of the competition. Well done to them both - I was so proud of their hard work.

Ms Clark



behind the scenes...

The Future Chef Competition





Alma Meany
Gordon's



Sullivan Reader
Grey Court



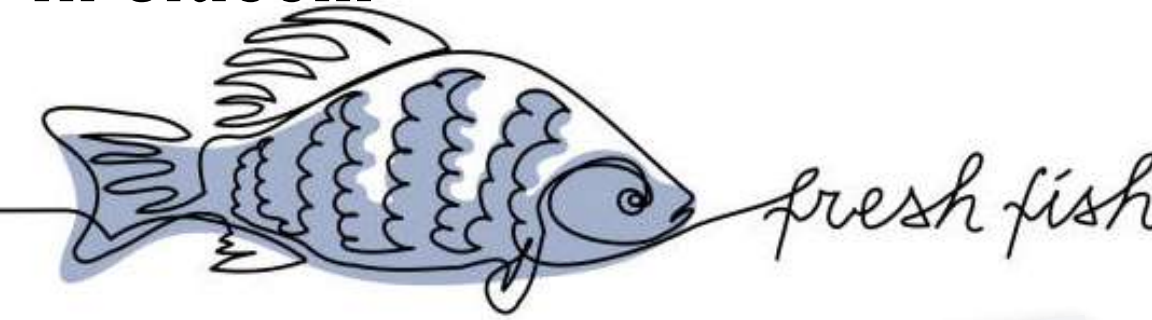
Alba Blota
Grey Court



Alma
Sandra
Sofia

behind the scenes...

In class...



#Y8 Boys and their burgers!



#Y9A Sweet and Sour Chicken



Week commencing 5 December

Well done to all students who have been in school over the last week, there are lots of bugs and illnesses flying around, so it's important to look after yourself!

Well done to year 7 who continue to have the highest attendance figure. Let's aim for 100% attendance from everyone over the last week!

A polite reminder to students and parents - if your child is feeling unwell, they cannot contact you directly to ask to leave school. We have a protocol and system in place: if a student feels unwell, they must go to reception for medical advice or assistance. If they need to go home, a staff member will call the parent/ carer. Thanks for your support in this matter.

Ms Weston

Top Tutor Groups for week are as follows:

Tutor Group	Attendance %
7 Beech	98.4%
8 Ash	97.0%
9 Oak	95.9%
10 Maple	94.7%
11 Oak	97.2%

The Year Group totals are as follows:

Year Group	Attendance %
Y7	96.8%
Y8	94.3%
Y9	93.3%
Y10	93.9%
Y11	95.6%

It's the penultimate week of the term, and many assessments have been taking place in lessons, as well as trial exams. Well done to everyone for their hard work over the last week. Not long to go until the Christmas break! We're looking forward to celebrating students' achievements in Celebration Assemblies next week. **Ms Weston**

#Y10

The holidays are fast approaching and I have urged year 10s to make the most of the last few days and in the countdown to Celebration Assembly next week, to try and ramp up their efforts in being the top achievers in the year group. Currently, 10 Willow are the best tutor group and Eva Meng in 10 Rowan stays top of the leaderboard with 119 points. Every student and tutor group is still in the running though to be crowned the champion next week.

Well done to 10 Maple for their improved attendance this week with 94.2%. Year 10 have the lowest attendance in the school this week, with only 93.9% which is disappointing but I know that we can claw it back! I'm hoping the new year brings us closer to our target of a minimum 96% attendance after rest and recuperation over the holidays and an invigorated approach to learning.

We have some great Christmas activities planned for the last week of term but I remind all students, parents and families that this is still learning time and there are important deadlines and tasks that students need to complete in this time, including our last PDW session of the term.

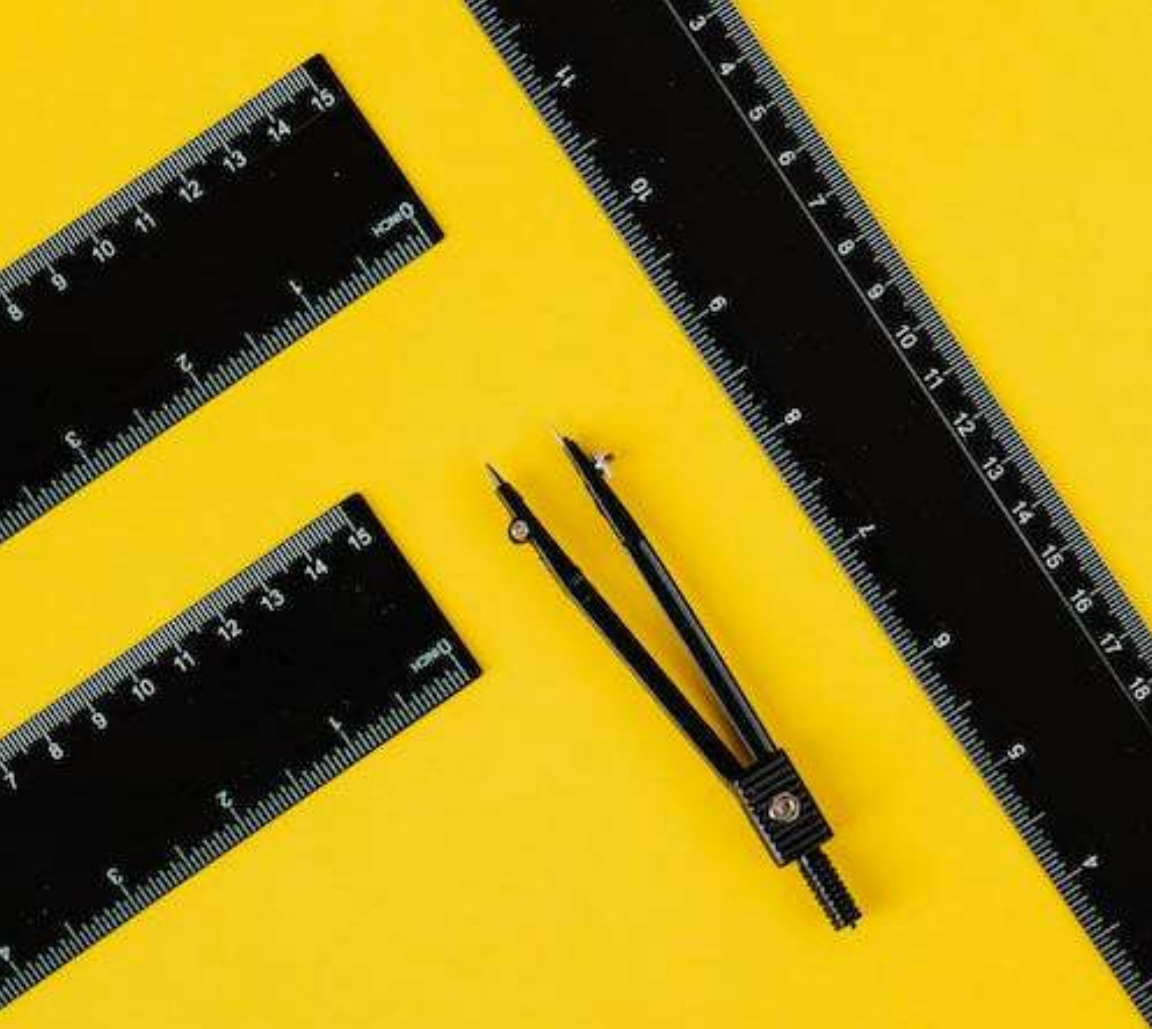
As the end of the year approaches, I ask year 10 to reflect on the first term of their GCSE's. I have been impressed with their dedication and attitude and hope all look forward to relaxing and restful holidays. We will be asking year 10 to set some resolutions in the new year - get your thinking caps on! **Ms Clark**

#Y11

The mocks are over! Sing and shout and let it all out.... As we end another week with only 16 sleeps until the big day the Y11's top off another successful week with 95.1% attendance. In the run up to the last few days of term, please ensure you are here to enjoy the last christmas term as Y11. Well done to (add form). On Monday we will be celebrating all of your achievements with the celebration assembly. It is a great opportunity for students' efforts to be recognised and congratulated in front of their tutors and year group. Additionally you have been warned: please brush up on your general knowledge over the weekend as your tutors will need you for the quiz at the end.

Next week Tuesday Y11 will be offered the delectable and delicious canteen special which will include turkey, Yorkshires and lashings of gravy (if you are as Northern as Mr Rhodes). Students have also been invited to wear their Christmas jumpers with the small contribution of £1 towards Crisis at Christmas. Lastly, despite being out of lessons for trial exams Y11 have still managed to rake in the achievement points with 11 Rowan rounding off the week with a sensational 817 achievement points!! Let's see if you can get to 1000 by the end of term, surely that warrants a Pizza lunch??

Ms Comrie



Y10 Maths Assessment

The year 10 Maths Assessment will be held on 11 Jan 2023.
The revision guide is on Google Classroom.

Humanities and Social Services

STARS OF THE WEEK

Year	Name	Subject	Reason
7	Thomas Cope	History	Excellent engagement in class
8	Liliane Eldakhakhny	History	Excellent engagement in class
9	Betty Thomas	History	Excellent homework
10	Agnes Radek	History	Excellent classwork
11	Olivia Wolf Calleja	History	Excellent engagement in class
12	Olivia Ashley	History	Excellent progress in the subject
13	Paul Gozar	History	Excellent progress in the subject
7	Okan Canatan	Geography	Excellent engagement in class
8	Sonya Mishchenko	Geography	Outstanding achievement
9	Ben Clark	Geography	Excellent contributions
10	Layla Banarse	Geography	Excellent engagement in class
11	Jacob Ramsell	Geography	Outstanding achievement
12	Tilly Collier	Geography	Excellent engagement in class
13	Oliver Wilding	Geography	Excellent engagement in class
7	Taym Al-Rawi	Religious	Excellent engagement in class
8	Alexa Kirrage	Religious	Excellent classwork
9	Daniel Thorz	Religious	Outstanding achievement
10	Coretta Townsend	Religious	Excellent contributions
11	Lusie Perederii	Religious	Excellent progress in the subject



Year	Name	Subject	Reason
12	Scarlett Coburn	Philosophy	Excellent assessment grade
13	Mel Akyuz	Philosophy	Outstanding achievement
10	Lily Stidwill	Health & Social Care	Outstanding achievement
11	Mughda Najib	Health & Social Care	Excellent engagement in class
12	Hanna Souintez	Health & Social Care	Excellent engagement in class
13	Emma Lightfoot	Health & Social Care	Excellent progress in the subject
12	Ellie Hayward	Sociology	Excellent contributions
13	Nyah Gulland	Sociology	Outstanding achievement
12	Akam Khoshnaw	Psychology	Excellent progress in the subject
13	Wilf Pike	Psychology	Excellent engagement in class
12	Sophie Lou	Economics	Outstanding achievement
13	Lauren Hawkley	Economics	Excellent progress in the subject

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 contribute **£1** towards a donation to **Crisis at Christmas**

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





VPA TECH CREW
behind the scenes...

Performance Support Award

Mr Allchurch

The students participating in the new Performance Support Award as members of the Grey Court VPA Tech Crew have completely surpassed all expectations this week in preparation for the Christmas Concert and Panto. They have spent long days, early mornings, late evenings (in some instances until 7pm), and even came into school last Sunday, giving up their free time to make Thursday's evening a possibility and success.

The fact that, once having guided them to rig and set everything up, I have not even needed to keep an eye on them continuously throughout the day this week, let alone having to intervene, shows what an amazing job they have all been doing. With the majority of members coming from years 8 and 9, and learning these skills for the very first time this academic year, the focus, energy, commitment and final product has been at a level exceeding all expectations.

Tuesday's cue to cue is usually an arduous affair for theatre, live sound and lighting technicians, tediously going through and repeating every cue in the script, over and over... and over. They not only fully delivered the goods, but even enjoyed doing it.

They have taken on board all the guidance offered to them - most of them for the very first time at the recent VPA Scholarship Showcase, remembering everything they learned and executed there so well - that they have now been able to just get on with it, almost autonomously enough that they are doing the job without the need for much assistance at all. This is absolutely outstanding!

Conor, Azelea, Farhan and Ewan - you are still just as amazing as you always have been of course... The way you have confidently mentored the 'noobs' and those returning in new roles has been impressive.

Well done and thank you to: Azelea, Charles, Charlie, Conor, Edward, Ewan, Farhan, Jacob, James G, James H, Leo, Oscar, Zaydan (and Damien, who maybe should now join us in an official capacity given his recent Jack Petchey Award for contributions to Legally Blonde last academic year).

I am a very happy and proud Mr Allchurch. Well done and thank you, all of you. :-)

Photo: Farhan Abbas, Leo Senenayake and Charlie Morgan putting up the star cloth



behind the scenes...
VPA TECH CREW

VP A TECH CREW behind the scenes...



Photo: Charles Perret - following a cable to who knows where?



Photo: Charles Perret - under the stage - thankfully not in school uniform



Photo:
Gaining some extra backing singers



Photo: Charlie, Zayden and Conor at the Sound Desk

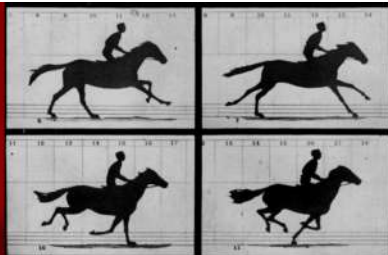
Year 12

...it's all hard work you know!

Mr Page

Having surpassed themselves with their performances in the highly abridged version of Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, our year 12 students are leaving for the Christmas break to learn their lines for a full scale production of *'Machinal'* by Sophie Treadwell. A story loosely based on the murder trial of Ruth Snyder, almost 100 years ago, it creates an expressionistic nightmare world of a young woman trying to exist in the constructs of our capitalist machine. The students will perform in June...keep your eyes peeled for updates. Here are some of them coming up with wonderful, intelligent and creative ideas for lighting, set sound and costume designs. As ever, they have to write about this in an exam...it's all hard work you know!





**Grey Court School Spring 2023
Photography for Y7-10 (& DofE)
Tuesday 3.10 - 4.10pm**

**Muybridge - Film Making -Teddington Lock
Oil Drop Macro - The Oscars Red Carpet
Blossom - Portraits & Baby Chicks**

**First lesson Tuesday January 17th
Course Fee £85 includes Canon Dslr cameras**

Please email clickschools@gmail.com
to book your place. More details
www.clickphotographyworkshops.com

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
photographer Philip Hollis & Sheridan Morley,
former Nikon UK Fashion Photographer of the Year



 19th - 22nd December 2022 (12-16 Yrs)

 10:00am - 2:00pm

 Chessington Sports Centre, Garrison Lane KT9 2JS

 **FREE** (inc. lunch) for those eligible*

 £20 per day + optional £5 healthy lunch

 Street Dance, Experiments, Skateboarding
Virtual Soccer, Warhammer, Physical activity
programme, Free Play, AND MORE!

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schoolcampinfo@ourparks.org.uk



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AT YOUR SCHOOL



FSM Pupils: Can attend this camp for free, please provide use the following coupon code to add at
the end of the booking to make it FREE **Coupon Code: HAFCCC100**

PDW + Wellbeing





PDW

This Week

Year 7: What does it mean to be 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

Year 7: Why is racism so dangerous and how can we minimise it?

Year 8: Who is to blame for an 'epidemic of negative body image' in the UK?

Year 9: What is OCD and how is it a good example of variation and uniqueness?

Year 10: How can you be radicalised and groomed online?

Year 11: RS/Computing

Next Week



Violence against Woman and Girls

Jade Davenport is the new ward officer for Ham and Petersham. She has organised a **Violence Against Woman and Girls** walk and talk event.

This is an initiative to help raise awareness and give support to females. If you want to share anything with Jade or just want to meet and have a chat, come to the event at Ham Common Pond on **16 December** at **15:30**.

This initiative will run every month.



Richmond Youth Service Winter Warm Spaces

This winter Richmond Youth Service is providing warm spaces for young people.

We know times are tough. That's why we are opening our youth centres more often and for longer, including at weekends, to provide a safe warm space where young people can get together, take part in activities and do their homework. We will also be providing cooked nutritious meals, all free of charge.

We have centres in Ham, Twickenham, Mortlake, Hampton and Whitton. Please contact individual centres for more information.

See our [term time opening hours](#), and individual web pages of youth centres for their programme during the school holidays



*"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 or find more information about supporting your child on our [website](#)

Mental Health Workshops

Achieving for Children have held a series of mental health support workshops for parents about children and young people's mental health. The last workshop will be held at Grey Court School on:

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

Please note that the workshop is for adults only

Kooth Winter Wellbeing / We're still here!

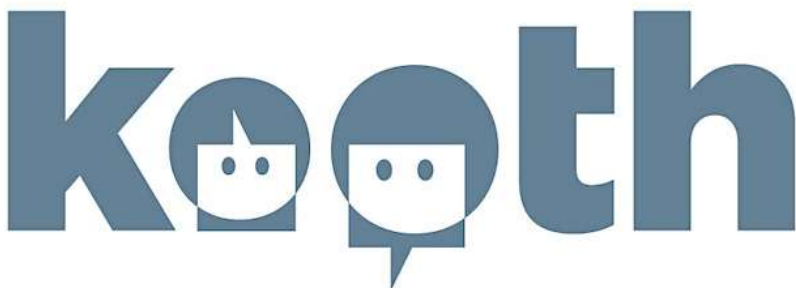
Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online Mental Wellbeing Community for young people. It is available through smart phone, tablet or computer and features activities, self-help articles, discussion boards and a team of accredited counsellors and emotional wellbeing practitioners who provide guided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



COME WORK WITH US

A great opportunity for flexible work!

Exam Invigilators

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) 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.

Careers



Quality in Careers Assessment



This week we had our assessment for our careers provision. Whilst we are still waiting for the result we are really proud to show all the activities we do to support our students. Thanks to all the teachers and support staff who have supported this process over the last two years.



The real stars of the show were the students! We would like to thank them for taking part and giving up their own time, they were a credit to the school:

Sixth Formers

- George Butler
- Frankie Nutland
- Kanye Ellick
- Lily Glanville

Year 10

- Xavier Mtandabari
- Thomas Lowe
- Dan Lowe
- Elsie Hobson
- Claudia Jimenez Peraleda

Year 11

- Morgan Kerr-Elliott
- Bobby Bryant
- Sofia Sehgal
- Lily Huddart
- Isla Dempster
- Kitty Bevins Martin



Talking Futures is a fantastic resource for parents and carers to help talk to their children about the future. Talking futures has a range of resources to help parents and carers have constructive conversations about careers and education options.

Opportunities Bulletin [9/12/2022 Sixth Form Careers opportunities](#) and see the highlights from the week on the next page

Year Group	Brief Description	Link	Event Date or Final Date
10-13	<p>Insight to Bloomberg - Careers in TV, Media, FinTech & Business!</p> <p>Monday 12th December, 5pm - 6:30pm</p> <p>We have an exciting opportunity to announce with Bloomberg, the global financial, software, data, and media company. The Young Professional organisation will be hosting an online webinar with Bloomberg, to give you an insight into this global tech, finance and media firm and the career opportunities available to you.</p>	Insight to Bloomberg	12th December 5pm - 6:30pm
All years	<p>INVESTIN COURSES - highly recommended but they do cost!</p> <p>INVESTIN offers a range of courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film Making & Video game design • Medicine • Investment Banking • Law • Psychology • Engineering • Architecture • Art • Dentistry • Fashion • Forensic Science • International Development • Politics • Vet • Creative Writing 	<p>Our Programmes – InvestIN Education</p> <p>There is a cost - you can get 15% off online with SUMMER15</p>	Events are all year round
11 - 13	<p>Applications for free online and national King's College London Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series 2023 are now open! This programme is for students across the UK in Year 11, 12, and 13 who have only attended non-selective state schools since age 11 and are interested in becoming a doctor or dentist. Over the course of the 14 lecture programme students will hear from a variety of speakers to help them make the best application to medicine or dentistry possible! Last year's lectures included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical and dental specialties: cardiology, prosthodontics, renal transplant, and many more! • Q&As each week with current medical and dental students as well as a lecture dedicated to the student experience • A session on other careers in healthcare with six professionals currently working and teaching in the sector (nursing, dietetics, clinical science, etc.) • September Q&A with key admissions colleagues in the schools of medicine and dentistry • Lectures on the application process: the UCAT, personal statements, and interviews. 	Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series	<p>Lectures will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6-7.15pm and will run in blocks of three throughout 2023. The first three lectures will take place on the 31st January, 7th February, and 14th February. The remaining three blocks of lectures will take place in Spring and Summer. The deadline to apply is Friday 16th December 2022.</p>

Sixth Form News



Year 12 Mock Exams

The year 12 mock exams will run from 9 -13 January. These will be sat in lesson time and they will be managed by classroom teachers. The only exception will be the Pure Maths paper which will be sat by all Maths students in enrichment. The exam booklet is linked [here](#) and will be sent home so that students are aware of the specific details of what they need to revise. This will also have been communicated in lessons.

Students who use laptops in examinations are encouraged to bring their own laptops in for exam week. Laptops will also be available from the Sixth Form reception. As there are also external BTEC exams. Students should attend their lessons as normal during the week.

Year 13 Mock Exams

Well done to year 13 for all of the hard work that you put into your mocks. We were incredibly proud of the mature and responsible way that you approached them and are sure that the results will reflect your efforts.

STARS OF THE WEEK



George Butler, Francesca Nutland, Kanye Ellick and Lily Glanville for their support with the **Quality in Careers Standard Assessment**. Their support was invaluable and gave up their time to speak to the Assessor.

Ms Corrighan for arranging the **Friends and Founders Evening**. We hope the Year 12s enjoyed meeting professionals from different industries and learnt some valuable networking skills.

Y12 Young Enterprise Group (Ned, Flo, Marta, Harrison, Oscar L-H, Tom W, Adam N, Euan V-R, Abbas, Turner) for their magnificent organisation of the Y7 disco. They demonstrated fantastic team work, organisation, adaptability and resilience. Well done!



Congratulations to the Oxbridge applicants who have got through to the interview stage. If you weren't offered an interview you should still be very proud of yourself for embarking on this challenging process and sitting the required tests.

We now have ten students who have heard from all five of their course choices including:

Steph Tang
James Castillo-Olley

Nine students are still waiting to hear from any of their choices - please keep an eye on your messages in case the universities are asking you to submit a portfolio, proof of qualifications or anything else.

If you have not yet submitted your UCAS form you must do so as soon as possible. Remember when you complete the 'pay and send' step your application comes to the sixth form team for checking and for us to add your reference and predicted grades. We then send it on to UCAS but only after meeting with each student. Please press that button and pay the fee!



EPQ

As exams have finished for the majority of students this week, it is now a key time for getting up to date with EPQ folders. A work checklist has been posted on the EPQ google classroom and students should be making every effort to communicate with their mentors over the final week of term. It is their responsibility to arrange these meetings as part of their project management grades.

OXBRIDGE

Interviews continue this week for our nine candidates. Students will not hear about offers until the second week of January. Good luck to all of you who have interviews in the coming days. We look forward to starting the process with the new hopefuls in year 12 at the end of January.

OPPORTUNITIES BULLETIN

Lowdown of work experience, careers talks, apprenticeships etc:

[9/12/2022 Sixth Form Careers opportunities](#)

Friends and Founders Event

This careers evening is always an inspiring event for our year 12 students and we were really proud of how they represented themselves and the school. They came dressed to impress with CVs at the ready and spoke to various people from different industries. The volunteers were really impressed with the students' communication skills and showed maturity and adaptability throughout the evening. There are lots of positives coming out of the evening including work experience opportunities, ideas for a Grey Court school newspaper, as well as some free pens, which we all appreciate!

We hope this has helped year 12s about future careers and pathways and they can use [Unifrog](https://www.unifrog.com/) to research ideas and record their experiences.





**THANK
YOU!**

A massive thank you to our Grey Court alumni, parents and contacts for giving up their evening to share their experiences, it really was inspiring and we look forward to working with you again soon!

It's always great to see previous Grey Court students back offering advice and some of our amazing alumni who supported were: Sophie-Golda Reginald (Junior Doctor), Simon Foley (Navy & Compliance Officer), Nicky Smith (CV expert), Graham Clark (Business/Sales) and Habsa Sharif (Gap year student and Learning Support Assistant).

Our Sports Stars

and our Weekly Round-Up



Lucas Galant Drasey



Lucas at the London Youth Games 2022



Lucas' achievements in the last swimming gala:

Date: 25th, 26th, 27th November

Gala: 2022 WYCOMBE SHORT COURSE (Level 3) COUNTY & REGIONAL QUALIFIER

Lucas won a medal in every single race he was in in his age group, 8 medals in total, 6 gold and 2 silver medals.

50m freestyle: 27.27s (gold)

100m freestyle: 59.11s (gold)

200m freestyle: 02:09.93 (gold)

400m freestyle: 04:34.04 (gold)

200m backstroke: 2:26.06 (gold)

100m backstroke: 01:11.90 (silver)

200m IM: 02:34.82 (gold)

50m butterfly: 31.32s (silver)

In addition, Lucas also represented team Richmond at the London Youth Games, winning silver and bronze medals in 4X50m freestyle and 4X50m medley relays. Richmond came third overall winning Bronze! Lucas also qualified for the National Open Water championships 2022 in Norwich in July.

We would also like to wish Lucas all the best in the upcoming galas below:

On Saturday 10 December, Lucas will be competing at The National Arena Swimming League RND3 (selected swimmers only) and on Sunday 11 December at The Team Luton Winter Meet.

On Friday 16th, Saturday 17th, and Sunday 18 December, Lucas will be competing at The Swim Wales Winter Championships 2022 in Swansea.

Superb achievement, Lucas!

Corrado D'Orsa



Corrado D'Orsa

Corrado is one of 10 junior men (category 13-16) selected by British Gymnastics in the whole UK. This nomination extends for the period from 1 January – 31 December 2023.

This means he will be invited to attend 4 national squad training at the National Sports Centre at Lilleshall (Shropshire) and to the world trials. Corrado is very proud as he is one of the younger in the category.

Superb achievement, Corrado!

Click on the two videos below to see Corrado in action.





What a performance by our U16 girls against [@RTS_Twickenham](#) yesterday! We had an incredible showcase from each individual player and massive congrats to Sana on winning player of the match!



Brilliant second half effort from the U12s made for a cracking game against Christ's - final score 25-40 to Christ's. Scorers were Seb B, Josh G (3) and Aidan C



Our U14 and U15 team enjoying a well deserved snack after great games of netball against [@stcatherinessch](#). The U14 team won 10-7 showing great team work! U15 had a tough match however they implemented everything we had been working on at training POM Grace and Neve



Last week the U14 basketballers had a great game against [@WaldegraveSch](#), coming away with the win. Huge well done to Odile, Moujan & Sara who got lots of court time & held their own as U13s in the U14 age group

Catch up on some special rugby moments...

A superb 2nd half fightback saw our U15 boys win the Middlesex Plate final 33-29 at Grasshoppers RFC on 6 December. Excellent fight and character shown by the boys. E Kadir with our match winning try.



That winning feeling, well done boys, very proud of you all!



Eli's first try was a cracker as well. Pace and power from the big man.



Our skipper was immense tonight and this capped of a top performance.

Calling all girls...

Squads (12-16 year olds)

The aim of this new and exciting programme is to provide girls between the ages of 12-16 with a fun, relevant and engaging recreational offer that allows them to develop themselves as much as their football skills in a safe, inclusive environment. Sessions take place:

- Springwest Academy, Browells Ln, Feltham TW13 7EF
- 4-5pm
- Every Friday until 16th December (returning in January)
- Open to girls aged 12-16 years old of all ability levels
- FREE

Click [here](#) to register



Girls' Only Holiday Camp – Gunnersbury Park

Come and join us for our **FREE** girls' football Christmas Camp at Gunnersbury Park. Our football camp is delivered by our experienced football coaches who have expert knowledge of girls' football.

The camp will include learning new football skills, playing matches, and having fun in a safe environment.

No prior football experience is required. Please supply your daughter with a packed lunch on the day (No nuts are allowed as a safety precaution). We will **not** be providing food on the day.

Date: Wednesday 21 December

Time: 10.30am to 2pm

Age group: 6 to 16 years old

Cost: FREE (we ask for a £10 deposit to be made, this will be refunded if your daughter attends)

Address: Gunnersbury Park, Pope Lane, W3 8LQ

Click [here](#) to register

WARM SPACES

THIS WINTER, RICHMOND YOUTH SERVICE IS PROVIDING WARM SPACES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We know times are tough.

We are opening our youth centres more often and for longer, including at weekends, to provide a safe warm space where young people can get together, take part in activities and do their homework.

We will also be providing cooked nutritious meals.

All free of charge.

We have centres in Ham, Twickenham, Mortlake, Hampton and Whitton.

See [link](#) for more information and opening times.



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/>

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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

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/LYGgirlsricricket



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

