



Grey Court School eBulletin

24 February 2023

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Ski Trips



Activity Day



Sports News



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Cover photo: Ms Sanders, Gregory, Etoo and some of our students with donations that we received for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal



A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who gave so generously to our Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal. This is just a snapshot of what we actually received.

Our non-uniform day was held today, and we raised over £3,000.



#KeepInTouch



22-23 Term Dates



23-24 Term Dates



School Events



Sports' TT



Sport SOCS



Education Fund



ScoPay



The Uniform Shop



Thursdays 3-4pm



Breakfast Menu



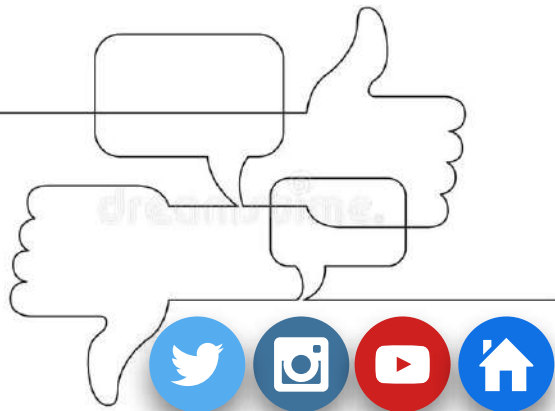
Weekly Menu



Graze Menu



Extracurricular TT



KS3+KS4 News



We were delighted to welcome back Y7 after half-term.

This week we were lucky to have Ben Skelton from the Ham Youth Centre talk to the Y7 students in assembly. The Youth club has lots of fantastic facilities and clubs for young people and is highly recommended. The presentation given by Ben will be placed in group google classrooms for students to access.

It has been humbling to see so many donations being given for the Turkey / Syria Earthquake fund. This week's non-uniform day donations will also go to support those who have been effected.

Well done to this weeks stars of the week

A	Vesper N	For positively joining the form and life at Grey Court.
B	Leo C	For Being kind, positive member of the form and an excellent attitude with form time.
C	Eli C	For excellent effort in the Daily 1K!
E	Milo B	For always being a delightful positive member of the form.
M	David S	For having an excellent attitude in school and always contibuting in the quiz!
O	Josh A	For showing amazing resilience and determination in his return to school.
R	April T	For maintaining excellent behaviour and a positive attitude in class.
W	Jana A	For her great attendance record and always smiling!

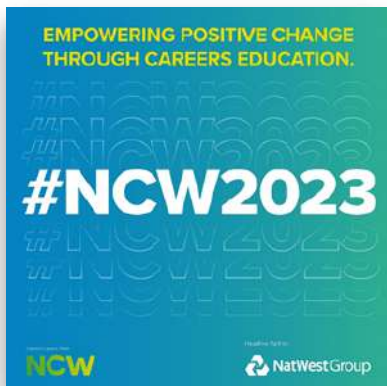
Mr Day



Year 7 History Castle Project

Year 7 history students were tasked with building castles as a project. Ida TS (7A) baked this cake (above) and George D (7O) baked this cake (below) for their castle project.





Year 8 Careers' Assembly

National Careers Week 2023 (NCW) is coming up 6 -12 March. In preparation for this we spoke to the year 8s in assembly about the range of options available to them in the future. It's important to learn about the range of pathways and we looked more closely at apprenticeships. You can access the presentation here: [Year 8 assembly 2023.pptx](#)



Gradu8 Careers' Challenge

We also celebrated some of the wonderful career presentations year 8 did as part of the Gradu8 Careers' challenge. Tutors selected their favourites in the tutor group and the following students were recognised - well done year 8!

8A	8B	8C	8E
Amelie Crane	Martha Fewtrell	Aoife Walker	Richie Luo
Farhan Abbas	Fereshta Najib	Dylan Jenkins	Pablo Navas-Parejo

8M	8O	8R	8W
Zehra Mavituna	Alexia Randell-Charles	Grace Burgess	Tamsin Thomson Farnden
Coco Mtandabari	Nina Hrckova	Charlie Perret	Josie Sinclair

Ms Corrighan, Careers' Advisor & Head of Careers

It has been lovely to welcome the year 9 students back this week! We hope they all had a relaxing and enjoyable half term! For those students who attended the Spain Ski Trip last week, we were extremely impressed with the behaviour, maturity and the resilience that all students showed throughout the week - all the staff involved were very proud! We hope you had an amazing time!

Options

During assembly this week, Ms Price informed the students about the options process - please make sure you check your emails for the Option Booklets as these were sent out on Thursday 23 February from 4pm. The Option Booklets include an array of information and videos for you to watch, so please take the time to watch these. **Note that the Google form for Options Choices does not open until the 22 March.**

Uniform

A reminder for all students to wear the correct uniform everyday, and ensure that trainers and hoodies are not worn on site.

Top Achievers

As we have a short term, we are encouraging all year 9s to achieve as many achievement points as possible before our Easter Celebration Assembly. **A huge well done to our top achievers this week: Dylan Heighes, Philine Zoeller and Alex Voronka.**

Ms Howarth & Mr Ridley

Welcome back to all of our lovely year 10s. Feedback from Ms Weston, Ms Ilett and the rest of the team was that those who attended the ski trip behaved impeccably and were an absolute delight all week. This makes me as proud as ever of my year group, and I thank year 10 for being such good ambassadors for the school. I hope everyone had a wonderful time and managed to do something fun and relaxing during the half-term break. I was lucky enough to accompany the sixth form to Vancouver on the ski trip and only came back with a few bruises - a great success!

We are now over half-way through the year. Year 10 had an assembly from Ms Howarth and Ms Corrigan this week about career pathways after year 11 and the different options available to them once they finish their GCSEs. There are lots of different routes and whilst it might seem premature to be thinking of this, time is certainly flying by! It is good for year 10 to think about their future and what they might like to do, and to take all the opportunities to maximise their chances of fulfilling their dreams.



Live
YOUR
dream

This always goes back to the age old mantra about 'If you're not in school, you're not learning'. A reminder that INSET day is on Thursday - I hope year 10 use this as an opportunity to catch up, rest and maybe do something a little different or to try a new skill - something that benefits their wellbeing!

Have a great weekend.

Miss Clark



Before the half-term break, we were lucky enough to visit Sky Studios, where we planned, filmed and edited an original trailer in just one hour.



Once we split into four groups, we headed to our own studio, each with a camera worth £80,000, green screen, professional microphone and editing software.

At the end, we had a quick tour of Sky Sports Broadcasting Studio, where we saw Transfer Deadline Day broadcasted live, before heading to the premiere of our trailers.

Shout out to Ms Corrighan, who has been incredibly helpful and managed to book us a slot with Sky in the first place, Ms Comrie, who ensured we all safely made it there and back again in one piece and Estelle, who edited this excellent highlights video of our day.

We are really looking forward to taking the rest of our Year 10 Media students to Sky Studios in the next few months.

Ms Howell



We are back! I trust you all had a lovely half term break, I was given the opportunity to spend a week with 70 of the lovely Y11's in Jasper Canada on a ski adventure. Luckily the students didn't fall as much as myself and Mr Clements who would make a great reenactment of Bambi on ice. I have to congratulate all students who behaved wonderfully on the trip and were a credit to the school.

The trial exams went ahead on Monday for English and Maths. Students who were absent for the day, will complete these exams during lesson time with their subject teachers in the upcoming weeks unless told otherwise. Not only do the mocks allow you to practise key questions and test your knowledge; they also allow you to complete the exam under the same time conditions as the real thing if you do them properly. With only 45 school days to go it is more important now more than ever for students to put as much effort and hard work into this so they are as prepared as possible.

The provisional date for the Y11 prom will be Thursday 6th of July. The theme for this year will be a 'Mascarade Ball'. Remember in order to attend the prom your conduct points must be in the positive. Please make sure you use every opportunity to acquire as many achievement points, in the last upcoming months, in order to attend.

The next couple of weeks are busy with practical exams for subjects such as Media studies, Graphics and Food and Nutrition. In order to best prepare students, they are expected to attend intervention sessions after school. Please be reminded that these exams are not trial exams but for real GCSE's and BTECs, therefore parents please make sure students are on time and present for this. Thank you for your support in advance for this.

Quote of the week: "Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony."

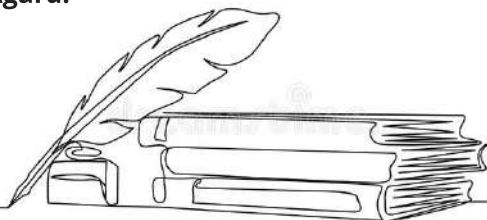
Have a lovely weekend!

Ms Comrie

"Happiness is when
what you think, what
you say, and what
you do are in
harmony"



Year 11 thoroughly enjoyed the **Poetry Live** trip on Friday 3 February. Sofia Sehgal and Jemima Dewar even got a photo with award-winning poet **John Agard!**



Year 11 Poetry Live Trip

Excuse me
standing on one leg
I'm half-caste

Explain yuself
wha yu mean
when yu say half-caste
yu mean when picasso
mix red an green
is a half-caste canvas/
explain yuself
wha u mean
when yu say half-caste
yu mean when light an shadow
mix in de sky
is a half-caste weather/
well in dat case
england weather
nearly always half-caste
in fact some o dem cloud
half-caste till dem overcast
so spiteful dem dont want de sun pass
ah rass/
explain yuself
wha yu mean
when yu say half-caste
yu mean tchaikovsky
sit down at dah piano
an mix a black key
wid a white key
is a half-caste symphony/

Explain yuself
wha yu mean
Ah listening to yu wid de keen
half of mih ear
Ah looking at u wid de keen
half of mih eye
and when I'm introduced to yu
I'm sure you'll understand
why I offer yu half-a-hand
an when I sleep at night
I close half-a-eye
consequently when I dream
I dream half-a-dream
an when moon begin to glow
I half-caste human being
cast half-a-shadow
but yu come back tomorrow
wid de whole of yu eye
an de whole of yu ear
and de whole of yu mind

an I will tell yu
de other half
of my story

John Agard



*Agard has published many collections for children and adults and often writes sequences and books constructed around a central theme as in **From The Devil's Pulpit** (1997) which looks at life from the Devil's perspective and **Clever Backbone** (2009), sixty sonnets that take a quirky look at evolution. His selected poems, **Alternative Anthem**, was also published in 2009. His children's collections include **We Animals Would Like A Word With You**; **Einstein**, **The Girl Who Hated Maths**; **Hello H2O**; and **The Young Inferno** (a teenage spin on Dante's classic) which received the CLPE Poetry award (all illustrated by the Japanese artist Satoshi Kitamura.) Agard's latest publication is **Goldilocks On CCTV**, a collection inspired by fairy tales and also illustrated by Kitamura. Agard's children's books are as philosophical as his adult books but entirely accessible to young readers.*

VPA News



Young Voices 2023: Grey Court performs at Wembley!



On 6 February, the Junior Choir had the opportunity to perform with over 4000 other students at Wembley Arena as part of Young Voices 2023. We had been working on the songs since the start of the year and it was a fantastic experience to perform them in such a wonderful venue alongside phenomenal musicians - including the legendary Heather Small!

The Young Voices performance was so much fun to experience and I loved being a part of it. I enjoyed it because it was new and different and I have never done anything like it before. Thank you Miss Cowper for making it happen.

- Izzy, Y9



The Young voices performance was such a fun, memorable experience that I won't forget. I loved the dancing, singing and overall energy. I will never forget this!

Amy, Y7

I felt really excited and happy, I mean the arena was enormous and a lot of famous people were there so I am very pleased to be there. I really hope we do something like that again.

Thank you so much. I spent a great time there!

Ipek, Y7

Young voices was one of the best opportunities I had. It was fun, energetic and really lifted my spirits. I really enjoyed my time there with all the singing and dancing we got to do, grabbing Andy's attention was one of the best parts. Just seeing the Urban Strides, The Beatbox Collectives, Heather Small and Andy really made my day. I hope that we have more opportunities like this in the upcoming year, and I have the chance to make the most of it.

Liliane, Y8

The experience was wonderful! When the lights turned down and everyone raised their lights, my stomach twisted and turned - it was truly like a million stars shining in one room. I had experienced this before, and, to be honest, I can't get enough of it. Every time I see it, I feel the exact same as the first time: warm and smiley, full of cheerfulness and energy to sing.

Sofia, Y7

I thought the Young Voices Concert was very entertaining, when the professional dancers and beatboxers came on I found that one of the best parts of the whole thing. And when Andy came on the one from the music videos, when he came up the crowd went WILD and that was only one of the best things that happened we even did the Mexican wave! I mean the concert itself was really exiting with all the lights and stuff.

Mayumi, Y7

I enjoyed Young Voices so much! All of the people were so lovely there and it was probably one of the best experiences i have had. I hope i go again sometime as i enjoyed it lots! I will always have memories of it as for me singing in it was one of the best things ever!

Zeyna, Y8

The young voices concert was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I felt like I belonged to be there, like I was a piece in one massive puzzle. For me the best and most motivating part was the atmosphere because it was like everyone was perfect and I would do any thing to do it again!

Lizzy, Y7



This was my first visit to Young Voices and I couldn't have been prouder of the Junior Choir. The energy, focus and singing were fantastic and they were excellent ambassadors for Grey Court. I was particularly pleased that we were the only school I could see who were completely "off book", which was very impressive! Also, I can now proudly say that I have performed at Wembley Arena and as a backup singer for Heather Small!

A huge thank you to Mr Millar and Mrs Aatif for coming along on the trip, as well as our parent volunteers, Mrs Schofield and Dr Kendel-Smith!

Miss Cowper

MUGOs 2023

Featuring

*Alfred Noble, Betsy Piers, Betty Thomas,
Charlotte Alexandre & Zak Nagy, Charlotte Delaney,
Clara Bing & Tea Halls, Ella Waldmann, Layla Banarse,
Maheen Aatif & Ayah Mahmoud, Maya Sills, Noah Cervantes,
Rachel Philpott, 'Teen Spirit', 'Kurzon' and 'Pictures of Trickery'.*



TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA SCOPAY
ADULT £6 CHILD £4

Thursday 9th March 6.30pm

Ski Trip Photos

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VANCOUVER





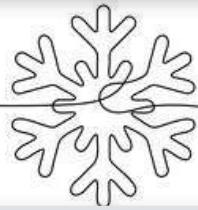


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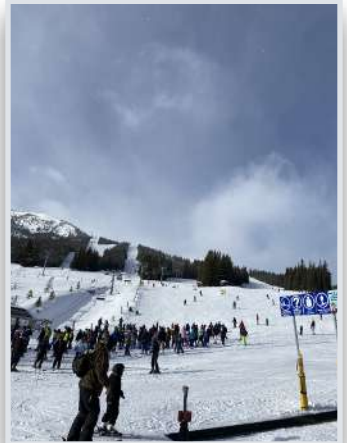








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JASPER



Year 11 - Jasper Ski Trip - Paradise Express!

Mr Clements

Following in the leadership footsteps of Commander Richard Jacob is a daunting task but last week I was entrusted with the lives of 70 Grey Court Year 11 skiers, 6 staff and Ms Comrie in a retro 1980s pink ski-suit. What could go wrong?

It was my second ever time skiing and my second visit to Jasper, which ranks as one of the most amazing natural places I have travelled to. Located right in the heart of Jasper National Park, the resort of Marmot Basin has arguably some of the world's most spectacular ski scenery, 3000ft of mountains and 1800 acres to ski. Due to 5 days of wonderful weather, I felt that our party managed to traverse the majority of this snowscape which features a number of peaks whose names seemed to be inspired by British *Carry on* films!

The week was a tale of catastrophe nearly averted, with 35 of our party having to be fed emergency pizza on the first night when the coach driver managed to locate the only Mcdonalds for 600 miles. The problem? It had been closed for the winter! This meant that Mr Miller, our intrepid data manager, had to bribe a local Jasper pizzeria to fire up its wood ovens at 10 o'clock in order to feed the famished! Such a late night appeared to be unheard of in this sleepy town!

On the first day of skiing, Youser, nearly accounted for the first ever injury on Marmot basin's nursery slope "the magic carpet" when she tumbled into a snow drift, was caught in the protective fencing and nearly rolled into the road. Luckily, Ms Angus was there to attempt a rescue, only for Youser to berate her for not having caught the incident on film!

On day two, the world of Marmot, was introduced to sleepy Keir, who suffering no doubt from jet lag, attempted his first run having forgotten to secure his boot straps or even tie up his ski helmet. Fortune favoured the dazed as one of the excellent instructors noticed the indiscretion after he lost his balance on a nursery slope. Elsewhere on the piste the advanced party were being led by Jake Bailey, who although he is partially sighted, proved to be one of the most fearless and intuitive of Grey Court's skiers.

As we effortlessly snow-ploughed into day three, Ms Comrie came into her own - when having informed me that "she was a quick learner" could be seen in a pink blur hurtling down the mountain side. Yes, she had certainly learnt the concept of gravity, but she had forgotten how to STOP! It was left to Jake Heathcote to bring a bit of *Laanndaan* town to proceedings by carrying a soundsystem up the mountain in his rucksack and appearing to play spotify playlist all the way down one of the double black runs.



Day 4 saw a very excited Mr Gordon Walker - veteran of two tours of commando ski training in the Telemark region of Norway - hike with a party of Grey Court's elite skiers who included Ruggero and Oscar in their Arc'teryx ski wear (I'm informed that this is the ski equivalent to Trapstar) up to the top of Marmot peak where they then descended in a series of parallel zig zags through virgin powder! With Ms Angel, our resident first aider, administering minor treatments for cuts, bruises, blisters and hurt pride, it was left to Ms Burton to showcase her "shreddin' the gnar" snowboarding skills with a series of effortless jumps.

By day 5 I was confident enough to ignore my own warning about "not overdoing it on the last run" by foolishly following Mr Miller through some pine trees and falling head first into a snowdrift! Moreover, we still had time to return to base camp, host a quiz night won by Ms Burton's group, who scored double points on Taylor Swift songs, and run a night trip to a local ice hockey game. I will leave it to Lily and Betsy to sum up their feelings about the trip:

*"The ski trip was a great experience and it was so nice to have spent the amazing trip with friends. I'd never skied before and was initially nervous but you never know how much you learn in such a short space of time! My instructors were patient and kind and it was lovely to get to know them. Furthermore, it was fascinating to watch a real life Canadian hockey game. **Betsy***

*The year 11 ski trip to Canada could not have gone better. The travel was stressful but only for the teachers, the skiing was incredible and everyone in Canada was, unsurprisingly, extra nice. We had snow on the mountains which meant a soft landing for Ms Comrie every time she fell, and no injuries on the slopes (thank god), so our year broke the unlucky last day injury curse. Our ski instructors were great, special mention to Finn. The local ice hockey stadium we went to was 'jepic' and 'lmao'. Also shoutout to Ms Burton and her mad snowboarding skills! **Lily***

So a final thank you from me to the students for being such great company and to the staff for taking the burden of keeping everyone safe off my sleight shoulders. To Ms Rahmini for organising all the paperwork, Mr Williams for sorting out all the finance and finally Mr Jacob for coordinating the whole extravaganza whilst delivering his second child a day before we were about to leave!







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SPAIN











Wellbeing





At Grey Court School, we are committed to supporting our children and parents' emotional well-being and strive to promote a greater understanding of how best to support children with SEN at school and at home.

Sallie Crook from **ADHD EMBRACE** will be sharing her knowledge and strategies to best support children with ADHD/ traits of ADHD. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

We would like to invite parents to this workshop on supporting children with ADHD **on Tuesday 2nd May 2023 from 2pm to 3:30pm in the Classroom**

What is the workshop about?

Supporting children with ADHD and will include an informal presentation as well as an opportunity for Q&A

The presentation covers:

- What is ADHD?
- How can schools support children with ADHD?
- Who are ADHD Embrace and what we do?
- ADHD Embrace Website and how to access our support

The aim is to provide parents with a better understanding of ADHD and the support available from ADHD Embrace and other organisations.

'I Love You, Mum - I Promise I Won't Die'

We're really excited to let you know that there will be a community performance of 'I Love You, Mum - I Promise I Won't Die', the powerful verbatim play by award-winning playwright Mark Wheeler, commissioned by the DSM Foundation to tell the story of Dan's joyful life and tragic death. Published by Bloomsbury, the play has been studied and performed in schools, colleges and theatres across the UK and around the world, and has been touring schools as a professional Theatre in Education production since 2017. Since September 2022 it is now a GCSE Drama set text in England and Wales. The community performance is on Monday 20th March at Waldegrave School, Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham, TW2 5LH at 6pm.

This event is hosted by drug education charity The Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation and funded by the Richmond Voluntary Fund. This community performance is an opportunity for parents and community leaders to see its powerful story.

In addition to a live performance of 'I Love You, Mum - I Promise I Won't Die', there will be a mini workshop from Anjali Jayanti, one of the DSM Foundation's drug educators and Tim Spargo-Mabbs, Dan's Dad and co-Founder of the DSM Foundation, will share the wider work and plans of the charity and the vital importance of evidence-based drug education for all young people.

Timings for the evening are:

5.45pm Arrivals

6.00pm Performance of 'I Love You, Mum - I Promise I Won't Die'

6.45pm Tim Spargo-Mabbs (DSMF)

6.55pm Workshop by Anjali Jayanti (DSMF)

7.30pm Close

The DSM Foundation was set up in 2014 by Tim and Fiona Spargo-Mabbs in response to the death of their 16-year-old son Daniel having taken ecstasy. They aim to support young people to make safe choices and reduce harm, through increasing their understanding of the effects and risks of drugs and alcohol, and improving their life skills & resilience. They work with young people, parents, teachers and professionals, in schools, colleges and communities across the UK. For further details see <https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/>

"I know I'll never forget it and how it made me feel, and really think about drugs and the catastrophic effects they can have on people's lives."

Year 10 student

Free places can be booked via Eventbrite [here](#)



'I Love You, Mum - I Promise I Won't Die'
A PLAY BY MARK WHEELER
MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2023
5.45PM FOR A PROMPT 6PM START
Waldegrave School
Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5LH



Book here





Free Online Counselling

We know that 40% of young people aged 10- 25 are really struggling with stress and anxiety and we can offer them free, safe and anonymous support to help them feel better. As an NHS commissioned service we are extremely well equipped to help!

Kooth features [Shared assets \(brandmaster.com\)](https://brandmaster.com)

Click on the link and sign up to Kooth.com

[Kooth is available in many areas across the UK - Kooth](#)



GREY COURT EASTER CAMP 2023

ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

Warhammer Model Painting

Wide range of Physical Activity and Sports

Gym

Street Dance

Agency over Daily Activities



Join us for all this and more as you get to learn, grow and move every single day you spend with us at camp. As well as continuing the camp experience even when the day has ended by bringing home fun facts, hand-crafted artwork and even a few new moves!

3 to 6 April

Click [here](#) to book

Activity Day Photos

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Y7B WINCHESTER





Year 9 Activity Day

Above: Ben Skelton (Ham Youth Centre) talking to students about outh work and local opportunities

On Thursday 9 February, we had a great activity day for year 9 with activities around personal finance, the Stock Market Challenge and a careers' event.

Thanks to all our volunteers who came in and supported our careers networking event we had a great deal of parental support, as well as local businesses and our amazing former students. It was a fantastic day for students and we hope it has helped students to consider the range of careers that are available to them. During National Careers week - w/c 6 March students will be accessing [Unifrog](#) which is an online careers platform we use in school and can help them with their upcoming options choices.



Holly Christie talking about careers in Technology



Lara Hyson, Junior Doctor and former Grey Court student, talking to students about pathways into Medicine and working for the NHS.



Peter Hadfield, Actor and former Grey Court student, inspiring students with his pathway into acting.



The Police were very popular with a very interactive experience!



Rebecca Harrison with some brilliant resources and talking about opportunities within market research

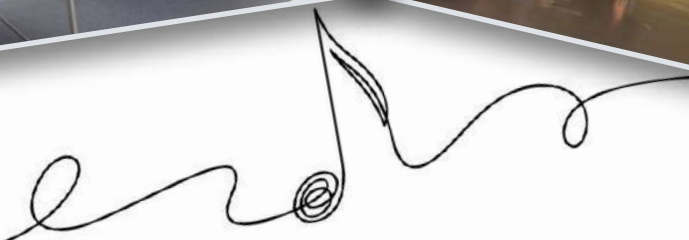


Laing O'Rourke came to talk to students about the range of opportunities in the construction industry



Y10 VPA TRIP

Year 10 VPA trip to 'Six', workshop and performance.
Introduction to the time period, setting and background of the musical.







Y10 KEW GARDENS











Sixth Form News





Friday 3 March

All year 12 students will attend the UK University & Apprenticeships Fair

We are taking all Year 12s to the UK University & Apprenticeship Fair at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London N17 0BX on 3 March. This event is the perfect way for students to choose which university or apprenticeship is right for them. This exciting and informative event will provide attendees with the opportunity to speak to a multitude of universities including; Russell Group, red brick, specialist and modern universities. Students will also be able to talk to a variety of the UK's best apprenticeship providers, specialist institutions, and student related organisations.

We have a slot booked from 13.00 to 14.30 which will mean leaving sixth form at 10.45am to arrive for our booking. There will be no lessons P3-P6 so everyone can attend. Students must have their ticket (paper or electronic) to ensure quick entry into the exhibition. Please register via the link below: <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/london-spring-2023-2>

Teachers will meet students at the event to register them and travel information has been sent to students via Google classroom and parents via parentmail.



Work Experience

This letter was sent home to parents on 23 January 2023 about the work experience taking place this summer

[WEX Unifrog Placements letter for parents](#)

Students should be now looking for placements for 3-7 July 2023, and they must confirm their placement using the **Unifrog placements tool**. This will allow the student to put in the employer details who will confirm the placement and it will be approved by the parent/carer and school. Students can also access university summer schools during that week as an alternative to work experience. Please just speak to Miss Corrighan if you have any questions bcorrighan@greycourt.org.uk and do refer to Google classroom for more information.

Weekly Opportunities Bulletin

Your personalised information sheet about:

- Work experience
- Careers talks
- University tasters/summer schools
- Apprenticeships

[22/02/2023 Sixth Form Careers opportunities](#)



On Thursday 2nd of February, I was given the opportunity to go to Poland for the day and visit two of the over 40 concentration camps in the town of Oświęcim (renamed Auschwitz by the Nazis in the Second World War). We went to Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau, which were both death and labour camps.

When we arrived in Krakow, we travelled by coach to the town centre where we visited the site of what was once 'The Great Synagogue'. It was destroyed by the Nazis when they invaded Oświęcim. We visited the town before going to either of the camps in order to learn about Jewish life before they were persecuted by the Nazis. This meant that once we were in the camps, we could understand that those targeted were innocent people who lived ordinary lives like anyone else.

We then headed to the first of two concentration camps we were visiting, Auschwitz I. It was an old army barrack that had been transformed into a death camp. We saw the buildings where the prisoners would stay before they were taken to die, within which they had made displays and exhibitions of all the items that were taken off the Jews when they arrived at the camp. This included glasses, shoes, prayer shawls, prosthetics, suitcases, crutches and a huge pile of human hair. Many people will know the figure that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust, but I don't think anyone can truly understand this number until they see what appears only as a statistic right in front of them and can start to piece together the individual stories of those who lost their lives. This feeling was further emphasised by what is called the 'Book of Names', a book filled with the names of over 4 million known victims of the Holocaust and contains their dates of birth, where they were from, which camps they went to and when they died, if it is known. The book is over 2 metres tall and over 8 metres long. The final place we visited at this camp was the gas chamber and crematorium. It consisted of two dark, damp rooms which brought a sick feeling to your stomach. This was a very surreal experience knowing that it was where so many people's lives ended at the hands of the Nazis.

Auschwitz Trip

LIYY GLANVILLE





After this, we took a 5-minute coach ride to the second of the camps we were visiting, Auschwitz-Birkenau. This camp was very different to the first one because it was so much bigger and unlike the first camp, it was purpose built by the Nazis to be a death and labour camp. The site was 400 acres and felt very empty and eerily spacious. We saw the toilets, which were simply concrete boxes with holes in them and replicas of the bunks that prisoners would have been crammed into at night. We also saw the ruins of what used to be a gas chamber and crematorium. At the end of the visit, we had a talk from a Rabbi who came on the trip with us, Rabbi Marcus, in a room full of photos of victims of the Holocaust. He was really compelling to listen to and after his talk we went to the memorial in the camp and lit candles for the victims, as is traditional in Judaism.

The theme of this year's student programme was 'Ordinary People', which puts our focus on individual stories of victims and survivors of the Holocaust who, before persecution, were living ordinary lives. In addition to this, we must also think of how ordinary people became the Nazi collaborators who carried out this atrocity and how millions of people were bystanders and were completely brainwashed by Nazi ideologies.

The persecution of the Jews began as soon as Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933 and gradually built up, limiting the rights of Jewish people with the assistance of the Nuremberg Laws. Even when the war ended, it was a huge task to switch people's mindsets back to how they were prior to the Nazi takeover and, sadly, Antisemitism is still an issue today with hate crimes still taking place regularly.

Most disturbingly of all, despite the world being witness to the Holocaust, some people deny it ever happened and, unfortunately, genocides have taken place since, such as in Rwanda, Cambodia, Darfur and more. The Holocaust started with minor discrimination and ended with the murder of 6 million Jews, so it is vital that we tackle prejudice and discrimination early so that it is unable to reach such extremes.





Sixth Form Netball Tournament

The sixth formers enjoyed a very competitive netball tournament during enrichment on Wednesday. Pupils displayed athleticism, skill and resilience in their battle for the interhouse netball trophy. Roman house were the best team overall, scoring 12 goals in two games. Aztec (3 goals overall) and Spartan (2 overall) developed good relationships and connections on court but we're not able to convert their turnovers into goals. Trojan were only able to field a team of 3 and were helped out by willing players from different houses, true Grey Court spirit shown in time of need. They also scored 2 overall and the final standings are:

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

Year 13

Year 13 attended a talk from **Drugline** during enrichment this week. Hearing the real life experiences from three individuals who have struggled with addiction was powerful and eye opening for the pupils. The pupils engaged with the speaker in a very positive way and asked some interesting questions at the end of the assembly.

The Easter Trial exams will take place from the 15 March onwards. The exam booklet has been sent to the students and can be viewed using [this link](#).

UCAS

Headline figures

50 Students have now heard from all five of their university choices and four students have accepted their offers by choosing a firm and insurance choice.

What Comes Next?

Once you have heard from all five courses you applied to you should choose a firm choice and an insurance choice of course. Sounds scary but the earliest deadline for responding is the 8th June so there is plenty of time for making decisions. Many students will have received invites to Offer Holder Days. This is the best way of helping students choose the best course and university for them. You should look at not just the university but the city or town where it is located. Consider factors such as whether you like the set up of a campus university or a university spread across a city. Think about where you might live in the second year when you will not be living in university accommodation. You might want to think about whether there will be opportunities for part time work to help supplement your living expenses. Check out transport to and from university - how long will it take you to get there and arrive in time for your 9.00am lecture? How long will it take to get back to your family home and how much will it cost? What social activities does the student union offer?

Below is a brief presentation and a short video link to a UCAS guide on how to accept offers.

[How to Accept your University Offers](#)

When you are making your choices you should base your decision for your firm choice of the university you most want to go to. When choosing an insurance choice it should be a university that has made you a lower offer (but you are still happy to attend). This will mean that if you miss your grades for your firm choice you will still be given a place at your insurance university and won't have to go through the Clearing process in August.

UCAS EXTRA

Extra opens on February 23rd and it allows you to add another course choice if you have received decisions from all five, and weren't accepted, or if you declined the offers you received.

If you did not use all your choices in your initial application, you don't need to use Extra, you can just sign in to your application and add another choice, as long as it's before 30 June, and you've not accepted or declined any offers. Please come and talk to Mr Taylor or Ms McNicol before turning down any offers you have been made and using UCAS Extra. It may be that contacting a university and asking to change your course will be a better way of making a change than using Extra.

EPQ Update

We are now in the final phase of this qualification. Students should have prepared their presentations and arranged a time to deliver these in front of an audience. This leaves just the final reflections and folder organisation to complete, so that final folders can be handed in the week beginning the 6th March. This avoids any clash with the Easter mocks.

Oxbridge Update

The group met this week to look at creating an Oxbridge level personal statement. As applications for Oxbridge have to be sent to UCAS in October, students planning to apply to these universities need to work to a different timeline to the rest of the year group and begin the drafting process now. A letter has been sent out to relevant parents to explain the context of an Oxbridge application in more detail.



**TURKEY-SYRIA
EARTHQUAKE APPEAL
FUNDRAISING EVENT**

Let's share a
piece
of our heart with
the victims of
the
earthquake



**ST. STEPHEN'S C OF E
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**26 February 2023
10:30 – 16:00**

**Children Arts and Crafts (inc. Origami)
Homemade Bake Sale
New and Preloved Goods Sale
Pet Goods
Artworks**

Winchester Road, St Margarets TW1 1LF

Fold! Donate! & Build!

Folding origami houses for donations
turning into homes for earthquake victims!



26th February 2023
10:30-16:00

St Stephen's C Of E Primary School
Winchester Rd, St Margarets
Twickenham TW1 1LF

in support of DEC



Sports' News

All the sports' action this week

RUGBY SUPER STARS



The U15 rugby team produced their best performance of the season with an outstanding 45-5 victory in the National Bowl 1/4. We progress to the semi-final. Well done boys.



U13 Rugby Team

Great effort by all the U13 rugby team at the Danes Hill 7s on Wednesday. Some excellent tries scored and massive improvements shown from first game to the last, finishing with 2 wins against two very good teams. Well done to Will S who was named in the All Star team!



The U14 boys lost one and won three on their way to winning the Plate at St James' 7s competition. Some excellent tries were scored and the boys got better with each match!

RUGBY

Congratulations!



Congratulations to former Grey Court student Ed Bachelor who featured in the London Irish U18 team that were crowned Premiership champions after a 27-19 win v Northampton Saints. Well done from everyone at GC, Ed Bach!

London Irish U18 Rugby



Well done to our U13A boys football team who beat St Richard Reynolds 5-1 in their home league game on Tuesday.

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U12 Netball Team

The U12A netball team played their first Borough match on Tuesday against a very strong [@OrleansPark](#). Our girls came away with a 12-10 win in a closely contested game throughout. POM Evie. Thank you to the parents who came to support from the sidelines.

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Sports' News

*All the sports' action from before
(and during) the half-term break*



Some fantastic photos of one of our elite gymnast's, Diana. She has recently competed at the Scotland Acro Invitational and Acro League. Well done Diana, keep up the hard work!



U15 Rugby Team

Superb 28-19 victory for the U15 rugby squad in the National Bowl last 16 round. We now progress to the National quarter finals. Let's keep working hard boys!

Max S with our first try: superb speed and footwork.



Excellent cross-field kick by Jakob. Superb chase, gather and try from Elijah.



Elijah with his second try, after good pressure at the lineout from Enzo.



Great pick-up and powerful finish from the skipper.



RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY RUGBY



Year 7 Rugby Team

The year 7 rugby team won four from six games at the Orleans Park 7s Tournament. After a third place finish in the group, they went on to win all three matches, and win the Shield Competition. Thanks to Orleans for hosting!

RUGBY

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Gripping game against [@christs_school](#) for our U16 girls football squad, which ended 5-5! Shame to not leave with 3 points but well done to everyone for putting up a good fight!

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U13 Football Team

Excellent 3-1 win in the County Cup for the U13 boys' football team. Goals from Freddie, George and Milo earn us a place in the next round.

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U13 Football Team

Fantastic performance from the U13 girls football squad v Holy Cross! Congrats to Sophie for being awarded player of the match and scoring 4 goals as well!!

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOT



Our U12A football team drew 2-2 today. Goals from Ifan and a screamer by Deano.

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Our U12Bs won 8-0. Goals scored by Tayte (2), Max (2), Tobias, Gabe, Toma and Aidan. Well done boys!

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U12 Football Team

Well done to our U12 C team who won 5-0 with goals from Archie x 2, Pavlos x 2 and one from Will.

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U12 Football Team

Well done to our U12D football team who defeated Halliford boys 3-2 in a gripping contest today. Goals from Freddie and Josh x 2

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U15 Basketball Team

Well done to our U15 boys basketball team who beat Glenthorne 53-45 on 6 February.

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U16 Richmond Basketball Team

Congratulations to the U16 Girls Richmond Basketball team who progress to the [@LdnYouthGames](#) Quarter Finals after a strong performance v Harris Crystal Palace. Madi was the top scorer and Piper had a standout performance. Well done!!

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The U14 netballers took on Tiffin last night, A's finishing with a 16-16 draw POM Bade. The B's lost 5-14 but standouts were POM Charis and coach's POM, Leem.





U18 Netball Team

A tough match against [@christs_school](#) for our U18 netballers. 21-11 but lots of positives to take away from the game! POM Flo.

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Elite Gymnastics Team

The elite gymnasts competed in the U14 and U19 categories on 4 February in the Regional Floor and Vault Competition. All gymnasts performed amazingly and it was great to see so many of our new gymnasts compete. We qualified our mixed U14 and U19 teams for National Finals. Well done all!

GYMNASTICS



Elite Gymnastics Team



Elite Gymnastics Team



Our Y11s enjoying their fencing lesson in PE. Thank you Inspion Sports coming to the school.

FENCING FENCING FENCING
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Nicole is a dedicated and hardworking footballer. She has improved immensely over the last year and her hard work has paid off as she was identified by Brentford FC and invited to trial out for their Development team before Christmas. Nicole was successful in their trial and invited to train and play for Brentford with the opportunity of moving up into the Academy team.

Within school Nicole is a vital part of the U15 and U16 girls' football team, playing in the centre of midfield but is versatile enough to play at the back if and when required. Nicole is an ambitious learner and takes well to direction. This is clear to see as she is always present at training and keen to impress the coaches. Nicole is a great role model for the younger years and is the perfect example of a team player. Congratulations on getting scouted for Brentford! We look forward to hearing about your progress in the squad.

Nicole Tahir

Player of the Month



Ida is a hard-working and committed student. The same could be said for her dedication to sports in and out of school. Having only moved to the UK in the summer, she has already made a big impact on the local swimming community and recently qualified for the Middlesex County Championships. Currently ranked fourth in the county for the individual medley, Ida trains six times a week with Teddington Swimming Club and has an impressive medal tally of five golds, two silvers, and three bronze - many of which are her personal best. Ida also trains twice-a-week for Teddington Hockey Club, and plays within the Year 7 Performance Squad.

In school, Ida is part of the U12 basketball, netball, and football teams. She has also recently joined our new lacrosse development sessions on Mondays. It is evident from training as well as Sports' Scholarship lessons that she has strong potential to become a great games player.

You will often see Ida make fantastic interceptions regaining possession of the ball and close down her opponents when marking. Ida is a go-getter, never backing down from a challenge. You definitely won't see her giving less than 100% effort. Keep up the good work, Ida! Good luck in your next swim meet.



Ida Teggarty-Sparks

Scholar of the Month

The U13 cricket team is our team of the month! They have experienced great success, going unbeaten in their last two indoor cricket tournaments. They progressed from the Richmond Indoor Cricket Tournament, to the Outer Borough Regional Final, and now will be moving on to play the other Middlesex Regional winners. Not to mention, they won their first game by 7 wickets and 4 overs to spare in the Regional Final!

Despite being very early in the season, our U13 squad have fantastic chemistry and work as a unit. They are calm and collected when under pressure, and you will often hear them giving each other words of affirmation when someone is nervous. Big shout out to our two Year 7 players - Charlotte Vermeulen and Livvy Carlino, who are playing up a year group and are some of our standout players. They are very consistent in their batting and bowled some lethal balls! Well done to everyone on the squad. We look forward to our next round of games!

U13 Cricket Team

Team of the Month



Max has performed fantastically for the rugby team at school this year. He has played outstandingly well at full back, demonstrating both his speed and power on the pitch. Max scored two tries in the National Cup last 32 helping the U15's secure an impressive victory over Salesians. He will be a vital part of our team moving forward with the last 16 fixtures being held in the last week of this half term. In addition to this, Max has been the standout player for the Year 10 football team this year. He was excellent in our recent Borough 6-a-side tournament, helping the team go on to win and be crowned Borough Champions. Max has been doing well with his academic PE lessons, and has made a great start to his PE GCSE course, performing well in both of his end of unit tests. He will be a vital part of our summer athletics team, and will form part of a very strong inter boys squad, featuring in both the 100m and the relay.



Max scored two tries in the National Cup last 32 helping the U15's secure an impressive victory over Salesians.

Maxwell Seddon

Player of the Month

Jackson has been a fantastic ambassador for the school since he joined Grey Court in September. He always arrives to his PE and scholarship lessons with a superb attitude and has been doing extremely well in both his lacrosse and gymnastic lessons this half term. He works very hard, irrespective of the sport he is playing in, always striving to give his best. Each week he is always up at the front in the daily 1k, building his endurance that is transferring over so well for his other sports. Jackson has been a key part of the football team this year, displaying both his talent and versatility across a range of positions. He has played for the school at left back, left wing and also in central midfield, motoring up and down the pitch. Jackson has provided some crucial goals and assists already for the school this season. He has a brilliant left foot and finished off the winning penalty in a dramatic County Cup victory over Hollyfield earlier in the season. We now look forward to seeing Jackson feature in our remaining football fixtures this year and representing the school during the summer athletics season.

Jackson Terry

Scholar of the Month



Jackson has been a fantastic ambassador for the school

Our team of the month is the U15 football team. They performed exceptionally well to win the 6-a-side borough competition at Hampton High earlier this month. There were some superb performances on the day, and the team came together to remain undefeated throughout the competition. Hugo Griffith was excellent leading from the back. The team played some great possession football throughout the tournament and looked comfortably the best team. It was great to have Dylan back after recovering from his injury. His added skill and quality brought a new dimension to our attacking play. The teams at the competition included Christ's, Teddington, Hampton High, Richard Reynolds, Turing House, RTS, and Richmond Park Academy. Ultimately, it was our victory over RPA in the Final that clinched the Borough title.



Hugo Griffith was excellent leading from the back

U15 Football Team

Team of the Month

OLD KINGSTONIAN HOCKEY CLUB



FREE HOCKEY TRIAL SESSION

TIFFIN GIRLS SCHOOL, KT2 5PL

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2023 • 12:00–13:30

Register **HERE**

or email administrator@okhockey.com

Qualified coaches • Equipment to borrow • Membership offers





Richmond Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Online parent workshop:

We are running two dates -

Monday 6th March 2023 @ 9:30-10:30 am

Wednesday 8th March 2023 @ 6-7pm

Supporting young people manage exam anxiety

As young people begin to approach their exam period, some may experience feelings of anxiety and stress. As a result of Covid-19, your child might go through even more stress around exam preparations due to the ever changing environment and become anxious about taking an exam.

This online workshop is aimed at parents/carers of secondary school students. The session is designed to provide parents with psychoeducation surrounding exam anxiety, and the stress the young person may be facing as they move towards their exams. Information about the foundations of anxiety, how it presents in some teenagers, how their thoughts, feelings, behaviours, and physical feelings may be affected will be shared. Guidance on strategies and advice around tackling these behaviours will also be provided.

If you would like to attend this workshop, please book your ticket using the Eventbrite link below:

Monday 6th March 2023 @ 9:30-10:30 am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mhst-workshopsupporting-young-people-manage-exam-anxiety-6th-march-930am-tickets-548766313817>

Wednesday 8th March 2023 @ 6-7 pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mhst-workshop-supporting-young-people-manage-exam-anxiety-8th-march-6-7pm-tickets-548813916197>

You will then be emailed a Google Meet invite with instructions on how to join one working day before the event. If you have any queries, please email mhstbusiness.support@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Please note that this event is space limited therefore please register as soon as possible should you want to guarantee yourself a place.