

## GRW & GR6

### Diary Dates

**End of Term:** Friday 28 May

**Half Term:** Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June

**Pupils back at school:** Monday 7 June - Please note the Inset day has been moved from Monday 7 June to Friday 25 June.

**GR6 - Adventure Parc Snowdon:** 14-17 June

**GRW - Swanage:** 30 June - 2 July

**Everyone - GR Festival 2021:** 23-24 June

Since Easter it has been a pleasure to bring back all the things that make The Green Room a special place to be. We thrive on our culture, so read on to see what we've been up to!

### The Champions Cup

The Champions Cup has come to a close after a tightly fought Benchball competition this half term. We are delighted to be able to take part in full school sports sessions again with the lifting of COVID restrictions. We have made good use of

1st	The Pink Panthers	
2nd	The Purple Nomads	
3rd	The Age Of Orange	
4th	The Blue Bandits	
5th	The Green Machine	
6th	The Black Sparrows	

## Newsletter May 2021

public spaces to carry out the tournament in which six teams have competed for the right to raise the Champions Cup. Pupils and staff have scored 184 goals over 38 individual matches this half term, However, with 35 points the Pink Panthers topped the league table - well done! See the GR blog for a full report!

### National Limerick Day

May 12th was National Limerick Day and all 3 schools got in on the fun! After a lesson on what a limerick is (a five line poem with a specific AABBA rhyme scheme) pupils and teachers alike tried their hand at some silly poetry. Here are our favourites from our Limerick Celebration:

#### (GRW)

There was a young lad from Reading  
Whose GCSEs he was dreading  
He still has a year  
To get over his fear  
But for now he'll stop it from spreading.

#### (GR6)

A strange bunch, them there GR6,  
Their schooling was a peculiar mix,  
They took lessons in a pub,  
Were fed pressure cooker grub,  
And spent half a term whittling sticks.



### DEAR

This past term has seen a very successful revival of our DEAR program. DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) is a literacy initiative to make sure that pupils have a dedicated time throughout the week to read for pleasure. Children who read - or are read to - everyday have a better chance at being successful in the adult world and we do our best to make sure that they are given that opportunity in school.

The DEAR revival meant that every student was given a book that corresponds with their reading level and interest. There are posters throughout the school that help pupils track their own reading progress and see what books their classmates have selected. Now, every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before lunch the entire school falls silent while pupils and staff alike dive into the pages of a good book. Lovely!

### Strongman Competition

Year 11 pupil, Matt, our resident strongman, has been working on a number of take over events called 'Green Room Strongest' as part of the leadership project for his Silver Arts Award. Matt's first event was called the chairlift, where staff and pupils needed to hold a chair up in front







of them with arms outstretched, complete with the GR strongest mascot on it. The goal was to hold it for the longest amount of time.

It was huge fun and brought out the competitive side in a few pupils and staff. The winner from the pupils was Ollie, lifting for 70 seconds and from the staff, was Matthew, beating his older brother Horsey, by 20 seconds, with a grand total of an amazing 126 seconds! More events will follow over the coming weeks with an arm wrestling competition and a tug of war. Who will be the strongest? It is probably fair to say it will always be our strongman Matt!



story Red Riding Hood and illustrate it in their own style and setting. We had stories about Boxers, Bikers, Footballers and Gamers. Pupils completed the project with a front cover illustration of their story.

### GR6 Expedition

April 2021 marked the 85th anniversary of a quintessential British landmark, the triangulation pillar, or "trig". To celebrate this milestone, learn about the trig pillar's role in mapping the UK, and dip our toes into the healthy pastime of 'trig bagging,' GR6 visited Walbury Hill, the highest point in South East England.

In order to bag our first trig together, GR6 students and staff had to complete a 2.5 mile circular route, which dipped down into the valley beneath the hill and through the tiny hamlet of Combe, before looping round and climbing the hill gradually from the east. The trig itself is 297m above sea level, and once we'd reached the summi we tapped the concrete pillar in celebration!

Everyone had a great walk, and enjoyed spectacular views of the surrounding North Wessex

Downs AONB. It was also great training for GR6's upcoming trip to Adventure Parc Snowdonia, where they hope to scale Snowdon, which at 1085m is 3.65 times as tall!

### Engineering

Engineering pupils have been exploring the science behind self supporting bridges, often referred to as Da Vinci bridges, as drawings of the design featured in the Italian polymath's notebooks. However, as pupils learned, examples of the same design are found in Song Dynasty artwork, pointing to a likely origin in China, centuries before Da Vinci put pen to paper.

Whoever devised the ingenious structure, Green Room pupils learned that they require nothing but friction and gravity to hold them together. After studying the theory, they were given the materials to build their own, and as you can see, they had great success! Not only did they manage to support the weight of their heaviest classmate, but also their heaviest teacher who is approaching 100kg!



### Art, Craft & Design - Illustration Project

This term, pupils have been developing their understanding for Graphic Communication and have been working as illustrators. Pupils had the opportunity to devise their own version of the classic folk





## GRK

### Diary Dates

**End of half term:** Friday 28 May  
**Half Term:** Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June  
**Back to school:** Monday 7 June  
**Thorpe Park trip for Groups C&D:** Tuesday 8 June  
**DofE expedition for Groups A&B:** Tuesday-Wednesday 8-9 June  
**Inset day:** Friday 25 June  
**Parents Day:** Friday 2 July 11am-1.45pm (TBC)  
**Camping in the New Forest:** Tuesday-Thursday 6-8 July  
**Last day of term, games & BBQ:** Friday 9 July

### Futures

At the end of April, our Year 10 and 11 pupils had a visit from Holly at Amazing Apprenticeships to explore different options open to them after GRK. We were impressed by the number and variety of apprenticeships available in our local area, some with big well-known companies and others with smaller, family run businesses.

### Music Lessons

Online school revealed that we have plenty of promising musicians at GRK, so this term we have offered weekly drum, keyboard and guitar lessons to pupils who have shown an interest. These have been a great success and it is wonderful to hear great tunes and steady rhythms rocking the school. How long can we resist putting a band together?

### National Limerick Day

There once was a limerick day,  
 The pupils all had a play,



With words and jokes,  
 And wrote about folk,  
 Very successful I'd say!

Pupils did a great job in their English lesson at writing some limericks for National Limerick Day!

### Reward Trips

We have enjoyed taking pupils on their well deserved reward trips this half term as so many of them have earned G-Bucks for pupil of the week, work of the week and our values of Kindness, Curiosity and Change. Some staff and pupils have been to Flip Out Trampoline park, the cinema and go karting and many more are booked for next half term!

### DofE Prep

With our expedition just round the corner, preparations are in full swing. We have done some map work, practiced putting up tents, used our stoves as well as some basic first aid. Keeping fingers & toes crossed that the weather picks up and we have a clear run to tackle the Surrey Hills come June!

### West Wittering

We went to West Wittering beach for a breath of fresh air, and we certainly got that! Battling 25mph wind, the pupils showed great resilience! Some enjoyed a paddle and others even a swim, and the fish and chips and ice creams were delicious!



### Horse Riding

This term we have taken the whole school for horse riding lessons at Greatham Equestrian Centre. Each pupil that has







taken part has shown bravery and great listening skills. Debbie, the centre owner, said she loves teaching our school as pupils are well mannered and they all try hard. The pupils have made some great connections with the amazing horses they have ridden each week.

### Animal Update

We have been concentrating on tidying up our animal field this term and it is looking fab and (mainly) poo free! Bring on the great compost for Horticulture lessons. The animal enclosures are getting a fresh lick of paint and a tidy up.

Loki, our beautiful ferret, is still at our local ferret rescue centre making friends, and we are really looking forward to welcoming him back to the GRK family soon.

### Humanities

In Humanities we are taking our students on a world tour and stopping off at different



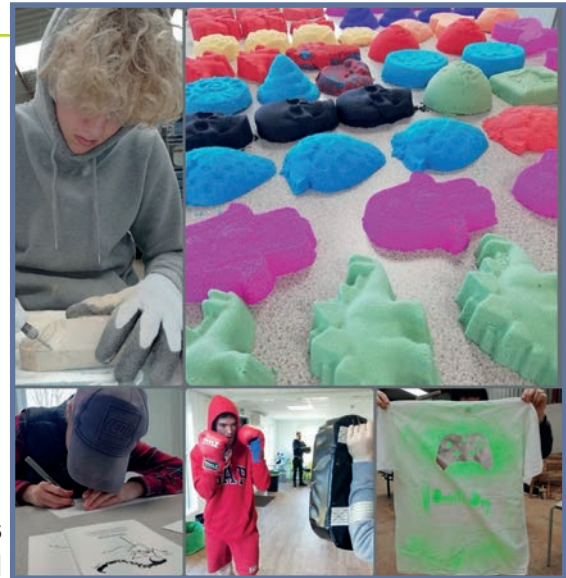
destinations every week. From Japan to France, it's been a wild ride so far and with local food, clothes and interesting topics all on display, it's immersive Humanities with a twist!

### Tractors

Our Year 11s have been tractor driving with Ally this term. Some of them are almost ready for their Tractor Driving Test to gain their qualification!

### 4D

The students have had some fantastic 4th Dimension workshops this half term including Thai Boxing, Illustration, Bath Bomb making, T-shirt Designing, Stone Masonry and Sign Language



### Inspiring Change

In Inspiring Change this term, we have been working on volunteering and community work, in line with the older students completing their DofE. The students have been car washing, litter picking and researching mini libraries to create in the local village.

### Staff and Pupil News

We have welcomed some wonderful new pupils into GRK and are looking forward to having a full school in September with 5 clear Year groups. As for staff, we welcome Cassie our new Cook, Glenn our new Caretaker, Nicola our new LSA and Jo our new SLT Teacher after half term. We are also excited for Lauren's return after maternity leave and send our best wishes to Naomi, our fab yoga teacher, as she leaves us to have her baby!

### Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Lexie, Gareth, Rob and Josh who will all celebrate their birthdays next half term. We hope you all have fantastic birthdays.

For up to date news and events visit our social media channels and our blog [thegreenroomschool.com/blog](http://thegreenroomschool.com/blog)