

## GRW & GR6

## Newsletter December 2021

### Diary Dates

**Term ends:** Friday 10 December 2021

**Inset day:** Tuesday 4 January 2022

**Pupils return:** Wednesday 5 January 2022

**Coffee Corner:** 7 January 2022

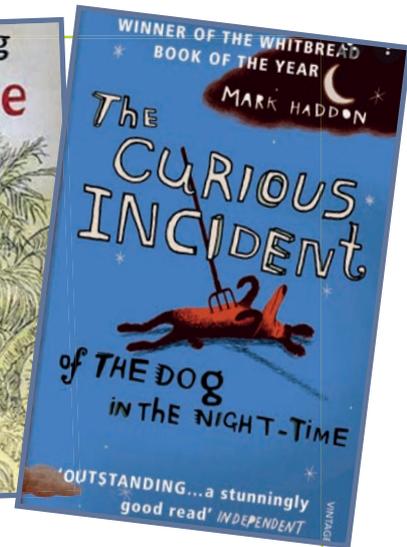
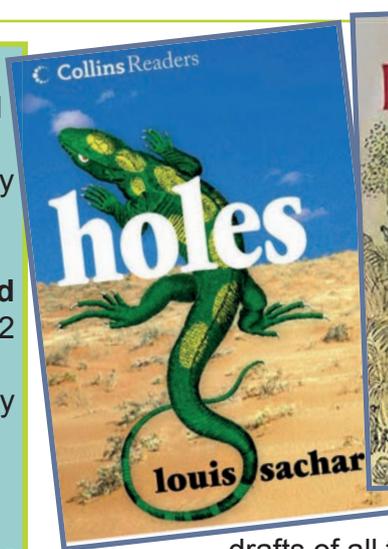
**Immunisation for HPV/IPV and Men ACWY for all year 9 pupils:** 2 February 2022:

**Spring half term:** Monday 21 February - Monday 28 February

**Inset Day:** Monday 28 February

**Back to school:** Tuesday 1 March

**Easter holidays:** Monday 11th April - Monday 25th April



As the nights still draw closer we have plenty to be thankful for!. In 2021 the question has been, "What is education all about?" As ever at The Green Room, we do our best to give all our pupils the chance to be curious in all the things they are passionate about, give them experiences that will form character and friendships. But most of all to see kindness as a strength that will help our pupils to help themselves and each other to see us through these cold weeks and start 2022 with a bang. Read on to see what we have been up to and what is in store for next year. Thank you all for your support this term. Have a joyful and peaceful break and we look forward to seeing you all next year!

### English

There has been plenty to celebrate this term for our young people. Newton have read Holes and started The Curious Incident of the dog in the nighttime; Curie have started their iGCSE English Language journey by completing first

drafts of all three pieces of coursework; Bronte have completed coursework and developed their comprehension skills while the Literature students have devoured Lord of the Flies, mused the Power and Conflict poetry anthology and taken their first steps into the murderous world of Macbeth.

A special mention must go to some of the creative writing progress this half term. There was a twitter story that earned work of the week and some of the iGCSE coursework pieces have provided some very enjoyable reading.

Next term the journey continues. For our year 11s the momentum towards the summer examinations will gather pace, for year 10s it will be a crucial time to consolidate and master some key skills such as

identifying implicit meanings and grammatical control and for year 9 we will be developing our reading skills towards being GCSE ready.

### Science

In Biology this half term we have covered topics including human digestion, food chains, photosynthesis and plant reproduction. Newton class kept a bean and pea germination diary!

Chemistry topics included structure and bonding of substances for Bronte, and a study of how to separate mixtures for Newton and Curie, including chromatography of spinach leaf extract.

Physics practical work covered the wiring of a plug and finding out what a 3-core cable contains, as well as the role of a fuse.





An investigation to find the best thermal conductor was also carried out. It was a close call between Aluminium and Copper (which explains the bases of some of your pans at home!)

Our year 11 students are working hard and will be continuing to prepare for summer GCSEs by practicing exam style questions. Year 10 pupils are creating a firm foundation of scientific principles in readiness for their GCSE's and becoming familiar with exam style questions already.

Newton class is consolidating KS3 topics and working really nicely together as a group.

## Maths

We'd like to congratulate Newton on their first full term of Maths at GRW; all have made great progress as we have covered topics such as: Rounding, Multiplying & Dividing, BIDMAS and Angles. All pupils have also completed their End of Term Assessment, which will determine their baseline level.

Curie have progressed well as they are now well in to their first year of GCSE. We start Monday morning with 10 in 10, where we complete ten 1-mark questions in 10 minutes with an aim to hopefully never letting those easy 1 markers slip away again!

In Bronte, we start most lessons by looking at some Grade 4/5/6 crossover content with the ambition of gaining confidence

around the larger questions that have more marks attached to them.

## Clock Design Project

This term in Art, Craft & Design pupils have been working on a clock design project - they have been working through the design system of 'asking' who they are designing for, 'imagining' the design by brainstorming ideas, 'planning' the design in drawn and written formats, 'creating' the design from their plans and 'improving' the design to learn from the experience. It's been a delight to see such a diverse set of clocks being produced using wood, 3D prints, epoxy resin, go kart steering wheels, toy cars, vinyl records and bike parts to name but a few. Pupils have really engaged in the process and have produced some brilliant clocks that we celebrated in an end of term exhibition of work.

We are really looking forward to continuing our creative journey in Art, Craft & Design next term

when Cal will be leading the pupils in a photography project.

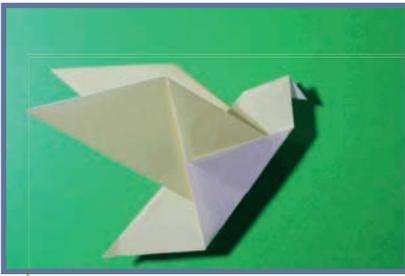
## Wings Trustees dinner

During November we hosted our first ever school Trustees dinner. Students invited our Trustees and Senior Leadership Team along to The Green Room for a slap up three course meal to thank the hard working Trustees who donate their time and expertise to us.

The students designed the menu which included salmon and savory pastries to start, a hearty festive pie for the main course and a luxurious apple crumble and hot chocolate brownie all served with cream, custard and ice cream for dessert.

They created a relaxed fine dining experience for each of the guests and received a round of applause for their efforts. They did a fantastic job and created a hugely successful event - we will definitely do this again!





## 4D

The 4th Dimension provision this Half Term has been fantastic with Geography, Origami, Child Development, School Council, Documentaries and Doodling, Animal care and Business and Enterprise. GRW 4th Dimension sessions run for 30 minutes on Mondays and Tuesdays and expand our young minds via a passion-led delivery. Pupils have discovered a new found fascination for Origami and across the six sessions we have folded our way through some mindful practices and really got some great art produced from Paku Paku to the infamous Dragon.

## A Doctor and a Priest Walk into a Pub

GR6 students welcomed two pillars of the Clewer community into The Swan's School House last week - the Reverend Rosie from Clewer Parish, which includes the ancient St Andrews church just along from The Swan, and Dr Ed Harrison, a GP based in Windsor who looks after 15,000 local residents as well as Eton College and the castle! Both gave us some fascinating insights into their professional worlds, and took a range of questions from GR6. The "ask me anything"

style event delved into topics such as adolescent mental health, spirituality, faith, sleep and health - with lots of thought-provoking questions from the students of GR6.

## GRThink

In their project-based learning sessions GR6 students have been looking at the ways in which we share knowledge and the benefits it brings to us all to learn from each other and take interest in the world and people around us. The project, called GRThink, culminated this week with students giving presentations about their passions, hobbies or interests to the whole group - a nerve-racking but ultimately cathartic experience for those who stood up to speak or answered questions from the group. Areas of knowledge shared by students included the craft of acting, kickboxing, the cycle of a 4-stroke engine (using an actual cut out lawnmower engine), and the dystopian sci-fi movie In Time, the "greatest film ever made" according to Skye.

## Winter Fayre

The WINGS students stall holders had a successful evening at this year's Winter Fayre, with their hand crafted trinkets and treasures. They



included mini bottle decorations with a snow globe effect inside the bottle, ready portioned jars containing mixtures for cookies, hot chocolate and cake, intricate hama bead decorations and organising and calling the raffle and issuing prizes to some very lucky winners. Santa made his usual appearance, there were arts and crafts, karaoke, burgers and hot dogs and of course the performance of Windsor and Eton Living Advent Calendar.



## Ice Skating

Both GRW and GR6 pupils enjoyed a trip to 'Windsor on Ice' and made their way around the ice rink and bumper cars as part of this terms rewards trip! There was skill aplenty, a lot of falls and fun had all round.

## WINGS Achievements

WINGS pupils have celebrated some incredible achievements this term. Kadelin, Arianna and Rosie have made great progress with their A-level studies and all pupils have completed their level 2 food hygiene certificates.

Elliot has started work experience at Lavender Green Flowers in Windsor working as a warehouse assistant and made a great impression on the people he is working with.

Kerry is also making brilliant progress completing an online fire fighting training course and is complementing this by working through a first aid course.

Ren has started his gaming development course and has begun his journey of moving towards a job in the gaming and coding industry. It is always impressive to see how much work pupils are capable of and the lengths they will go to in order to carve out a positive future for themselves. We are looking forward to seeing what this group of talented young guns is capable of next term.

## Looking Ahead

As this year draws to a close we turn our attention to 2022, and look forward to what will be another busy term at GRW. We will be conducting GCSE Mock examinations for our exam takers throughout the last week of January. This will give this year's exam cohort the opportunity to experience



the exam room and exam conditions, as well as giving them the most realistic indication of exactly how they are doing in their Core Subjects at this stage.

All pupils will have a fresh set of 4th Dimension options to choose from, all of which will provide them with the opportunity to broaden their knowledge base. Choices include Songwriting with Mark, Documentaries and Doodles with Tom, Movies That Made Us with Charley, School Council with Richard, Animal Awareness with Rebecca, Finance with Callum and Mindfulness with Claire. Arts and Crafts has now concluded and that session on a Thursday's option will be Photography once we return in January.

Any Year 11 who has signed up to take a morning Circle Time will be given a date and will begin working towards hosting that.

We will also be going on our rescheduled trip to Hemel Hempstead Snow Centre. Something to look forward to in the lull after Christmas.

Our third Rewards Trip of the year will happen, and every pupil has the opportunity to get themselves on that, as our Behaviour data has now reset after the last Reward Trip to Odds Farm.

We will be recognising National Apprenticeship Week from the 7th to the 13th February.



Year 9's will be receiving immunisations on February 2nd, relevant information to follow. We will also be hosting our third Movie Evening of the School year next term.

## Important reminder

In order to keep us all safe, please ensure your young person does a lateral flow test before returning to school on Wednesday, 5 January.

## Birthdays

Happy birthday to these pupils from all of us at The Green Room!

22nd December- Callum (GR6)  
28th December - Jamie (GRW)

Happy Christmas from all of us -  
Bring on 2022!

## GRK

**End of term:** Friday 10 December  
**Christmas holidays:** Monday 13 December - Tuesday 4 January  
**Inset Day:** Tuesday 4 January  
**Back to school:** Wednesday 5 January  
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go, we are even more excited for what they could go on to do! Pupils have been checking out courses in e-sports, coding, mechanics, construction and media to name but a few! More visits are in the pipeline for the New Year.

### Reward trips

Pupils have been cashing in their g-bucks for reward trips. They have earned g-bucks through being pupil of the week, producing work of the week or demonstrating some of our school values such as kindness, bravery or curiosity to their learning. Pupils have been go-karting and swinging on some high ropes courses in the forests.



and the correct culprit was thankfully apprehended.

### Treasure trail

We explored Aldershot on a self-guided spy mission themed Treasure Trail. As we followed the Trail route, we solved the sneaky clues set on existing buildings, permanent features and monuments to crack the code and complete the mission just like a true secret agent.

### CSI Day

Pupils engaged in a Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) day where they had to perform the same type of forensic tests that professionals would use in order to determine who the fictitious GRK murderer was! The whole school was transformed into a CSI laboratory where pupils needed to match up six different pieces of evidence including blood typing, fingerprinting and microscopic fibre analysis! Their true detective skills flourished



### Covid

Although there have been some positive cases, pupils have shown tremendous resilience to continue to do lateral flow testing everyday and keeping up with hygiene in school, well done guys! Those who had to isolate were able to continue online learning with staff. We continue to follow government guidelines and we are enjoying our Christmas week!

### College Open Days

Pupils from years 10 & 11 have been thinking hard about their futures by going out to open days at different colleges around the local area. These are great opportunities to see what they would like to do after GRK, and while sad to see them





### Careers

In November, we had a visit from our wonderful careers advisor, Nikki. All of our Year 11 pupils (and some in Year 10) were able to spend some quality time with her to think through their options for when they leave GRK, including college courses and apprenticeships, as well as exploring future career ideas.

### Christmas Fair

Sadly the Christmas Fayre had to be cancelled this year due to Covid. Pupils made a great effort in crafting and cooking all the incredible festive items and gift ideas. However, all the items from the GRK Fayre instead went on sale at the GRW Fayre on the 3rd of December with many of the items being snapped up very quickly, raising a fantastic £300!

### Tutor Groups

Our vertical tutor groups are in full swing, with lots of activities going on, including designing a tutor coat of arms to the weekly quiz - both staff and pupils

getting very competitive. Well done to Green tutor group for winning the last competition! Your ribbons are attached to our shiny tutor cup... for now!

### Birthdays

Happy Birthday to so many lovely people: Emily G, Theo, Emily K, Stirling, Ronnie K, Maya, Curtis, Oliver & Jodie who will all celebrate their birthdays over the Christmas holidays and next Spring 1 term. We hope you all have fantastic birthdays!

### Christmas Activity Week

Pupils have enjoyed a trip to Camberley bowling followed by a movie evening at school filled with treats.

Cassie has been working hard on our traditional delicious Christmas dinner and the Senior Leadership Team are very much looking forward to surprising the school with a Christmas themed inter tutor competition.