

the GREENROOM school



GRW & GR6

Newsletter October 2021

Diary Dates

Term ends: Wednesday 20 October
Inset day: Monday 1 November
Pupils return: Tuesday 2 November
Parent Meet/Coffee Corner: Friday 12 November 10.30am
Last day of term: Friday 10 December
Inset Day: Tuesday 4 January
Back to school: Wednesday 5 January

This first half term has absolutely raced by! This is possibly because we are back to doing all the things that we love; our trips, sports sessions, epic events. We're making plans to do much more! The pupils have been tremendous this term. We have seen a lot of new faces and they are getting stuck in straight away. We have new staff too who already feel like they have been here forever, which is a great sign...The Green Room family is getting bigger!

(Speaking of which, congratulations to Dana for the arrival of baby Nathaniel!) Read on to see how we've kicked off 2021/22...



Jeans for Genes Day

Back in September we asked our pupils to ditch the trackies and hoodies and bust out the denim! The call to support a



hugely worthy cause, which provides all sorts of aid to families and individuals affected by the vast array of genetic disorders, was answered by our pupils admirably. Jeans, shirts and denim jackets were the order of the day, and we as a school managed to raise £105.30 through cash and donations to the app. We take immense pride in being able to come together as a school, a community and a family and help all manner of causes and charities, and we hope the money raised contributes to the overall effort of amazing people that are doing so much to help those that are less fortunate than ourselves.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On the 24th September all hands were on deck (and in mouths) as pupils and staff alike came together for Macmillan Coffee Morning. Sweet and savoury bakes were bought in by both

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING
A BIG THANK YOU
Thank you for donating £35.15 and being part of this year's World's Biggest Morning.

pupils and staff and happily devoured by all. As a group, we managed to raise £35.15 in cash, with many more donations being made directly to the Macmillan website - our total came to just under £100!

British Food Fortnight

From the 18th September to the 3rd October we took the opportunity to celebrate the diverse and delicious food that Britain produces by participating in British Food Fortnight. The initiative is in its 20th year and is the biggest national celebration of British food on the nation's calendar. We take huge pride in providing our pupils with a varied and healthy lunch every single school day, and British Food Fortnight allowed us the opportunity to

introduce them to even more culinary delights from good old Blighty! Food





WINGS Legoland

It's been a fantastic start to the year for the WINGS Programme. The gang are gaining huge amounts of confidence working with Ellie in the kitchen. They look completely at home working front of house at The Swan and have made incredible progress throughout the curriculum. We couldn't have had a better start to the year. With that in mind it's onwards and upwards on our mission to #ShockTheWorld. Finally we went to LEGOLAND to kick off Monday Funday to participate in a LEGOLAND business workshop which marks the beginning of our hospitality sector research visits.

and Cookery lessons based around British produce, as well as numerous lunchtimes, allowed pupils to enjoy Cottage Pie, Fish & Chips, Chicken Tikka Masala (yes, it was invented in Birmingham!) and of course, the Full English Breakfast.

Black History Month

This October we have been hearing about the achievements of black people throughout history, as we have been recognising Black History Month. Whether it has been finding out more about Nelson Mandela in Circle Time, cooking Caribbean cuisine in Food and Cookery lessons or studying how black culture has influenced the English language, it has been wonderful to see our pupils broaden their knowledge and display curiosity around Black History.

GR6 Awards Evening

The School House of The Swan welcomed back some old faces as the GR6 Class of 2021 came back for their

delayed Graduation Awards Evening. Pupils and parents were treated to a feast of mocktails, canapes and pizzas and the school house had been transformed into a glamorous party setting. It was a great opportunity for staff to catch up with some of the GR6 graduates who had gone onto college, and for them to share memories of what was an epic year last year. Staff also handed out a raft of ROCCIT Citations, and awarded the students their ROCCIT portfolios and cards. A great evening was had by all.

GRW Rewards Trip

Each half term we reward the top three pupils with a special trip out to celebrate their hard work and achievements over the half term. For the first reward trip this year we took pupils to the cinema to enjoy the new Marvel film - Shang Chi and The Legend of the Ten Rings. It was a delightful cinematic experience enjoyed by staff and pupils alike.



New Pigeon Holes

Everybody needs a place for their belongings as they attend the school day of lessons. At GRW it was raised by the pupils to enhance the area of the school referred to as The Makerspace, so entitled by the creativity in which it develops,

now occupies general cabinetry with a cubic pigeon-hole for each pupil. A place for a pupil's back pack, or sports kit, this wonderful transition of a small space has been most welcome.

GR Sport

Some pupils have enjoyed using the swimming facilities at the Windsor Leisure Centre this term, and it's been wonderful to have it as another sporting option. Our school sports programme is fully underway and it's been a big success this term. We've played Football, hit some 6's in Cricket, scored some 'jouet' goals in Bench Ball and taken Battle Ball to the next level. We would like

to acknowledge the fantastic enthusiasm and energy shown by all pupils this half term to create a healthy, competitive sporting environment in the lead up to The Green Room Winter Games next half term. Keep up the fantastic work and motivation to have fun. We can't wait for Half Term 2.



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GRK

End of term: Wednesday 20 October
Half term: Thursday 21 October - Friday 29 October
Inset Day: Monday 1 November
Back to school: Tuesday 2 November
Parent Meet/Coffee Corner: Tuesday 7 December at 6pm
Last day of term: Friday 10 December
Inset Day: Tuesday 4 January
Back to school: Wednesday 5 January

Animals

The animals have kept us very busy this half term, we've had lots of practice cleaning out and maintaining their enclosures, we've created enrichment tools for them and spent lots of time with them enjoying their company which is always very therapeutic. To end the term

we gathered up the donkeys, little Lucy and the goats and headed off around the farm on a lovely walk.

Camping

Pupils enjoyed a fantastic camping trip in the New Forest at Ferny Crofts with trips to Bournemouth beach where staff and pupils enjoyed a dip in the sea, and fish and chips by

the pier. Pupils also took on the challenge of a two and a half hour kayaking session which





was great fun. They enjoyed hot chocolates and BBQs by the campfire as well as our usual games of manhunt. Pupils pitched their tents and cleared away brilliantly and were a real credit to the school.

Humanities

This half term all pupils have been learning more about the countries closest to them... those within the UK! They had a few weeks learning about Northern Ireland, due to their new Humanities teacher being from there herself! They got to try Irish Champ, Irish Stew and potato bread, linking to the Potato Famine. We then moved onto Scotland, where those who were up for it, tried Haggis, before venturing to something sweeter in Wales with Welsh Cakes. Humanities helps develop the students' understanding of the world, geographically and historically, as well as keeping them up to date with current affairs. Watch this space to see what they learn when they travel further afield outside of the UK next term!

Science

Pupils have been engaging in all things Biology this half term from brain and heart dissections, how our immune system works, engaging in a mock drug trial, experimenting with the nervous system and creating their own digestive systems. Not to mention the small matter of figuring out how the universe was formed! Pupils also figured out how much sugar we should have every day and how much they might have in one drink with some shocking results!



Leaflet Drop

Pupils at GRK spread the word of a Parish Council event by getting involved with the village leaflet drop. It was great to get active and help the community.

Coffee Corner

We finished the half term with another of our popular Coffee Corners where parents, carers and staff reflected on our varied and exciting curriculum, as well as our work to help prepare pupils for life beyond GRK. While we don't like to think about any of our pupils moving on, for our older pupils this is an exciting time of year to attend college open days (or GRK tours) and to start thinking about and planning work experience. It is fantastic to see some of our pupils beginning to form ideas and get excited about what the future holds, which also provides great motivation to make the most of their remaining time at GRK.

Curriculum

This term has launched with a fantastic variety of lessons which have been met enthusiastically by the pupils, from swimming to CPR and first aid! There has also been keyboard, piano, drums and guitar lessons on offer for our budding young musicians.



Bushcraft

We've had a great half term at Bushcraft, all pupils have been practicing and developing whittling, knife and tool skills. They have carved spoons, staffs and walking sticks, split wood, created Neolithic balls,



taken turns to light the fire, and cooked an array of tasty food including steak burgers, lamb koftas, pita bread, bacon sandwiches, pancakes and popcorn.

Bushcraft builds confidence and a sense of achievement, as well as developing a sense of belonging, alongside providing lots of opportunities that will challenge pupils and engage them with learning in a far more practical way. We strive to increase independence skills and develop students self-confidence and have as much fun and enjoy all Bushcraft has to offer.



Lunch Clubs (Mysteries/ Stop Motion Animation)

We have offered a huge range of lunch clubs every day this term such as Dance, Lego, Greek, Mysteries, Stop Motion Animation, board games, boxing and more. In Mysteries we have looked at some of the big mysteries of the world such as the Loch Ness Monster, Big Foot, ghosts and the Bermuda Triangle, discussing whether we believe in them or not, what we think of them and putting forward our opinions and ideas. We will continue to cover many more mysteries of the world every week. Some of the pupils have shown a lot of interest in this and it has created such interesting conversations and debates. Stop Motion Animation has also been a popular lunch club, the pupils have really enjoyed coming along to this and getting creative by taking photos of objects, frame by frame, to create the illusion of a moving object in their own video. They've used plasticine, lego and other arts and crafts to build their props.



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to so many lovely people: **Cassie, Jamie, Reggie, Isla, Rebecca, Ally, Glenn, Loris, Emily, Theo and Sophie.** who will all celebrate their birthdays over the October half term and next Autumn term. We hope you all have fantastic birthdays.

Cooking

We have had an amazing start to our cookery lessons this half term, which have been even better than usual thanks to our fabulous new ovens! We are lucky enough to have purchased three new units which come with two hob rings and an oven in each. This allows each child in the class to have their own work station. This term we are focussing on basic cooking and hygiene skills and will be moving forward in producing our very own GRK cookbook.

For up to date news and events visit our social media channels