

# GRATELEY HOUSE SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Be Kind, Be Brave, Be You



Issue 9  
Summer Term 2024



# Principal's Welcome

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

Welcome to the ninth edition of the GHS Newsletter.

As this academic year draws to a close, it provides an opportunity to reflect on everything we have achieved here at Grateley House School over the past nine months.

In this newsletter I hope you will thoroughly enjoy being able to read about some of the fantastic learning and personally enriching experiences that have taken place over the course of the summer term. As staff, being able to be part of these opportunities with the students is something incredibly special and together we have made some amazing memories.

Since September 2023 we have had 18 young people join our school and this has really been something to celebrate. Our existing students had clearly voiced that they really wanted more friends and we were really keen to safely grow our student population, providing a real sense of community. Those students who have joined this year have all adjusted well to school life and have each made a positive contribution in their own right. We feel really privileged to be able to support their individual journeys whilst they are with us.

As you may know, we had an unannounced Ofsted Social Care Inspection in June and we were exceptionally pleased to maintain our Good rating across all areas. This was testament to the passion and dedication of the Care team in wanting to ensure that the residential students are actively encouraged to achieve their personal best.

Currently, we are finalising our preparations for the Annual Celebration Day and we are looking forward to recognising and celebrating each of the student's personal achievements. We will also be saying goodbye to some students who have been part of the school for many years. We are so proud of the young adults they have become.

At the end of this term, we will also be saying a fond farewell to George Fox, Head of Education. We will miss his boundless energy and evident drive for wanting the best for the students. I am sure you will all want to join me in wishing him the very best in his next venture.

Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all of the staff for their hard work and importantly for your continued support. I hope that you and your families are able to enjoy the summer.

I look forward to welcoming the students back to school on Wednesday 4th September.

Best wishes,

Eva Pereira



# New Starters

Be Kind Be Brave Be You



"Hi, my name is; Mick, Mike, Mick the brush,

I joined Grateley House School 07/05/2024 as a member of the maintenance team.

Within this short time at this school, I have been truly amazed by the professionalism and care from all staff across the board not only towards the students, but, towards each other.

I am truly enjoying my time at this school and looking forward to many more happy times.

My main hobby is Golf, Playing off a Handicap of 9,

DIY is also a hobby I take very seriously, I have to really, it is my partner who gives me a list of jobs to do on a Friday evening, to be completed by Sunday evening. (or else)."

"My name is Karl Topliss, I am a Teaching Assistant at Grateley House School. I assist teachers with to support the students with their learning in maths, science. ICT and PE. I also deliver 1:1 maths and English sessions to help students progress in a way that meets their personal needs.

In my spare time I enjoy fitness and health, including yoga, fit to box, riding my bike and bootcamp. I really enjoy spending time with my wife Lindsey and walking our Collie Dog Peg. For less active fun, I get my Lego out, both free building and sets, and I also play games on my Xbox.

I am really enjoying working at Grateley House, and hope to make a positive difference for all students at the school."



"My name is Amaka Uyanwune, and I recently joined the team as a teaching assistant at Grateley House School. I intend to leverage my previous experience as a support worker to create a nurturing and supportive learning environment for students. My hobbies include sewing, travelling, and exploring diverse cuisines, which fuel my passion for understanding and appreciating different cultures. I look forward to contributing to Grateley House School and fostering both academic and personal growth in our students."



# Ampport News

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

Courtnall has continued with his activities in the community this Term.

He has been attending Koala Teens Club every other Tuesday evening in Andover and he really enjoys socialising and meeting his friends there. On the other Tuesday, Courtnall goes to the local gym, sometimes with a school peer and he has been putting a lot of work into improving his fitness. Along with the gym, Courtnall has been going out for a run around Grateley each week and recently was able to run for 5K without stopping. Courtnall is now focused on improving his personal best time.

Courtnall still attends a local football team on a Thursday evening for training. They play each week at a local secondary school and compete in competitive matches against other teams on a monthly basis at Eastleigh.

Courtnall was part of the team for this year's Swimathon which is a nationwide swimming event and one of the largest annual fundraisers in the country.

Courtnall has done really well in maintaining friendships and is in regular contact with them both in school and at the clubs he attends. He is well liked and it is such a wonderful sight seeing him interacting and having meaningful relationships. He continues to keep in contact with friends during time at home and looks forward to seeing them again in person when he returns to school.

Fran has been visiting a teen group in Andover called Koala Club and has made a couple of friends there. They keep in contact with each other throughout the week and Fran really looks forward to meeting their friends and new people away from Grateley House School. At Koala they enjoy the activities that are available to do when they are there, such as arts and crafts, gaming, soft play, board games and a safe place to socialise.

Fran has been her budgeting skills and at the beginning of the week goes shopping in the community to buy items for her week.



She also enjoys her once weekly baking sessions in house, where she gets the opportunity to be very creative. Fran has also consistently baked items for staff, peers and fund-raising events.

Fran also continues to enjoy creative activities in the home such as arts and crafts and has developed some serious skills in making cat masks of all things!



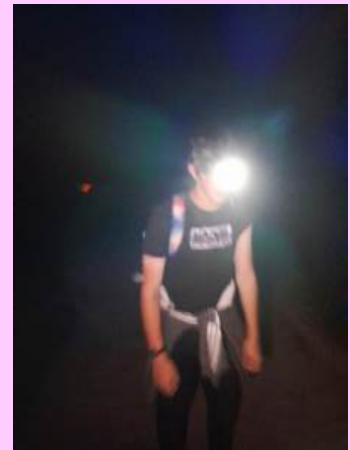
# Monxton News

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

The summer term always flies by and we can't believe we are near the end already! Monxton have been busy as always, with lots of exciting things going on.

Carter and Harper continue to prepare and plan for next year after they both finish year 11. Harper has continued to visit potential placements for the future and has engaged well with various meetings with the Local Authority to express his views and advocate his wishes. Carter has completed his GCSE exams and is now awaiting the results day in August!

There have been various events that have taken place over the term throughout the school. Carter has joined in with a few of these, including beach volley ball and more impressively, the Welsh 3-Peaks where himself and a few others climbed Snowdon, Cadair Idris and Pen-y-Fan all in 24 hours! Harper has



enjoyed a few trips out and about in the evening including meeting up with previous GHS students to keep their friendship going and taking a staff members dog for a 'river walk' when it was really hot. Harper has also been on a very long mission of trying to find a trench coat – he visited several charity shops until finally achieving success!

Monxton garden is still a work in progress with new and improved plans in place! Come September, we will be planting lots of new plants that will hopefully benefit the wildlife as well as our eyes. We are also having a friendly



competition with Amport and trying to grow pumpkins – whichever is the biggest, wins! Mrs Pereira will be our impartial adjudicator and will judge who wins when October comes around.

Staffing wise, we have sadly lost Sophie (who has moved into a different role at GHS) and is very missed within the house but we all wish her the best with her new role as Pastoral Support Lead. We have also had a internal changes with management with Tanya taking on the Interim Team Manager role, giving Mr Hand a well-earned break!



# The Grateley Stomp

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On the May Bank Holiday Monday, the second of our fund raising events was held – The Grateley Stomp.

There was a keen and energetic group of students and staff ready and willing to get their 'stomp on!'.



Those who participated chose to either run or walk distances between 5km – 20km.

The students were really focussed with a significant number of them covering a distance of 20km which was really impressive.

We were incredibly proud of the students who took part – The sense of achievement they each felt was evident as they reached the finishing line.

The weather was kind to us as the sun was shining and we were able to complete the event before the heavens dramatically opened.

Money raised from this event is going towards funding a defibrillator for the GHS site.





# Stratford Lodge News

Be Kind Be Brave Be You



In this final term the students have been really focused on their future lives, which has entailed attending meetings about their transition, going to interviews, college open days, taking part in assessments and exams.

The staff this term have been focusing on life skills and art. Students were shown how to read a payslip, learnt about tax and how to read an electric meter. They were also shown the fuse boxes and what to do if the electric goes off. Everyone really enjoyed using the air-dry clay and letting their imagination run wild.

The raised flower beds at the end of the garden have had some more work done to them and we now have a wildlife pond with plants that have been kindly donated and a herb garden.



Students went to their first comic con in Eastleigh, which they found really fun and quite an experience, so much so a few weeks later we went to another one in Swindon at the Steam museum. It was quite strange admiring the steam engines and then seeing a storm trooper walk past. We then went for a walk around the shopping outlet centre and got free sweets from the Haribo shop!



Steph got her first ever job, waitressing in the Grateley village pub which gave her valuable experience as well as her first pay! Steph is still planning on applying to become an on-call fire fighter and has started the assessment process.

Rupert has continued with his driving lessons and will hopefully pass his test soon. In a few months Rupert will be joining the company he did his work experience, where he will work for them for a year before starting an apprenticeship next year. Rupert also took part in the Welsh 3 Peaks trip.

Lucas has been visiting Sparsholt college and is considering attending there in September he continues to enjoy working on his Warhammer figures.

Everyone really enjoyed their careers day recently. They met with the careers team coordinator for workshops and then all had an interview with her. It was an extremely valuable experience and made everyone think about their career prospects and future.

Activity week will be the best yet!! The activities organised are axe throwing, archery and crossbow at Insight in the New Forest. We are also going to Go Ape at Moors Valley, taking part in the Treetops challenge and the inflatable obstacle course at the New Forest Aqua Park.

The leavers meal will be at Cosmo's in Southampton again as everyone enjoyed it so much last time.



# Earth Day

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

This year, Earth Day took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

Earth Day is an important event in the world's calendar, giving us time to reflect on our impact on the planet, both as individuals and citizens of the earth. We worked on a cross curricular theme, considering how sport affects the environment. Students thought about how global warming affects sports like tennis, and also how playing sport in other countries can affect athletes. Students found it interesting to find out about the huge global impact of large sporting tournaments such as The Olympics.

Students were inspired to make pledges to try to lessen their carbon footprint and ensure the planet is safe for the future.

Pledges include:

I won't waste food

I will turn off the tap when I  
brush my teeth

I will walk more

I will spend 1 minute less in the shower

Perhaps these are things we can all try?





# Post-16 News

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

The Summer Term often brings change for all the students in post-16. There is always an anxious feel in the Summer Term as many are sitting assessments or examinations for their courses or even needing to complete assignments which will then determine whether they can progress to the next stage of their learning at the same college or whether this may lead on to education, employment or work-based training elsewhere.

We have had a successful college cohort this year with 5 students working towards gaining the qualifications they set out to achieve at the start of the academic year. These qualifications include Level 3 Biology, Extended Project Qualification, A-Level Fine Art, A-Level Animation, Psychology, Public Uniformed Services and Music. Students have worked exceptionally hard when at college and have been able to navigate a different and often new environment this year and they should be congratulated. This year there have also been qualifications studied in English, Functional Skills, Maths, and GCSE exams have been sat in Geography and History on site at Grateley House School.

It is really important that not only have been working towards qualifications, but they have also gained skills across the scope of the academic year that will serve them well when in the workplace or at a further education establishment.

We wish all of the post-16 learners a restful summer and for those coming back we will continue to support their education here at Grateley or at one of our partner colleges. For those leaving us for the last time, we wish them the very best for the future and hope that Grateley has assisted them well on their learning and skills journey.



# Student Work - PSHCE

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

During our topic of 'Relationships' we covered setting boundaries, relationship myths and relationship challenges. One of our key stage 4 students completed work on 'helping a friend', all students showed great engagement and great discussions skills.

## Helping a friend

- advise them to break up with their partner depending on the severity of the situation. ✓
- Listen to your friend, if they're going through a tough time the last thing they would want to do is be told what to do. ✓
- make your friend aware of their partners unhealthy behaviours - they might not have realised. ✓
- If your friend is in alot of danger - call the police. ✓
- offer your friend somewhere to stay and just be their there for them. ✓

## healthy relationship behaviours:

- an equal amount of love between each person
- respect eachothers boundaries
- paying attention and listening to eachother
- remembering key things about you - what you love, what annoys you, etc.
- spending time together ✓

To stalk someone means to follow or become obsessed with someone without them knowing. ✓

To harass someone means to blatantly come up to you and disrupt your life - regardless of others seeing. ✓

*Great understanding & knowledge shown, Great discussion*

*Well done*



# Lithuanian Easter Eggs - Margučiai

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

Grateley House School has been following an old Easter tradition of dyeing and decorating chicken's eggs.

Students dyed the eggs using natural materials/plants which were wrapped around the eggs to create detailed patterns. The eggs were then boiled with onion skins or shredded red cabbage for overall colour.

This way of decorating Easter eggs is still very popular in Lithuania where colourful Easter eggs called Margučiai still decorate the Easter tables and are eaten for breakfast. People also give the eggs as presents and play games such as egg tapping or egg rolling.

The tradition was practised in England until WWII. The first chocolate eggs appeared in this country in 1873 which may well be the reason why the tradition of decorating real chicken eggs for Easter died out; however, it is still alive and well at GHS!





# Golden Gecko Climbing Experience

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On the last day of the Spring term, a fearless group of students and staff headed to Golden Gecko in Romsey for one of their chosen personal development activities. It would be fair to say that this climbing experience had definitely been well worth the wait!

We were guided by two climbing instructors who put everyone through their paces.

The students embraced the challenge and scaled the climbing walls, reaching the top which provided a well-deserved sense of achievement. Their efforts certainly brought out the competitive streak in the staff who did their best to rise to the challenge, some of them bringing out their inner Spiderman!

This was a fantastic experience and one we can't wait to do again!





# Swimathon

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April an enthusiastic group, comprising ten students and staff headed off to face the mighty challenge of the 'Swimathon 2024' at Andover Leisure Centre.

They were all absolutely amazing! They remained motivated and focussed throughout and between them covered a very impressive distance of 10km (400 lengths). This was a really fantastic effort and we are extremely proud of all those who participated.

This year we are raising money to enable us to purchase a defibrillator for our school site and the 'Swimathon' was one of three events that we are undertaking for this worthwhile cause.





# Egyptology

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

The English and Art Department collaborate on an exciting new scheme 'Egyptology' linking Art from the ancient Egyptians with the experience of reading contemporary non-fiction texts, and writing fictional accounts of imagined experiences.

## Comments from the English Department

Year 7 began a scheme of work looking at a range of texts from Egypt written about Howard Carter and the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. We read extracts from Howard Carter's diary, analysing his emotions as he discovered such important hidden treasures. We looked at the important role played by Hussein the water boy who discovered the steps into the temple, and we wrote a diary as if we were him. Excitingly, we looked at newspaper articles about 'The Curse of the Mummy' and the strange series of unexplained deaths surrounding the discovery of the tomb. This gave us an opportunity to write a creepy narrative as if we were in the Pharaoh's tomb when the mummy awoke!

## Comments from the Art Department

Year 7 have been working on Gustav Klimt whose style is highly decorative and full of shimmering patterns. The symbolic nature of mythological narratives from ancient civilisation found in Klimt's work, has linked perfectly with the theme of Egyptology delivered in English. Students have been noticing symbols within the artwork examples and wares trying to incorporate those in their own work. Some students have been keen to understand Hieroglyphs and had a go at writing their name. We had great time learning something new and agreed on Hieroglyphs being just like today's emojis.

## Comments from Year 7 students

"This was fun. It was good because we could use what we learned in English and explain to our Art teacher about it."

"I learned lots about King Tutankhamun and I liked the hieroglyphics."



# Subject News - Food Technology

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

In Food Tech students have been developing their skills in a number of areas – KS4 students learned about the science of sauce making and *gelatinisation*, and went on to incorporate this in a range of dishes including:



Year 9s - Chicken and vegetable tray-bake



Quorn & Orzo



Chicken Arrabbiata and Parmesan Dumplings

Students in KS3 have also been developing their repertoire of food knowledge, and have been applying their food preparation skills to make:

Year 7s continue to develop their skills and prepared a variety of produce to make a fruit salad and strawberry cheesecake.



Year 8s – Summer fruit cheesecake



All students had opportunity to contribute to the making of elderflower cordial, including identifying and picking the flowers. Students also enjoyed strawberry picking at a local farm, on a lovely summer day.



# Beach Volleyball at Sandbanks

Be Kind Be Brave Be You



On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May Mr Lopez and Mrs Kasperczuk decided that they would shake things up a little and move the last PE lesson of half term to somewhere a little different... Sandbanks beach in Poole, Dorset.

WOW! - What a fantastic setting to play volleyball! There is a sneaking suspicion that Mr Lopez may have watched Top Gun and used this as inspiration for this location.

During the half term the KS4 students had been practising and honing their volleyball playing skills, with games being played each week on the school parkland in preparation for this event.

Volleyball has been a sport that the students have clearly enjoyed as they have been positively and actively engaged within their PE lessons.

The match at Sandbanks was action packed with the students demonstrating their enhanced volleyball playing skills and techniques. They remained focussed during the match and the competition between the two teams was fierce.

Well done KS4! This was a memorable learning experience enjoyed by all.





# Fun Run!

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On 4th July, Grateley House School celebrated its annual Fun Run on the parkland. This event could have not been organised without the support of two of our Post-16 Transition students, Josh and Carter, who with their invaluable help and 'can-do' attitude ensured everything was prepared on time.



It was a great turnout, with a wide variety of costumes which we are used to by now for this particular event! We saw a great level of training in the students who managed to bag the top 3 positions in the 1k and 2k races.

Motivation and high spirits really showed in both staff and students during both races. The event concluded in a 50m relay formed by teams of 4 participants.

What a great day promoting the best of the young people at Grateley House School, whilst everybody in the school community are having fun!

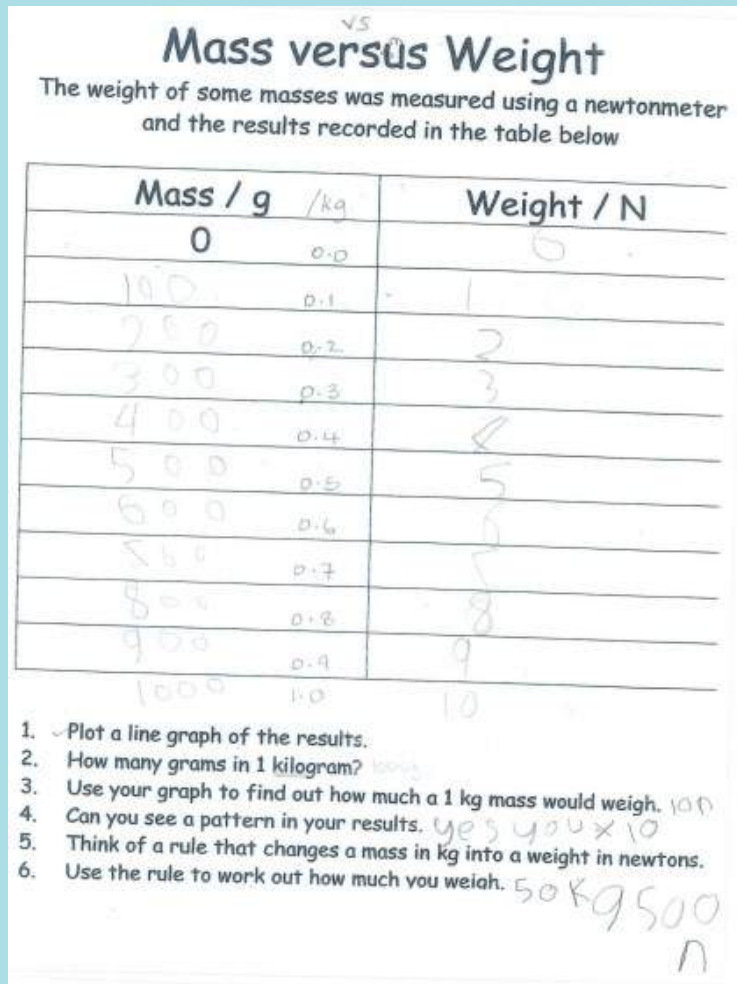


Training has already started for our Fun Run 2025!

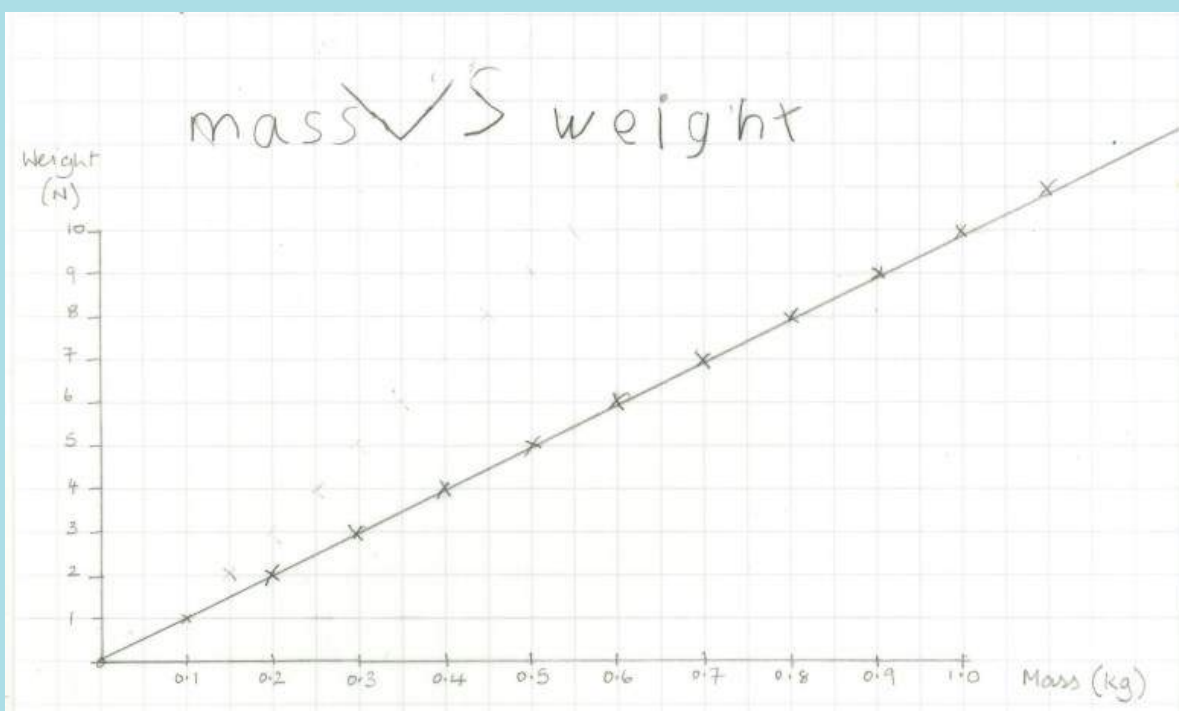


# Student Work - Science

Be Kind Be Brave Be You



Year 7 have been studying forces this term. In this experiment they were looking at how mass relates to the force of weight. A student did this very well, producing a lovely table and graph of his results





# GHS Bake Sale

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May the final long awaited fund raising event was held, one of the VERY popular Grateley House School Bake Sales.

Mrs Wilson and Mrs Warfvinge, along with the students had been working very hard during Food Technology lessons to bake a really delicious selection of savoury and sweet culinary delights for the sale.

The Bake Sale went really well with students and staff respectfully taking their places in the queue so they could purchase a scrumptious treat! – With numerous satisfied customers. There were many rumours circulating that Mr Fox was seen making purchases on more than one occasion!

We are delighted to share following the success of the Bake Sale that we were able to raise another £123 towards the purchase of a defibrillator for our school.





# Pickleball Tournament

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On Friday 12th July, there was a feeling of competitiveness in the air around the school, as we anticipated the annual Pickleball Tournament taking place on the MUGA.

Students and staff have been practising this emerging sport over the last term, familiarising themselves with the rules and techniques about pickleball, also learning from last year's tournament.



Pickleball has become one of the most popular sports in our community and this tournament testifies to the outstanding skills and the commitment.

This type of tournament gives students the opportunity to test themselves in a proper competitive atmosphere, with a crowd, pressure, rules and winning trophies at stake. Every single one of them demonstrated skills they have been shown and learned in the lessons. They should be really proud of their efforts which thrilled us all who were watching.



In the final matches of the tournament there were nail-biting rallies and impossible comebacks! A real sense of achievement in the winner's faces and high spirits in those that didn't manage to lift one of the trophies, but still happy with their efforts.



Everyone is looking forward to seeing everybody progress in the sport for next year in anticipation of seeing how we all do in the Pickleball Tournament 2025.

## The Podium:

**1<sup>st</sup> place** – Joshua & Tom Coldwell

**2<sup>nd</sup> place** – Elliott & Alex

**3<sup>rd</sup> place** – Alfie & Mr Lopez





# Chalke History Festival

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

A number of students across all Key Stages of the school attended the Chalke Valley History Festival in Salisbury. This was an opportunity to sample the sights, sounds and smells of the past. The living history encampments ranged from the Stone Age through to the Second World War. Our students conversed with historians, all experts in their field and actively learning more about their predecessors by using the materials of earlier ages.



There were a number of scheduled talks and displays, but in addition all the experts were happy to talk to our students at any given time and share their extraordinary – and often unique – knowledge about their chosen specialism.

Students were able to explore the large festival site in their groups whilst experiencing the various camp areas that appealed to their own interests. They were able to be involved in demonstrations and learn about history in a physical and visual sense. The demonstrations included soldier school, medieval storytelling, muskets and rifle workshops, reading runes to assist health issues as well as Cold War studies. They were polite and respectful to others and were able to take turns appropriately.

One of the themes of the festival this year was 'Heritage Craftsmanship'. A team of wood workers, coppice workers, blacksmiths and a stonemason were demonstrating and discussing the skills associated with each role, highlighting how some trades have remained broadly the same over the centuries while others are in danger of being lost forever.



The students were a credit to the school and enjoyed the vast array of exhibitions and experiences too whilst there, showing and asking lots of questions, when there was an opportunity to do so.

There is no doubt that this trip will be a regular annual visit for GHS in the future.



# Welsh Three Peaks Challenge

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, six enthusiastic students and staff headed to North Wales to face an incredible challenge: The Welsh 3 Peaks challenge in 24 hours.

After a 6 hour drive, we settled in our camping home for the night to allow us to rest the mind and the body, enjoying carb fuel food and outdoor activities in nature!

Our adventure started early the next morning – 4am wake up with smoothies and a filling breakfast, at 5:45am, we were blessed with a clear sky at the bottom of Snowdon, ready to start out for the summit.

With high spirits, and at this point still fresh legs, we reached the summit of Snowdon at 8.30am. We enjoyed and appreciated the stunning views the mountain had to offer. In our descent, the sun started to increase its intensity and it was tougher than expected. As a team we learnt the lesson that for the next peak, we should not underestimate the mountain and always carry extra water and food! At 11am we reached the bottom, a well-deserved break was needed, fuelling up on extra food and drink.

A 2-hour drive took us to our second peak – Cadar Idris. Without a doubt the toughest mountain under the weather we had – very humid at the start paired with heat, onto cold windy when we reached the summit. It was hard for every member of the team, but in these moments we remember one of our school values, 'Be Brave', this helped us have a strong mindset to carry on walking, step by step till we reached the top of the second peak. Quickly after the descent, we realised the mountain had taken another 6 hours of hard work.

Pen-y-Fan was the third and final peak which was awaiting us with strong, misty conditions. In the middle of the night, reaching the summit at 11.56pm. When finally reaching the bottom of the third mountain, our challenge was complete. A very tired, but extremely proud team, we headed to bed after nearly 24 hours of being up!

An unforgettable experience for our students, especially for the two who are completing their final time at Grateley House School, after many years with us. They all demonstrated a multitude of skills to be able to beat this

challenge, as well as beat it with such high spirits! It takes real skill, to achieve a challenge that will stay with them for life. It has made everyone in the school super proud of our young people! Well done!





# Money Raised by GHS

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

Date	£'S Raised	By whom?	How?	Which charity?
22/09/23	£150	ALL	Wearing jeans and bake sale	Jeans for Genes
29/09/23	£130	ALL	Bake sale	MacMillan
17/11/23	£112.10	ALL	Non-uniform, Ping-Pong-A-Thon and bake sale	Children in Need
06/12/23	£10	SH	'Guess the sweets in the jar'	British Red Cross
15/12/23	£192.74	ALL	Christmas Fayre	Edukaid – Linked school, Shangani School in Tanzania
28/01/24	£325	ALL	Stonehenge Stomp	Edukaid – Linked school, Shangani School in Tanzania
15/03/24	£102.11	ALL	Bake sale	Comic Relief
26/04/24 – 10/04/24	£693.77	ALL	Swimathon, Grateley Stomp & Bake Sale	GHS Defibrillator



# Safeguarding - WhatsApp

Be Kind Be Brave Be You



WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps but its use does pose risks for our young people.

To connect you with others WhatsApp checks your phone's address book and suggests other users from your contacts. It also updates your contact list whenever your phone contacts sign up to the app. It is good for parents to

be aware that a new feature on WhatsApp now allows for anyone to be randomly added to a group without their approval.

To contact someone on WhatsApp all you need is their phone number. This means your child is at risk of receiving unwanted messages or calls. In order to prevent being added by a stranger to a group it is important for your child to change their group privacy settings and make sure that they have not selected the 'Everyone' button under the groups tab. (There are 3 options provided on here – Everyone, My Contacts, and My Contacts Except....)

There can be multiple admins in a group but the name of anyone adding someone will be listed.

To make your WhatsApp group more secure the following steps should be followed:

1. Create the Group. Open WhatsApp and go to the three dots menu...
2. Configure Group Settings. After adding a contact, set a group name and icon...
3. Control Member. Prevent anyone from adding new members without your approval.

Please remind your child that the age rating for WhatsApp is 16+. The reasoning behind this is because of the type of danger outlined above.

Further risks to be aware of are:

- When you are using WhatsApp certain information on your status, when you were last seen online and read receipts are available for your contacts to see. The new 'Communities' feature allows users to connect multiple groups together under one umbrella to organise group conversations on WhatsApp. This means that thousands of users can be part of a community which is a collection of related groups under one roof.
- The end-to-end encryption of WhatsApp does mean that the system is used for illegal activity and the posting and sharing of inappropriate content that could harm or upset your child.
- There is also a danger of others being able to learn your real-time location if you have shared your location for a certain amount of time with other users in an individual chat or group. Even once you've stopped sharing the people you shared it with will still be able to see your last updated location. The privacy features such as disappearing and 'view once' messages can provide a false sense of security in children and lead to them sharing private information or images. This opens them up to the risk that an unintended person might see what they sent if they are friends with the recipient.

It is thus essential that parents monitor their child's online use if they are to properly safeguard them at home. The online world can be a nasty one which exposes to children to cyberbullying, risk of exploitation and grooming.

Wishing you and your child a wonderful and safe summer holiday from the GHS safeguarding team. Remember safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.



# Activity Week

Be Kind Be Brave Be You

For Activity Week this year, some of our students have been attending a two night residential trip to South Cerney Outdoors, situated in Gloucestershire between a 47 acre lake and the banks of the River Churn! Activities undertaken include be raft building, stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing and high ropes!

Students onsite have been getting involved in a selection of creative, media and active activities, these have involved craft making, gardening, cooking, or photography, VR games, or table tennis, football or badminton at the local leisure centre! Older students have had a trip out to the Hawk Conservancy.

Activity week is the lead up to our final day of the academic year, Celebration day! A day when we celebrate the brilliant achievements of our young people at Grateley House School.





# SCHOOL'S

— out for —



# SUMMER