

GRW & GR6

Diary Dates

End of Term - Friday 12 February

Half term holidays: 15 - 19 February

Inset day: Monday 22 February

Start of term: Tuesday 23 February

These have been testing times in many ways but here at The Green Room we have been able to give all of our pupils a combination of physical and remote education in a safe environment. All staff and pupils have been Covid tested every week and have coped admirably with this unusual circumstance. As Spring begins to creep up on us we are looking forward to getting back to normal and providing everything The Green Room loves to offer. For now, please enjoy reading about everything we have been up to in the last half term.

Newsletter February 2021



The Emotions Circle

Pupils were introduced to The Emotions Circle earlier this Term, in an effort to encourage everyone to connect with their feelings a bit better and to develop their emotional literacy. Pinpointing how you truly feel or the exact emotion that you are experiencing, but not having the vocabulary to express exactly how you feel can be frustrating. The Circle works by allowing individuals to start at the centre and identify the core emotion they are feeling, and then work outwards to the edge in order to ultimately figure out exactly how they feel.



Lin-Manuel Miranda, who the pupils discovered, went on to write Hamilton! We watched the 15 minute performance online in a virtual lesson together.

Art Craft and Design

Pupils have been working on a Fine Art and Artists module this term and have been researching and learning about different artists, their life and their work. Pupils have had the opportunity to explore Henri Matisse, Yayoi Kusama, Damien Hirst, Ai Weiwei, Barbara Hepworth and Grayson Perry. As well as learning about them they have had the opportunity to create work in the style of the artist. We created an infinity room for the project on Yayoi Kusama, "Beautiful" spin pictures for Damien Hirst, Hand Gesture casts for Ai Weiwei, and simple soap sculptures when recreating Barbra Hepworth's work. The module has been huge fun.



Arts Award

The year 11's are continuing to work towards their Arts Award and will have the opportunity to submit all of their great projects as the award is evidenced in coursework. This term they have been reviewing the short but brilliant 21 Chump Street written and performed by the fantastic



National Apprenticeships Week

National Apprenticeship Week 2021 takes place from the 8-14th February and aims to shine a light on the amazing work being done by employers and apprentices across the country.

The annual week-long celebration also recognises how employers of all sizes have stepped up to the challenge during this unprecedented time. At The Green Room we have delivered Apprenticeship based sessions across the curriculum and an apprenticeship based careers workshop during our Passion Lead Learning. Pupils were given the opportunity to attend online webinars held by organisations such as the RAF, SKY, NHS and Met Police.

The need to **Train, Retain** and **Achieve** has never been more important with employers looking to kickstart “earn whilst you learn” schemes as we slowly come out of lockdown and look to rebuild the economy. NAW is an opportunity for employers to acknowledge the return investment that apprenticeships provide and celebrate the continued success that big companies see from offering this type of employment. This NAW has been particularly important as organisations are looking to future proof their workforces more than ever.

#BuildTheFuture

Bushcraft

January and February have been challenging months for the keen gardeners of GR6, but they have risen to the occasion and battled the rain and even snow! The cold weather hasn't deterred our hardy students

from enjoying the beautiful winter sunshine, often with a fire on the go to brew up a nice cup of tea from our camp kettle.

Apart from whittling, making tea and cooking the odd lunch over the fire, the gang have also been hard at work preparing the veg beds for this year's growing season. Compost has been shovelled by the tonne, and the veg garden has never looked better. We can't wait to start sowing seeds and getting some plants in the ground!



Holes

Some GRW students wrapped up their FIRST full novel study by completing their reading of Holes by Louis Sachar in the last weeks of the half-term. The book was an engaging story that had pupils discussing themes like destiny, luck, and racial divide. We celebrated with a viewing of the film version complete with topical snacks like peaches and sunflower seeds. Well done readers!

Minecraft

When they're not down at the allotment, the typical GR6er can be found exploring strange virtual worlds of infinite possibility and wonder, where the normal rules of the universe don't apply. We're talking about the world of Minecraft. If you've ever wondered what this hugely popular educational game was all about, watching the GR6 students play it together will open your eyes. They have been constructing a Rube Goldberg Machine in their Minecraft world, as part of a global schools esports competition. Whilst playing, there have been huge amounts

of communication, teamwork, initiative and organisation from all involved. Values which the ROCCIT programme is all about.

Nestboxes

GR6 students are nothing if not inventive. As nesting season for our beloved birds approaches, students of GR6 helped turn a pile of old pub floorboards from The Swan into nest boxes, with a little help of course.

The boxes will be located at the Market Garden or perhaps even in the pub courtyard, and students will monitor them from afar to see if we get any interest from the local bird population.



GRK

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Blended school will continue from Tuesday 23 Feb



stopped and have also taken a virtual tour of the Natural History Museum where we walked with dinosaurs.

GRK, GRW, & GR6 Covid Testing Centre

What a bizarre start to the term! Never would we have thought that we would be setting up Covid testing stations in some of our classrooms wearing full PPE and be trained to test pupils and staff! We're so impressed with everyone's positive attitude and resilience taking the tests, 100% participation from all too. Well done GRKers!

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Oliver, Jodie, Caitlin, Jayden & Lauren** who will all celebrate their birthdays next half term. We hope you all have fantastic birthdays!

Science

Who knew you could use chromatography to solve crimes?! Pupils have been using their best CSI skills to discover which member of staff wrote the ransom note for the



stolen chemicals from the GRK lab! Pupils also have been identifying their own fingerprints as well of those of the likely suspect!

Exams

While the Government has been busy deciding whether or not to cancel exams, we have been really impressed by the effort that our Year 11s have been putting into their English, Maths and Science in preparation for their GCSEs in the summer. Showing perseverance and effort also sets a great example to our younger pupils. Keep your eyes on the prize!

English

We are always looking for new opportunities to write at GRK, therefore, some HappySelf journals are on their way to our pupils who love to write. These journals are full of wellbeing hints and tips, and will be a place to share thoughts and feelings and spread a little happiness!

Afternoon sessions

Our afternoon sessions have been a mix of fun and games for our pupils. We have played quiz games, played GeoGuessr which takes you on an adventure around the world before asking you to guess where you have

Equine

We are delighted that we are finally able to get back to lessons with the horses, who are also very pleased to see the pupils again!





Art

Pupils are going full steam ahead in school, preparing for their Arts Award. They have been busy creating some wonderful master pieces to submit for their certificates.

Trade

Pupils have been working on fixing up a chicken house, making sure the hedgehog fence and area is ready for Hubert and have started to construct a zoo style enclosure for Gareth's latest addition - the amphibian tank!

Futures

Have you heard of Traineeships? They act like a stepping stone between school or college and an apprenticeship or job. Have a look on our Futures Google Classroom if you'd like to find out more.



Duke of Edinburgh Awards Programme

What other fantastic strings can we add to the bristling bows of our students? How does an internationally recognised qualification, endorsed by the worlds of business and education sound? We now have our all older students signed up to the DofE programme which is fully integrated into the school day - allowing students to focus on personal development whilst receiving a tangible award in the process. Result!

Cooking

GRK pupils have once again surpassed all expectations in their cookery lessons this half term. Risotto, Carbonara, Toad in the Hole and fishcakes have all been a great success. Watch out for the next Michelin starred chef!



Mount Everest Challenge

After the success of the Inca Trail Marathon in the first lockdown, we have set our sights on one of the biggest challenges in the world, Mount Everest, virtually of course! The pupils have been challenged to complete 2 miles each which will add up to us completing the trek to the summit of the highest point in the world. Some pupils and staff have already completed their miles and we look forward to seeing the efforts of others as we move into half term.

For up to date news and events visit our social media channels and our blog thegreenroomschool.com/blog