



Gravesham Foodbank have written to us to thank everyone for their support and donations. It will go a long way in supporting those in need particularly in these uncertain times. "Your generosity during this harvest is of vital importance to Gravesham Foodbank and we are hugely grateful for your kindness to our cause. The total of your giving came to 154.8Kg."

This week is Anti-bullying week, the theme this year is 'Reach Out'. As a school we will be sharing the key aims via assemblies and form activities. Bullying affects millions of lives and can leave us feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. And it starts by reaching out. Whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's reach out and show each other the support we need. Reach out to someone you trust if you need to talk. Reach out to someone you know is being bullied. Reach out and consider a new approach. And it doesn't stop with young people. From teachers to parents and influencers to politicians, we all have a responsibility to help each other reach out. Together, let's be the change we want to see. Reflect on our own behaviour, set positive examples and create kinder communities. Assemblies will give students a chance to re-visit the definition of bullying, look at the different types of bullying, understand the difference between an argument and bullying or when an argument can become bullying and the impact of bullying. It will also give the students a chance to reflect on how powerful reaching out can be when it is needed. The message the Anti-bullying Alliance are wanting to get across to students is that we all have the power to make decisions about how we treat each other. Everybody makes mistakes. Everybody will make a bad decision at some point. What is most important is that we always reflect on how those bad decisions affect people. The smallest of actions can make a big difference to how someone's day goes. Working together and reaching out to each other will bring about the biggest change in our effort to stop bullying. Although actions may not always seem like they have impact, they can play a major part in someone's life.

We are pleased to announce that from 14th November, Ms Jenkins will be taking over as Subject Leader of Psychology. Mrs Campbell-Dunlop will still be with us for a while longer and we thank her for all her hard work in this role up to now.

Looking forward

Monday 14th November

Anti-bullying week

Year 10 Assembly in the Hall (MZR/JMT)

Year 11-13 Life Drawing

Year 13 mock interviews, 4.15-6.30pm

Tuesday 15th November

Year 11 Assembly in the Hall (TL/JMT)

Year 11-13 Life Drawing

Anti-Bullying Ambassador training

Year 11 Cyclopark

Wednesday 16th November

Year 13 Assembly in the Hall (CWN/BST)

GCSE Technology trip

Thursday 17th November

Year 7 Assembly in the Hall (WVE)

Year 11 Cyclopark

Darnley House event (Children in Need)

Friday 18th November

Children in Need – non-uniform day

Saturday 19th November

Targeted support (Year 11+13)

Monday 21st November

Year 13 mock interviews, 4.15-6.30pm

Year 12+13 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 22nd November

Year 10 Classics trip to British Museum

Year 12+13 Parents' Evening

Thursday 24th November

Year 11 Photography trip to London

Friday 25th November

Aachen trip

Saturday 26th November

Targeted support (Year 11+13)

Assembly theme

This week's Assembly theme: Anti-Bullying Week & International Tolerance Day

Introduced by the UN General Assembly in 1996. It is more important than ever to remember fear must not divide us, we must all stand together for tolerance and peace. It is a time for young people to learn about respecting and recognising the rights and beliefs of others. It is also a time of reflection and debate on the negative effects of intolerance. *(Link to Children in Need)*

Our School Environment

Please ensure all areas of school are left litter free.

Litter duty: 9L Please collect the litter picks and black sacks from Mrs Kemp's office and report to your Learning Leader at the end of lunchtime.

Congratulations

On Tuesday, November 8th, Sukhpreet Thind (Y10) and Niamh Maloney (Y12) travelled to Canterbury to represent Mayfield at the Kent regional heat of the Historical Association's "Great Debate" competition. The Historical association is a national institution dedicated to furthering the study of the past, and enjoyed the patronage of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Competition was fierce, with students travelling from schools across the country to present papers on why history matters in 2022. A panel of expert judges – including Dr Aparajita Mukhopadhyay, who visited Mayfield last year to give a lecture on the development of the Indian Railway network – marked each candidate on the quality of oracy and the originality of their arguments. Their final decision was unanimous and Niamh brought home the Coulson Shield for historical debate, along with an invitation to compete in the 2023 national final taking place at Windsor Castle. I hope you will join us in congratulating Niamh on her achievement, and any student interested in taking part in next year's event is encouraged to attend the History Society (Tuesday lunchtimes, FG03) or the Debate Club (Wednesday Lunchtimes, MF04) to begin honing their skills.

Anti-Bullying Week

Each year group will be looking different topics to do with Anti-Bullying.

In Sixth Form, we are looking at the different types of bullying that would be covered under the Equality Act 2010, focusing on the way in which 'banter' and inappropriate comments can lead to bullying and hate crime. This has been centred around examples, such as the racism at Yorkshire Cricket Club and the homophobic murder of Matthew Sheppard in Wyoming.

The thought of the week for Year 9 will be "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world"- Anne Frank. Students will debate whether reaching out is a good way to help stop bullying. They will reflect upon the difference between an argument and bullying and determine when an argument could become bullying. They will learn how different types of bullying can impact individuals. We all have the power to make decisions about how we treat each other. Everybody makes mistakes. Everybody will make a bad decision at some point. What is most important, is that we always reflect on how those bad decisions effect people. The smallest of actions can make a big difference to how someone's day goes. Working together and reaching out to each other will bring about the biggest change in our effort to stop bullying. Although your actions may not always seem like they have impact, they can play a major part in someone's life.

We look forward to hearing from other year groups next week.

Reminders and Notices

Finance Office: A reminder to all that opening hours from today (14th November) are: 8am – 11.20am and then 1.25pm -4 pm. The office will be CLOSED between 11.20am and 1.25pm. Can we also remind students that cash must be brought directly to the Finance Office not given to a teacher or put in a pigeonhole.

Wills Library: We are waiting for the Library security system to be installed. Until that is in place, we are not in a position to open. We understand how frustrating this is for you all, but sadly this is not something we can do without, so we must wait until the installation takes place. As soon as we have an opening date, we will let you know.

Scarves and Winter Wear: Please remember as it is getting colder, scarves should be plain, in one school colour only, they should not be worn in the building. Coats should be free of logos, a solid colour, either black, blue or grey.

Netball Results

Well done to our Year 7 netball teams who played on Thursday 10th November. Results were:

- MGSG (A) 6 v 0 Invicta (A)
- MGSG (A) 11 v 0 Invicta (B)
- MGSG (B) 1 v 4 Invicta (A)
- MGSG (B) 5 v 2 Invicta (B)

Congratulations to all and thank you to Miss McCormack for organising and accompanying.

MGSG Reader's Corner

In this week's Reader's Corner we would like to share two new Lower School competitions with you. Over the course of this term our subject official Noa will be visiting Year 7 English classes to read and create some poetry with a Christmas theme and will also be coming into Year 8 lessons to produce some festive creative writing. Our Lower School students will be invited to enter their poem or creative piece into our Christmas competition; you'll be given further details in your lessons in the coming weeks, and we hope lots of you will take part!

FirstNews

We'd also like to bring your attention to a fantastic

competition currently running in First News. This one also has a festive theme- you can write a paragraph about your perfect Christmas day, or draw a picture to depict your ideal Christmas. An email with all the details has been sent to you so do check this carefully if you would like to enter. Entry forms are available for you to collect from FF09, on the table immediately as you enter the room. The prize is a bundle of amazing Stabilo pens and pencils, plus some supplies for the school too. if you have any queries about the competition do let Mrs O'Brien know at o'brienl@mgsg.kent.sch.uk.



On the subject of First News- don't forget we subscribe as a school to the digital edition which is published every Friday. It is packed with all the top news stories, topical debates, quizzes and puzzles and much more. You can access it by visiting digitaledition.firstnews.co.uk and entering the school ID **LING0205**.

House Merits

	Merit	Community	Sport
Atholl	41	51	31
Chadwick	46	43	25
Darnley	41	39	40
Lynton	39	46	43
Penfold	29	31	32
Reekie	39	37	28
Westbrook	47	54	60