10th December 2025

THE GREYS GAZETTE

Ash



It's been an exciting and creative half term in our classroom! In **English**, we've been exploring the world of **performance poetry**. The children have worked hard to craft their own poems, focusing on rhythm, expression, and voice. They then took to the stage to perform their pieces with confidence and flair—what a fantastic way to bring words to life!

In **Science**, curiosity has sparked as we've been learning about **electrical circuits**. The children have enjoyed building circuits and experimenting with different components to see how electricity flows. From bulbs to buzzers, they've discovered how small changes can make a big difference. It's been hands-on learning at its best!

Meanwhile, in **Art**, creativity has taken shape—literally! We've been working with **clay**, using coiling techniques to create beautiful pots. The children have shown great patience and skill as they shaped and smoothed their designs. We can't wait to see the finished pieces once they're dried and decorated.

In **Outdoor learning**, the children have continued to use the resources around the school to build and add to our outdoor area, make useful objects from trees that have been blown down in the wind and plant trees to enhance the natural beauty of our school.

Walnut



Festive Fun in the Classroom
This week, our class embraced the Christmas spirit by decorating our very own tree! The children worked together beautifully, choosing ornaments and adding their creative touches. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate teamwork and enjoy the excitement of the season. The classroom is now sparkling with festive cheer, and the tree has become a centrepiece of joy for everyone.



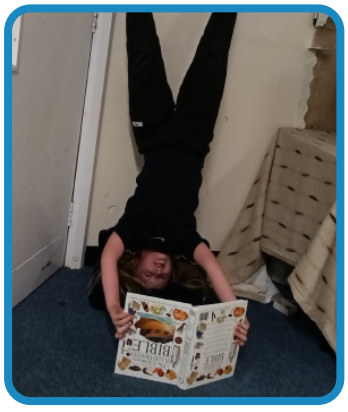
Clayton: We're putting red at the bottom and gold and silver at the top.
Jude: Our class has the most decorations.

Learning Through Play
We also had a fantastic time exploring maths in a hands-on way. Ruby impressed us all by building an incredible tower using Base 10 blocks! Activities like this show that learning can be both fun and engaging, helping children develop problem-solving skills while enjoying the process. It's amazing to see their confidence grow as they learn through play.
Ruby: Look at my tower. I can't believe how tall it is.



Extreme Reading Challenge
Our class has been taking part in the Extreme Reading Challenge. From reading in unusual places to trying out fun positions, the children have really embraced the idea that reading can happen anywhere.

Ruby wowed us all by reading her book in a headstand while Clayton read upside down on a tower of benches and mats! This challenge is a fantastic way to show that reading isn't just for the classroom – it's an adventure you can take anywhere.



Bonsai

English
This term in English, we have been letting our imaginations run wild! We started by turning ordinary sticks into exciting objects like swords, wands, and even magic staffs. The children worked hard to use adjectives to describe their creations, thinking about words that make their objects sound powerful, shiny, or mysterious. We also talked about how to play safely while using our imaginative props. Inspired by Julia Donaldson's Stick Man, we have now begun creating our own stick characters. Each child has designed a unique character and started describing what makes them special. Soon, we will be putting all these wonderful ideas into a paragraph that brings our stick characters to life!
"My stick is a fire katana" **Omarie**
"My fish gun is colourful and loud" **Archie**
"An adjective is used to describe things!" **Dexter**









Maths
In Maths, we have been exploring the world of shapes! We looked closely at both 2D and 3D shapes, learning how to describe them by their sides, corners, edges, and faces.



The children have worked really hard to name all the different shapes, from simple squares and circles to cubes and pyramids. To make learning fun, we played games with shapes and used them to build models and pictures. It has been fantastic to see everyone using mathematical language confidently while creating amazing designs.



"I can make a tower with 3D shapes" **Oliver**
"A sphere is like a ball!" **Omaire**
"A cone is like an ice cream!" **Archie**

Cooking
Cooking has been a real treat this term! We have made a variety of delicious recipes, and the children have shown great care in following instructions step by step. Measuring ingredients accurately was very important, and everyone did a brilliant job. From sweet treats to savoury snacks, Bonsai Class has been busy mixing, stirring, and tasting. The best part was enjoying the yummy results together!



"If the measurements are wrong it won't taste nice!" **Dexter**
"I like the bit when you crush stuff up!" **Archie**
"I have to make sure I taste everything while cooking!" **Omarie**



Christmas Tree Donation

A big thank you to Box End Animal Feeds who have once again donated a beautiful Christmas tree to Greys Primary School.

A group of pupils from Greys visited the feed merchants on Tuesday 2nd December to select a tree for the school.

Once back at school pupils have worked hard to create decorations and decorate the tree.

"I love coming into school and smelling the tree." said **Riley**.

Your Monthly Window into Secondary Success

Spotlight on Student Achievements



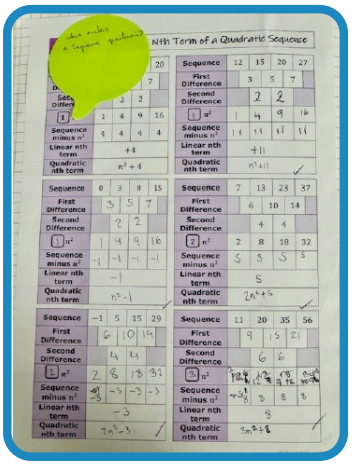
As we approach the Christmas holidays, it is a pleasure to reflect on the successes of our pupils this term in Miss Deaville's form.

We are delighted to congratulate Ashley, who has achieved an outstanding result in his end-of-term Mathematics assessment. His commitment and perseverance have been exemplary, and this accomplishment is thoroughly deserved.

Equally commendable is Subhan, who has taken the initiative to enrol in English as a Foreign Language lesson. This proactive step demonstrates both ambition and determination, qualities that will undoubtedly support his continued academic progress.

Ashley's achievements extend beyond the classroom in Mathematics. He has also been awarded a Five Star Friday Award for his excellent work in History with Miss Mielke. This accolade reflects his consistent effort and enthusiasm across subjects, and we are proud to see his hard work recognised.

The end of term is always a time to pause and take stock of the progress made. Our pupils have worked diligently, and their successes are a testament to their resilience and commitment. As we enter the festive season, we do so with gratitude for their efforts and anticipation for the opportunities that the new year will bring.



We extend our warmest congratulations to Ashley and Subhan, and indeed to all pupils who have contributed to the life of the school this term. May the Christmas holidays bring rest, joy, and inspiration, and may the coming term be equally rewarding.



This term in Miss Francois form has been an interesting one as our pupils continue to engage in a wide range of learning opportunities, both in and out of the classroom.

Anayah in year 8 has been shining in Hair and Beauty, proudly achieving her AQA Award in Hair Braiding. She has shown fantastic focus and creativity while developing her practical skills.

Chey in year 11 has taken an important step towards her future by attending SSG, a local college, to explore post-16 pathways. This visit has helped her learn more about potential courses and career options, and she returned feeling inspired and excited about the next stage of her education.



Meanwhile, **Courtney** in year 11 has been steadily working towards her AQA in Sports and Fitness. She has shown great commitment and independence with working towards her outcomes.

As we come to the end of a busy and successful term, we would like to wish all pupils, families, and staff a very Happy Christmas. We hope you enjoy a restful, joyful break and look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year!



Mrs Mulligan's form time has been buzzing with energy and imagination this term. One of our recent highlights has been the spaghetti and marshmallow construction challenge. My form embraced the task with enthusiasm, carefully balancing a fragile tower and a mildly inventive design. It has sparked a healthy dose of rivalry; the results eagerly anticipated, with bragging rights at stake and competition heating up between forms.

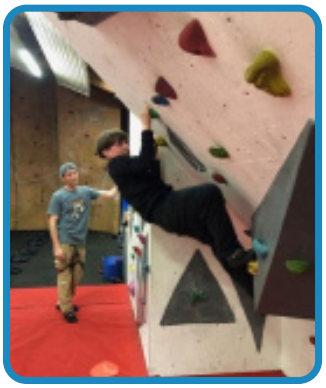
Adding to the festive spirit, my form has been gifted an advent calendar. The daily excitement of being chosen for chocolate has brought a cheerful spark to mornings.

Meanwhile, many students in my form have been making the most of Breakfast Club. It's not just about enjoying a good start to the day with toast, cereal, or juice—it's also a chance to catch up with friends, share ideas, and begin the morning on a positive note. Together, these activities have made form time a blend of creativity, competition, and community spirit.



Climbing News



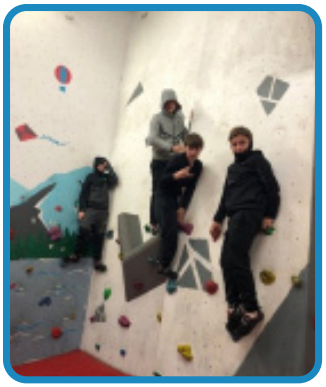


Several pupils had the opportunity to develop their climbing skills at Kempston Outdoor Centre's wonderful climbing wall. The boys were fully engaged and enthusiastic about the activities.

They listened well to their instructor, had a lot of fun and really improved their skills and confidence.

You can see the boys warming up on the bouldering wall and Ashley taking on the Overhang', a difficult climbing skill that requires a good grip and forearm strength.





Here you see the pupils in their climbing harnesses, roped up, and getting ready for the real climbing. The boys used the techniques demonstrated to them and showed real skill and some impressive climbing speeds.

Aden, as you can see, learned his abseiling technique well, leaning back confidently with his feet flat on the wall.

Mountain Bike News





Several pupils have engaged positively with mountain biking this term and are keen to improve their riding skills further.

Many of the boys love going mountain biking and for some, it even tops Football Fridays. We have some very enthusiastic and skilful riders at Greys this term, and it is good to celebrate their achievements.



Below we have Jack and Zain, learning to hop over rocks and tree roots safely while riding.

Key learning points are to approach at the right speed, stop pedalling, lift the front wheel at the right time and keep the pedals flat to avoid catching them on any obstacles.

Football Enrichment





At Greys the pupils have been enjoying extended enrichment lessons on a Friday, and those who selected football have had a successful first term.

They have engaged with the activities, conducted themselves well in public and worked well with staff.

We have been particularly impressed with the quality of the communication and teamwork, essential skills in any sport, as well as the level of skill shown by individual players.



Pupils have used a range of local sports facilities and are now more aware of leisure opportunities in their own area.

This includes football pitches at Stewartby Park, Wixams, Great Denham, Wootton Park, Addison Park and Kempston Youth Centre.



Primary News



On Friday 21st November Greys Primary participated in a Sit Down Volleyball Tournament at the John Bunyan Sports Centre. We took two teams and competed well against other Primary and Special Schools.

Each team had 6 pupils, and they rotated around the court as the game progressed.

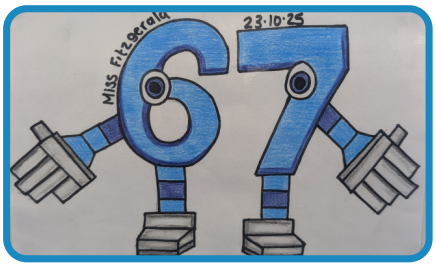


Team spirit was high and good sportsmanship shown throughout the range of games.

When asked what they had enjoyed this was their replies:

Jed said "I liked serving and playing against other schools."
Ruby said "I enjoyed helping the helpers and keeping score."
Matthew said "Serving the ball and sliding across the floor."

Sycamore





This half term, Sycamore Class has been on a creative adventure with calm drawing sessions as part of Thrive. The challenge? To tackle something, we all find tricky like drawing!

We agreed as a class that drawing can be difficult, so we made it fun by choosing some of our favourite characters and themes to recreate. With focus and determination, the students gave it their best shot and the results are incredible!

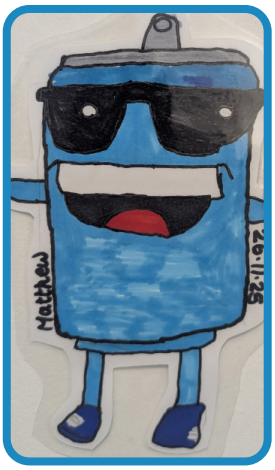
Here's what some of our budding artists had to say:

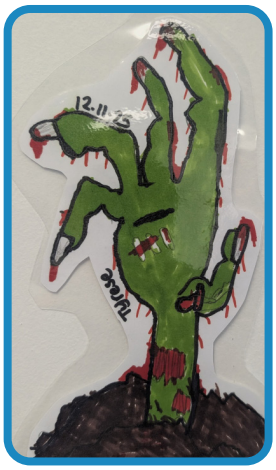
Matthew: I'm getting so much better at drawing! "I never thought I could draw this well!"

Take a look below at some of the amazing artwork created by our talented Sycamore artists. We're so proud of their creativity, perseverance, and confidence!









Carson Fashion



Showcasing her sewing creativity. By mastering the use of our machines and techniques,

Lucy successfully completed her AQA in using a sewing Machine a hands-on project that proves the amazing results of hard work and instruction.

Secondary News

Round up of Secondary News



Students Discover the Microscopic World of Onion Cells

Students in Arnold recently embarked on an interesting journey into the microscopic world. They completed a hands-on experiment that sparked their curiosity and enhanced their knowledge and understanding of cell structures and their various functions. Armed with enthusiasm, students prepared onion cells for observation.

Students carefully peeled pieces of fresh onion, slicing them to remove thin skin. This outer layer of onion is abundant in epidermal cells, perfect for examination under a microscope. When each student had completed the intricate task of extracting a thin layer of cells, they placed it onto a microscope slide. The next step involved using iodine stain to make it easier for cells to be seen. Once the cell preparations were complete, each student positioned their slide under the microscope and adjusted the lenses to bring the cells into focus.

Students observed the tiny structures within the cells, such as the nucleus, with amazement. Through this experiment, students gained an improved understanding of cells and the essential roles that different cell components have.

Grey's budding scientists now have a newfound appreciation for the hidden wonders of biology. What else will our curious students discover in their future scientific adventures?





Mr Thompson's form have continued to develop their understanding of identity and their place in the world this half term.

Through discussions and activities, students explored big questions such as *"Do we need to feel the same as others to belong?"* and *"How different are we really?"* These conversations helped the group celebrate diversity while recognising the many similarities that connect us. The class have shown maturity and insight as they reflected on what makes each person unique.

Jack: Jack has had another successful half term in maths, achieving an impressive 100 percent in his most recent assessment. In Social Skills, he has been working thoughtfully to understand what makes people feel angry and how emotions can influence behaviour. Jack has started to build more awareness of himself and others, contributing well to group discussions.

Alife: Alife has been settling into his new school and has been working hard to make a great start. He especially looks forward to Fridays, when he rejoins us for football enrichment—something he has enjoyed immensely. His enthusiasm and unique goal celebrations have continued to bring joy to the group, and he continues to show growing confidence each week, with every goal he scores.

Sonny: Sonny is new to GS1 this half term and has been settling into life at Greys with enthusiasm. He is settling in well as he joins more classes and increases his timetable. This week he enjoyed taking part in football enrichment. In art, Sonny has been working on a mountain landscape piece, demonstrating creativity and a willingness to try new skills.



Mrs Mielke's form is getting smaller at the moment as students move to pastures new, but Zara continues to settle into Greys.

She is determined to continue her art GCSE in her time with us and has chosen to explore landscape painting for her portfolio.

She is enjoying her time at Greys and is engaging well in her lessons.

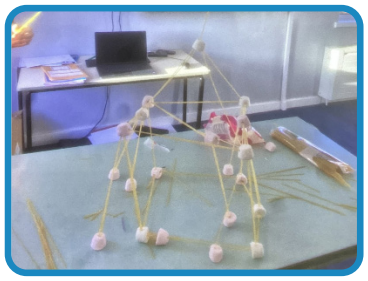


Zara said "Maths is OK at Greys, I didn't like it before, but the class is small so it's easier. I'm happy I can continue to do my Art GCSE. I'm really enjoying my cooking, I choose to do extra on Enrichment Friday. I appreciate the support I get here".

Secondary News

Wellbeing and Growth





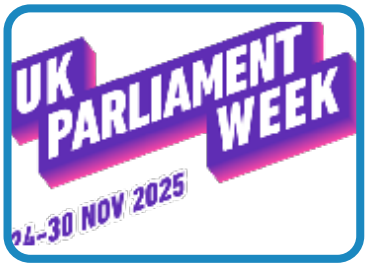
This half term has been one that has brought Mr Errol's form group closer together. Form time attendance has gone up, and we have recently attempted the first Form group challenge of building the highest spaghetti and marshmallow tower.

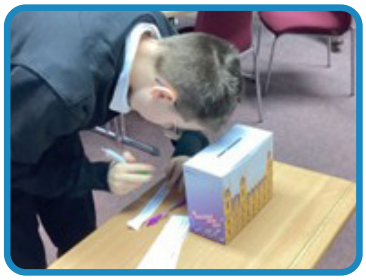


Our form ambitions are to win all the challenges, have the highest attendance and the most positive points. We want to do our best and be the best; we now have a class motto that mimics the Olympic one, Citius, Altius, Fortius.

This translates to Faster, Higher, Stronger and essentially means every time we do something we want to do it better than everyone else and better than we did it before. Speaking of stronger, our very own Jake Abbey has been putting the work in to not only get fit but to complete is PE AQA: Exercising in a Gym.

Parliament Week





Students at Greys Secondary took part in activity to highlight the importance of becoming involved in decision making. These students will be voting in the next general election as the age of participation is to be lowered to 16.

They each took a role in a health select committee which was finding evidence for the governments future smoking ban. Their roles ranged from a chief executive for the government, a smoker and an executive from Cancer Research amongst others.

They investigated the cost of smoking to the individual and the health service. Students then explored the concept of freedom of choice and a person's autonomy. After speeches from each student: it was time to vote. It was a close call but by one vote the students of Greys support the future ban.



Restart a Heart



At Greys Secondary, we proudly participated in Restart a Heart Day 2025.

As part of this annual global campaign, our students received training led by the British Heart Foundation to raise awareness of cardiac arrest and promote life-saving skills.

Mr Cornwell's class: You never know when an accident could happen and who might need to help; a stranger, your sister, your brother, your mother.

Diary Dates

Last Day of Term - Wednesday 17th December 2025
Christmas Holidays - Thursday 18th December 2025 to Monday 5th January 2026
Training Day (No Pupils in School) - Monday 5th January 2026
Pupils Return to School - Tuesday 6th January 2026