



Achieving Excellence Together

GROBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

Special points of interest:

- High School Musical
- Year 13 Parent Views
- Science Club
- German Christmas Market
- Teenage Cancer Trust
- University of Derby Trip
- Nutty Numvember!
- Children in Need
- Wishes 4 Kids fundraiser
- Bali Rai visit

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

Welcome back to college and a Happy New Year to you all. As you will see in our newsletter it was a busy end to 2014 at Groby Community College and on the campus as a whole. It was fantastic to see so many examples of students across the 11-19 age range working together particularly in the Performing Arts.

Students, staff, parents and carers have put in an enormous effort to enable the college to thrive throughout the Autumn Term. As Principal I am incredibly proud of each and everyone associated with Groby and the contribution they make to its success.

A huge thank you goes to the Leadership Team led by our Post 16 students. This new body, formed at the end of the last academic year, has supported Mrs Hubbard (Deputy Principal) and Ms Wood (Head of Post 16) with many events this year. They are true ambassadors of the college and have received superb feedback for their professional attitude and the enthusiasm with their approach to everything that is asked of them. Over the next few months our Year 13 students will be recruiting Year 12 students to take over their leadership responsibilities. I encourage all Year 12 students who want to be part of the Leadership Team to get involved.

Thank you to our Year 11 students who approached the mock examinations with confidence and maturity. We are all looking forward to the results day; Wednesday 21 January, when they will get their first taste of what it is like to open their envelope to see how they have done.

The Performing Arts department created some 'festive magic' at the college with a cross campus musical extravaganza on 4 December involving students from Year 7 to 13. In addition to the concert, the department staged its annual show last week. Students performed Disney's hit 'High School Musical' to packed audiences on each of the four nights. The live band was also an absolute delight.

At the end of last term we said goodbye to two of our valued staff. Ms Massingham has been PA to the Principal and retired after 12 years at the college. Mrs Woolhouse, who left us in the Summer term, continued to support our Post 16 teaching throughout this term but will now concentrate fully on her new post with the Institute of Physics. Both members of staff have contributed a huge amount to the smooth running and reputation of the college. We welcome Mrs Brown as the new Subject Leader for Physics and wish her luck in her new role. Mrs Brown is a highly experienced teacher with a number of years of experience in an outstanding school in London.

All good wishes,

Mr Coles, Principal

WINTER CLOSURE PROCEDURE

In the event of heavy snow that may cause closure of the college, information and updates will be available at:

Radio Leicester on 104.9FM

Mrs Hollingshead, Assistant Principal - Business Manager

YEAR 13 PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**Autumn Term 2014: 18/11/14****68 Questionnaires returned** (49 returned Autumn 2013)**PERCENTAGE in BOLD** IS THE RESULT FOR **AUTUMN TERM 2014**(IN BRACKETS IS THE RESULT FOR **AUTUMN TERM 2013**)

		% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
1	My child is happy at college.	40 (48)	53 (52)	7 (0)	0 (0)
2	My child is making good progress at college.	45 (46)	53 (52)	2 (2)	0 (0)
3	Year 13 students behave well.	41 (31)	58 (63)	1 (0)	0 (0)
4	The college deals effectively with bullying.	38 (13)	59 (46)	3 (0)	0 (0)
5	Teaching is good in Post 16.	50 (29)	48 (71)	2 (0)	0 (0)
6	I am kept well informed about my child's progress.	47 (26)	45 (68)	8 (4)	0 (2)
7	My child feels safe at college.	56 (52)	44 (48)	0 (0)	0 (0)
8	Post 16 is well led and managed.	44 (34)	56 (57)	0 (2)	0 (0)
9	The college is well led and managed.	50 (29)	50 (65)	0 (0)	0 (2)
10	My child is well looked after at this college.	48 (38)	50 (63)	2 (0)	0 (0)
11	The college responds well to any concerns I raise.	42 (34)	56 (53)	0 (2)	2 (0)
12	My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	42 (38)	54 (60)	4 (2)	0 (0)
13	Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent.	46 (41)	51 (59)	3 (0)	0 (0)
14	I would recommend Groby Community College to another parent.	53 (39)	44 (57)	3 (0)	0 (2)

Please note that 2014-15 is the first year that we have not used the 'don't know' column.

Analysis and areas for development:

- In 12 out of the 14 categories there has been a sharp increase in the 'strongly agree'. Most marked is the column related to teaching and progress at Post 16.
- All parents/carers who responded with a disagree/strongly disagree have been contacted by the Senior Leadership Team and where possible the issue has been addressed.
- Where there has been a response that shows the student is not happy at the college, reasons have been investigated carefully and relate to specific issues with key actions put in place.

Please note that our own 'Parent View' will be updated after each parent evening and the feedback will be communicated to staff and parents/carers via the newsletter.

HIGH SCHOOL THE MUSICAL - CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

The 23rd consecutive Groby Community College musical was once again a great success. Students from all years combined to put on a fantastic show!



EXAM & KEY ASSESSMENT CALENDAR 2014 - 15

The main exam period is 11 May 2015 - 24 June 2015 but other re-sit exams in Maths and English take place at other times of the college year as well. The timetable will change to accommodate preparation, revision and exam warm-up sessions. We have revision tips and sample revision timetables on our college website.

All the key controlled assessments, mocks and exam dates can be found on the college website: www.grobycoll.com

EXAMS

The Summer series starts on **Monday 11 May 2015 and ends Wednesday 24 June 2015**

We would advise that **no holidays are booked during this exams period**

Note: Half Term week is Monday 25 to Friday 29 May 2015

Exam Certificates

Summer 2014 exam certificates are available for collection from the Exams Office.

More colleges and employers are asking to see certificates prior to offering places/positions, therefore please don't forget to collect them.

Due to replacement costs we DO NOT post certificates – it is your responsibility to collect them from the college during reception opening hours of 8.15am – 4pm.

Also, do you have any relatives who are ex Groby Students? We hold certificates dating back to 2007! To obtain older certificates call or email allowing 48 hours for collection.

Mrs Poulton

Exams Officer

E: exams@grobycoll.com



SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Our college feels it is of the utmost importance to have good systems for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare throughout all the activities which the college undertakes. This means that staff and volunteers must be alert to possible concerns about every student, and to report these in a proper fashion. The college has a safeguarding and child protection policy which parents/carers can view on our website under the 'About Us' section 'Documents/Policies'.

It is important for parents to be aware that:

- Staff and volunteers in the college have a duty to report concerns about a child, whether this means the child may be in need of additional support or help of some kind or whether it is thought that a child may have been abused or be at risk of abuse.
- There are four categories of abuse: physical, sexual, emotional and neglect.
- In some cases the college is obliged to refer children to children's social care staff, for children to be assessed for their needs or if an investigation into possible child abuse is required. In many cases there will already have been discussions between college staff and the parents of the child, and the situation and concerns will not be a surprise to the parents. However, parents may not be told that the college has referred their child to children's social care if it is thought that this might put the child at risk.
- Children's social care tries to carry out its enquiries in a sensitive fashion. It has to gather information and generally it can be open with parents about the steps being taken.
- If you think your child may have been abused you should contact the children's social care office. If you think the abuse may have happened in college, contact the Principal or the Designated Senior Person for Child Protection, who is Mrs Evans, Assistant Principal. If you think your child has been hurt, arrange to visit your doctor. Comfort and reassure your child.
- If college staff need to express concerns about a child or refer a child to children's social care, it is understood that this can cause distress or anger for the child's parents.

For parents' enquiries please contact: **Mrs Evans, Assistant Principal**

READING, WRITING, COMMUNICATION & MATHEMATICS

Miss Johal, Numeracy Co-ordinator
tjohal@grobycoll.com

Mrs Auger, Literacy Co-ordinator
sauger@grobycoll.com



On 26 November some of Year 10s received a visit from Zubair Moti, an employee from Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), and Vanessa Breward from LEBC. A talk was given by Zubair in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) with the aim of inspiring the next generation of STEM professionals. Zubair demonstrated how mechanical and software engineering are used in the motor production industry by JLR and his role in this successful company.

Students were challenged to find a career that does not utilise any of the STEM subjects and this proved a fruitless search as almost all sectors of employment encompass these.

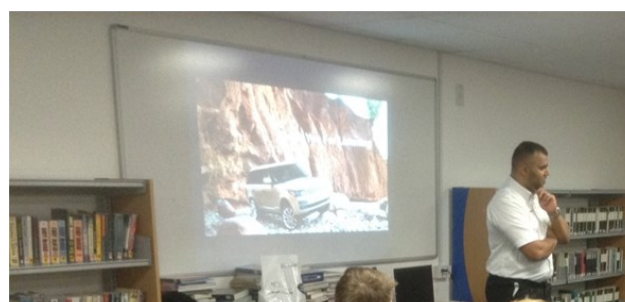
This was an inspirational experience and gave our students a real world example and insight of where a STEM career could lead. It reinforced to our students that what is covered in the curriculum at Groby Community College also relates to industry and professional careers. Zubair ended his session with a talk and then presented each student all with a JLR goodie bag, which added to their enthusiasm!

Many thanks to Zubair Moti from JLR and Vanessa Breward from LEBC for visiting Groby Community College and inspiring our students.

"The session inspired me to be more open minded about the career I may go into. I'm thinking of taking maths at A Level now" - Karishma.

"I didn't realise that most jobs have some sort of STEM element in them. I found this interesting" - Shannon.

Miss Taz Johal
Numeracy Co-ordinator



Nutty Numvember news on page 6!

Nutty Numvember

Groby Community College and John Cleveland College, Hinckley went nutty about numeracy in November during the month long competition called 'Nutty Numvember'.

Students from both colleges were given an opportunity to participate in this collaborative event by answering questions, changed weekly, covering a wide variety of topics such as snooker, computing and scrabble. The aim was to encourage students to think about numeracy in different contexts and not just in their maths lessons.

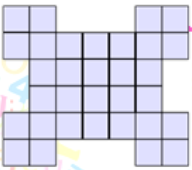
Groby students had the chance to win a £15 Amazon gift card and congratulations to Lewis Goodyear in Year 11 who was the winner and is pictured right, with Mr Coles who presented him with his prize. Some of the questions from the competition have also been included below.

The Reading, Writing, Communication and Mathematics team would like to thank all the students that participated and the staff that helped contribute towards the questions. We would also like to thank the numeracy team at John Cleveland College, Hinckley for their contribution in planning this event.





Miss Johal, Numeracy Co-ordinator

Nutty Numvember. Nutty Numvember.

<p>Question 1: What is the highest 3 dart finish to check out of a game?</p>	<p>Question 3: How many squares are in the picture?</p> 
<p>Question 2: In scrabble, what 5 letter word(s) will give the highest possible score?</p>	<p>Question 4: In a rugby scrum what is the sum of the numbers on the back of the shirts? (before replacements)</p>

Nutty Numvember. Nutty Numvember.

Nutty Numvember. Nutty Numvember.

<p>Question 1: In Computing, what is the value of 6A in base 10?</p>	<p>Question 3: Which artist created these mathematically inspired pieces?</p> 
<p>Question 2: What is the maximum break you could make in snooker, without potting the pink or black balls?</p> 	

Nutty Numvember. Nutty Numvember.

BROOMBRIGGS FUNDRAISER SUCCESS!



It was Broombriggs labour of love that raised £119, which was used towards granting the wish of a four year old little girl who was undergoing treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. Her greatest wish was to visit Disneyland Paris and meet with the princesses. Along with this donation, Wishes 4 Kids were able to send her, her family, for a magical four day VIP visit where she met with all the princesses!



WELL DONE TO ALL THE STUDENTS AND STAFF INVOLVED!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Christmas concert was a wonderful opportunity for all the extra-curricular groups to come together and showcase their skills and abilities and show all the hard work they had put in over the term. It was particularly exciting because this was a truly cross campus concert featuring Groby Youth Theatre, Groby Campus Orchestra, Groby Campus Singing Group and Brookvale Ukelele group helped by some founder members now at the college. Also performing was a College Rock Band and Brookvale's Young Voices as well as soloists from both schools. All years were represented from Year 7 to Year 13 and it was wonderful to see so many talented students of all ages performing together.



GROBY YOUTH THEATRE

Groby Youth Theatre is open to any student from Year 7 to Year 11. We meet in the Brookvale drama studio at 3.20pm till 5pm every Wednesday. We participate in drama games and activities that are there to develop your skills and abilities in Drama. The main aim is to have lots of fun as we develop our skills. Each week is different and there are opportunities to perform to a live audience, as we did in the Christmas Concert. We do a variety of work such as creating our own work, using scripts and creating Theatre in Education. Everyone is welcome so come along and join in. Please come and see me for more information.

Miss Smith, Subject Teacher for Drama



KEEP TRACK OF ALL YOUR CHILD'S HOMEWORK AND DEADLINES



This service provides parents with an insight into the type of homework your child receives and how often it is set. More importantly, we hope it benefits your child by displaying all their homework and deadlines on one page, helping them to use their time more effectively and become more organised.

For parents who wish to take a more active role in their children's home learning, they can by having their own Show My Homework account. This allows parents/carers access to an overview of the homework set for their son/daughter in all their subject areas. We've given 'power' back to parents, they can now take a more proactive role in driving homework prioritisation, keeping tabs on homework without being intrusive. **Benefits for parents/carers:**

- No login required – to view the college homework calendar <https://groby.showmyhomework.co.uk>
- Easy to use - It only take a couple of clicks to see the homework timetable for your child.
- View anytime - You don't have to wait until they arrive home, find out if they have homework the moment a teacher sets it.

Please note that the college is only authorised to reset student passwords. Follow the link provided to reset parent/carer password.

If you require assistance using this service or would like to provide feedback, please do not hesitate to contact

Mrs Cornelius via email ccornelius@grobycoll.com

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

YOU CAN STILL APPLY FOR YEAR 10 ADMISSION AUGUST 2015

For more information and advice please contact Mrs Lee at the college:

0116 287 9921 xtn 286

SCIENCE CLUB!



New must-see Science club! This is new to Groby College. If you enjoy experiments and talking about how Science affects our lives you should come along. We do loads of experiments! So far we've made dry ice smoke rings and bubbles, pop-bottle rocket, fire writing and Elephant's

Toothpaste – the one Sheldon did on Big Bang Theory to get his own back on Kripke.

So if you are a student with a passion for experiments and fun, come along. We meet in room 21 at the college every Wednesday afternoon, until 4:15pm. Miss Scott is in charge (at least that's what she thinks) but most of the activities are organised and ran by a group of Year 12 students who share the same passion as you! So come along and enjoy the weird and the wonderful....and there's food!



Making 'Elephant's Toothpaste'!

GLOBAL ENTERPRISE WEEK

Global Enterprise Week took place in November 2014.

Year 10 and 12 students took part in the international Enterprise Week in November. The winning teams from each class were then put through to a final where they pitched their ideas to Mr Coles and Mrs Evans, pictured below.



All groups were very impressive and their ideas caused our judges to deliberate for quite some time before finally choosing a winner – **Multi Mobile Glove**.



Congratulations to 'Multi Mobile Glove' pictured above: Raj Khuti, Nayan Mistry, James Davis, Erjon Sopi

Mrs Bryan, Lead Teacher for Business

MODELS OF EROSIONAL LANDFORMS

Here are the models made by the Year 10 Geography students to represent erosional landforms:



Mr Kimber, Curriculum Leader for Humanities

UNIVERSITY OF DERBY EXPERIENCE DAY

84 Year 11 students attended an Experience Day at the University of Derby on Friday 28 November 2014.

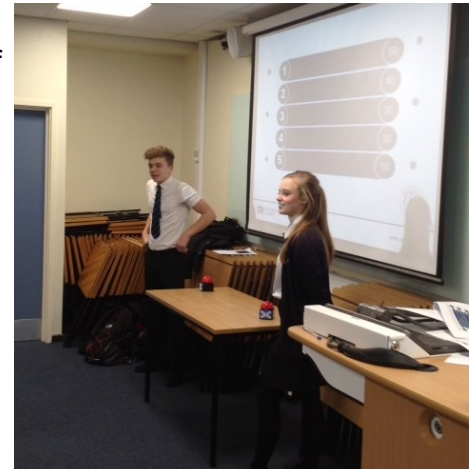
These invited students have the potential to thrive at University. The day included a range of interactive workshops and students had the opportunity to talk with current undergraduates on what life is like at University.



Pictured left is the University of Derby staff who provided a fabulous day's itinerary.

Pictured right are two of Groby's student team leaders taking part in the 'Family Fortunes' style Learning Game

Mrs Cornelius, Assistant Principal - Quality of Teaching



STUDENT QUOTES FROM THE TRIP:

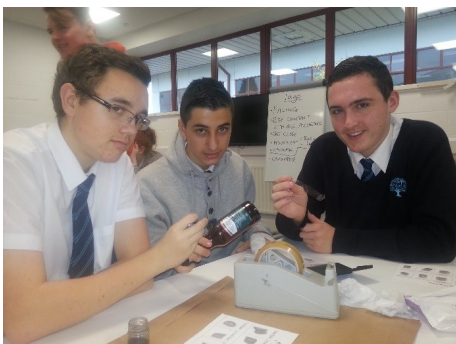
"The University of Derby Experience Day was really useful because I was able to see what University life is like – I would like to do A Levels and go to University"

"The Experience Day was very useful, I especially enjoyed the forensics taster session and the guided tour"

"I had already planned on staying at Groby Community College to do A Levels, but since the trip I have decided to continue my education and go to University."

"The trip offered lots of useful information about what goes on at University."

"The Experience Day has encouraged me to think about going to University and I have chosen A Level subjects that will help me get there"



Forensic Science Workshop



Law Workshop



Forensic Science Workshop

THE HIGHER ABILITY WEBSITE

The Higher Ability website allows students in Year 10 to Year 13 to view the support and enrichment opportunities available at the college. It can be accessed via our college website under Post 16, Oxford and Cambridge early entry page or directly using the following link; <http://higherability-groby.weebly.com>

The website contains information on:

- Applying to Cambridge and Oxford University
- Medical Sciences
- Support and trips at Key Stages 4 and 5.
- Guidance material for work experience, interviews and personal statements.



For more information on what we offer as part of the Higher Ability programme at Groby, please contact Mr Mark Ryman.



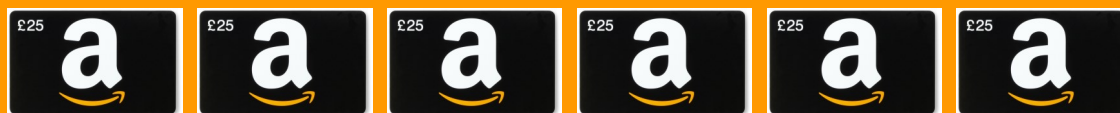
REWARDING KEY STAGE 4 STUDENTS



In the Spring Term we hold Celebration Assemblies to recognise the achievements of individual students in each of the four Houses during the Autumn Term. A new system of Reward Points was introduced this year and this data is analysed at the end of each half term.

Criteria for Reward Points?	
1 REWARD POINT	For an impressive effort in a lesson, sporting event or piece of homework
2 REWARD POINTS	For any postcard issued
3 REWARD POINTS (CREDIT)	For an impressive effort over a period of time (at least a week)
5 REWARD POINTS (COMMENDATION)	For an extended piece of work

Each Half Term: WIN AN AMAZON VOUCHER!



The names of the 10 students with the greatest number of Reward Points in each House will be put into a House draw and the winner from each house will receive a £25 Amazon voucher.

BARDON

Madison Boothby 10BaBt (x28), Reece Edwards 10Balv (x28), Thomas Morris 11BaWr (x26), Amy Cawrey 11BaBg (x24), Ellie Spencer 11BaSh (x24), Jacob Watkins 11BaWr (x23), Jess Mazuryk 11Balv (x23), Grace Proctor 11Balv (x20), Joshua Turner 11BaBt (x19), Brooke Holland (x18), Mollie Parr 11BaMI (x18)

BEACON

Sacha McCarrick 10BeSf (x40), Sam Fraser 11BeHa (x31), Shivani Raval 11BeRy (x26), Thomas Chambers 10BeSj (x25), Rhys Scargill 11BeHa (x24), Sian Hoskins 10BeHa (x23), Martha Causon 11BeWe (x21), Olivia Roberts 10BeSf (x21), Sebastien Leplay 10BeSf (x21), Shannon Hogben 10BeSf (x19)

BIRCH

Saffia White 10BiMm (x37), Ryan Jackson 10BiPa (x30), Toby Crook 11BiTe (x30), Beth Mead 10BiMm (x29), Tyler Lowth 10BiSr (x28), Morgan Swindin 10BiPa (x27), Nicholas Wilson 11BiPa (x26), James Cole 10BiVa (x25), Nicole Dingley 11BiPa (x25), Shauna Morgan 10BiBr (x25), Spencer Kennedy 10BiPa (x25)

BROOMBRIGGS

Sophie Hayes 11BrWi (x41), Katharine Miller 11BrVr (x29), Sadie Hurst 11BrBc (x28), Louis Anderson 11BrWi (x24), Leah Dhand 11BrBc (x23), Saarah Razak 11BrRa (x23), Becky Fletcher 11BrVr (x21), Isobel Sibson 11BrIs (x20), Charlotte Knight 11 BrWi (x18), Jaine Solanki 11BrVr (x18), Thomas Burbage 10BrIs (x18)

There was a House draw from these names for the winner of a £25 Amazon voucher

BARDON:

Jess Mazuryk 11Balv

BEACON:

Sam Fraser 11BeHa

BIRCH:

James Cole 10BiVa

BROOMBRIGGS:

Katharine Miller 11BrVr

Each Term Certificates will be awarded for:

- **Outstanding Attendance:** 100%
- **Outstanding Attitude to Learning:** 1s for effort in all subjects on latest reports
- **Outstanding Behaviour:** No behaviour sanctions
- **Outstanding Progress:** On or above target grade in all subjects on latest reports

All students who achieve 3 or more outstanding certificates in any one term will receive a Principal's Award. Their names will be put into a hat and the winner will receive a £50 Amazon



In addition, we present Outstanding certificates on the basis of performance during the Autumn Term.

97 students (45 Year 10 and 52 Year 11) were awarded an Outstanding Attendance certificate for achieving 100% attendance during the Autumn Term

153 students (59 Year 10 and 94 Year 11) were awarded an Outstanding Attitude to Learning certificate for achieving a 1 (outstanding) in all subjects in the most recent set of reports

184 students (74 Year 10 and 110 Year 11) were awarded an Outstanding Behaviour certificate for not receiving a single behaviour sanction throughout the Autumn Term

260 students (155 Year 10 and 105 Year 11) were awarded an Outstanding Progress certificate based on their most recent set of reports.

To get this certificate year 11 students had to achieve on or above their target grade in all subjects. Year 10 students have aspirational target grades and to get this certificate had to achieve 3 levels of progress from primary school in all subjects.

Students who are awarded 3 or more Outstanding certificates also receive a Principal's Award.

The names of these students are put into a hat the winner receives a £50 Amazon voucher.

Well done to all students!

GERMAN BAKE OFF!



On Friday 19 December the Year 12 German AS Class, competed against each other in a fierce battle of the biscuit! They each chose a German recipe and made a Christmas biscuit (or cake in one case) to present to our very own Mary Berry (Jake Merriman) and Paul Hollywood (Gary Horn). It was tough judging but the final winner was Joshua Sharman, who baked an apple cake – Apfelmuchen and some Vanillekipferl biscuits! Well done Josh!



RSC in STRATFORD



As part of my A2 English Literature course we study Shakespeare's 'Measure for Measure', and as a class we were fortunate enough to take a trip to Stratford to see the Shakespearian style theatre. Once we arrived in Stratford we had a backstage tour of the RSC theatre; seeing the costumes worn by the actors, the behind the scenes prop building and lighting, and gaining an in-depth knowledge of how traditional staging works. This gave me a thorough understanding of how Shakespeare may have written his plays to fit his stages, and how his actors may have performed to the audience encircling them, all of which will be beneficial when adding context to my exam essays. After the tour we had a short amount of free time in which my friends and I went to see Shakespeare's house, looking at where he grew up gave us a greater sense of the context of his work and how his environment may have influenced him. Overall I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Stratford, the tour of the theatre has helped me to remember information about the staging of Shakespeare's plays which will help me to excel in my exams.

Kate Skelton (Year 13)

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

We went to the Birmingham German Christmas market on 16 December 2014. The trip helped us to gain cultural knowledge of German traditions. Many of the stalls were food stalls, this was good and the food was amazing! I really enjoyed this trip as it helped me to gain an understanding and helped us to improve our German as many foods were in German and the stall owners were also German. I would definitely recommend the trip because it is a fantastic day out!

Jessica Wright (Year 11)





POST 16 NEWS

It has been a very busy first term in Post 16.

The newly formed Post 16 Leadership Team have been very busy organising a number of charity events including bake sales, competitions and the Christmas jumper day. So far they have raised an impressive **£321.18** for the chosen Post 16 charity; Teenage Cancer Trust. They are looking forward to organising some more charity and social events for Post 16 students and have already started planning the prom for August! They have also been involved in helping to introduce a new rewards and sanctions policy. Students will now be more formally recognised for their hard work and dedication and there will be a prize draw at the end of each term to help celebrate.

Year 12 students have settled in well and are all working very hard. They are in the middle of mock examinations at the moment and I wish them all the best. During tutor time they are working on a leadership qualification. This qualification is about improving oneself, working well as part of a team and contributing positively to the community. It recognises all the great things our students do both inside and outside the college.

Year 13 students are busy sending off their University applications. Still a few to go (deadline is January 2015), but students are now starting to receive offers, with 2 students already receiving unconditional offers for their chosen Universities.

We have received many Post 16 applications from Year 11 students and will be processing these over the next few weeks. We will keep in touch with all the applicants but if anyone has any queries please don't hesitate to talk to either Ms Wood or Mrs Hubbard.

We wish all our students a happy and successful 2015!

Ms Wood, Head of Post 16



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE (LRC) NEWS

We had a lovely end to the year with a festive staff v students quiz. The LRC was packed and a good time was had by all with mince pies and sweets as prizes. A staff team won but it was a close call and the students were not far behind! Keeping in the festive mood, we had a showing of the film Elf over a couple of lunchtimes with lots of popcorn.

The LRC was transformed over the Autumn term with a complete change around and re-decoration making the fiction section much easier to access. The re-vamped LRC has come at a good time to welcome the celebrated Author Bali Rai on 4 February. His visit will also coincide with the naming of the winner of the current creative writing competition and we will ask Bali to read an extract from the winning piece!

The LRC is going to be a busy place over the next term with the visit from Bali Rai, the creative writing competition and at least one film lunchtime. It has so much to offer with a good range of current fiction, non-fiction, magazines, audio books, board games, a careers library, a free DVD rental service, laptops and so much more! Watch this space in the next issue for all the details regarding the visit by Bali Rai and the winner of the creative writing competition.

Mrs Garnett, LRC Supervisor



CHILDREN IN NEED 2014

Staff and students at Groby Community College organised a number of different event for Children in Need 2014. A non-uniform day and the very well supported 'I'M A TEACHER GET ME OUT OF HERE!' competition. Miss Meadowcroft, Miss Hammond, Mr Raynor and Mrs Auger were all put through three nasty Bush Tucker trials - see pictures below! The overall winner was Miss Meadowcroft. A big thank you to all the students and staff involved.

Mrs Richardson, House Activity Co-ordinator



£756.62 RAISED!
A big thank you to all the students and staff involved.
Mrs Richardson
House Activity Co-ordinator



NEW GUIDELINES RE HOLIDAY TAKEN IN TERM TIME

New government guidelines, which came into effect on 1 September 2013, prevent Headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. A family holiday during term-time does not fall under the category of 'exceptional circumstances' and we are therefore unable to grant leave of absence for a family holiday request.

Should parents disregard this decision and the student has absences recorded as a result of an unauthorised family holiday, Leicestershire County Council will be advised of this matter and will be requested to issue Penalty Notices in line with their policy.

PE NEWS

U16 Netball (team photo right)

The U16 netball team continued their good start to the season with an impressive 7-4 victory away at Bosworth Academy. This puts them at the top of the North West Leicestershire / Hinckley & Bosworth League.



U15 Football

The Year 10 football team drew 0-0 at home to Market Bosworth in their latest fixture. After conceding 11 goals in the previous two games, a clean sheet was a welcome improvement with goal keeper Harry Creasey marshalling his defence well. It was a game we should really have won, but lots of positives to take into the next game.

U19 Football

The Post 16 football team have made it through to the final of the Leicestershire County Cup after a convincing semi-final victory. We beat John Cleveland College 13-2 away with Alex Kent scoring 6 goals, Tom McGlinchey 5 and Joe Norton with a brace. The whole team were outstanding and looked like scoring at will. The final was due to be held at Welbeck College before Christmas, but was postponed due to a frozen pitch. The game will be rearranged for the New Year, but has yet to be confirmed.



U16 Rugby

The Year 11 rugby team took part in a 3 team tournament at Ashby School, in the first round of the Leicestershire County Cup. We played De Lisle Catholic School in the first game and, despite playing well and deserving more from the game, lost 12-0. Our final game was against Ashby, who had beaten De Lisle in the other game. Groby took a 7-0 lead through a Cameron Oldershaw try, converted by Harry Johnson, and should really have made our first half dominance count by scoring more points. Ashby slowly came back into the game and some naive defending allowed Ashby to take advantage of two overlaps to score two unconverted tries, leaving the final score at Ashby 10 Groby 7. Zak Morton was outstanding in both games and the half-backs, Tristan Clarke and Tom Rush, did well to organise the backs, with Captain Oli Bee playing out of position in the centre.

Cross-Country

The intermediate boys team are currently in 2nd place in the team event, with two races to go. Pascal Bouttier-Butler and Luke Berryman have competed in every race, with Pascal currently in 3rd place in the individual standings and Luke 8th place. Hannah Cox is currently in joint 2nd place overall, with two 2nd place finishes and a 4th place in the senior girls competition. Alex Percy is currently in 1st place overall in the senior boys competition. We wish all runners good luck for the next race on January 17th 2015 at Market Harborough.

Mr Lord,
PE Subject Leader

U19 Badminton

The U19 badminton team hosted Leicester Grammar in the Leicestershire badminton league, running out 6-2 winners. Josh Woolman, Sam Burbidge, Kyle Morrish and Devon Martin made up the team.



U16 Basketball

The U16 basketball team took part in the annual North-West Leicestershire/Hinckley and Bosworth basketball competition at Castle Rock High School and King Edward VII School, Coalville. We beat William Bradford 14-6 in the first game with Jon Bennett top scoring with 6 points, supported by Sam Bates with 4. The second game against Market Bosworth High School saw a 19-13 defeat, despite leading deep into the final quarter. Toby Crook picked up 5 early points to take the lead, but Market Bosworth put together a late run to take victory. The final game against a strong Ashby School, who had won their previous two fixtures, saw Groby play their best basketball. Strong defending by Jake Spriggs-Moore kept Ashby's best player at bay, but got him into foul trouble. Jack Allen and Mike Birmanas lead the attack well and took Groby into an early lead. Unfortunately, we couldn't hold onto this lead and ended up losing 15-11.

Scorers: Jon Bennett, Mike Birmanas, Sam Bates, Toby Crook, Jack Allen, Mac Thomson, Jake Spriggs-Moore, Elliott Ryan and Joe Den.



PARENTS/CARERS' FORUM

Grobby Community College hold parents/carers forums to support all parties through their child's time at the college.

The second session will take place at the college in the Learning Resource Centre on:

Wednesday 4 February 2015 6pm - 7pm

More information and dates for future meetings can be found on the college calendar at the college website:

www.grobyscoll.com

If you would be interested in joining us but could not attend the first meeting

please contact Mrs Anderson: canderson@grobyscoll.com

Facilities for Hire

Grobby Community College has an excellent range of facilities that are not only used by the students and staff, but by members of the public as well. These facilities can be hired, at very reasonable rates.

The facilities are available after-school, weekends and school holiday periods. Facilities can be hired on an ad-hoc basis or as repeat bookings.

Hirers may benefit from the large range of sports facilities we can offer along with a selection of multi-purpose rooms.

Grobby Community College is happy to host all sorts of occasions from private parties, weddings, conferences, tournaments, dance performances and fun days!

- We can provide a fully licensed bar.
- Free access to Wi-Fi.
- Free on site parking.

Please contact Sangeeta Patel on 0116 2817017 or email spatel@grobyscoll.com. Alternatively visit our website: www.grobyscoll.com



Photographs from shows and performances at Grobby College can be purchased at:
www.ashleyholmesphotography.co.uk

A 20% discount is usually available on orders placed up to 10 days after an event. Just use the coupon code DISCOUNT20 at checkout.

Ashley Holmes PHOTOGRAPHY

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TRAFFIC SAFETY ON CAMPUS

As you will be aware, our primary responsibility is safety on the campus. The increase in the number of buses and public funded taxis that access the site at the beginning and end of the day, has made the safety of students more challenging.

Therefore a permanent barrier is now located inside the driveway which will restrict access to authorised vehicles only, during the times of 8.15am to 3.30pm. The barrier will be lifted at 3.30pm after the students have left the campus to allow the through flow of traffic for after college events and for community access.

The traffic on the road outside our campus, like many schools/colleges, is heavy at the end of the day. We would appreciate it if you could make careful arrangements to find alternative means for your child to travel to and from the campus or negotiate a suitable place for collection further away from the main entrance. We are working closely with the Highways Agency and the Parish Council to make the road safer for our students.

If you have a child who is injured and has difficulty with mobility, on a temporary basis, then please phone to make arrangements to access the site. Unrestricted access for any student or visitor with a disability will continue as it has in the past.

If your child is in the Post 16 centre and they drive a car to the college, then they will need to apply for a parking space by speaking to Miss Barson (Post 16 Admin Support) in order to get an application form. Car access for Post 16 students will be assessed on an individual basis.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hollingshead, Assistant Principal - Business Manager



KEY DIARY DATES FOR SPRING / SUMMER 2015

- Monday 5 - Friday 9 January • Year 12 MOCK week
- Wednesday 21 January • Year 11 Mock results day
- Thursday 22 January • Year 11 Subject Reports afternoon/evening 3.45pm - 7.15pm
- Wednesday 4 February • Parents/Carers' Forum 6pm - 7pm
- Monday 9 February • Year 10, 11 & 13 interim reports issued
- Thursday 12 February • Year 12 Subject Reports afternoon/evening 4pm - 7pm
- Friday 13 - 21 Saturday February • Annual Ski trip; Killington, Vermont, USA

MONDAY 16 - FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY • MID TERM BREAK

- Monday 23 February • College open
- Monday 23 - Friday 27 February • Annual residential German trip
- Tuesday 3 March • Year 11 Faculty / Exam revision evening 6.30pm - 8pm
- Monday 16 March • Year 12 full reports issued
- Thursday 17 March • Year 10 Subject reports afternoon/evening 3.45pm - 7.15pm
- Thursday 19 March • Year 11 & 13 group leavers photos
- Monday 23 March • Year 10 & 11 interim reports issued
- Monday 23 - Friday 27 March • Year 13 MOCK exam week

MONDAY 30 MARCH - FRIDAY 10 APRIL • EASTER BREAK

- Monday 13 April • College open
- Monday 27 April • Year 12 interim reports issued
- Monday 4 May • May Day Bank Holiday - college is closed
- Monday 18 May • Year 10 full reports issued

MONDAY 25 MAY - FRIDAY 29 MAY • MID TERM BREAK

- Monday 1 June • College open
- Monday 22 - Friday 26 June • Year 10 MOCK exam week
- Monday 29 & Tuesday 30 June • Year 12 Taster Days
- Wednesday 1 - Friday 3 July • Year 9 Induction Days
- Friday 10 July • College closes (1.20pm finish time in line with Brookvale)

AUTUMN TERM DATES 2015

Open	Tuesday 1 September 2015
Mid-Term Break	Friday 16 October to Friday 23 October 2015
Close	Friday 18 December 2015 (1.20pm finish in line with Brookvale)

REPROGRAPHICS SERVICE

Reprographic service available here at Groby Community College include:

- Design work undertaken at very competitive rates
- Booklet maker
- Laminating (up to A3)
- Comb binding
- Large format colour printing up to A1

For more information contact:

Mrs Tracey Jarvis Tel 0116 281 7002 or reprographics@grobyscoll.com



GROBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Achieving Excellence Together