



Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter February 2022



Matilda School Production

Students worked tirelessly preparing for Bentley Wood's annual musical production of Matilda. Students produced everything - from putting together a huge wardrobe of costumes, painting and creating sets, learning and practising together, technical sound and lighting - as well as performing!

The production offered fantastic opportunities for students to show their skills not only in acting and music but to take part in the production. Here are some comments from students that took part in our fantastic production

Faiza, Miss Honey

Matilda the musical has been an amazing experience. Being Miss Honey has taught me to be confident in myself and to have fun. I have learned a lot from the other Miss Honey, she taught me how to react to other people when I was not speaking and advised me to be confident. I have made so many new friends from the cast.

The only thing I don't want is for this experience to end, I will miss going after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. One of my favourite characters is Miss Trunchbull. I love how she has so much confidence and I love her sense of humour; she makes everyone laugh.

I can't forget about the teachers who organised this whole event: Mr Rankin for his co-ordination and his dedication, Mrs Bancroft who made all the songs turn out perfect and made me more confident in myself, Mrs Burrige for her enthusiasm and her motivating speeches, Miss Parkes for helping backstage and organising the prologue, the sixth formers who are helping out and Neha for all the choreography.

Lastly, I thank the whole cast for their dedication and their contribution. I will never forget these joyful moments in my time at Bentley Wood.

Faiza S 9MGR 'Miss Honey'

Miss Honey



Don't forget to check our website for regular news updates:

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community,

This half term's newsletter really fills us with pride, as we see the dedication of staff, students and families come together to support our students in yet another half term of wonderful experiences and opportunities.

Whether you were performing on stage, directing and choreographing, involved in make-up and costumes, stage and lighting, ticket sales and refreshments or like me in the audience, the BWHS performance of Matilda will have a lasting impression on every one of us. Six months of 100% dedication and hard work, producing three days of sell-out performances, is truly inspirational.

School clubs, trips and whole school experiences have been so varied and I am so pleased to see birdwatching and gardening featuring this half term as the beautiful Bentley Wood school grounds come to life after it's winter sleep.

All our Year 11, 12 and 13 students have completed a full set of mock exams. Preparing, sitting and learning from each one of these practice exams will support every student in strengthening their resilience and exam performance skills. Revision classes held over the upcoming holidays will, I am sure, be well attended. It is important this is balanced with very well-deserved breaks.

We continue to have a number of whole school foci on areas like student mental health, online safety, Oracy and reading.

Our students continue to take full advantage of a wonderfully rich curriculum which can and will support their personal development, opening their eyes to new experiences as they progress through the school and beyond. We can see how creative our staff are in ensuring the students' school experiences are enriched in so many different ways.

I would like to wish you all a very restful half-term break and look forward to seeing the staff and students again on the 20th February.

Kind regards



N Akbar

ROALD DAHL'S Matilda THE MUSICAL JR.

Elisha, Matilda

Hello, my name is Matilda Wormwood and I did a recent production here at Bentley Wood where me and my fellow classmates defeated the Trunchbull and she was never seen again. I live with Miss Honey now and she's the new headmistress and life is so much better for me now,

I had an amazing time retelling my story to supporting audiences. Well, I've got to go to a picnic with Miss Honey now- but remember, sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty!

Elisha K 8FERw

Matilda

Riana, Miss Honey

When I found out that we were doing Matilda for the school production this year I was very excited. Matilda was one of my favourite musicals growing up. I auditioned for the part of Miss Honey and got it and I was so happy. I put in lots of hard work, learning my lines, lyrics and dances. I really felt a connection with the character Miss Honey as a joyful and motivational teacher that always has faith in her students. I was also told by many friends that we give off the same vibe.

During the rehearsals leading up to the production I really enjoyed being able to connect with my cast member and being their Miss Honey, on and off stage, especially for the younger years. Overall, it's been an amazing experience and although I can't wait until the performances, I'm going to miss working with the cast and all the teachers that have played a part in setting after it's all over.

Riana K 11AALe

Miss Honey



Students are involved in all aspects of the Matilda musical



Arthika, Sound

Hi, I'm Arthika and I'm in Year 10. I run sound for winter, spring and summer concerts and productions like Matilda. It is a very fun experience as we get to learn more about how sound is run and how shows work. I have been a part of the sound team since Year 7 and it has been so interesting to learn new things; from learning to set up a mic in Year 7 to training our new sound technicians and identifying the problems with our frequencies in Year 10. The sound system in a show is very important and Ms Bancroft always helps us figure out what to change and how to make it sound better. I am looking forward to running sound in Matilda and continuing to learn more about running sound!

Arthika P 10MTMe

Arya, Lighting Leader

Running Lighting is fun yet quite challenging sometimes. I have done the lighting for the Winter & Autumn concerts and they were both amazing! I enjoy doing lighting as it's a great experience. Lighting can, and will, instantly change the look and the atmosphere of the room and it illuminates the performers. It's fun trying out the colours and seeing which matches the atmosphere of the song being performed. It took me some time trying to memorize which lights project which colours but after learning the basics, you start to get the hang of it. I enjoy it a lot and look forward to doing the lighting for more upcoming concerts and productions!

Arya A 10MAKf

Neha, Choreography

I have really enjoyed creating and choreographing the dance numbers in the school production. It has been a wonderful experience getting to teach the younger years. My favourite dance scene in Matilda is Revolting Children. The rehearsals after school have been eventful and overall, it has been a fun experience.

Neha P 12JT

Kashi, Production

Behind the scenes, we ensure that the production runs smoothly. We do this by opening and closing the curtains, moving props/sets on and off stage and managing projectors (such as for the magic chalk-board scene) - to give the show a truly magical feel. It's so rewarding to see the audience so enchanted by the production!

Kashi D 12TRA



Dear Louisa, Naseema and all of the cast and crew of Matilda,

Thank you so very much for inviting us back to your lovely school - this time to see the excellent performance of Matilda. It was fantastic; from the lighting, to the props; singing and acting - simply stunning!

The unison of the choreographed dance sequences really blew me away - they must have been practising for months! Definitely a West-end worthy performance.

Well done everyone.

Kind regards

Mrs K. Portou

**Assistant Headteacher for Years 4, 5 & 6
Whitchurch Primary School & Nursery**

Bentley Wood School for girls performed an outstanding and spectacular play; a recreation of Matilda, a well-known book, written by Roald Dahl. The show was amazing and we were on the edge of our seats from the excitement. Our school enjoyed it thoroughly and it was miraculous how similar the actors / students from Bentley Wood and the characters in the book were! When the actors were saying the lines, it was as if we were inside the books and the events were unfolding before us. The lighting was immaculate and it made the show feel more alive. The actors played it jaw-droppingly and we really enjoyed the show.

Vaishna Year 5 Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery

This unique show is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity with engaging and hilarious characters, who have such great talent in performing arts. We were amazed by all the choreography the students at Bentley Wood had produced for us, including the melodic and sweet-toned songs tenderly sung to us, except Miss Trunchbull's (the headmistress) song with such power which made the stage tremble with rage and kept us at the edge of our seat. This enhanced version was the best out of all the versions I've seen. Thank you Bentley Wood for the chance to witness a spectacular musical.

Diya Year 5 Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery

Textiles Club- Matilda

My own experience. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me to design costumes for the school show this year Matilda. It started slowly because postal workers were on strike, but we didn't let it stop us from moving forward.

To begin, we made mood boards; I was assigned to design Matilda, which was fantastic. Moving on, we would all agree on a costume and began building it shortly after Christmas. We have made significant progress despite the difficulties we had. Cutting out paper and fabric and putting it all onto the machine.

I proceeded on to Mr. Wornwood's suit, and the blazer looks fantastic. The hardest part was the sleeves, but I managed to complete them. We are nearly there and just a few weeks away from the show so I can't wait and I'm ever so grateful for this chance that I have had and with no doubt I would do it next year.

Rahaf A 8LBMf

It was nice being able to learn how to stitch clothes and make some costumes for the Matilda production. I enjoyed spending time on things that I wouldn't normally do at home or at school, and it was cool to learn how clothes are made and how long they take to be amazing.

It really helped me gain confidence in my textiles work and on how to use the stitching machine and it overall was a very fun experience being able to work with other people, my friends, and my teachers to put together this project.

Anvi K 9MGR

Matilda costume club is an amazing experience to go through and I loved going there on Wednesdays and some Saturdays too. It was really fun and we all got along really well. A lot of team work was used with other members varying from Year 7 to even Sixth Form. It was an amazing time and I would definitely do it again if I had the chance. Seeing the pieces, we made get sewed and turn in to something amazing is one of the best feelings.

Thamiisha D 9MGR



Engaging activities at STEM clubs

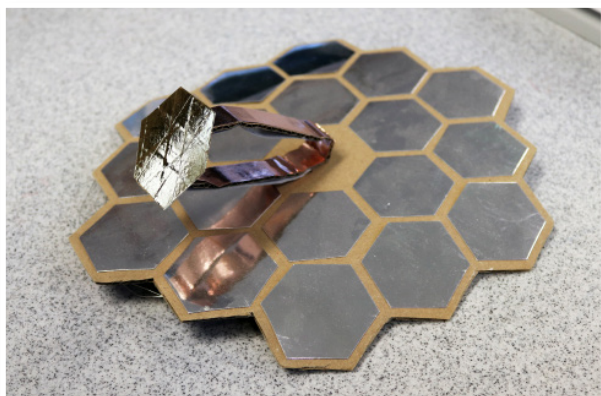
Discovering more about science at Space Club

I have been to Space Club many times before, and I can't recommend it enough. I have learnt things that firstly you do not learn in your science lessons (an opportunity to learn something new) and just genuinely mind-blowing things.

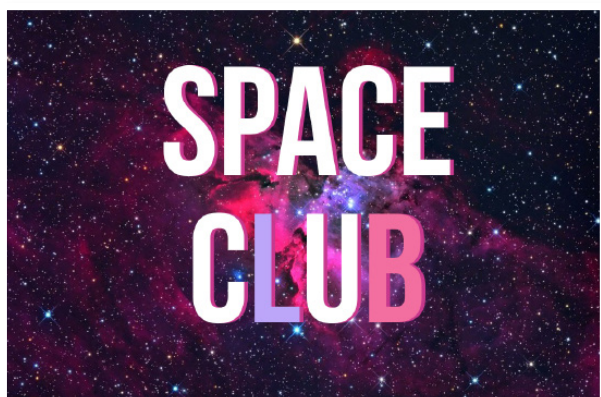
Space Club also includes a lot of Art. Art is beneficial for people, especially at a young age to spread their creativity and let their imagination go wild. I have once created a parachute for an egg, it was unstable and loose, yet the egg was untouched and didn't crack when we tested the parachute.

We have designed our own James Webb Telescope and beforehand, we even watched a documentary about it to get lots of knowledge about it. I love Space Club with all my heart, because ever since I was younger, I have loved space. Space was so fascinating and there were endless things to know about it, with the help of Space club, I can increase that knowledge and give others information about it too.

Sofia S 8TSG



Students made models of the James Webb Telescope



Students making a non-Newtonian fluid in Space Club



Science Club: Students get messy making slime

This week on 13 January we got our hands really sticky and made some slime! Students were able to see a chemical reaction right in front of their eyes.

This week we had numerous excited Year 7s who were ready to get their hands really sticky and make some slime! Given clear and coherent instructions by Mr Koyejo, the students were able to set off and were limitless in making and mixing colours and ingredients. This experiment allowed the girls to understand the type of chemical reactions that can occur and why – in this case the polyvinyl alcohol found in PVA glue reacts with the borate ions in bicarbonate of soda when mixed with contact lens solution. These are household items so everyone can give it a try! As always, paying attention to health and safety, students and staff worked efficiently together to clean up and get home for the weekend.

Zahra S 13SG



Science Club Activities 2023

17-Feb	Half Term
24-Feb	Making Lip Balm
3-Mar	Building an electromagnet
10-Mar	Building an electric motor
17-Mar	Growing Microbes
24-Mar	Testing antibiotics /soaps /detergents
31-Mar	Possible 1/2 day
7-Apr	Easter Break
14-Apr	Easter Break
21-Apr	Van der Graff & static electricity
28-Apr	Making indicators & testing acid or alkali
5-May	Micro chemistry Precipitations
12-May	Ooblecc. Walking on non-newtonian fluid
19-May	Nature run capture and identifying bugs
26-May	Testing catalyst Elephants toothpaste
2nd Jun	Half- term
9-Jun	Fish Dissection



Students enjoy popular clubs

Criminology Club is attended by students of all years

We are regular attendees of Criminology Club, and we return every week because the topics we discuss are extremely interesting. When we told our friends, they agreed to come immediately, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience, prompting them to return. Criminology opens up new gateways in our minds. It allows us to see the world through a different lens.

There are a range of activities, from solving murders to raising crime awareness. Not only do we look at complex and daring crimes, but we also look at ways to prevent them, and look behind the scenes of every caper, effectively training our brains in empathy and problem-solving. In conclusion, criminology has many engaging activities and is a great use of our time. Thanks for reading and hope you join us on Friday lunchtimes!

Anniyah R 7GCPf



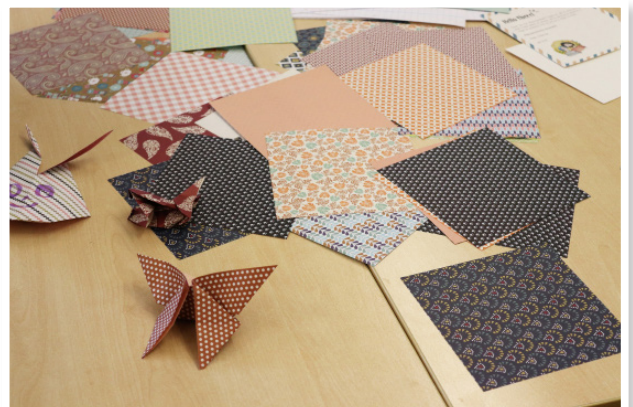
Anime Club

To celebrate the Lunar New Year, this week in Anime Club we learnt how to create origami paper rabbits.

In Chinese astrology, 2023 is the Year of the Water Rabbit, also known as the Year of the Black Rabbit. The rabbit is the symbol of longevity, peace, and prosperity in Chinese Culture, thus 2023 is predicted to be a year of hope. This was a fun and creative activity for students to be creative and appreciate the year of the rabbit. Anime Club is a space where students are able to be their creative selves and take part in all things anime!

During the club, students take part in a range of activities such as: discussions about their favourite characters & stories, testing their knowledge about anime through quizzes, learning how to draw their own characters in various anime art styles, learning how to make origami paper figures and many more!

Miss Terraza



Students connecting with nature

Science Club: Big Garden Bird Watch 2023

Between 27th and 29th January 2023 the RSPB BIG Garden Bird Watch took place. The RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's biggest garden wildlife survey. It regularly attracts almost a million participants who spend an hour counting the birds that visit their gardens.

www.rspb.org.uk

We are extremely proud that over 160 members of the Bentley Wood Community took part in the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch and for an hour tracked the bird populations in Harrow and the surrounding areas. 23 Science Club students joined Mr Barrett and Mr Koyejo on the Schools Big Garden Bird Watch and logged an amazing array of birds that live on the school site.

We currently have some of the finest mathematical minds statistically analysing the data and will be holding the Big Garden Bird Watch Lunch where we will share details of our findings.

In Science Club the previous week students made the bird feeders they would put out the following week during the Schools Big Garden Bird Watch. They followed some instruction from the RSPB and Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust website.

www.rspb.org.uk

www.wwt.org.uk

Mr Barrett



Gardening volunteers make Bentley Wood greener

Gardening Volunteering is an amazing chance for Year 7s to make our school greener! Making our school greener not only helps the planet but it also gives a pop to our school in terms of colour!

We started in December, and we have already cleaned soil in our flowerbeds and planted 2 plants! I went to volunteer for this the first week and I had so much fun! It is hosted by Miss Bairstow and Mr. Farquhar they have been amazing while hosting this amazing program to make our school greener! If we have made so much improvement in two weeks imagine what us Year 7s can do in a few months! If you are interested ask your tutor to sign you up!

Mihika T 7LSB



Gardening Club



Student creativity and dance in clubs and classes

Indian Dance Club

Every Monday lunchtime we run an Indian cultural dance club. The dance is called 'garba' and it happens during a festival called 'Navratri' in Autumn time. Its translation is nine nights and happens so in the run up to Diwali. There are different styles of the dance, that we try and learn each week. Everyone is always welcome to join, even if you don't know the steps!

Kashi D 12TRAf

Indian dance club is a brilliant way to boost your confidence and show off your dance moves, I enjoy running this club with Mrs Patel and getting other students involved. We run this club once a week at a lunch time and would love to get more people involved so we can plan an event at the end of the year. It is a great way to get some exercise into your day and have fun with friends. Come join the fun every Monday in the gym or sports hall, you can bring your lunch and friends with you.

Palisha S 12TRA



Students build power plant models showing different forms of energy

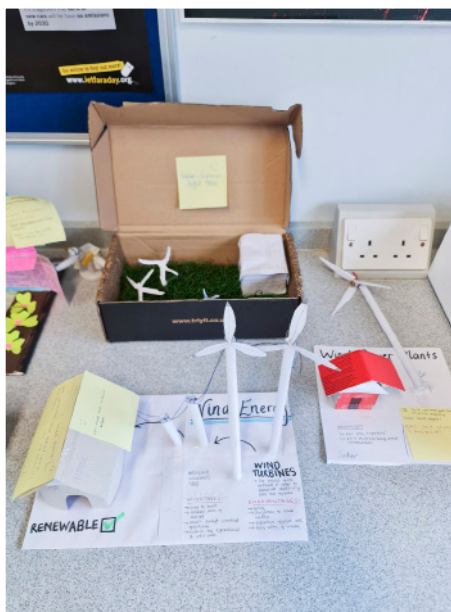
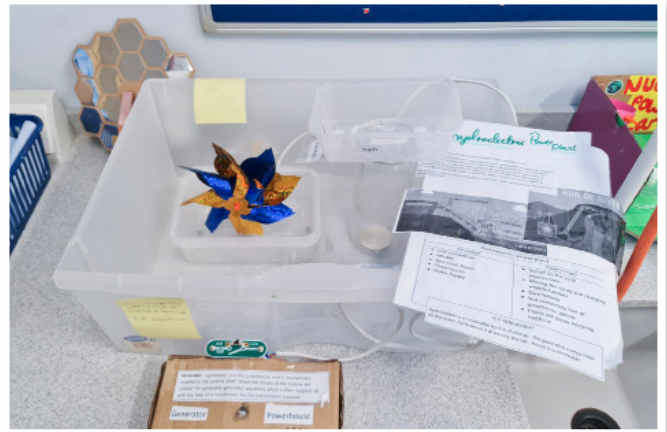
For our science project we were asked to build a power plant station replica. I had decided that I would be making a hydroelectric related power plant as it was interactive, fun and renewable. Since I was making a renewable power plant I decided to reuse materials from home. I had a wind turbine and a couple of one-time use plastic containers. First, I planned out the logistics and how the water would travel through the power plant. Then I started gluing bits and pieces on making sure that the measurements lined up and the water flowed smoothly.

After everything lined up, I tested it to make sure everything was working, and the turbine spun well. Lastly, I just had to print out information and secure it with tape to make sure nothing gets wet. In the end I had decided to go with making a dam and thankfully everything went well. For extra detail I had added a light bulb that was connected to battery and an on and off switch to show how electricity would be generated and outputted.

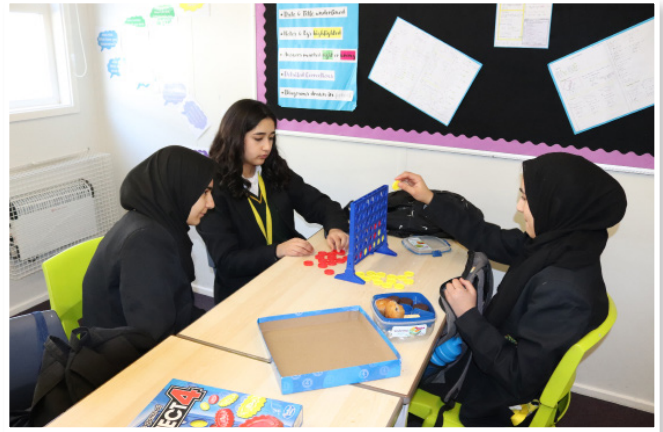
When I brought it to class everyone was very excited to try it out and each took turns pouring water into it. Mr Koejo came into room to look at our power plants and brought in Year 11 to see what we had done. Then Ms Patel came in and so did Ms Akbar.

They were all proud of how much we had accomplished since this was the first time the project had been set and overall it was great to see everyone's models and hard work all together.

Aliya M 9SASw



KS3 Puzzles, Art in Maths Club



Valentine Cards

Maths valentine cards

Students created Maths valentine handmade cards to celebrate the day and their love for maths!!! Origami Hearts

Celtic Knotwork

The girls created "Celtic Knotwork" This is a much more challenging 'construction', but it's oh-so-satisfying when mastered. The technique required a good deal of concentration and attention to detail.

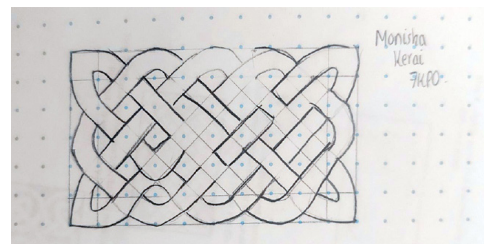
Mazes and Labyrinths

This lesson showed students how to construct both simple branching mazes on squared paper and traditional labyrinths with a pair of compasses. The smaller the squares on the paper, the more ambitious the students can be with their branching mazes! The labyrinth construction provides students with lots of practice with their compasses (something else they don't get enough of).

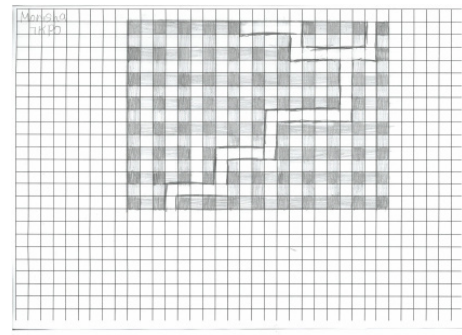
Impossible Triangles

This was a lovely lesson for consolidating compass and ruler constructions. It reinforced accurate measuring and constructing skills as well as the need for attention to detail. Also included are links to a video of a 'real-life' Escher's Waterfall and the explanation behind it. Lots of 'ooh...' moments!

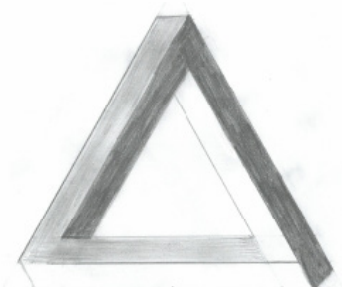
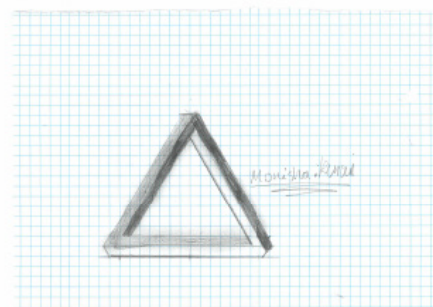
Ms Vagi



Celtic Knotwork



Mazes and Labyrinths



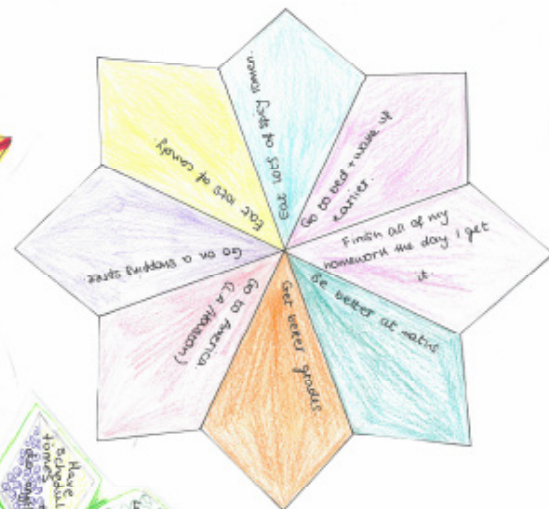
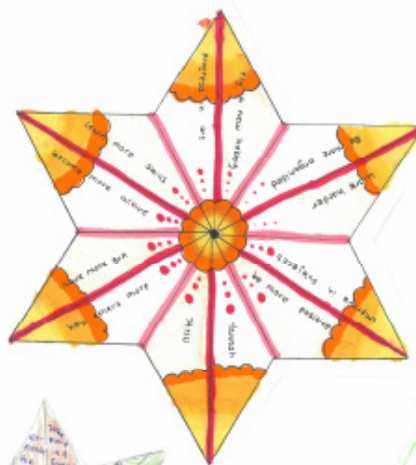
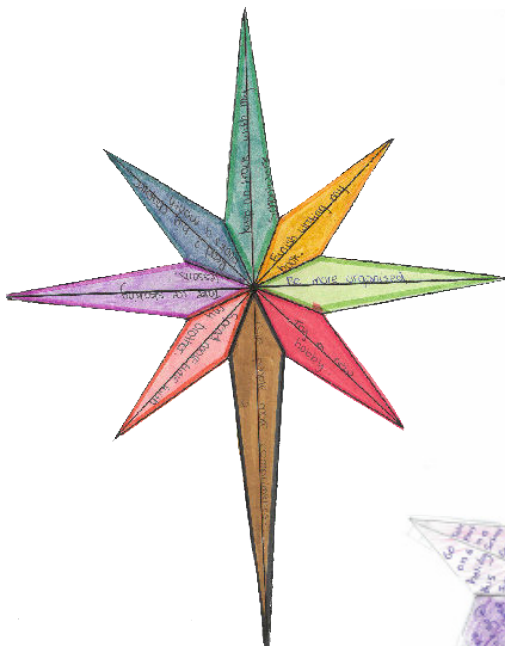
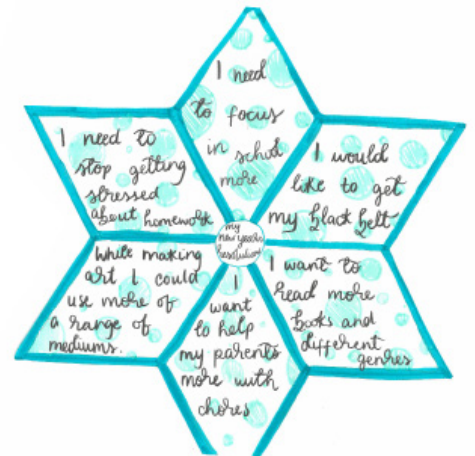
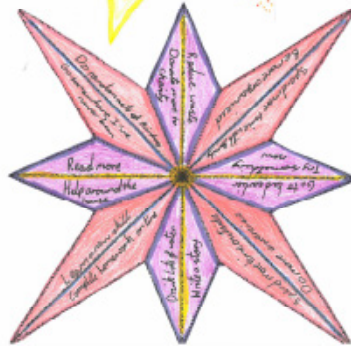
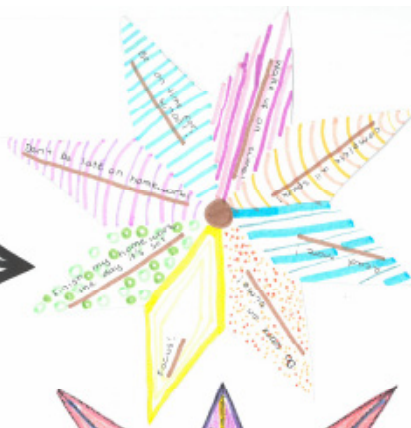
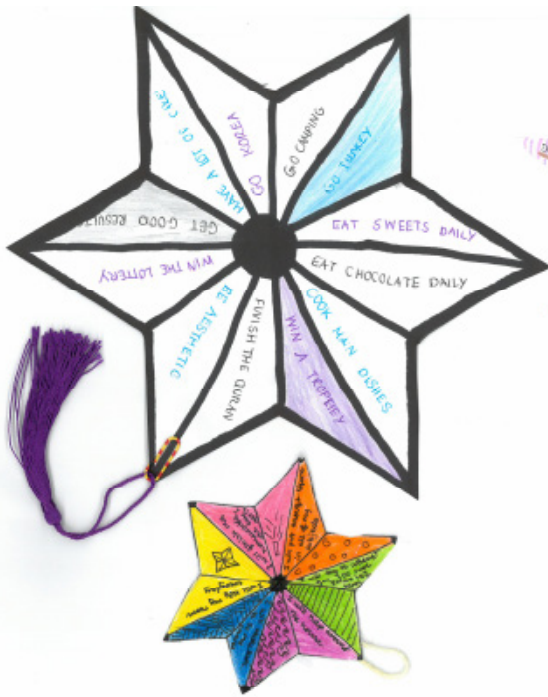
Impossible Triangles

My New Year Matholution!" math pennant activity to set New Year's resolutions"

As adults we love making New Year's resolutions and goals for changing our lives in the new year. This year, I will remind myself that mistakes are a necessary part of the process and push hard past them to find success. In past years, I've made resolutions to hit the gym, eat healthier, stretch more, turn my phone off at night.

A new year represents a fresh new start and who doesn't love that? Students love fresh starts, too, and what better time to set new goals in math than the new year?

Ms Vagi



Student Rewards February 2023

Year 7



Students worked really hard at Bentley Wood and we are really delighted at how well our students have achieved this half term and we want to celebrate some of their successes.

Art

Sana Z 7GCP - for consistently having high standards for her outcomes in her sketch book.

Drama

Layla H 7GHO - for outstanding energy and brilliant performances in lessons.

English

Maryam H 7GHO - for always completing her work to the highest standard; **Ruby C 7KPO** - for her fantastic effort and enthusiasm in class

Food

Sarah N 7KPO - for completing the extension tasks to a high standard in homework.

French

Haseena N 7KPO - for being a consistent hard worker and always participating in class (LSB)

Geography

Avneet C 7ROR - for outstanding work in Geography this term. Always keen to contribute, with excellent opinions on topics!

Graphics

Yashvi P 7ROR - Great classwork as well as great effort in homework. **Saanvi P 7YT** - Fantastic contribution in classroom discussion and great effort in homework.

History

Patricia S 7GCP - Great contributions and an ever-confident historian.

Maths

Horeen S 7GHO - She is an extremely dedicated and hardworking student who is always eager to push herself and achieve her very best. From the presentation of her book, to always aiming to reach the extension tasks, her commitment to her classwork is heartwarming to see. Keep it up, I am super proud of you!

Iqra Q 7LSB - consistently works hard and tries her best in Maths, she is always keen to answer questions and constantly has her hand up. She displays a positive attitude to learning and is an all-round superstar.

Music

Emma S 7LSB - for her outstanding performing and musical knowledge and helping in class! **Camille W 7GCP** - for her performance as Matilda

PE

Ikraam M 7YT - for her great effort in PE and being so kind to her peers. **Layla H 7GHO** - for setting a great example to her class through her efforts and attitude

Science

Dalia 7ABR - for trying really hard to develop her English skills and therefore further her understanding in science

Spanish

Ariana B 7ABR - for participating in every Spanish lesson and her enthusiasm (LSB)

Textiles

Naomi T 7ROR - Great effort and sewing machine work

Student Rewards February 2023

Year 8



Art

Aisha B 8LBM - for all the effort she put into the outcome of her beautiful mythical creature sculpture.

Drama

Sophie S 8TSG - for superb work in lessons and 100% commitment when performing, fantastic work!

English

Fatema S 8FER - for her excellent application of learning to her classwork and homework;

Dorothea H 8GI - for her excellent effort and achievements in the subject

Food

Aisha B 8LBM - for demonstrating excellent independent and organisational skills in practical lessons

French

Sayyidah K 8SSH - for working so well in class and producing work of an extremely high standard. She is becoming quite the expert in developing her sentences in French.

Geography

Rahaf A 8LBM - for consistently high standards of work and effort, as well as many excellent contributions. An outstanding geographer

Graphics

Maryam A 8LBM - for a high level of concentration in class tasks. **Zarin M 8CJG** - Effort

History

Zikra K 8GI - For her amazing effort and contributions in her history lessons - she knows so much!

Maths

Larissa E 8LBM - she has taken full ownership of her own learning. She has been using the Learning Boards to improve her maths performance well beyond her target grade. A delightful member of our class.

Anniyah S 8IL - is a superstar student. She is keen to contribute in class, always putting her hand up. She helps those around her when they don't understand something and generally displays the qualities of a model student! She also completes her homework early every week!

Music

Elina A and **Sabeen A 8IL** - for their outstanding commitment to Matilda. **Elisha K 8FER** - for her performance as Matilda

PE

Skye H 8FER - for her fantastic progress and engagement within lessons. **Zeina H 8CJG** - for being a fantastic leader in her class and ensuring that everyone is involved in all activities.

Science

Hayfa 8TSG - for participating in every lesson and always trying to challenge herself with more challenging questions

Spanish

Shanum C in 8FER - for great contributions in Spanish and for perfect score in her translation.

Students attend immersive talks on history and politics



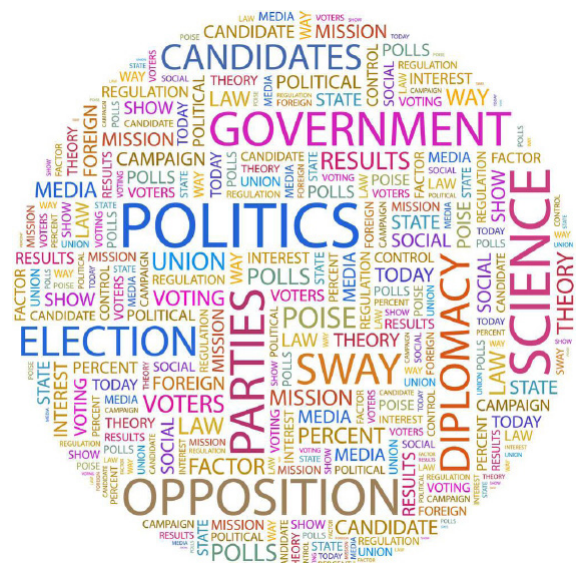
Bob Blackman Q&A

Bob Blackman, MP for Harrow East, has visited our Sixth Form Politics and Year 11 students to tell us more about his role, responsibilities and experience as an elected member of Parliament.

Our students had the opportunity to ask many insightful questions ranging from his role in the Backbench Business Committee to his views on the ULEZ expansion plans for this year. We also had the opportunity to hear about Bob Blackman's Private Member Bills and local initiatives.

The Q&A session was interesting and an incredible insight into the role of a Member of Parliament.

Mrs Nye



Holocaust survivor memoir talk

On Friday 19th January Bentley Wood was privileged to host Hephzibah Rudofsky, daughter of Holocaust survivor Lady Zahava Kohn for an in-depth talk about the life of her late mother and her experiences during the Holocaust.

Hephzibah delivered a powerful speech and PowerPoint outlining exactly what her mother went through, being smuggled out of the country during WWII, and her parents leaving her baby brother in the Netherlands to be hidden as it was safer for him there.

Lady Zahava had a troublesome childhood. At 8 years old she was taken into a concentration camp with her parents but was left alone during the day whilst her parents worked tirelessly for the Nazis.

We were shown an impactful PowerPoint and amazing original artefacts owned by Lady Zahava's mother. It was a surreal experience to see these items that are now over 70 years old. Lady Zahava's experience of the concentration camps had an element of luck. Unfortunately she contracted chicken pox but her parents were able to convince Nazi guards they must travel together when being moved camps so they managed to stay together.

The experience was hugely beneficial as it gave a personal insight into the Holocaust and has better helped my understanding of WWII, a topic I studied at the end of Year 8.

Written by the History Ambassadors



Reading and literacy

New Library Leaders involved with projects in the library

Our Library Leaders have settled nicely into their new roles and it is wonderful to see their growing confidence. They are making an invaluable contribution to the running of the library and bring a lot of warmth and positivity to the role.

Being Library Leader has been a wonderful opportunity. Its is really fun and a great way to connect with other years. I really enjoy reading and wish everyone could be interested as well.

Anniyah S 8IL

I have been a Library Leader from October and I've enjoyed every bit of this job. My duty is usually on a Monday but I even help out when I'm not on duty. Every time a new load of books come in I get really excited to read them and to help put them away.

Vanessa N 8IL

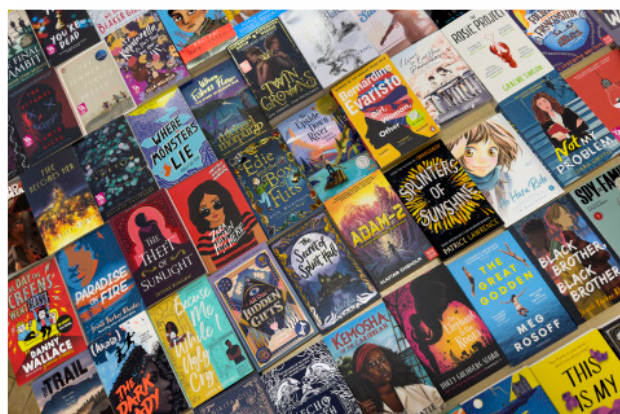
Being a Library Leader is a really enjoyable experience. I get to learn new things such as scanning and I love giving out books and helping other students discover new authors.

Ariqa F M 9SAS

The year started with the arrival of new titles and some of the Library Leaders helped with preparing the books to go on the shelves.

We have books from well-loved authors like Katie Cotton, Akala, Katya Balen, Caroline O'Donoghue, Patrice Lawrence and Alex Wheatle to name just a few. With over 120 fiction books being added to the library in January, it is a great time for students to come for a browse and find something new they might enjoy reading.

Ms Khan Librarian





New Year, New Horizons: Spotlight on International Fiction



Bentley Wood Library is inviting students to join us as we embark on our travels around the world in 2023. From the comfort of your favourite reading spot – an armchair, your bed, or even the 340 bus in rush hour – you can travel the world and get to know places through the words of writers.

Every half term we will sojourn in a new destination to explore the richness of its culture, past and present, as we delve into its literary heritage.

Our first port of call is Japan – a rather apt choice given that *The Tale of Genji* by Murasaki Shikibu is considered to be the world's first novel. Written in the 11th century by a noblewoman and lady-in-waiting at the Imperial Court, the novel chronicles the life and romances of Hikaru Genji, the son of an Emperor and his favourite concubine.

The library will be spotlighting Japanese fiction from a diverse array of authors and there is sure to be something to spark your interest. Titles available to borrow include

novels by Yukio Mishima, Yoko Ogawa, Keigo Hikashino, Banana Yoshimoto, Junichiro Tanizaki and many more.

Prepare to be charmed by a quirky tale of romance in Hiromi Kawakami's *Strange Weather in Tokyo* or lose yourself in the fantasy world of Kenji Miyazawa in *Night on the Galactic Railroad and Other Stories*. In Toshikazu Kawaguchi's *Before the Coffee Gets Cold*, a 100-year-old coffee shop serves customers the opportunity to travel back in time. *Coin-Locker Babies* by Ryū Murakami is a surreal tale of the fate of two babies abandoned by their mothers in a Tokyo train station. For fans of graphic novels, our itinerary will also include a tour of the world of manga.

You don't need your passport to take part in this globe-trotting adventure – all that's needed is wanderlust and a love of reading!

Ms Khan Librarian

Literature Quiz

1. Name the 1925 novel which opens with the following words:

In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.

2. In *Pride and Prejudice*, how many daughters do Mr and Mrs Bennet have?

3. Who is the author of the *Shatter Me* series of dystopian fiction about a young girl with lethal powers?

4. Name the eponymous character who has a disastrous prom in Stephen King's 1974 novel set in the fictional town of Chamberlain, Maine.

5. Augustus Gloop and Violet Beauregarde are two of the unpleasant children who get their just desserts in which Roald Dahl book?

6. Name the faithful wife of the King of Ithaca who keeps suitors at bay by pretending to be occupied with weaving a burial shroud.

7. Who is the nephew of Bilbo Baggins in the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy?

8. Which of the Brontë sisters wrote *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*?

9. In the *Harry Potter* series, who is the half-blood and former Professor of Defence Against the Dark Arts who is killed in a duel in the Battle of Hogwarts?

10. In Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, what do George and Lennie dream of owning in the future once they have saved enough money?

Answers on next page.

Half Term book recommendations

The Secret of Haven Point by Lisette Auton

Washed up as a baby beside a remote lighthouse and raised by a mermaid, Alpha Lux was the first foundling at Haven Point. Now the lighthouse is a ramshackle home for any disabled person who needs somewhere to belong. Looting from passing ships to make a living, they call themselves the Wrecklings, and for the children of Haven Point life is spent adventuring on the wild shore (and getting into trouble with the grown-ups).

But when Alpha spots a strange light up on the headland, she realizes that her beloved family are in danger of being discovered by Outsiders.

With their home under threat, the Wrecklings must decide what kind of future they want . . . and what they're willing to do to get it.

Daughter of Darkness by Katherine and Elizabeth Corr

Deina is trapped. As one of the Soul Severers serving the god Hades on earth, her future is tied to the task of shepherding the dying on from the mortal world - unless she can earn or steal enough to buy her way out.

Then the tyrant ruler Orpheus offers both fortune and freedom to whoever can retrieve his dead wife, Eurydice, from the Underworld. Deina jumps at the chance. But to win, she must enter an uneasy alliance with a group of fellow Severers she neither likes nor trusts.

So begins their perilous journey into the realm of Hades. . . The prize of freedom is before her - but what will it take to reach it?

From the authors of A THRONE OF SWANS and A CROWN OF TALONS comes a stunning new YA duology set in a world inspired by the mythology of ancient Greece.

Five Survive by Holly Jackson

Eighteen-year-old Red and her friends are on a road trip in an RV, heading to the beach for Spring Break.

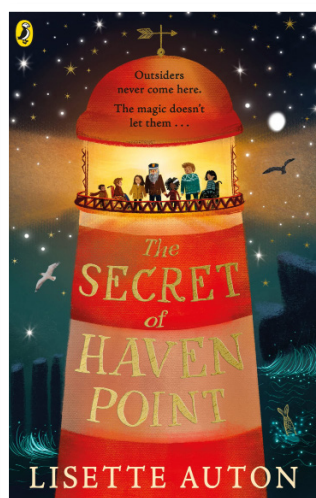
It's a long drive but spirits are high. Until the RV breaks down in the middle of nowhere. And as the wheels are shot out, one by one, the friends realise that this is no accident.

There's a sniper out there. He's watching them and he knows exactly who they are. One of the group has a secret that the sniper is willing to kill for.

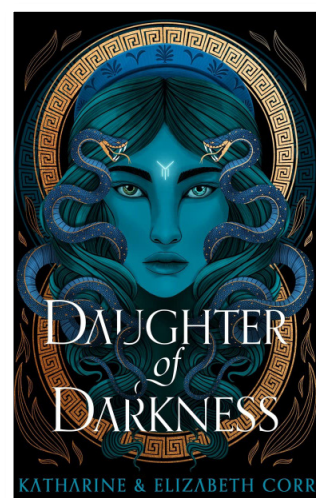
As a game of cat-and-mouse plays out, the group desperately tries to get help. Buried secrets are forced to light and tensions within the group reach deadly levels. Only one thing is for sure. Not everyone will survive the night . . .

The Dead Romantics by Ashley Poston

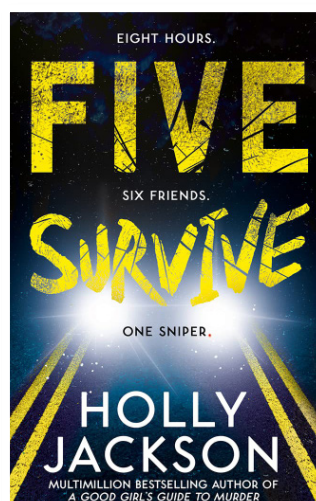
Florence Day is a ghost-writer with one big problem. She's supposed to be penning swoon-worthy novels for a famous romance author but, after a bad break-up, Florence no longer believes in love. And when her strict (but undeniably hot) new editor, Benji Andor, won't give her an extension on her book deadline, Florence prepares to kiss her career goodbye.



The Secret of Haven Point by Lisette Auton



Daughter of Darkness by Katherine and Elizabeth Corr



Five Survive by Holly Jackson



The Dead Romantics by Ashley Poston



Although when tragedy strikes and Florence has to head home, the last thing she expects to see is a ghost at her front door. Not just any ghost, however, but the stern form of her still very hot – yet now unquestionably dead – new editor.

As sparks start to fly between them, Florence tells herself she can't be falling for a ghost – even an infuriatingly sexy one. But can Benji help Florence to realise love isn't dead, after all?

Me, In Between by Julia Rabinowich (Author),
Claire Storey (Translator)

Madina's family have fled war to seek asylum in Europe and begin a hopeful new life. An ordinary world of fitting in at school, learning the language and forging friendships lies before Madina.

Yet she finds herself caught between her new life and her traumatic memories of the past. With the endless wait to be granted asylum, and her anxious father growing ever more controlling, can Madina find the path that's right for her?

Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos by Robin LaFevers

Theodosia Throckmorton has an extraordinary ability: she can sense ancient magic. This is most useful, as she spends her life fighting curses in the London Museum of Legends and Antiquities, where her father is head curator of a vast collection of Egyptian artefacts and mummies.

When Theo's mother returns from an archaeological dig bearing the Heart of Egypt, a legendary amulet from a long-lost tomb, Theo soon realises it holds a powerful curse which could threaten all of Britain with war.

Worse, there are sinister forces who wish to capture the amulet's power for themselves. Theo must summon all her courage and cunning to fight the rising chaos and restore the amulet to its rightful place...

The Gifts that Bind Us by Caroline O'Donoghue

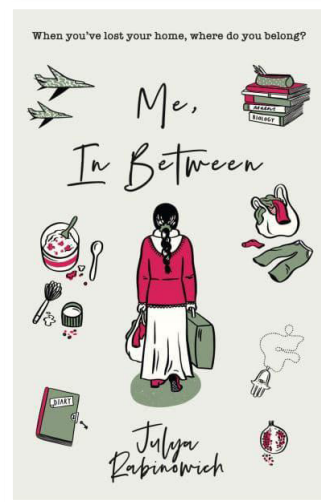
A spellbinding supernatural teen drama – and sequel to All Our Hidden Gifts.

Maeve and her friends have revealed their powers and banded together as a coven: Roe can pick locks, Lily sends sparks flying, Maeve can read minds and Fiona can heal any injury. And even better than their newfound talents? Roe and Maeve are officially an item. But with strange things happening at school, and old enemies appearing in new places, it soon becomes clear their powers are attracting all the wrong attention. It's not long before Maeve's gift starts to wane, drained by someone – or something – that's hiding even from her second sight...

Echo North by Joanna Ruth Meyer

Echo Alkaev's world falls apart when her father mysteriously disappears. She finds him half-frozen in the winter forest, guarded by a strange talking wolf who proposes a bargain: Echo will live for a year in his house to save her father's life.

In the wolf's enchanted house, something dark and strange lies behind every door. Echo discovers a magical library full of books-turned-mirrors, and a young man named Hal who is trapped inside of them. She must solve the mystery of the wolf's enchantment before her year is up, otherwise Echo, the wolf and Hal will be lost forever.



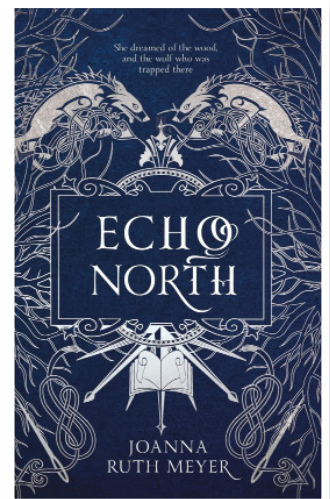
Me, In Between by Julia Rabinowich (Author),
Claire Storey (Translator)



Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos
by Robin LaFevers



The Gifts that Bind Us
by Caroline O'Donoghue



Echo North by Joanna Ruth Meyer



Answers to literature quiz

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. The Great Gatsby | 6. Penelope |
| 2. Five | 7. Frodo Baggins |
| 3. Tahereh Mafi | 8. Anne Brontë |
| 4. Carrie | 9. Remus Lupin |
| 5. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory | 10. A farm |

Spring reading recommendations

Below are some reading recommendations based on this term and what we have been learning. Consider what you have enjoyed this term, and then find the linked book. Let your teacher know what you have read for a **reward!** These books include themes of: Stories of injustice, Tales of conflict and Literature with a voice.

Mrs Azad

Reading about Windrush

Try 'Windrush Child'

Leonard is shocked when he arrives with his mother in the port of Southampton. His father is a stranger to him, it's cold and even the Jamaican food doesn't taste the same as it did back home in Maroon Town.

But his parents have brought him here to try to make a better life, so Leonard does his best not to complain, to make new friends, to do well at school – even when people hurt him with their words and with their fists.

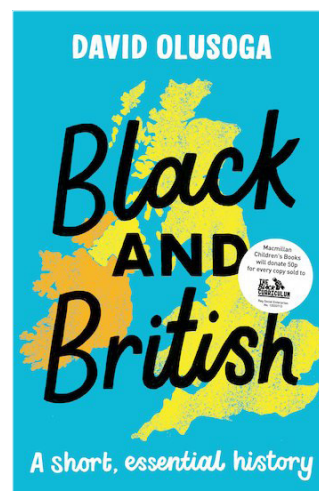


Exploring writers' heritages

Try 'Black and British: a short essential history'

When did Africans first come to Britain? Who are the well-dressed black children in Georgian paintings? Why did the American Civil War disrupt the Industrial Revolution?

These and many other questions are answered in this essential introduction to 1800 years of the Black British history: from the Roman Africans who guarded Hadrian's Wall right up to the present day.



A Story from different perspectives

Try 'The Good Hawk'

If everything was taken from you, what would you do to get it back? Agatha patrols the sea wall with pride, despite those in her clan who question her right to be there, because of the condition she was born with. Jaime is a reluctant Angler, full of self-doubt and afraid of the sea. When disaster strikes, the pair must embark on a terrifying journey to a land where forgotten magic and dark secrets lurk in every shadow...



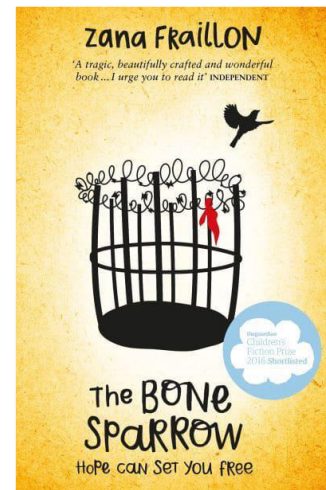
A refugee's experience

Try 'Bone Sparrow'

Born in a refugee camp, all Subhi knows of the world is that he's at least 19 fence diamonds high.

And one day it brings him Jimmie.

Carrying a notebook that she's unable to read and wearing a sparrow made out of bone around her neck - both talismans of her family's past and the mother she's lost - Jimmie strikes up an unlikely friendship with Subhi beyond the fence.

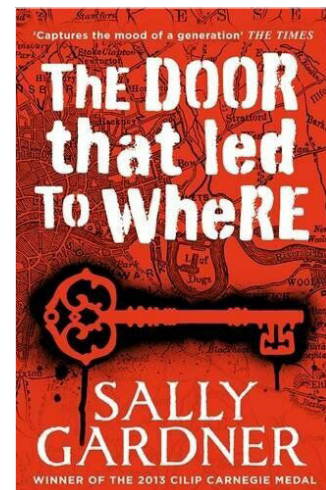


A Victorian England Setting

Try 'The Door That Led to Where'

One day AJ finds an old key, mysteriously labelled with his name and date of birth - and he becomes determined to find the door that fits the key.

And so begins an amazing journey to a very real and tangible past - 1830, to be precise - where the streets of modern Clerkenwell are replaced with cobbles and carts, and the law can be twisted...

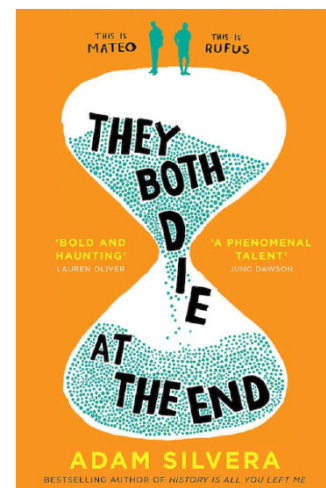


Elements of Tragedy

Try 'They Both Die at the End'

On September 5th, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: they're going to die today.

Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: there's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up.



Student Rewards December 2022



Year 9

Art

Somaia S 9BKB - for the hard work and attention to detail in her still life final outcome.

Biology

Manasika R 9IRK - for outstanding note taking and always taking opportunity to further her knowledge through extension activities

Business studies

Aleshya K 9EVa - contribution in all lessons with insightful understanding of a range of concepts.

Computer science

Aliya M 9SASw - for consistent effort, dedication and enthusiasm shown in all lessons

Drama

Sidra S 9SAS - for creating fantastic practical work in recent lessons and showing great commitment and concentration in performance.

English

Haleema N 9ABI - for her fantastic quality of classwork and impressive assessment in the subject; **Marwa A 9SHA** - for participating in every challenge during lessons - her contributions are insightful and show she pays attention and enjoys active participation.

Food

Flavia G 9ITKe - for engagement in theory lessons and demonstrating excellent independent and organisational skills in practical lessons

French

Isabel M 9EV - for being a consistent hard worker and for her participation in class. Well done with the extensions tasks (LSB)

Geography

Anvi K 9MGR - diligent, hardworking and focussed. She is awesome.

Graphics

Zulfah R 9BKB - has shown great progress through her graphic novel project. Great effort in lesson as well as homework.

H&S

Thamiisha D 9MGR - Dona for working hard in lesson and having an excellent approach to learning

History

Mahi A 9ALNf - always committed and always asking great questions

Latin

Ambarin A 9MGR - for her fantastic retelling of her chosen mythological tale

Maths

Imana B 9SAS - Imana brings such a positive attitude toward Maths every time she steps into the room. She is keen to learn, engages in the lessons actively by constantly answering and asking questions and tries her absolute best, giving 100% effort every lesson!

Music

Jayna P 9ABlw - for all her commitment to extra-curricular music so far this year!

PE

Hafsa R 9MGR - for improving her attitude within GCSE PE lessons.

Psychology

Klea K 9ABlw and **Skandaga K 9ABlw** - for always completing stretch and challenge, and positively contributing to whole class discussions and understanding

Spanish

Liana El-N 9BKB - for her excellent writing skills and for interpreting instructions so well.

Student Rewards February 2023



Year 10

Art

T'Myah Ward 10NMA - Improved effort and classwork in Art. **Denisa H 10HJ** - Excellent effort and attendance to clubs in Art

Biology

Summer S 10PS - for consistently aiming high in biology - attempting all questions including stretch and challenge. Keep up the good work!

Business studies

Mithra R 10MTM - for her enthusiasm to the subject and quality of written work throughout the academic year.

Computer science

Ritika S 10EAWe - for her organisation and incredible effort this term

Drama

Sarah Y 10MAK -for calmness and great insights while unpicking new work in class.

English

Sanah R 10MTM - for her insightful responses in class and enthusiasm for the subject; **Mithra R 10MTM** - for her excellent efforts in both class and homework.

Food

Zahraa I 10HJa - for completing the planned practical at home during the teaching strike and developing her complex choux pastry skills outside of the classroom

French

Zannath E 10MTM - for working so hard in French, for always asking for extra tasks and for willing to improve.

Geography

Hena H 10MEM - for being a consistent hard worker and always making contributions in class

German

Shaymaa Z 10BME - for always trying her best and even ensuring she catches up on missed work. She is a truly dedicated student.

H&S

Saima K 10PSf - for outstanding effort and excellent contributions in lesson.

History

Riday A 10HJa - Great contributions and all-round amazing historian!

Latin

Farheen S 10EAWe - for being our first student ambassador and maintaining an excellent level of attainment this year!

Maths

Husna M 10MEM & Diana H 10EAW - Both of these students are superstars - they display such positive behaviour for learning in class but they also spend considerable amounts of time outside of class revising and consolidating their knowledge in order to better understand the topics. This demonstrates a wonderful work ethic and really pays off in tests!"

Music

Georgia M 10MAK - for her outstanding commitment to her musical studies

PE

Reem M 10HJ - for working so hard in her theory lesson this half term

Psychology

Priya P 10MAK - for participating in every lesson and being an excellent role model to her peers.

Spanish

Maya- Louse B 10HJa - for her engagement and participation in Spanish lessons this academic year.

Charity and challenges



Year 8 students help with reading at Aylward school

Each fortnight, 10 Year 8 students attend Aylward to support primary school students with their accelerated reader programme.

Different Bentley Wood students volunteer each fortnight, meaning that by the end of the year, half the year group will have supported with this fantastic reading initiative.

We travel by minibus in the morning and then split up to help across two Year 3 classes and two Year 4 classes. Our

Year 8s have been supporting with reading and literacy skills at the primary school and this is what Sophie in 8TSG had to say about her experience:

"The children were absolutely adorable and I really felt like we all bonded with them. It was really nice to teach them how to pronounce a word or show them how to understand what a word meant. I wish I could go back every week."

Ms Bairstow



Young people at Bentley Wood High School making a difference by supporting local charities

Students from Bentley Wood High School have been tackling social issues by supporting local charities as part of a Programme provided by educational charity **First Give**

Year 9 students have engaged in direct social action in support of their chosen charities, and will compete in

Bentley Wood's
whole School Final on

Thursday 23rd February at 5.30pm



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Year 9 students have engaged in direct social action in support of their chosen charities, and will compete in **Bentley Wood's whole School Final on Thursday 23rd February at 5.30pm.**

At the School Final, judges will see presentations from the students about each charity and the students' work, to decide which class will be awarded a £1,000 grant for their charity.

It promises to be an inspiring event showing the dedication of young people to local causes in the community that they care about.

First Give Winners 2022





First Give: Year 9 students making a difference and supporting local charities

Hello, parents and Students of Bentley Wood High School. Today we are writing to you to inform you of the First Give project for Year 9's to choose a charity and win £1000 for it. They work with schools and supporters to inspire young teens to make a positive change in society.

Our chosen charity was Cancer Research UK. We chose this charity so people can see the impacts of how dangerous and daunting cancer can be. 2 in 4 people end up with cancer during their lifetime, which means there is a chance that someone you may know can be affected.

On earth, there are over 100 types of cancers, all of which are equally dangerous; ranging from eye cancer to lung cancer. Some students at this school may have loved ones with cancer, and we are trying to help solve that problem. Cancer research is a charity that will help develop a cure or vaccine for cancer which can save millions of lives. Their goal is to raise £1.5 bn over the next few years, which may seem possible but with your help, we can reach this goal. We mustn't lose hope.

With this £1000 the doctors and scientists that work in cancer research will have a wider range of equipment to help develop a cure for cancer. So how can you help?

Donating any pre-loved clothes or toys will help increase sales for cancer research meaning donations will increase. You can also make single or monthly payments ranging from £6 to a donation of your choice.

Any regular donations fund new treatments that can support people to live longer, better lives free from the fear of cancer. Whether we win this grant or not we will continue to show our support for people with cancer and Cancer Research UK, to feel less isolated and alone. An example is Jayshree who was provided with support from cancer research and is now cancer free.

Please don't hesitate to donate to this charity or call this number for any questions: 020 8954 0462

Thank you

**Musawera, Ambarin,
Faiza and Saaliha**

(9MGR)



Student Rewards February 2023



Year 11

Biology

Eileen M 11SEO - for consistently being amazing in biology and always ready to contribute to lessons.

Business studies

Oorvi Goyal 11JBH - for her high standards within the lesson and her effort with additional work and support.

Drama

Inaayah H 11AAL - for so much hard work and dedication to reaching the top, keep going!

English

Eileen M 11SEO - for her superb set of mock exams and attention to detail; **Bayan A 11JBH** - for her amazing progress over the 2 years - keep it up!

Food

Warda W 11RGRw - for completing high quality coursework during lessons and using her spare time at home to practice high level skills such as pasta making in preparation for her practical exam

Geography

Mahjabeen M 11AALe - working hard to achieve her best. She is amazing.

German

Misbah A 11RGR - not only for trying so hard but also for having the patience of a saint with those around her in need of help.

Graphics

Aleefa H 11AAL - Outstanding effort throughout term resulted in a Mock grade 2 times higher than her target

H&S

Zainab A 11AALe - to working hard to prepare for her exam

History

Sana K 11AALe - For excellent contributions in lesson and an amazing mock result!

Latin

Lily R- 11CCHe - For her wonderful artwork depicting the stories of Latin literature texts.

Maths

Mariam N 11JBH - Fantastic progress in Year 11 so far. Working very hard and asks good questions. She doesn't just accept my method of doing maths and challenges me by making links with prior learning to find her own way of getting to answers.

Yashvi V 11MCO & Sarah M 11AAL - Both of these students produce work of consistently excellent quality. Their books are the best presented in the class with clear examples and diagrams. They always ask for more work and for the challenge questions and they do everything that is asked of them, every lesson, without fail. Homework is completed early and to a very high quality also. They are absolute superstars."

Music

Alexi D 11SZa - for her commitment to composition and performance. **Britannia N 11AALe** for her performance as Miss Trunchbull

PE

Dannielle O 11SZ - for an improvement in her attitude and commitment to the practical component of GCSE PE.

Psychology

Salena M 11JBH - for always showing a great passion for Psychology and working hard in lessons

Spanish

Hafsa Y 11SZ - for her enthusiasm and hard work in Spanish. Always striving to do her best.



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge: Year 10 student workshops

Over the course of 2 days in late January, sixty year 10 students were chosen to take part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out workshops, where an external speaker from the Speakers Trust came in to introduce us to the art of public speaking along with Mr Nussbaum from the English department. Unfortunately, a third planned workshop this year had to be cut short when the speaker was called away due to a medical emergency.

Participants were split into two groups of thirty and each group took part in an all-day workshop, where they were taught essential skills in three different sections during the day; delivery, content and structure. Taking part has enabled students to improve their presentation skills that will help them in the future, such as confidence, clarity and charisma.

Throughout the day participants had to do a number of impromptu speaking activities for each of the sections; finally, they prepared their own speech on a topic of our choice they feel passionately about, using the skills learnt over the course of the day.

Although it was quite nerve-wracking at first, especially when performing speeches to the group, the whole experience was extremely beneficial in building confidence and public speaking skills. A small group of students will

now be chosen to take part in the school's assembly finals, which will be held shortly - the speaker now faces the unnerving prospect of looking into the eyes of two hundred of their peers!

From this, we will select our overall Finalist, to participate in the Harrow Borough Final in late March. Congratulations to the school finalists, and everyone who took part!

Mr Nussbaum

**Jack Petchey's
"SPEAK OUT"
Challenge!**

Students get creative with art and languages outside the classroom

Winners of the MFL Christmas Challenge 2022

In December 2022, The MFL Department launched 'The 12 tasks of Christmas' competition, which was open to all students at Bentley Wood. The 12 tasks had to be carried out in either French, Spanish or German and they ranged from making a poster in the target language to researching some funny jokes (worthy of a Christmas cracker!) Many students across the school took part in this challenge and it was a very difficult decision for the MFL teachers to decide on a winner.

The student who stood out above the rest was **Aisha B 8LBM**, who not only completed the task in the language she is studying (Spanish), but also in both French and German. She undertook lots of research and as you can see from the photo, her artistic abilities were outstanding and a cut above the rest.

The two runners up prizes went to **Musawera T 9MGR** and **Alessia F 8LBM**, so congratulations to these amazing MFL students for putting in so much effort into their entries.

Ms Graham



A Year 8 student's exploration of Media

Recently, outside of the classroom I have been researching how to present my artwork using media I may not have previously tried! I have attempted to stretch my abilities and challenge myself more in the area of art.

To do this, I completed my first piece on acrylic paint. I wanted to find out more about it so with the help of research from various websites, I wrote an analysis on how acrylic paint is made and used. I figured painting a portrait of a person I know in my own style would be a nice way to push myself even further. I looked into various painting techniques to help me because I've hardly ever done something like this.

In class we recently started a book cover project.

I was immediately inspired to create the book cover for "Wilder Girls" because I had so many ideas for using mixed media. I completed the entire outline during my lesson, which gave me plenty of time to finish at home.

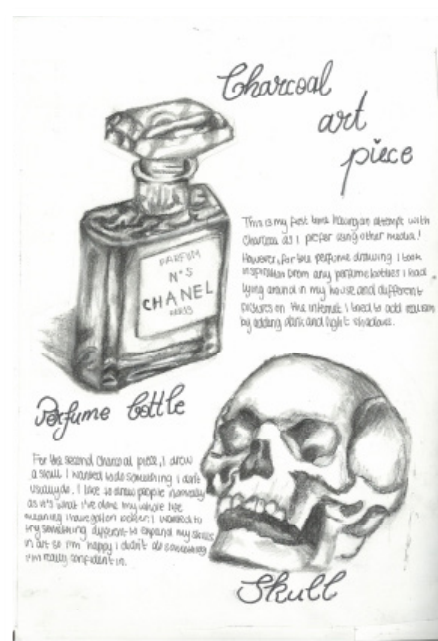
I colored it with colored pencils, markers, watercolor, and acrylic paint. I am proud of how it came out!

When I started to consider the EBI I was given—to investigate various media—while at home, I immediately knew what to do. I went and purchased some charcoal and started right away. I started out by sketching the shapes of a perfume bottle and a skull after looking around the house and online for ideas.

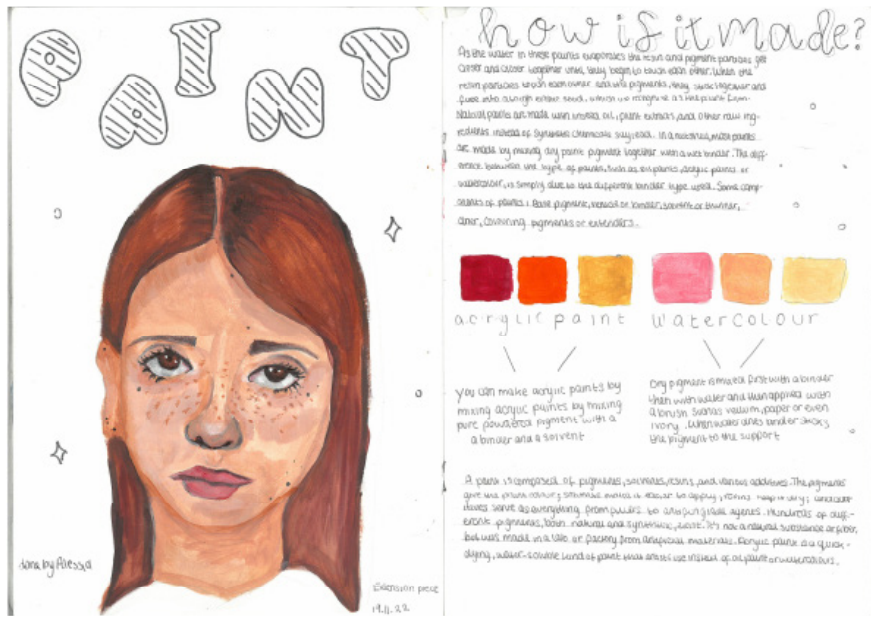
I added charcoal to the objects' shadows and dark areas and used white pencil for the highlights!

Since I've never used charcoal, I did some research on how to do it and picked up a lot of knowledge. As a result, I was able to stretch myself and discover a new medium for my artwork that I really enjoy using.

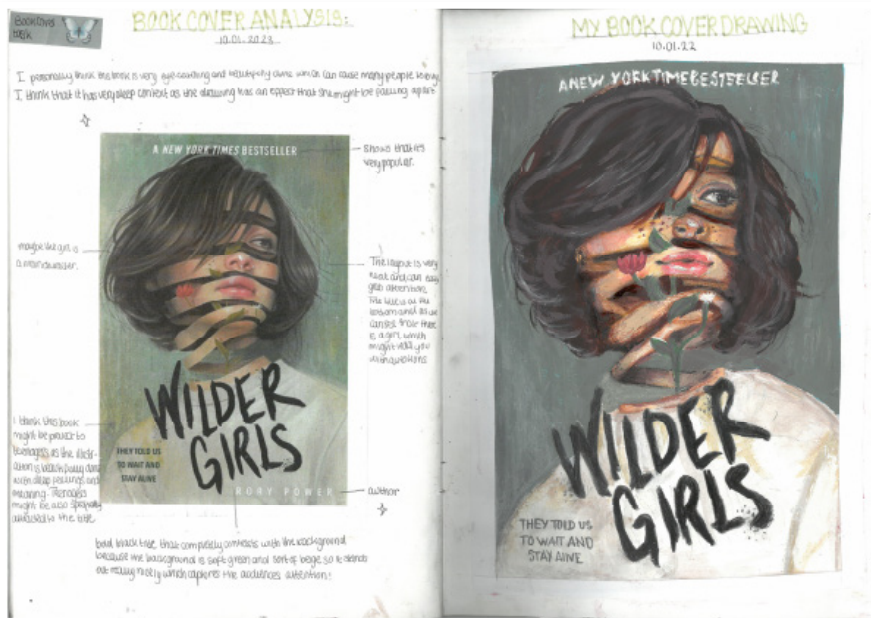
Alessia F 8LBMf



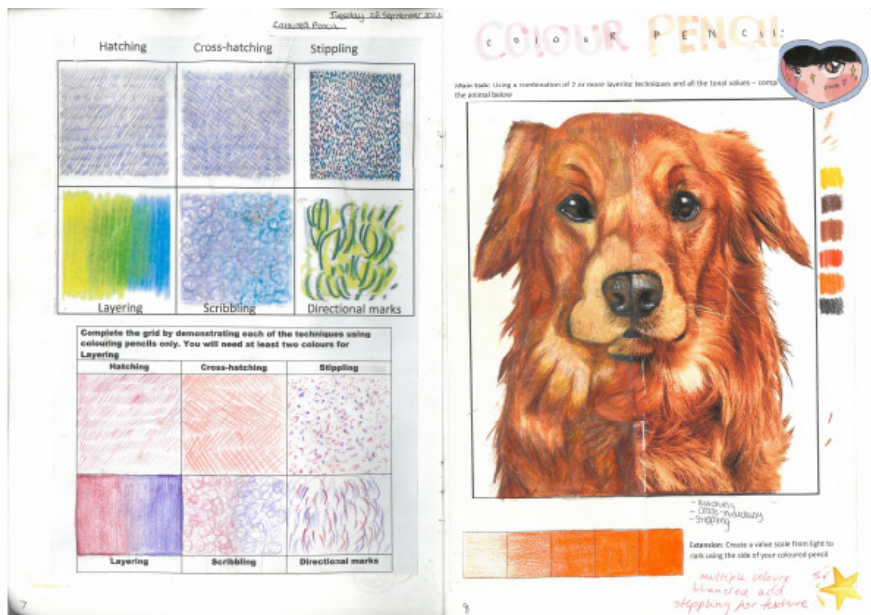
Working with charcoal



Working with acrylic paint.



Working with mixed media



Working with pencil

Employer Enrichment Activities

Engaging talk by Doctor and former BW student

We were joined by former Bentley Wood student Dr Denusha Pushparajah. Denusha contacted the school several months ago to request a visit to share her experience of becoming a Doctor in the NHS. Denusha's story was one of if you don't succeed, try, try again! With competition for medical school places so high she presented an honest talk to the whole Year group that even with the best grades, work experience, UKAT and BMAT scores a placement was not guaranteed at medical school.

Finally paying to attend a private medical school in the UK was the only way for her to enter the profession. She clearly loves her job and the responsibility that it entails, the people who she gets to work alongside and the patients who she serves.

Mr Tapper Careers Adviser

Motivational talk by professional musician

Nadine Lee is the first Black British music director of the National Theatre in London, music lecturer, professional musician and music school owner. Nadine presented a motivational talk to the students. Inspiring them to know their true worth and to never undervalue themselves and that they needed to make themselves indispensable in the world of work so that people would need to come and find them and not then find others. Nadine admitted to being an average student at school but clearly demonstrated that her underachievement had not held her back and her determination to pursue her dream of working in the music industry had paid off.

Mr Tapper Careers Adviser



Dr Denusha Pushparajah



Professional musician and Music Director
Nadine Lee





Bentley Wood Sixth Formers visit Harrow School for a Careers Convention

On Sunday 22nd January, a group of around 30 Bentley Wood Sixth Formers attended the Harrow School Careers Convention. The Convention ran from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Representatives from a variety of businesses, universities and careers sat in an 'open plan' Dining Hall and students approached them to chat informally about the careers that interest them.

There was a huge range of people available for the students to speak with, including representatives from the following sectors: architecture, art, charity, cybersecurity, finance, graphic design, law, medicine, and real estate. Many students spoke with experts in fields they had never heard of before such as Management Consultants.

One student said "It was incredibly insightful. I now am considering careers that I had never thought of going into before. I spoke to a barrister who was really inspiring."

Ms Jones



Classics: talks and competitions

University of Oxford guest speaker: Homer's Odyssey

Professor Gregory Hutchinson from the University of Oxford visited the school this half term, to give a talk to our A Level Classical Civilisation students on Homer's epic poem, The Odyssey.

The style of his talk relied heavily on student participation and discussion which was a great opportunity to not only test our students but also give them a taste of what seminars at university are like!

Ms Hussain



University of Oxford Ancient Drama Competition 2023

Perform a piece of ancient drama and be in with the chance of WINNING GREAT PRIZES! The Faculty of Classics, in partnership with the Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama (APGRD), is proud to launch the Ancient Drama Prize, our performance competition for young people from across the UK.

Deadline for entries: 6pm on Friday 10 March 2023.

You can choose to deliver a solo spoken word composition or a translation. Translations can be delivered solo (1 student) or as a group (2 or 3 students). Compositions should be delivered solo (1 student).

Translation (solo or group)

Perform a piece of ancient drama in English translation.

A piece of ancient drama means an extract from a tragedy or comedy originally written in Latin or Greek prior to 476 CE.

Spoken Word Composition (solo)

Deliver a spoken word composition in English, inspired by one or more aspects or extracts from an ancient play. The composition can be the

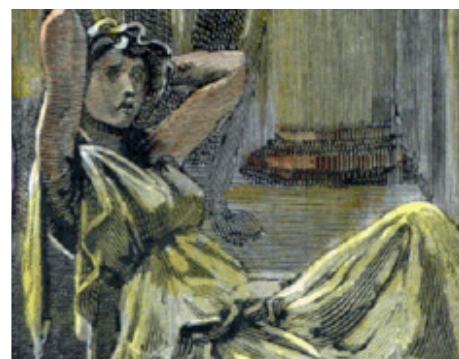
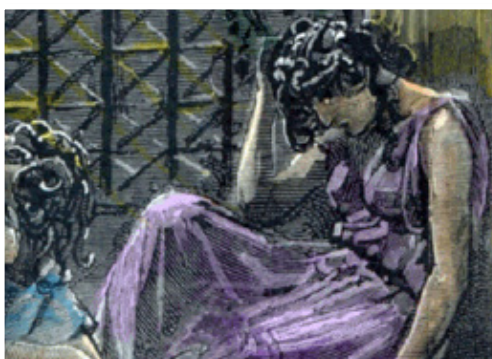
original work of the performer, or the work of another writer.

This must be clearly stated on the entry form and, if it is the original work of the performer, an explanation of which ancient sources inspired the piece (no more than 200 words) must also be given.

For students aged 13-18 years

For more information on the competition go to link
[Ancient Drama Competition 2023](#)

To enter the competition go to link
[Ancient Drama Competition 2023, Entry](#)



‘Barbaroi’

Classics Annual Writing Competition: Spring Term 2023

The issues of race and stereotypes, prevalent in the ancient world, are unfortunately still issues that we must confront and address today. The ancient Greeks and Romans were united as a people and ‘barbarians’

were seen as being distinct from, and inferior to them. This is clear in their art and literature.

In particular, the Greeks were fascinated by the female ‘barbarian’.

This is your chance to re-define who the barbarian is and re-tell their story.
When we all have our place in the world, nobody is a barbarian to anybody.

For writers of all ages at Bentley Wood, win **achievement points**,
receive amazing books at speech day, and be published in the **school newsletter**.

The Dying Gaul is a Roman statue, depicting an enemy of Rome, yet the sculptor portrayed this barbarian in a sympathetic way.

Achilles killing Penthesileia is a famous story of a Greek hero killing an Amazonian queen who was seen as a barbarian for being a strong female warrior.

The Persians were the great enemy of the Greeks and their depiction, particularly their clothes, marked them out as ‘other’.

Medea Vase portrays a witch who experienced sexism and xenophobia as a non-Greek woman in Corinth.



The dying Gaul



Achilles killing Penthesileia



The Persians



Medea Vase

How to enter

Write a piece of creative prose or poetry of no more than 1500 words using the theme barbarians.

You should draw inspiration from the ancient world and your story should be set in ancient Greece or Rome.

Your entries should be printed off with your name, form and house and handed into the English/Classics office.

The deadline for all entries is 24th March 2023

Entries will be judged on originality, interpretation of the theme ‘barbarians’, use of language, plot, and characterisation.

Prizes

The house with the most entries will get **50 house points**

There will be the following **3 categories with 1st and 2nd prizes in each category:**

Year 7-8; Year 9-11; Year 12-13

1st prize - Speech day & newsletter entry
& 20 achievement points & assembly shout out

2nd prize - 10 achievement points & an assembly shout out

A taste of university experience with programmes and lectures



Year 12 students are engaged by Philosophy lecture at Southampton University

On 18th January we took our philosophers in-training to the philosophy conference at Southampton University. Here is what Morgan D 12MTI had to say about the trip:

“Me and my philosophy class visited Southampton University where we had the opportunity to listen to lectures which were able to engage us and give us a taste of our future. Initially, me and my peers were equally excited as we were nervous, not knowing what to expect from the day.

As we entered the lecture hall, we were stunned by the number of students; it was strangely unifying knowing that we all shared the same passion and interest for philosophy.

The first lecture urged us to consider “how demanding is morality”. We were encouraged to take notes, try to absorb as much as we can but not to be put off by any seemingly confusing concepts. The lecturers made sure they explained their main ideas thoroughly and included definitions where necessary.

This was followed by another lecture on whether it is possible to make rational decisions on epistemically transformative experiences. I loved that both lecturers were enthusiastic and appeared to possess a genuinely love for teaching.

Between each lecture we withdrew into discussion rooms where we processed the information given and shared our

opinions.

When returning to the lecture hall, we were able to ask questions and share our thoughts with the lecturers who were keen to listen and constructively challenge propositions which also opened the window of debate amongst students. Overall, the trip was insightful and fun - it definitely helped us to become better philosophers.”

Overall, it was a great day and the girls represented the school excellently with their inquisitive questions and discussions.

Miss Crosbie



Scholars Programme: Year 9 attend Oxford University

On the 16th January, 14 Year 9 Bentley Wood students were invited to attend Oxford University as part of the Scholars Programme, run by the Brilliant Club - an organisation that aims to give students an opportunity to be accepted into some of the best universities in the UK. When we arrived, we were greeted in the Oxford town hall, where there were various speakers, such as an employee of the Brilliant Club who explained what the Scholars Programme would entail; and an Oxford student who had taken part in the Scholars Programme herself!

They spoke to us about how our university experience would be like in the future and gave us lots of beneficial advice as to what to do next. For example, they told us to start thinking about our future careers and what A-level subjects would be accepted for a certain job. After the speeches, we had lunch for around 50 minutes and were then assigned a tour guide who took us around the campus and told us facts about a variety of landmarks, including the Radcliffe camera, along the way.

We were then greeted by an Oxford graduate, who showed us around Mansfield college. We got to see lots of important areas around the college, such as the chapel, the library and reading rooms. We also met a medieval English tutor, who talked to us about what tutorials were like and was more than happy to accept any questions we had for her. Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were beyond grateful that we had the opportunity to tour a top college.

Mahi and Aleena, 9ALN



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



Extended Project Qualification

Year 12 students take an EPQ to help them prepare for further education



An Extended Project Qualification or EPQ is an A-level standard standalone qualification designed to extend and develop your students' abilities beyond the A-level syllabus and prepare for university or their future career.

- it's worth half an A-level (28 UCAS points)
- it's recognised by universities and employers as a **fantastic supra-curricular activity**
- many universities make lower A-level offers to students undertaking an EPQ.

The EPQ allows students to lead their own projects. Students get to plan and carry out research on a topic that they've chosen and isn't covered by their other qualifications. They can take inspiration from something touched on in class or something personal and unrelated to their studies. They then use this research to produce a written report and, in the case of practical projects, an artefact or a production.

By taking responsibility for the choice, design and decision making of an individual project (or an individual role in a group project) students:

- become more critical, reflective and independent learners
- develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills
- increase their planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- learn to apply technologies confidently
- demonstrate creativity, initiative and enterprise.

Undertaking an EPQ can also deliver other benefits for students such as:

- improved A Level performance
- increasing student motivation by allowing them to study topics of personal interest
- enabling students to apply their new skills to other areas of study.



The students selected will then be given a supervisor who will mentor them through their independent projects. Students on the EPQ programme will attend weekly lessons on a variety of study skills.

The final deadline will be in October.

A group of around 30 students in Year 12 have just begun their projects.

Alice Jones (Acting Head of Sixth Form)



EPQ



Here are some comments from last year's EPQ cohort:

"Reflecting back on my EPQ experience, I definitely did find it very useful. In particular, I enjoyed the freedom of the project, allowing me to research and present my work in my chosen way. However, there was also good balance of guidance throughout it which definitely provided great insight into how to write more academically, preparing me for university-style assignments.

But most importantly, I gained a qualification for researching a topic that I really enjoyed, acting as a great super-curricular activity. Therefore, I would thoroughly recommend the EPQ to others".

Claudia I 13SGf

I chose to do my EPQ project on how trade impacted mythology in Eurasia. In my opinion, the best part of the EPQ programme was the independence and freedom awarded, not just with the main project but also with the choice of research topic. This meant that I could investigate a topic that I was passionate about and approach it how I wished. I was able to go more in depth on mythology and the nature of the ancient world (as a result helping me finalise my final choice of university course). While such a niche topic was difficult at times to research, the programme gave me the skills to overcome each obstacle.

These skills included time management, research planning, source analysis and presentation of my research. I have recently used all these skills for my A-Level History NEA and was able to quickly collate useful information and present it in an adequate fashion. Overall, the EPQ programme is an experience that I truly enjoyed and am thankful for doing.

Mawada N 13PBLa

I really enjoyed researching and discovering more about a topic I am so intrigued by. I improved my presenting skills as I had to present my research to an audience, I learnt Harvard-style referencing, and I bettered my academic writing skills as I had to write a non-fiction 5000-word report which is accurate, but without any plagiarism.

As well as the knowledge gained, I improved my planning techniques, which I believe will come useful in future projects.

Diya T 13SGf

The EPQ programme was a truly valuable academic experience. Through this, I could explore topics beyond the constraints of the A-Level Philosophy curriculum, such as Political Philosophy. It was the perfect opportunity for me to think independently by reading and evaluating academic texts. Although not directly related to the course I aspire to study at university, the transferrable skills I learnt were invaluable. These ranged from improving my time management to developing my critical source analysis.

I have already benefitted largely from the programme by applying footnoting and academic referencing skills to my A-Level History coursework. It has also been useful for mentioning in my personal statement, which sparked my interest in the role of women in History.

Overall, I would definitely recommend this programme to anyone interested in a topic beyond the A-Level curriculum! The skills gained are applicable to any higher educational endeavours, especially at university.

Isma M 13LFOW

Student Rewards February 2023



Year 12

Art

Yasmin S 12TRA - Improvement of quality in work.

Biology

Salma M 12JT - for always contributing to all biology discussions. Well done!

Business studies

Yasmin S 12TRA - for her effort within AS Business and the completion of additional activities.

Classical Civilisation

Oliwia B 12JT - for her incredible artwork depicting the stories of Greek epic and tragedies.

Computer science

Niyathi T 12JTF - her enthusiasm and incredible effort this term.

Economics

Zohara H 12TRA - for her enthusiasm to the course and the completion of a range of additional activities.

Geography

Kashi D 12TRA - for her continued commitment to her studies and her passion for Mangroves!

H&S

Sana K 12CSNe - for working hard in and out of lessons on her Unit 2.

History

Zohara H 12TRA - Always works really hard and makes beautiful notes

Maths

Neha P 12JT - for her determination and perseverance to excel. She always tries her hardest and

Psychology

Aarushi K 12CSNe - for her hard work and determination evident in class contributions and mock results

Sociology

Maryam A 12TRA - for excellent achievement in the Year 12 sociology mock exam

Spanish

Zara S 12JT - for her continuous effort and dedication to developing her knowledge of Spanish culture and language

Politics

Ghezal S 12MTI - for progress already made with Politics!



Student Rewards February 2023



Year 13

Art

Nkiah B 13SBR - Outstanding effort

Biology

Lavana S 13LFO - for working so hard in biology and attending any revision she can. She has grown in confidence and is always willing to contribute to lessons. This has been seen in both sides of her biology lessons

Business studies

Vishayini B 13SNU - for her hard work and improvement in A-Level Business over the recent months.

Classical Civilisation

Aliyyah G 13LFO - for her insightful choices of modern songs linked to Sappho's fragments

Economics

Tabasum M 13SBR - for her continued exceptional effort and completion of additional tasks and activities.

English

Adeeba S 13SBR - for her impressive mock exam results which show her independent learning and pursuit of academic excellence

Geography

Mariamsarah R 13SGf - she is really working hard and demonstrating resilience and good focus

H&S

Shriya A 13PBLa - for excellent attendance and attitude to learning, plus answering challenging questions in class.

History

Paray S 13SNUe - for always working hard inside and outside of lessons.

Psychology

Noureen T 13PBLa - for making a real effort this half term and showing real signs of improvement in class, homework and exams

Sociology

Amina M 13PBLa - for excellent contributions in class

Politics

Amira M 13PBL - for your commitment and participation in Politics revision so far!



Students join tournaments, awards and competitions this term

Students enter their first ever Badminton U16's tournament

Congratulations to Zara S, Sana N, Lanah S, Aliyah M, Sarah M and Imaan H for entering their first ever Badminton U16's tournament. They have competed against Park High, Nower Hill and Whitmore. The students played very well in pairs and demonstrated fantastic resilience skills as they did not give up. There were not successful on this occasion, however they represented Bentley Wood for the first time in this tournament.

Ms Collen



Year 7 netball team win their first match

Well done to the Year 7 netball team who played their first match for Bentley Wood last night against Hatch End and WON 4-2! The girls played really well, demonstrating fantastic resilience when the game got a little sticky and represented themselves and Bentley Wood incredibly!

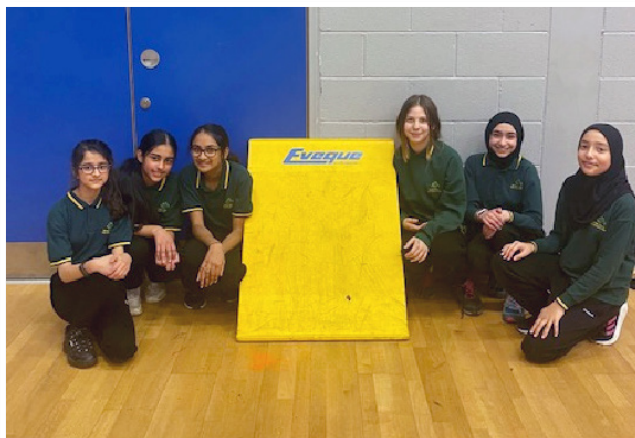
Ms Collen



Year 7 Athletics

On Wednesday 25th January, six Year 7's competed in an indoor athletics competition at Whitefriars School. Imaan H, Sara K, Dania M, Fatima T, Ayesha P and Evie R represented the school in field events such as shotput, long jump and triple jump as well as running events. The girls were keen to get involved, competing in two events each. Well done girls!

Miss Wardlaw & Miss Chandler





Year 10's start their journey taking part in the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award

The current Year 10s have been given the opportunity to partake in the Duke of Edinburgh's award (DofE). It consists of four parts: a skill, a physical activity, volunteer work and a two-day expedition in the countryside. It was created with the aim of helping young people to improve their self esteem and build on their confidence.

We have only had two sessions so far, the first an introduction to what the award entails, and the second session was about forming our groups for the expedition and learning more about the award. For the physical activity you have to do one hour a week of an activity - for example basketball, swimming or even running - and you must do this for six months. For the skill you need to chose something you're interested in, for example photography or you can do something like taking up an instrument.

I have been given the opportunity to develop my writing as my skill, by documenting my experience of DofE and the weekly sessions. For volunteer work you can volunteer somewhere like a food bank or a Saturday school (like I am planning on doing). Each part of the award has to be verified by a teacher or a coach, if you are doing a sport.

I have enjoyed looking for places to carry out the parts for my award. For my skill I will be writing for an hour each week about my experiences during the DofE process. For my physical activity I will be playing basketball every Tuesday, which I have to do for 6 months for it to be valid for a DofE certificate.

For my volunteer section I will be volunteering at a Sunday school my sisters work at, helping with some of the younger kids. I already like exercising and I'm sure doing it weekly will have benefits for my overall health; I enjoy writing and I know I will enjoy helping out younger kids and at the Sunday school. For the expedition I will spend two days and a night in the Chilterns.

I'm also looking forward to the upcoming DofE sessions where I will be preparing for my expedition and planning the route and what to take in terms of food and snacks. About 70 of the current Year 10s are doing the award and it is a great experience to make friends and learn new skills.

Asma H 10NMA

Student Enrichment Timetable

Spring Term 2023

Enrichment Spring Term 2023				
Before School 7.30 - 8.15am Lunchtime 12.40 - 2.20pm (Wednesday 12.20 - 1.50pm)				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y10/11 Drama Club Mr Rankin Room: 111 1.30 - 2.20pm	Y7/8 Geography Ambassadors (Week A only) Ms Jain Room: 202 12.40 - 1.20pm	Y7 - 9 History Club (Week A only) Miss Bharg Room: 216 12.30 - 1.00pm	Y12/13 Ethics Cup Club Miss Crosbie Room: W4 12.40 - 1.20pm	Criminology Club Ms Howes Y8/9/12/13 Room: 212 12.40 - 1.20pm
KS4 Composition drop-in Mrs Bancroft Room: 113 1.45 - 2.15pm	Y7/8 Drama Club Mr Rankin Room: 111 12.40 - 1.20pm	Chess Club Mr N Shah/Miss Omar Room: V11/V13 Y7 - 9 12.20 - 1.05pm & Y10 - 13 1.05 - 1.50pm	Y7/8 Classics Club Ms Hussain Room: 207 12.50 - 1.15pm	6th Form Walking Club Mrs Ortega/ Ms Lomax Room: 6th Form Benches 12.40 - 1.30pm
KS3 "Puzzles & Art in Maths" Club Mr Ilanko/Mr P Shah/Miss Pooni Room: V13 12.40 - 1.20pm	Y11 Latin Club Miss Illingworth Room: 207 1.30 - 2.20pm	Y9 Choir Mrs Parkes/Ms Leighton Room: Dance Studio 12.50 - 1.20pm	KS3 Instrumental Practice drop-in Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes Room: Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm	Y9 Drama Club Mr Rankin Room: 111 12.40 - 1.20pm
Young Person's Book Prize Reading & Review Club Miss Lambert Room: 303 3.15 - 4.15pm	Junior Orchestra Mrs Bancroft Room: Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm	Senior Choir Mrs Bancroft/Ms Leighton Room: Dance Studio 1.30 - 2.15pm	6th Form Sports Club Mr Curtis Room: Sports Hall 12.45 - 1.15pm	KS3 Share a Story Reading Club (Week A only) Mr Zabielski Room: V2 12.40 - 1.30pm
Traditional Indian Dancing (Garba & Dandiya) Y7 - 9 & 6th Form Mrs Patel & Mrs Assani Room: Gym 12.50 - 1.20pm	Senior Orchestra Mrs Bancroft Room: Music Room 1.45 - 2.15pm	String Group Room: Drama Studio 12.50 - 1.20pm	Y7/8 Culture Club Ms Codrean Room: 204 12.40 - 1.20pm	Junior Choir Mrs Parkes/Ms Leighton Room: Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm
	Volleyball (All Years) Ms Collen Room: Sports Hall 7.30 - 8.15am	Y7 - 9 Badminton Ms Collen Room: Sports Hall 7.30 - 8.15am	KS4 Share a Story Reading Club (Week A only) Ms Mohan Room: V8 1.30 - 2.20pm	KS3 Samba Band/Drum Group Room: Dance Studio 12.50 - 1.20pm
	Y7/8 Junior UKMT Maths Challenge Ms Massara/Ms Hagi Room: V13 12.40 - 1.20pm	Y7 Maths Catch Up Club Ms Ali Room: V14 12.20 - 1.05pm		Equality Team Club (Week B) Mrs Burridge Room: tbc 1.00 - 2.00pm
	Y10/11 French Book Club (Week A only, once a half term) Miss Simcox Room: 208/209 1.40 - 2.10pm	Anthropology Society Mr Maric/Miss Mouskis Room: W6 1.15 - 1.50pm		Y12/13 Senior UKMT Maths Challenge Mr N Shah Room: V13 12.40 - 1.20pm
	Anime Club Y7 - 9 Miss Terraza Room: 108 12.40 - 1.20pm Week A only	Y7 - 9 Badminton Club Room: Sports Hall 7.30 - 8.15am		KS4 Geography Ambassadors (Week A only) Mr Ferris Room: 215 1.40 - 2.20pm
	Y7 & 8 Code Club Miss Terraza Room: 108 12.40 - 1.20pm Week B only	Y7 - 9 Badminton Club (Week A only) Miss Wardlaw Room: Sports Hall 12.25 - 1.15pm		Y7 - 9 Indoor Cricket Club Ms Chandler Room: Sports Hall 12.45 - 1.15pm
	Y11 High Achiever's Programme (Week B only) Miss Bairstow Room: V10 1.40 - 2.10pm			Table Tennis Club Mr Curtis Room: Sports Hall 7.30 - 8.15am
	Y7 Netball Squad Training Ms Collen Room: Courts 12.45 - 1.15pm			Y10 & 11 Badminton Club Mr Curtis Room: Sports Hall 7.30 - 8.15am



After School 3.10 - 5.00pm				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Y8 Homework Club Miss March Room: 201 3.10 - 4.00pm	Glee Club Ms Leighton Room: Dance Studio 3.30 - 4.30pm	Slam Poetry Club Ms Mohan Room: V8 3.15 - 4.15pm	6th Form Medical School Mr Barrett Room: W10 3.30 - 4.30pm
	Desert Island Survival Club (Y7/8 only) Ms Robson Room: 308 3.15 - 4.15pm	KS4 Composition drop-in Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes Room: 113 3.30 - 4.30pm	School Production 'Matilda' Rehearsal Mr Rankin/Mrs Bancroft Room: 111/113/115/Main Hall 3.15 - 5.30pm	Y11 Textiles Club Miss March Room: 106 3.15 - 4.30pm
	Y9 German Club Mrs Shah Room: Teams/202 5.30 - 6.15pm	GCSE PE Club Ms Collen/Miss Chandler/Ms Bannon Room: Sports Hall 3.20 - 4.10pm	KS4 Composition drop-in Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes Room: 113 3.30 - 4.30pm	6th Form Art Society Miss Tebby (1 Friday per month) Room: 116 3.15 - 4.30pm
	School Production 'Matilda' Rehearsal Mr Rankin/Mrs Bancroft Room: 111/113/115/Main Hall 3.15 - 5.30pm	Y9 - 13 Robotics Club Miss Terraza Room: 107 3.15 - 4.15pm	Y7 - 9 Netball Club Ms Collen/Miss Chandler Room: Netball Courts 3.20 - 4.10pm	IntoFilm Club Mr Zabielski Room: Drama Studio 3.20 - 5.20 (Week A - alternate Key Stages)
	KS4 Composition drop-in Mrs Bancroft Room: 113 1.45 - 2.15pm	Y7 - 9 Matilda Costume Club Miss March Room: 106 3.10 - 4.00pm	Y9/10 IMC Maths Challenge Miss Chakraborty/Miss Wu Room: V13 3.10 - 4.00pm	KS3 Instrumental Practice Drop In Mrs Parkes Room: Music Room 12.50 - 1.20pm
	Basketball Club Miss Wardlaw Room: Sports Hall 3.20 - 4.10pm	Y10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Miss Bairstow/Ms C Jobling/Ms H Jobling Room: W2/3 3.20-4.20pm	KS4 Reading into the Past (Week A) Ms Morina Room: 105 3.30 - 4.30pm	Rock Band Room: 111/113 3.30 - 4.30pm
	KS4 French Club Mrs Sambo/Miss Simcox/Ms Codrean Room: 204/206 3.20 - 4.00pm		Symposium - Debate Club (all year groups) Mr O'Sullivan Room: W4 3.25 - 4.15pm	Y7/8 Science Club Mr Koyejo Room: 306 3.20 - 4.30pm
	KS4 Spanish Club Mrs Graham/Miss Demeter Room: 209 3.20 - 4.00pm		Writing Club (all year groups) Mr Farquhar Room: 103 3.15 - 3.45pm	Y13 Oxbridge Preparation Session Ms Jones Room: W3 3.10 - 4.15pm
	KS4 French Club Mrs Sambo/Miss Simcox/Ms Codrean Room: 204/206 3.20 - 4.00pm		KS4 Art Club Miss Belfield Room: 114 3.15 - 4.15pm	Y13 Oxbridge Preparation (Maths Dept) Ms Vagi/Mr N Shah Room: W12/V4 3.10 - 4.10pm
	EPQ Ms Jones Room: U4 3.10 - 4.15pm		Space Club (Week B only) Ms Morina/Miss Lambert Room: 305 3.30 - 4.30pm	
	Y7/8 Code Club Miss Terraza/Mrs Tisson Room: 107 3.10 - 4.10pm		Y7 Art Club (invite only) Miss Culloty Room: 116 3.10 - 4.00pm	
			Taekwondo Room: Gym 3.20 - 4.10pm	

Information and advice for students and parents

Parent Ambassadors

Parent Ambassadors at Bentley Wood High School help parents and carers in many ways to facilitate communication between themselves and school. We can translate information about the school and their daughter's progress in Arabic, Pashto, French and Urdu.

Our role consists of helping to assist with induction and admission of new students and to help fill out forms. We support by helping parents and carers understand parent consultations, meetings and assemblies.

We translate at meetings, act as interpreters and translate English into parent/carers native language. We like to involve parents in their daughter's education by inviting parents to coffee mornings, end of term meetings and parties.

Ms Halpin speaker of Arabic and French

Ms Usman speaker of Urdu

(We can arrange translation for Pashto speakers)

Please contact us:

Email: SchoolOffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk

Phone: 0208 954 3623



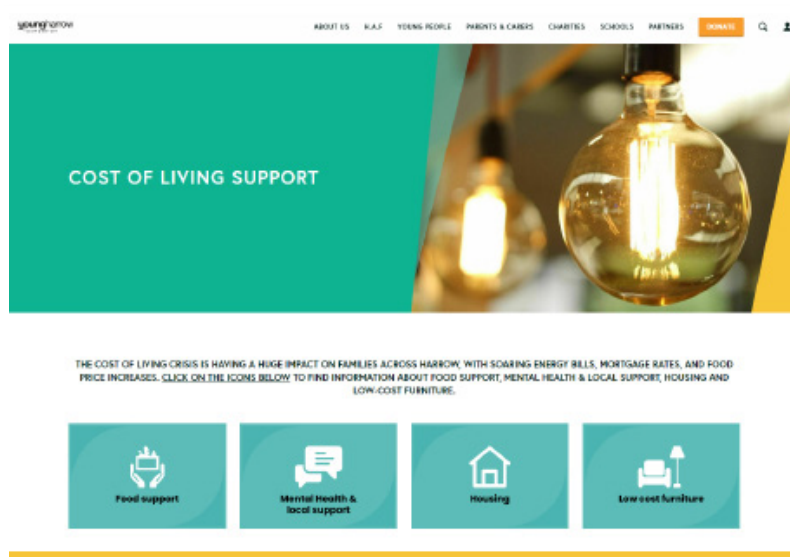
New web page launched to help Harrow families with the cost of living

A new web page has been launched to help Harrow families find support during the cost of living crisis

A new website, directing people to local support and organisations that can help during the cost of living crisis, has been launched for Harrow.

The website signposts people to local services from the voluntary sector and local authority.

It includes services that can help with things like, mental health and wellbeing, warm hubs in the borough, help with accessing food, housing support and low-cost furniture providers.



www.youngharrowfoundation.org/cost-of-living-support

Staying Safe

Some safety tips for students:

- Always tell someone where you are going and what time you will return.
- Talk to a trusted adult if anyone says or does anything that worries or frightens you. A trusted adult might be a family member or please contact the school – someone will be there to support you.
- Don't put up with abusive texts, photos or video. Show them to an adult and report them.
- Don't lend your mobile phone to anyone unless it is an emergency.
- Don't let anyone online trick you into doing something or sending pictures against your wishes.
- Never give personal information to any person you don't know.

Supportive Websites:

Childline: Call 0800 1111

NSPCC:

Samaritans: Call 116 123 (24 hours 7 days a week)

Papyrus: Call 0800 068 41 41 – 9am to midnight every day
Text 07860 039967

Childline: Call 0800 1111 (24 hours 7 days a week)

The Mix: Call 0808 808 4994 (3pm to 12am)

Useful contacts:

NSPCC report abuse line: **0808 800 5000**

Harrow's Golden Number: **020 8901 2690**

Harrow's Out of Hours Emergency Team: **020 8424 0999**

Emergency Services: **999**

Advice for Parent/Carers:

Online Safety:

- Staying safe online – advice for parents and carers:
www.nspcc.org.uk

- Staying safe online – advice for parents and carers:
www.saferinternet.org.uk
- How to recognise the signs of bullying and sexual exploitation: www.harrowlscb.co.uk
- Mental Health: www.youngminds.org and
[Mental Health Support Services in Harrow](http://www.harrowlscb.co.uk)

Other Useful Contacts:

- Harrow Children's Services and Harrow Local Safeguarding Board www.harrowlscb.co.uk
- In an emergency you must always call **999**.
- To report a non-emergency crime to the police call **101**.



Your information

It is vital to check that we hold your most current and accurate data.

Please ensure that you inform the School Office/Data Office of any changes such as **student name/address/contact details/mobile number & email address**.

These must be kept up to date otherwise you may not be able to receive important information. When informing us of an address change, please provide proof of address such as Council Tax or Tenancy Agreement.

Ms Ramsay, Data Manager



Information and advice for students and parents

Careers Information for parents and students

There is a wide range of technical education pathways which are available for young people. In the websites below you can find information to support your knowledge and understanding of all learning opportunities at 16/18.



Apprenticeships

[Amazing Apprenticeships](#) – range of resources to help teachers, parents, pupils and employers navigate the changing world of apprenticeship.

[Find an apprenticeship](#) – a government website to find apprenticeships using your postcode

Higher Education

[Office for Students](#) – www.officeforstudents.org.uk/

[UCAS](#) – www.ucas.com

Technical Education Pathways

[Technical Education Pathways Resource](#) | [CEC Resource Directory](#) – careersandenterprise.co.uk

Free School Meals eligibility

Children are entitled to receive free school meals if they or their parents or guardians receive any of the benefits below.

- Universal Credit, provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

I don't currently claim free school meals – what does this mean for me?

If you think you might be eligible for free school meals, please see instructions here on how to check and apply.

I am currently claiming free school meals – what does this mean for me? Most people won't be affected by the new criteria. If you're currently claiming free school meals, but

do not meet the new criteria, your child will continue to receive free school meals until the end of the Universal Credit rollout period. This will apply even if your earnings rise above the new threshold or if you stop being entitled to Universal Credit. The rollout period is currently scheduled to end on 31st March 2022. Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, your child will keep their free school meal until the end of their current phase of education, i.e. primary or secondary.

Where can I get more information?

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

If you need any further information, please speak to a member of school staff in the Data Office or the local authority. You can also visit the free school meal website:






We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school.

The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and messages from the school.

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).


Arbor Bentley Wood

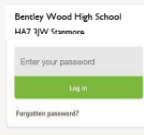
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How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday



Need help using Arbor?

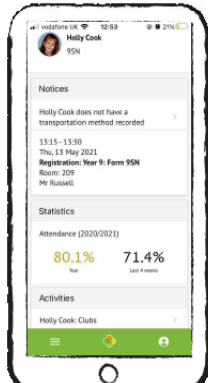
Email the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask the school office to check the email address linked to your account.
2. Reset your password from the login page or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. Ask us to send it again.
4. Email the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g., on another guardian or child's profile.
5. Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.

Email the school office if you have any issues or queries:
schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk



School News

Information and advice for parents and students

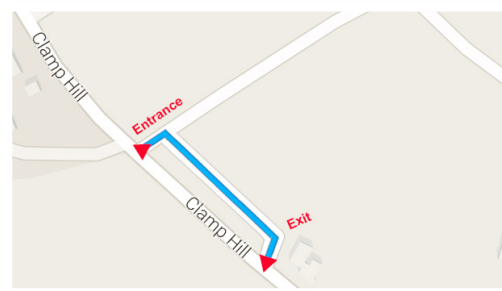
Dropping off and collecting your daughter from school

For student safety only use the Clamp Hill entrance to drop off and pick up your daughter from school. We would like to remind you that our Bridges Road gate is no longer in use for dropping off or collecting students from school by car.

We wish for all parents/carers to use the Clamp Hill entrance and the designated safe road/drop off point. Please note if the drop off point is full, parents should drive through the drop off area and park on Clamp Hill Road, on the left hand side facing Brockhurst Corner/Uxbridge Road.

For any parents who are unsure where the drop off is, please use postcode HA7 3JW. Details can also be found on the school website under the 'Contact Us' section.

Please can parents/carers email the school office at schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk with their up to date contact details including mobile numbers and email addresses to be sure that they are receiving all the information being sent to parents from the school.



Dates for your Diary 2023

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February - Half term holidays

Monday 20th February - All students return to school. Normal school timings

Wednesday 22nd February - Year 10 Artist's Talk 9:15am - 11:15am

Thursday 23rd February - Year 12 and 13 Classical Civilisation trip to Soho Place Theatre 12:30pm - 6:30pm

Thursday 23rd February - Bentley Wood Year 9 First Give Event 5:45pm - 7:30pm

Friday 24th February - A Level Sociology Conference at Bentley Wood 9:30pm - 3:30pm

Monday 27th February - Year 12 Merchant of Venice Trip at Watford Palace Theatre 12:30pm - 6:30pm

Monday 27th February - Harrow Schools Choir Showcase - 9Harrow Arts Centre 4:00pm - 8:15pm

Tuesday 28th February - Year 8 Careers Morning

Tuesday 28th February - Year 12 Maths Fest at The Royal Institute 8:30am - 5:30pm

Tuesday 28th February - **Year 9 Parents Evening 2:30pm - 7:00pm**

Monday 6th March - Friday 24th March - Year 11/12/13 Mock Exams 2

Tuesday 21st March - **Year 7 Parents Evening 2:30pm - 7:00pm**

Thursday 23rd March - **Year 8 Option Evening 5:00pm - 7:00pm**

Friday 24th March - Gym and Dance Music Show 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Monday 27th March - Thursday 30th March - Year 11 Art/Graphics/Textiles GCSE Exams

Tuesday 28th March - Project Guardian TFL Workshop Year 9 at Bentley Wood 8:30am - 3:30pm

Wednesday 29th March - A level Psychology Tutor 2U Exam Skills Workshop 8:30am - 4:45pm

Thursday 30th March - Year 13 La Casa de Bernarda Alba Spanish Play at Cervantes Theatre 12:00pm - 18:30pm

Friday 31st March - **Year 10 Interview Day, Year 8 Option Interviews, Last day of term,**

Arrangements to be confirmed

Don't forget to check our website for regular news updates:

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk