



Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter April 2023



Jack Petchey Achievement Awards Evening

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award is a prestigious and fantastic award given to nine young people (and one Adult Leader) from Bentley Wood each year. It recognises the achievements, hard work and determination of the girls, no matter what their background and what challenges they may be facing in their own life, who have gone above and beyond.

As Sir Jack Petchey says himself, *"The Achievement Awards are primarily about recognising those who put in the effort and do their best."* What makes this award extra special is that it is nominated by the students themselves.

The Achievement Awards are not solely for academic achievement; they may be used to recognise a personal triumph for someone who has faced a challenge, a young person who has pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone or it may be an opportunity to recognise the outstanding efforts of a team player.

I am so proud of the achievements of all of our award winners. We were the only school to have all nine award winners present plus an Adult Leader award. The vibe at the event is always electric, and you leave with such a smile on your face and such hope for the future generation. My congratulations again to all of our winners! The next round of voting will be opening soon for our new winners – more details to follow.

Mrs N Burridge



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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community

I am very pleased to send you all another copy of the Bentley Wood High School Newsletter. You will not be surprised to see it is again overflowing with celebrations, achievements and unquestionable dedication from both students and staff.

I would particularly like to congratulate our Jack Petchey's Award winners, see pages 1 and 3, and Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge Harrow champions, Sara A 10MAK and Maria L 10MTM. I would like to thank their families and friends for supporting them in achieving and accepting their awards. Look out for an article on the Speak Out Challenge in the next edition of our newsletter.

As usual we have been busy right to the very last day, with all the Year 8 and Year 10 students ending the term with an Option Choice Interview or a Practice Job Interview. Every single student was very well prepared and hopefully felt they benefitted from the experience.

All our students have now had a parent's evening and Year 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13 have had additional information evenings. Thank you to all our parents and carers for being so supportive in attending all of these events.

We are looking forward to celebrating the end of the school year with our Awards evening on Monday 3rd July, where largely students in Years 8, 11 and 13 are nominated for awards as they move from one phase to another in their curriculum journeys.

My very best wishes to you all,



Naseema Akbar
Headteacher

Jack Petchey Achievement Awards

Here are some comments from our student winners.

Being called for the Jack Petchey award was a dream. I was trying to pinch myself to make sure I was not dreaming as it was such a big deal. I was extremely nervous, but the teachers helped calm me down.

On the day of the ceremony, it felt a little embarrassing going up in front of all of the people there to collect my award. but once the lights hit you couldn't see them.

If my experiences say anything it echoes the wise words of Sir Jack Petchey himself: "If you think you can, you can!" and luckily for me all the Bentley Wood staff are here to support you becoming anything you want to be.

Lauren M 8IL

Being nominated for the Jack Petchey award was a great achievement. The event in itself was an amazing experience. It was such an exciting and busy evening, with the various winners being announced and cheered on, as well as seeing our own school 'Glee' perform. Overall it was a great experience and being nominated meant a lot to me.

Arthika P 10MTM

Jack Petchey's
"SPEAK OUT"
Challenge!



Transport for London Project Guardian Workshop



A few days ago, we participated in a workshop called TFL Project Guardian. This project's aim was to inform us about what sexual harassment is and how we can identify it on public transport. We were informed by 4 staff from TFL that sexual harassment is a common problem on public transport and is seen more in women than men. We were shown CCTV footage of young girls who were harassed on buses and trains. We were also told the 3 F's. Freeze, Flee and fight. These are the reactions that the majority do when they are sexually harassed. The police officers explained everything including what we should do if we experience sexual harassment.

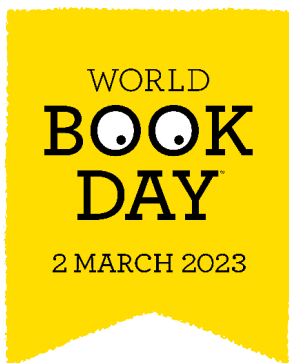
This project made me realize how important it is to be aware when going on public transport and make sure that we are up to date with any new information the police find and the importance of reporting harassment. I enjoyed the workshop a lot because it was very interesting, and it was also very useful when we refer to living in the wider world. I hope we can continue these workshops and do them more frequently.

Musawera, Year 9



"This was really high quality – great delivery from the presenters, very expertly handled" BW staff member

World Book Day: fun competitions



World Book Day 2023 celebrations

Bentley Wood celebrated World Book Day with lots of fun and exciting events. An interform competition was launched, inviting students to design their own original cover for a favourite book. The book covers were then displayed on classroom doors

and the class with the most eye-catching and interesting door were invited to a very special Mad Hatter's Tea Party in the library. There were some fantastic displays and the judges had the unenviable task of selecting just one winner from all the thoughtful and creative entries. Well done to all the students who took part and congratulations to 7KPO who were the winners of the competition!

The morning after World Book Day, three library leaders in the guise of the Mad Hatter, the White Rabbit and the Queen of Hearts rambled, scurried and stomped down the corridors to deliver an invitation to the winning form. On Wednesday of the following week the library was transformed into Wonderland and 7KPO were treated to an afternoon of fun with refreshments, a photo booth and

even a bit of music and dancing! Ms Akbar was our surprise guest who read from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and shared why the book is so special to her.

The library also ran a "Shelfie" quiz as part of our World Book Day celebrations, where students and staff were invited to match photos of bookcases and bookshelves with the teachers they belonged to. Congratulations to the highest scoring contestants below who all won a book prize:

- Mrs A Jones
- Izzabella P 12CSN
- Isma M 13LFO
- Kharis B 12GCO
- Maryam A 12TRA

Lastly, all our students had the chance to read two very different short stories which were shared with them on World Book Day. One was "Florrie", an atmospheric horror story by award winning British writer Adam Nevill and the other was a translation of "In the Family", a magical realism tale by Cuban writer Maria Elena Llano.

Ms Khan, Librarian





Students get involved with poetry competitions and workshops

Poetry competitions: BW students have their poetry published

Participation in the Young Writers' competitions on poetry and creative writing is something Bentley Wood girls do very well. Last half term, seven pupils became published poets as their environmental pieces made it to the YW collection entitled *The Power of Poetry*. The subsequent half term, ten girls got published for stories involving numbers in the *Integer* competition. We couldn't be prouder of their achievements!

There is still a lot on offer as we have two upcoming competitions: BBC Young Reporter for students aged 11-18, with the theme of the World Around Me, and a new event organised by the Poetry Society. The BBC is seeking engaging stories from across secondary schools and sixth forms to emphasise stirring and thought-provoking topics online, on the radio and on national television. The deadline for this reportage is the end of March.

The latter event is an ongoing offer until the 31st of July – students can submit poems of any length and topic, as long as they feel it conveys something dear or important to their hearts. Keep up the creative spirit, Bentley Wood!

Mr Zabielski

Staff and students win Horror Literature Quiz competition

Even though this year's World Book Day coincided with the teachers' strike action, students and staff members participated in Mr Zabielski and Mr O'Sullivan's Horror Literature Quiz on Teams. The challenge was to complete twenty complex questions on the horror genre to be considered for the three main book awards, both for Bentley Wood staff and students.

Competition was fierce, and the spreadsheet with the results could have given nightmares to the bravest data analyst. The results were in on the day of competition and revealed swiftly on 6th March. Three exceptional stories by the modern genre masters, Stephen King and Adam Nevill, were awarded to Mr O'Riordan, Mr Farquhar and Mr Rankin; Farheen S, Sarah B and Mahi P (Year 9, 10 and 11 students respectively) won Fairy Tale in hardback, also by Stephen King.

It is encouraging to see so much enthusiasm for a genre of literature that is not everyone's first choice. Congratulations to all the winners!

Mr Zabielski



Adisa gives Year 7 poetry inspiration with engaging talks and workshops

On Friday 17th March we were delighted to welcome back Adisa the Verbalizer. Adisa spent the day with our Year 7s, delivering a highly enjoyable performance of his own special brand of stand-up poetry. He had the audience enthralled as he shared personal stories that inspired his compelling and often humorous poetry.

There was plenty of crowd participation and lots of laughter as the students were treated to dynamic verse on topics as diverse as food, identity and nostalgia.

In the afternoon, two of our Year 7 classes took part in poetry writing workshops in the library. Adisa guided the students through the process of writing their own poems, inviting them to consider the rhythm and form of their chosen words.

They came up with some fantastic poems about food which were read out at the end of the workshop. We hope the experience has inspired our budding poets to further explore self-expression through poetry.

Ms Khan, Librarian



Reading and literacy at BW

Library Leaders visit the British Library

On the 9th of March 2023 we went to the British Library. It was a long journey but worth it. The library itself was huge and had many different floors. One thing I liked about it was the shape. The library was made to represent a ship. That is why some call it the ship of wisdom. I really enjoyed this trip because I paired up with a close friend and we went in groups to explore freely.

Inside the library there was a section known as the Treasures Gallery with some artefacts and famous books. There was a cast of one of Michelangelo's sculptures and even letters and handwritten lyrics by the Beatles. The part that I liked the most was the section on religions and their famous books and scriptures. For example, there was a Bible from the 4th century.

After that we went into a room with the Magna Carta which was very interesting. We also all saw the King's collection right in the middle of the library shaped like a tower with all the books in size order. Even though the weather wasn't the best the trip definitely was.

Thamiisha D 9MGR

Spotlight on International Fiction: Literature from Iran

Last term we enjoyed delving into the world of Japanese literature in the library but now it's time to bid sayonara to the Land of the Rising Sun as we move on to a new literary adventure. This time we find ourselves in Iran, home to one of the world's oldest civilizations. It is a country with a rich literary heritage and an impressive poetic tradition that has inspired works by various western poets and writers.

The library has translations of works by Javad Djavahery, Shokoofeh Azar, Moniro Ravanipour and Sadegh Hedayat, among other well-known Iranian writers. The Iranian diasporas in the USA and Europe have also produced works in English and French which often resonate with the same political and social themes that can be found in their Persian counterparts. For this reason, our collection of Iranian fiction includes some novels that were written originally in English.

In *The Enlightenment of the Greengage Tree*, a family fleeing from the iron hands of a revolution find themselves trapped in a brutal conflict between modernity and tradition. *My Uncle Napoleon* is a hilarious satire about a paranoid patriarch who becomes increasingly tyrannical in his bid to thwart a love match he disapproves of. Savushun, the first novel ever published by an Iranian woman, begins on the eve of World War II and it is the tale of a shattered rural idyll in a politically fractured landscape as seen through the eyes of a young wife and mother.

With so many exciting books to choose from this coming half term, why not make a detour to the library and step into a land of breath-taking natural beauty, a charming code of social manners known as Taarof and a captivating history abounding with stories of dauntless human endeavour and resilience.

Mrs Khan Librarian



Spring Reads

The Adventures of Amina Al-Sirafi by Shannon Chakraborty

Amina al-Sirafi has survived backstabbing rogues, vengeful merchant princes, several husbands, and one actual demon to retire peacefully with her family to a life of piety and motherhood. But when she's offered a job no bandit could refuse, she jumps at the chance for one final adventure with her old crew that will make her a legend and win a fortune that will secure her and her family's future forever.

Has Amina miscalculated the risk she is taking and inadvertently put her very own soul at stake with this last gambit?

The Dragon's Promise by Elizabeth Lim - Princess Shiori made a deathbed promise to return the dragon's pearl to its rightful owner, but keeping that promise means forsaking the safety of her kingdom. She embarks on a quest where danger and intrigue lurk around every corner and she must conceal her true identity at all costs. The pearl itself wields its malevolent power over her, and it will take every ounce of her strength to save the life and love she has fought so hard to win.

Chaos Theory by Nic Stone - Since Shelbi enrolled at Windward Academy as a senior and won't be there very long, she hasn't bothered making friends. Which also allows her to keep her secrets and hide from the past. Andy Criddle has his own struggles and he is spiralling downwards fast. When Shelbi sees Andy at his lowest, she can relate. So she doesn't resist reaching out. And there's no doubt their connection has them both seeing stars . . . but the closer they get, the more the past threatens to pull their universes apart.

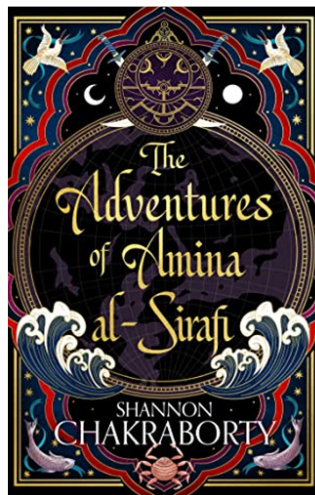
Festergrimm by Thomas Taylor - When Herbie and Violet's arch-enemy Sebastian Eels turns up in Eerie-on-Sea, seemingly back from the dead, it can only spell bad news. The town may welcome his big plans to resurrect Festergrimm's Waxworks, but Herbie and Violet are suspicious of his motives. And when they learn the legend of Ludo Festergrimm the clockmaker, creator of a vast mechanical robot that wrought havoc in the wrong hands, they KNOW they're on the right track. But how can they get the residents of Eerie-on-Sea to believe them?

The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches by Sangu Mandanna

Orphaned at a young age, Mika Moon is a reclusive witch who is resigned to a nomadic life without much excitement. Until a message arrives, begging her to travel to the remote and mysterious Nowhere House to teach three young witches. Nowhere House is nothing like she expects, and she's quickly tangled up in the lives and secrets of its quirky, caring inhabitants. She also discovers that she rather likes the idea of belonging somewhere and that she might be ready to leave her old life behind for good.

Promise Boys by Nick Brooks - The Urban Promise Prep School vows to turn boys into men. As students, J.B., Ramón, and Trey are forced to follow strict rules and submit to extreme discipline. Under the watchful eye of Principal Moore, they will supposedly be saved from the tragic fate of many young men in the neighbourhood.

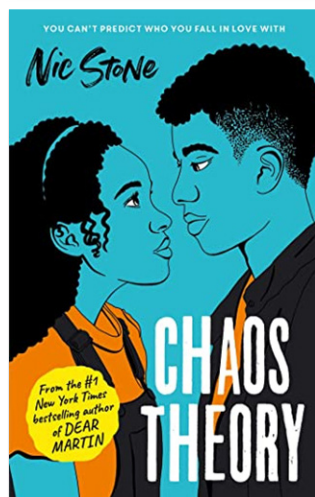
But when Moore ends up murdered, the three friends emerge as the case's prime suspects. With all three maintaining their innocence, they must band together to track down the real killer before they are arrested. But is the true culprit hiding among them?



The Adventures of Amina Al-Sirafi by Shannon Chakraborty



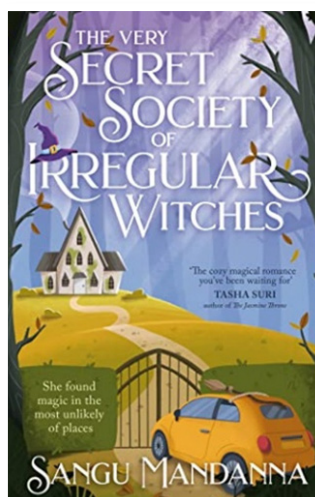
The Dragon's Promise by Elizabeth Lim



Chaos Theory by Nic Stone



Festergrimm by Thomas Taylor



The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches by Sangu Mandanna



Promise Boys by Nick Brooks

Student Rewards April 2023

Year 7

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



Art

Jesmira M 7LSB - for excellent homework and improving her skills through extension tasks.

Drama

Saliha D 7GCP - for boundless enthusiasm and amazing commitment in performance.

English

Evie R 7AHU - for making a great improvement in her English work and effort and for her passion for the subject. **Zahra K 7LSB** for her exemplary creative writing and original poetry this term.

Food

Christina K 7ABR - for her enthusiastic interest food and completion of extension work to further her understanding.

French

Rokhsar S 7ABR - for enthusiasm, always putting her hand up and recently attaining 100% in her latest assessment.

Geography

Abigail C 7AHUe - For her organisation, excellent effort and homework completion.

History

Ecrin S 7AHU - for tremendous effort.

PE

Sienna D 7GHO - fantastic commitment to all PE lessons and incredible commitment to netball club.

Maths

Lakshya L 7GHO - for being an exemplary student . she works hard on finishing all her homework tasks, she participates in every lesson and she has a very nice attitude and behaviour in every lesson. **Yusra U 7AHU** - She is always ready to get involved, putting up her hand. She works really hard and she asks fantastic questions.

Science

Ariana B 7ABR - for a consistently outstanding attitude to science this year and for always going the extra mile!

Spanish

Khushi D 7GCP - for great contributions in Spanish and excellent debates.

Textiles

Sana K 7ABR - Engagement and attitude to learning.

Student Rewards April 2023

Year 8



Art

Maraam K 8LBM - for her effort in improve her work and skills in Art and Design.

Drama

Shanum C 8FER - for fabulous focus in performing and demonstrating an excellent understanding of work.

English

Malaika Z 8IL - for her dedication and critical curiosity.
Zahra A for her consistent effort and positive approach to the subject.

Food

Elga DS 8CJGe - for her positive attitude and help in the termly room spring clean in food.

French

Skye H 8FER - for excellent contribution to oral work in class. She is always willing to have a go. Keep up the wonderful enthusiasm.

Geography

Niya N 9TCe - for always being enthusiastic and hardworking in lessons. She is an amazing Geographer.

Graphics

Aiza R 8LBM - for excellent standards in her classwork. Well done! Naiya A 8TSG Excellent attitude to learning.

History

Sophie S 8TSG - great enthusiasm and historical ability.

PE

Larysa P 8CGJ - for always being incredibly passionate and encouraging in her PE lessons.

Maths

Shamsa A 8FER - Shamsa has made an outstanding amount of progression so far. I have seen a complete change in her attitude to Maths and her hard work and commitment to her studies is definitely paying off. Super happy and proud of you!

Science

Malaika K 8IL - for working so hard in all of her Science lessons and always being so cheerful

Spanish

Zainab H in 8ILF - for her excellent work in lessons and in homework and for going above and beyond, always completing the extension tasks.

Student debate in the media and in competitions

Students take part in debate style competition at the Ethics Cup

On 23rd February Morgan, Sarah, Kamila, Lubnah and I travelled to King's College London where the Ethics Cup was taking place. The Ethics Cup is a debate style competition where teams have the opportunity to present ethical issues in front of a countering team and judges, with the aim of improving argument and debating skills.

When we first arrived, we were given a debrief of the day to come before we prepared to compete for the first time. It was quite intimidating as we were selected to compete against the team who won the entire competition last year. However, once we began presenting it's safe to say all of our nerves disappeared. Performing in front of a classroom full of people was a definite contrast to performing in front of Miss Crosbie on a Thursday lunchtime, but although it was new it was such an exciting experience.

Following our first presentation we had the chance to watch other groups compete, but it was not too long until we had to perform once again. Performing together helped us develop our team building and communicative skills and was a great opportunity to do something that was both personally enriching but will also look impressive on our personal statements/university applications.

Overall, the Ethics Cup was a great experience that we have all agreed that we would love to do again! We highly encourage anyone interested in philosophy or debating to look into it once you're in the sixth form- we hope to see you next year!

Nikita M Year 12



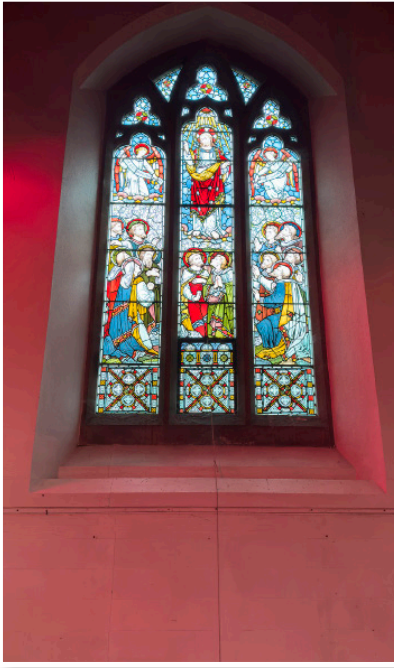
Year 11 student speaks up for women in Afghanistan on the BBC

One of our Year 11 students, Hosai Y 11MCO, was on BBC Pashto this week. BBC Pashto is the Pashto-language station of the BBC World Service. It was launched in August 1981, and reaches out to the over 50-60 million Pashto speakers in Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as the Pashtun diaspora around the world. Hosai spoke passionately about women's rights in Afghanistan.

She spoke with deep confidence and knowledge about some of the struggles but also the resilience that women are demonstrating in Afghanistan at the present time. From how impressive she was, this won't be the last time we see her talking on the national stage!

Mr Curtis





RS students visit All Saints Mews church in Stanmore

On 21st March we went to All Saints Mews church. We were spoken to by Father John and he told us a little bit about the Christian religion and what we were going to be doing.

Then we went off and did different activities and collected information that was scattered around the church. This trip was very educational for me because it taught me more about the religion and the surroundings and artefacts were amazing.

Vibha P 9SAS



Ecology projects: Protecting the planet

ECO ACTIVE MONTH
< 6/3/23 to 31/3/23 >

Park & Stride Week (6-10)
Usually travel by car or bus?
Walk for 10 minutes to reduce emissions and start your day feeling energised!
Competition: Walk to School photos

Step Count Week (13-17)
Use your smartphone's health app to track your steps in our inter-form competition.
Competition: Highest step count

Car Share Week (20-24)
Practise your carpool karaoke skills when you get in your friend's car!
Competition: Carpool karaoke video

Green Travel Week (27-31)
Inter-form competition to find the 'greenest' form.
Competition: Form with highest participation



The Geography Ambassadors

Reducing gas emissions around our school during Eco Active Month

This month the TFL stars have been focusing on reducing gas emissions in and around our school. We were promoting car sharing, cycling, and walking a little bit extra, and it's all with friends.

There were lots of prizes up for grabs for people who had the best car selfie or those who had got all their steps in. We started off the month with park and stride week where students were encouraged to walk for a little bit extra to reach a goal of 10,000 steps. Most recently we held a car share karaoke week and green travel week.

Car share karaoke was a chance to have a sing-along with a friend and reduce emissions, and during green travel

week, we introduced park and stride (being dropped off at a 10-minute walking distance), drop a stop (coming off the bus 1 or 2 stops earlier), walk with friends (meeting up and walking together) and finally bike it (dusting off your bike to get a good exercise in the mornings).

With all these options, we were able to start our day feeling energized and help the planet at the same time! Each of us has a part to play in protecting ourselves and our climate. The direction we choose can set the course for a greener and healthier future for us all. Don't forget Small change Big Impact !!

Aliya M 9SASw

The Big Garden Bird Watch 2023 the results

Exactly 172 families counted the birds that landed in their garden over the weekend 27th to the 29th January.

A staggering 2,645 birds were counted in 172 gardens and parks in Harrow and the surrounding areas. This makes the average number of birds per garden 15, which is significantly higher than the national average. The most commonly recorded birds were parakeets, feral pigeons, woodpigeons, magpies and robins.

A group of phenomenal mathematicians in years 8, 12 and 13 have calculated Chi-Squared tests for each post code, and the results show overwhelmingly there is a significant difference between the number of birds in Harrow and the expected national figures.

While the data is overwhelmingly positive, many species of bird were not counted at all, there was not a single wren, waxing or coal tit counted in any of the gardens. The findings of the bird watch show that while we do an amazing job supporting our local bird populations, we could be doing more to provide better habitats for some of our smaller birds.

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the BGBW; a special thank you goes to the science lab technicians, IT team and the site team for all your support in enabling the BGBW to take place

See you next year for Big Garden Bird Watch 2024!

Mr Barrett



Creative talk by photo-realist artist



Talk by artist Sarah Graham gives Fine Art students inspiration for their GCSE art

On Wednesday 22nd February Year 10 Fine Art students had the opportunity to meet photo-realist artist, Sarah Graham.

She is a Hitchin based artist who works exclusively with oil on canvas and is particularly interested in painting still life and sweets. Sarah's paintings are in private collections across the world in Europe, USA, Australia, Middle East, China and South Africa. Sarah's work is studied in schools throughout the UK and abroad and in 2015 featured on the GCSE art exam paper. In February 2022, Sarah appeared as a guest judge on the CBBC show Britain's Best Young Artist.

This was a very efficacious and inspirational workshop. It gave us an opportunity to understand how Sarah Graham uses different techniques to achieve realism to implement some of these unique techniques in our own work. It was particularly helpful as we work on our GCSE project of 'Sweets and Treats', it allowed us to explore our own styles

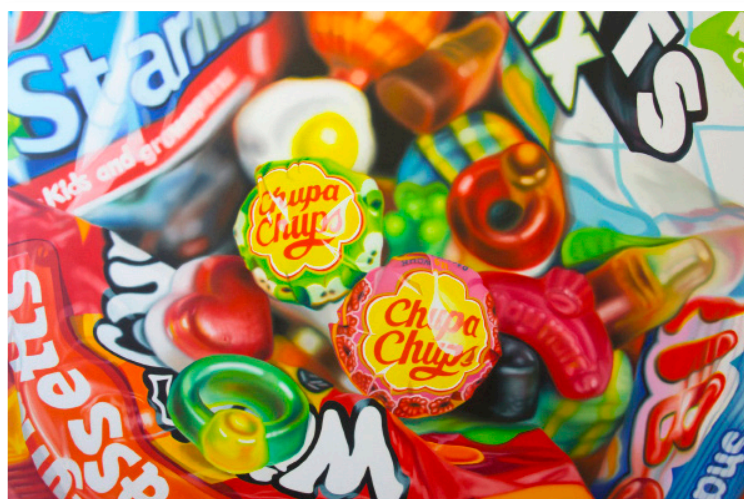
and new ideas. Moreover, it gave us an opportunity to develop our work as our grades are highly influenced by our understanding of artists that relate to our work, our understanding of their work and how we implement their style in our work. We were immensely lucky to get this opportunity to get to understand her creative ideas and hear about her life.

She was very honest and discussed how she had overcome struggles with her mental health and shown perseverance. She gave us a tour of her studio where she works, the brushes she uses and the set up for her photoshoot which showed us the process she goes through to create her paintings.

It really made us think about how we can use these techniques in our own artwork in the future.

Ritika S 10EAW & Sophie M 10NMA

Sarah Graham artwork



Student Rewards April 2023

Year 9



Art

Aliza K 9EV - for her excellent commitment and determination in painting.

Business studies

Fatema R 9SAS - excellent effort in lessons, always going above and beyond and trying with the think hard questions.

Chemistry

Haleema N 9ALNf - For maintaining an excellent work ethic so far this year and some outstanding classwork, homework and test results!

Drama

Mariam R 9BKB - for excellent contributions to lessons and engagement in work.

English

Swara C 9IR - for her enthusiasm, reliability and contributions in class. **Fatima J 9SAS** - for showing commitment to her learning this term and giving a fantastic speech for her assessment

Food

Meerab W 9BKBf - for always being ready to learn and organised in practical lessons.

French

Ayfar I 9BKB - for identifying that she was more motivated sitting at the front, increasing her effort in class as well as assisting a new student in French lessons.

Geography

Skandaja K 9ABlw - for working diligently and superbly.

H&S

Sadaf S 9ABlw - for her positive attitude in class and all her hard work in her coursework.

History

Maisie S 9IR - for brilliant effort and always helping the history department

Latin

Morsal O 9ALN - for her effort with her homeworks

Maths

Tahmina U 9IRK - Tahmina has shown tremendous progress in Year 9 so far. She is an extremely hard working and conscientious student. She is always eager to push herself and ask for extension work. All her efforts have been reflected in her recent assessments. Well done and keep it up!

Music

Sonia A 9SHA - for helping me learn the choir songs and her amazing voice!

PE

Thamiisha 9MGR and **Anvi 9MGR** - for being dedicated to the most PE clubs this year so far!

Philosophy

Maryam R 9BK - For showing excellent engagement in RS. Keep it up!

Physics

Fatima R 9SAS - for completing every stretch and challenge question! and for always going above and beyond.

Psychology

Mursal G 9BKB - for always working hard and making excellent contributions in lessons

Spanish

Tahmina U 9IRK - for improving so much and for always being committed in Spanish.

Student Rewards April 2023



Year 10

Business studies

Nateer D 10EAW - for her effort and improved work throughout the term.

Chemistry

Zahra Nawabi 10PS - someone who shows dedication and passion towards her learning in Chemistry and is a real team player with promoting the department during evening events throughout the year!

Drama

Sabah H 10BME - for excellent leadership, determination and organisation in class and in completing additional rehearsals!

English

Nateer D 10EAW - for her excellent attitude and improved work. **Jaziba M 10NMA** - for her consistent hard work and excellent progress

Food

Naomi A 10BMEa - for her hard work, dedication and impressive score in the end of unit assessment.

French

Khadeeja R 10EAW - for working very hard in each French lesson. Well done.

Geography

Diana H 10EAW - for making great progress and being an awesome contributor and always trying her best.

German

Sabah H 10BME - for excellent hard work in class and also at home. She never fails to produce her homework and is really motivated to try her best.

Graphics

Priya P 10MAK - Effort and attitude to learning making great progress.

H&S

Sainthavi S 10MEM - for her excellent classwork and hard work as enrichment champion.

History

Hitesree R 10MAK - always gives great contributions to lessons

Latin

Haya M 10PSf - for helping out at GCSE options eve!

Maths

Hanna F 10EAW - for her positive outlook to learning and trying her best. Keep up the good work Hanna.

Music

Miriam P 10BME - for her outstanding composition work and always being so helpful

PE

Maya-Louise 10HJ - for consistently having a positive attitude in her GCSE lessons

Philosophy

Asla S 9IKR - Fantastic effort in RS. Thoughtful work!

Physics

Diana H 10EAW - for her consistently fantastic effort in class and for her great results.

Psychology

Hena H 10MEM - for always having a positive attitude, trying hard and being a pleasure to teach

Spanish

Sana R 10MTM - for her excellent work in lessons and homework. Always exploring more interesting ways of writing.

Careers and journalism workshops

The Student View Workshop

The Student View is a charity that aims to teach students about media literacy. The charity states that only 2% of the UK's 8 to 16-year-olds are able to spot fake news. They believe that urgent intervention is needed to ensure all young people receive media literacy education. At Bentley Wood we were lucky enough to have The Student View team come into the school and deliver a workshop that encouraged us to decipher the difference between false news and true facts. We had two experts run the session, including a journalist from The Financial Times. Below are student's accounts about their experience with the workshop:

Liana E 9BK

"My experience with The Student View workshop helped me in many ways. The people who came and led the workshop (one of them being a journalist from Financial Times), gave us tasks to complete. An example would be giving issues and topics and making us do reports on them, and they would talk about false news and information and how to analyse the information we are reading, and how to make sure that it is true.

The workshop was helpful because it helps improve your ability to research and understand things on a deeper level. It truly does improve your media literacy, and that is a skill that you need in your daily life, especially due to the amount of people relying on social media as their source of information. The Student View also opened my eyes to other potential career paths, like Journalism. One of the most useful things that I took away from The Student View is that not every bit of information is like it is portrayed and that you have to use your own brain as well when reading the news as often things can be exaggerated or false. I left The Student View workshop with new skills and a slightly better version of myself."

Mariam Y 9ALN

"I learnt the difference between misinformation and disinformation. This opportunity was very helpful as it allowed me to be able to differentiate between fake news and real news. The student view workshop made me think about careers in journalism."

Somaia S 9BKB

"I enjoyed the workshop, and it was a very fun experience. I learnt about the different between malinformation, misinformation, and disinformation. They gave us the opportunity to make our own article from a variety of topics which gave us an insight of what being a journalist would be like."

Jayna P 9SHA

"I thought it was a really good experience as we got to differentiate fake news and real news. We also got to get an insight of how journalists create their articles and the step by step methods involved to do so."

Mina S 9SHA

"The student view was an experience that has taught me a lot. As a user of social media, this was useful to me as it taught me how to tell the truth from the fake, and what to do when something fake such as disinformation happened and how to prevent it from spreading."

Ariqa F 9SAS



Year 8 Careers Morning: Students gain an insight into different careers

The Year 8 Careers Morning took place on Tuesday 28th February. The morning provided Year 8 girls with the opportunity to listen to and question speakers from a variety of professions about their occupation. They included a medical doctor, a chef, an engineer, a midwife, an artist/writer, a computer scientist, an educational psychologist and a lawyer.

Each speaker shared their own personal story about their journey into their occupation, with the idea that students would more likely remember a story than lots of information about a job. Medicine was again the most popular choice which indicates that girls are motivated by both altruism and by culture, family and status.

The intention behind this event is that young people will be encouraged to explore the world of work beyond the familiar jobs that they know and to find out about the variety of jobs that they could do across sectors based on their subject choices at GCSE.

Parents/carers who would like to participate themselves or through their employer in any of our career events then email SchoolOffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk

Please state your role, employer name and if you're self-employed your business name as we're compiling a database of individuals and organisations to support our careers education programme.

Mr Tapper Careers Adviser



Engineer



Midwife



Lawyer



Educational Psychologist



Doctor

Cambridge Trip 2023

Year 7, 8 and 9 students visit Cambridge University

On Tuesday the 21st of March, a few students from Years 7, 8, and 9 (30 students in all) were selected to attend an amazing experience - a trip to Cambridge. This was so they could participate in educational workshops taking place and organised by Cambridge University itself! These workshops were part of Cambridge Festival, where Cambridge invited schools all over London to take part in this once in a lifetime experience! I myself found it really enjoyable and the workshops really tested my brain!

After a really long coach ride from Bentley Wood, to Cambridge, our group went to a building called the Babbage Theatre, where all the workshops took place. The workshops really impacted me and everyone else sitting in that theatre as they had different topics which they developed with so much detail that we had a better understanding of the world and the particular topic they were focusing on!

In the Babbage Theatre we participated in 3 different interactive workshops:

- The study of Mathematics
- The job of Archaeologists and the history behind interesting artefacts
- How are things made and delivered to us?

As well as those enriching workshops, we also had a tour of the amazing city of Cambridge. From the tall, colossal buildings to beautiful lakes and rivers!

Cambridge was definitely a life-changing trip and an awesome experience, the workshops had many interactive activities to make it fun as well as learning something at the same time. They studied topics that are not usually mentioned in school curriculum, so it was a chance to absorb new, enriching information that may come useful in the future depending on which job you want to take. Overall, Cambridge was a very fascinating trip for everyone that had the lucky chance to go. May there be many more chances of going to this amazing place and many others!

Zahra Kassam, 7LSB



Maths events and activities this half term

Visit to Aylward Primary School

Our year 8 and 9 students visited Aylward Primary School to support them with running their 24-game tournament between 6 primary schools! The tournament is a competition where students compete using addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division to develop solutions to problems that equal 24. This was a great opportunity for our girls to develop their leadership skills and to challenge our high attainers.



Pi Day 2023 Celebrations

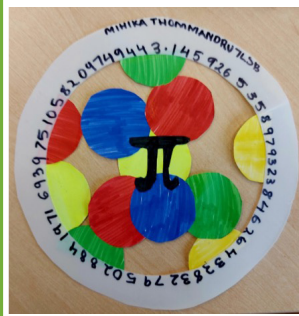
March 14 marks Pi Day, an annual celebration of the mathematical sign π . Founded in 1988 by physicist Larry Shaw, March 14 was selected because the numerical date (3.14) represents the first three digits of pi, and it also happens to be Albert Einstein's birthday. We celebrated Pi Day by running 2 challenges for our students; one was to create unique pi crafts and the other was to create a comic using the universal language of mathematics to drive the narrative. The latter allowed our students to incorporate maths into a story or a work of art, giving them an appreciation for how maths can operate dynamically at an interface with all forms of art and creativity.

Easter Baskets

Our students practised a variety of maths skills by creating Easter baskets. The Easter baskets maths challenge was a hands on activity designed to develop maths fluency and our students had fun creating intricate and unusual baskets.

Krispy Kreme Ratios

The year 7s had great fun learning how to write and simplify ratios using Krispy Kremes! This was a very popular activity and the level of focus and enthusiasm shown by the students was very impressive indeed!



Mihika 7LSB

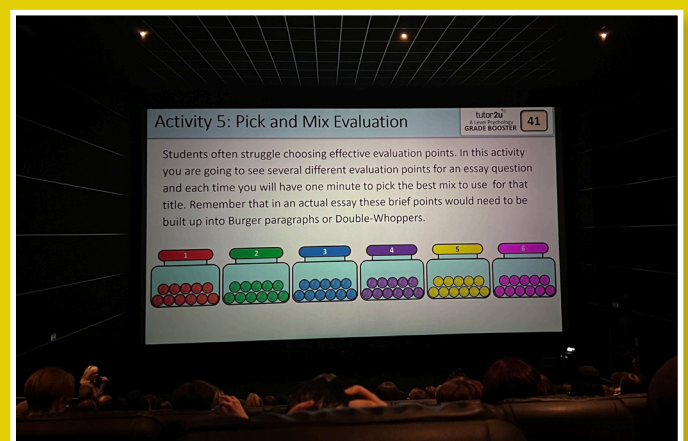


Psychology Grade Booster Workshop

Year 13 students attended a Psychology Grade Booster workshop at Vue Cinema Stratford designed and delivered by experienced teacher and examiner presenters, all of whom have a deep understanding of what students need to focus on in order to succeed in the 2023 exams.

They took part in lots of different activities and were given resources to aid their learning. The girls participated really well and one of the students even won herself a Tutor2u Beanie hat!

Miss Howes



Trailblazing women in STEM from around the world



<p>Honour Values: STEM</p> <p>Name: Emma Schroder Continent: Oceania Date of Birth: 1975 Place of Study: University of Melbourne Title of Degree: studied physics and chemistry but not biology at high school, completed an M.D in marine ecology in 2002 Where they were born: Melbourne, Australia The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: the completed her research in places like the Great Barrier Reef and tropical Australian rainforests.</p> <p>What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: Among numerous significant research findings in the discovery that some contaminants facilitate the invasion of coastal waterways by non-indigenous species and if conducted in these habitats consequences from Australia to the Great Barrier Reef, and tropical Australian rainforests.</p> <p>Fun fact about them: Emma is head of the Applied Marine and Estuarine Ecology Lab of 2009 and has led major projects for industry, government, the Australian Research Council and the Australian Antarctic Science Program. She is Dean of Science at the University of New South Wales and President of Science & Technology Australia.</p>	<p>Reference: Kari STEM</p> <p>Name: Mary Ellen Jorgensen Continent: Oceania Date of Birth: 1918 November 1980 Place of Study: Melbourne University Title of Degree: Biology Where they were born: Victoria, Australia The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: Melbourne university</p> <p>What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: She was the first female scientist in the Australian industrial sector</p> <p>Fun fact about them: She used to work as a part time librarian. She was spotted on a scale</p>
<p>Katrina</p> <p>Name: Katrina Hill Continent: Australia Date of Birth: 1956 September 1957 Place of Study: University of Queensland Title of Degree: first class honours degree in Geology Where they were born: Brisbane, Australia The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: she made her discovery in the Great Barrier Reef Committee about Marine Biology</p> <p>What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: not mentioned in the report and official work and became the Secretary of the Great Barrier Reef Committee. She moved to England where she published many important papers describing the structure of tigger corals. When she came back to Australia she took on the task of saving freshwater corals. She then helped get together out to establish the Great Barrier Reef Park</p>	<p>Name: Patricia Hoell</p> <p>Name: To Youpe Continent: Asia Date of Birth: 1963 December 1960 Place of Study: Peking University Title of Degree: Department of Biotechnology Where they were born: Ningbo, China The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: She made her first discovery in Beijing and made kind of top secret She made her first discovery in Beijing and made kind of top secret She made her first discovery in Beijing and made kind of top secret She made her first discovery in Beijing and made kind of top secret</p> <p>What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: To her research on the structure and development of the Great Barrier Reef in the Northwest corner of the Northwest corner, using millions of lives in Soa China, Southeast Asia etc.</p>

Women in STEM project inspired by International Womens Day

The Women in STEM project encouraged Year 7 and 8 students to learn more about the contributions of women to the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

The project is being run by the school's Science department, and has been designed to inspire young people to consider careers in these important areas.

The project, which is now halfway through its timeline, involves students creating a fact file for women that have contributed to STEM from each continent. By the end of the year, the aim is for the students to have researched and presented a woman from each country.

The students have been enthusiastic about the project, and have been actively engaged in researching and presenting

their findings. The fact files include information about each woman's contributions to STEM, as well as their life story and achievements.

The fact files created by the students have been added to a display in the school's Science department, where they are on show for everyone to see.

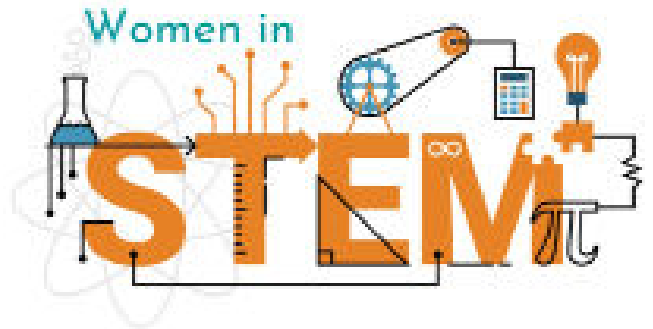
The display includes samples of the students' work, and highlights the diversity of women in STEM from around the world.

By highlighting the contributions of women to STEM, the school hopes to encourage more girls to pursue careers in these areas.

The women who changed STEM

Year 7 and 8 have created these fact files to celebrate the contributions to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths from women.

At the heart of the project was representation and we wanted to ensure that women's achievements from across the globe were celebrated. Look closely and you will find someone that inspires you.



Name: Wangari Mutha Maathai
Continent: Africa
Date of Birth: 1 April 1940
Place of Study: Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas
Title of Degree: Wangari Maathai obtained a degree in Biological Sciences
Where they were born: Ithite, Kenya
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: Her non-governmental Green Belt Movement has planted 30 million trees across Kenya, many of which still stand.

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: Maathai developed the idea that village women could improve the environment by planting trees to provide a fuel source and to slow the processes of deforestation and desertification.

- Cool Facts about them:**
- She was the first African woman to receive the Noble Peace Prize
 - She was also the first female scholar from East and Central Africa to take a doctorate (in biology)
 - She was also the first female professor ever in her home country of Kenya.



Rukhsara R 8LMB



Name: Himla Soodyall
Continent: Africa
Date of Birth: 1963 (age: 58/59)
Place of Study: University of Durban-Westville
Title of Degree: Order of Mapungubwe
Where they were born: South Africa, Durban
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: In 1996 she returned to South Africa to set up her own laboratory at the South African Institute for Medical Research (now the National Health Laboratory Service). Here she conducted population and evolutionary genetics research.

- Cool Facts about them:**
- Himla Soodyall is a South African geneticist involved in finding some of the oldest human genetic lines, mainly focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa. Her work on DNA has pointed to southern Africa as the most likely geographic region of origin of the human species.



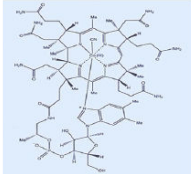
Vaniya P 8FER



Name: Dorothy Hodgkin
Continent: Europe
Date of Birth: 12th May 1910
Place of Study: University of Cambridge/Somerville College/University of Oxford
Title of Degree: Degree in Chemistry
Where they were born: Cairo, Egypt
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: She made her discovery in Oxford University and with other scientists.

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: Dorothy discovered the atomic structure of insulin and penicillin with x rays and crystallography. She contributed to finding secrets of diabetes and mellitus. She is also considered to be a founder of crystallography as well as receiving a Nobel Prize in Chemistry. She received many medals for her works in chemistry such as a Royal Medal, Lomonsov Gold Medal and a Copley Medal. The college made her the first tutor and she kept this position until 1977.

- Cool Facts about them:**
- She 3-D mapped molecules
 - She was banned from entering the US because of her husband who was a communist
 - Google Doodle celebrated her birthday



Anya K 8LMB



Name: Chien-shiung Wu
Continent: Asia
Date of Birth: 31st May 1912.
Place of Study: Nanjing University.
Title of Degree: She first studied in mathematics and then transferred to Physics.
Where they were born: Luhe, Taicang, Suzhou, China
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: She worked at Columbia University helping develop the process of separating uranium metal.

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: Wu worked on the Manhattan Project, where she helped develop the process for separating uranium metal into the U-235 and U-238 isotopes by gaseous diffusion. She is best known for conducting the Wu experiment, which contradicted the Law of Conservation of Parity.

- Cool Facts about them:**
- She earned many nicknames for her expertise, including the "Chinese Madame Curie"
 - She became a researcher at the Institute of Physics of the Academia Sinica.



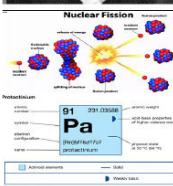
Keira A 8FER



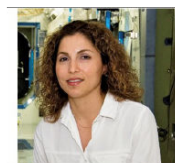
Name: Lise Meitner
Continent: Europe (Austria)
Date of Birth: 7th November 1878
Place of Study: The University of Vienna
Title of Degree: studied physics and earned a doctoral degree in physics
Where they were born: Vienna, Austria
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: Made the discovery in Sweden after escaping away from the Nazi's

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: She discovered the radioactive element protactinium; this would revolutionise nuclear physics and lead to the atomic.

- Cool Facts about them:**
- she was nominated 49 times for a Nobel prize for physics and chemistry but never won it rather her friend whom helped her discover it Otto Frisch won a Nobel prize
 - Praised by Albert Einstein as the "German Marie Curie"



Rahaf A 8LMB



Name: Anousheh Ansari
Continent: Asian
Date of Birth: 12 September 1966
Place of Study: George Washington University
Title of Degree: electronics and computer engineering
Where they were born: she was born in Iran Mashhad
The place where she made her discovery or created her invention: the first female space tourist, the first person of Iranian descent, and the first Muslim woman to go into space.

What is their contribution to Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering: An science

- Cool Facts about them:**
- Anousheh Ansari is an Iranian American engineer and co-founder and chairwoman of Prodea Systems. Her previous business accomplishments include serving as co-founder and CEO of Telecom Technologies, Inc. The Ansari family is also the title sponsor of the Ansari X Prize.



Sedrah H 8LMB

STEM experiences, lectures and clubs

Maths Fest 2023: Year 12's experience of maths in the real world

On Tuesday 28th February the Year 12 Mathematicians attended Maths Fest 2023. This is a prestigious event hosting a variety of mathematicians sharing their knowledge and experience of maths in the real world. Two of our most able Year 12 Further maths students were also selected to present on a topic of their choice. Their presentation was about the constant e .

This is what some of our students said about the event:

"Maths Fest was a good event because we got to see how maths is used in the wider world and what research projects involved maths. I found the golden ratio presentation very interesting. Overall, I had a useful experience, and it gave me a better understanding of maths" (**Neha**).

"What I enjoyed the most was the last speaker Collin Wright; I think his delivery was very good and his presentation was very interesting. It was a 10/10 experience overall and I think we got a very good insight on how maths is used all around us" (**Beatriz**).

"Overall, Maths Fest 2023 was an amazing experience. The multiple talks on how we can use mathematics to save the planet as well as using maths to predict juggling patterns were very entertaining and informative. There was an opportunity for schools to come up with their own maths presentation which was intriguing" (**Marium**).

"I enjoyed the talks and the interactions between the staff and students and found the many different applications of Maths interesting, particularly the talk regarding the golden ratio. It was fun and interesting" (**Imaan**).

"It made me think about how many opportunities maths can unlock, from understanding the maths behind juggling to cleaning up the sea. It was a very entertaining and engaging experience, especially helpful to aid me in my choice to continue learning maths" (**Nagin**).

"I enjoyed the first lecture the most because I loved the aspect of real life application in fluid dynamics, especially to help save the ocean. I never thought about the amount of maths used in daily activities. I enjoyed the event and left with more knowledge and interest in maths" (**Sara**).

"What I loved the most about the Maths Fest, is the fact all the presenters showed us that maths is not limited but has many uses that I never thought about. I never though maths was needed for juggling or for the environment, it was really interesting. If I had the chance to go again, I would" (**Jasmin**).

Ms Massara





Year 7 have an electrifying time with static electricity at Science Club

In science club, we learned about static electricity and how it can be used in various applications. We performed several experiments to demonstrate the principles of static electricity, such as rubbing a ruler with a cloth and then using it to see water bend or watching your ruler follow the direction you want it to go.

My absolute favourite is trying to see your pasta move around but we later found out that Sir was tricking us by blowing it the whole time. It was hilarious!

Finally, we got to have some fun with a Van De Graaff generator, a device that makes a lot of static electricity. I was second to do it and it was fun. When I touched it, it really tickled and whoever touched me would get a little electric shock and I would also receive one. Due to all the power that one individual strand would get, my hair slowly started to rise and stand up.

Overall, our experiments helped us understand the basic properties of static electricity and gave us a fun and engaging way to learn about this important scientific concept.

Zara A 7ABR

Today during science club, we played with static electricity. It started off with Mr Koyejo demonstrating how each practical works and the science behind it. Once the demonstration was finished, it was time for us to have a go ourselves. We began with a practical where we rubbed the end of a ruler with a cloth which gave us control to split the tap water.

Later, we tried another practical which taught us how to move a ruler without touching it. Finally, we used a Van De Graaff to get electrocuted safely. We placed our hands on the machines while wearing goggles and watched as our hair began to rise strand by strand.

In addition, we touched our positive charged fingers on each other to give a little electric shock. I learnt that static electricity is caused by an imbalance between positive and negative charges in an object. Overall, I had a great time learning about static electricity and being able to play with it ourselves.

Sarah A 7YT

Physical Education



Students from all year groups enjoy Volleyball Club

Volleyball has been a very successful club that has been running since September. Students have been coming regularly with a range of students from Year 8-13! It is one of the most popular clubs that we have at Bentley Wood.

The students are loving the weekly sessions and are eager to have some friendly matches which we are hoping to set up next half term. If you are keen to get involved in volleyball, please attend the club - you do not need any prior experience!

Ms Collen

PE Enrichment Timetable 2023

Day	Before school	Lunchtime 12:45-1:15pm Weds (12:25-12:50)	After school 3:20-4:20pm
Monday		Table tennis year 7-9 (S'Hall) (GCO)	Volleyball (S'hall) (AMU)
Tuesday		Dance Club (Studio) (ATR)	Netball All Years (Courts) (GCO)
Wednesday		Rounders year 7&8 (Field) (GCO)	Basketball All Years (S'hall) (EAW)
			Badminton All Years (S'hall) (THA)
Thursday		Badminton year 7-9 (S'Hall)(CCH)	GCSE Club (Field) (CCH, GCO, EAW)
			Cricket All Years (Field) (CCH)
			Rounders Year 9&10 (Field) (THA)
Friday	Table tennis (S'hall) JCT	Volleyball year 10&11 (S'hall)(EAW)	Tennis All Years (Courts) (AMU)
		Athletics year 7-9 (Field)(AMU)	
		Netball year 7-9 (Courts) (ATR)	

Student Rewards April 2023

Year 11



Biology

Naima C 11EOG - for really trying hard in Biology

Business studies

Hosai Y 11MCO - for her effort in Business Studies and continued contribution to all class activities.

Chemistry

Mahi P 11SZ - for her commitment towards her learning in Chemistry throughout the year - being ambitious and striving to continuously develop her learning and make progress.

Drama

Hajra N 11AAL - for fantastic commitment to work and two really impressive performances for the C2 Drama exam!

English

Marjan A 11AAL - for her insightful and thoughtful contributions to class discussion. Sahar M 11RGR for her reliability and steady progress.

Food

Jasmina S 11EOGw - for her hard work and pushing herself to create a complex tempered chocolate bar in her GCSE practical food exam.

French

Fatima I 11SZ - for achieving perfect scores in her French mock. MCO.

Geography

Chhaya K 11MCO - for excellent work, contribution and all round effort. She is keeping a level head despite all the pressure at this time of the year. Well done.

German

Husna N 11RGR - for amazing progress in German. She produces work of very high quality and has achieved a very good mock exam result.

Graphics

Sarah M 11AAL - Effort and attitude to learning for exam”

H&S

Sama H 11JBHa - for working hard on revision activities.

History

Inaayah H 11AAL - for consistently smashing her assessments.

Latin

Sedra R 11EOG - for maintaining her excellent standards!

Maths

Thusmena S 11CCH - she works really hard in class, she uses her time in class to give her best and also works really hard on her homework , she made a significant improvement throughout Year 10 and 11.

Nasra F 11SZ - She works so super hard in class, never getting distracted and always completing everything she is given. She also is not afraid to ask questions when she doesn't understand something!

Music

Abigail C 11SZ - for her commitment to everything music.

Physics

Mariam N 11JBH - for her fantastic questioning in class and for her fantastic enthusiasm and effort.

Psychology

Oorvi G 11JBH - for always going the extra mile and showing a great passion for Psychology.

Spanish

Zaina M 11SEO - for her excellent preparation for the Spanish mock exams.

Students gain subject knowledge from conferences and trips

University of West London Photography Workshop

On Wednesday 1st March, Year 13 Fine Art students, went on a trip to the University of West London to complete a photography workshop. The workshop was led by Peter Bennett, the course leader of photography at the university, and a professional in photographs and visual metaphors.

During this workshop, we were taught the processes behind operating high-quality cameras, manipulating the outcomes of images both digitally with software, and physically through the changing of coloured gels on the different types of light and strobes.

It was a truly enriching experience being able to access some of the best quality equipment, and we had well-tailored demonstrations on how to formulate a good quality photographic print! We all had a go taking portraits of ourselves and friends, and were lucky enough to each have one of our professional prints mounted to take home.

Many of us have used these prints within our current projects as it provided valuable learning experience. The session was amazing and provided not only an insight into an art subject at a further level, but also a taste into the life at university many of us will experience!!

Sydney C 13SG





Year 12 and 13 Sociology A Level Revision Conference

On the 24th of February 2023 a Sociology revision conference was held at Bentley Wood High School. The conference was well attended, and we had visiting students from Harrow High, Whitmore, Pinner High and Hatch End.

The conference was designed to make sure that our students reach their full potential in the AS and A Level exams in May. The day was focused on ensuring students understand the skills and content required for each exam paper.

By the end of the day students were able to:

- Feel more confident in understanding how to answer questions, building on their existing knowledge
- Be aware of the structure and timing of each exam paper
- Understand the different skills being examined
- Understand what the examiner is looking for in short and longer questions
- Have lots of resources to help organise their revision and increase confidence

Mr Maric



Sixth Form Classics students engage with classical theatre

Euripides' Medea

Miss Illingworth organised a fantastic trip for both our Year 12 and 13 Classical Civilisation students to see Sophie Okonedo perform as the misunderstood Medea at Soho theatre.

Both of the classes study tragedy as part of their Greek theatre paper so experiencing this fantastic tragedy was a real treat; they watched Ben Daniels perform all the male parts, the chorus were embedded within the audience which made the experience all the more intimate, and Sophie Okonedo's version of Medea really tested their level of empathy!

Miss A Hussain Head of Classics



“Medea” by Euripides is a play that was written and performed in 431 B.C. It is based on the Greek myth of Medea and Jason.

When Jason betrays Medea by marrying a Corinthian princess, Medea plots and enacts her revenge, destroying everyone her husband holds dear.

“Medea” is an interesting, yet controversial, version of the popular Greek myth sure to thrill and appall modern audiences.



Classics: Ancient literature on stage

The Classics department took full advantage of what London had to offer this term and took our sixth form students to watch important stories that have shaped the western world!

Plato's Symposium

Our Year 13 Classical Civilisation students have been looking at the concept of love and relationships in ancient Greece and Rome.

As part of their study, they have been reading and analysing Plato's Symposium; an important philosophical work that questions and tries to define what love is.

We took our class to see a performance of Plato's symposium at UCL which they thoroughly enjoyed and even got to meet the student cast after the show!

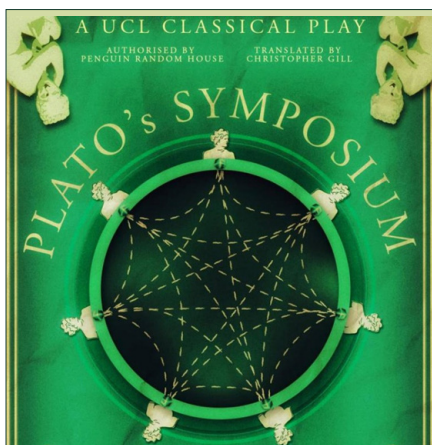
Miss A Hussain Head of Classics

The Symposium is a philosophical text by Plato, dated c. 385–370 BC.

It depicts a friendly contest of extemporaneous speeches given by a group of notable men attending a banquet.

The men include the philosopher Socrates, the general and political figure Alcibiades, and the comic playwright Aristophanes.

The speeches are to be given in praise of Eros, the god of love and desire.



Student Rewards April 2023



Year 12

Art

Rebecca B 12JT - Strength in developing painting skills

Biology

Zohara H 12TRA - for working so hard and making more of an effort to contribute to class.

Business Studies

Yasmin S 12TRA - for her contribution to class activities and effort in examinations.

Chemistry

Zainab N 12TRA - for such an improvement in her learning in Chemistry and striving to challenge herself.

Classical Civilisation

Preesha S 12JT - for maintaining her excellent work ethic and steadily improving her grade!

Economics

Susan K 12TRA - for her hard work inside and outside of class.

English

Bushra A 12TRA - for her positive Mock 2 performance and improvement

Geography

Palisha S 12TRA -for her positive attitude and her environmental conscious

H&S

Hetvi P 12MTI - for her excellent exam results, great attendance and all her hard work in her coursework.

History

Zohara H 12TRA - For her contributions in lessons and hard work throughout the year.

Maths

Jasmin M 12GCO & Fatima H 12CSN - Most improved & always trying their best.

Music

Palisha S 12TRA - for her wonderful vocal solo

Philosophy

Julia C 12TRA - For always asking excellent questions and engaging in discussion.

Physics

Aamina S 12CSN - for her fantastic improvement between mock 1 and 2.

Psychology

Salma M 12JT - for brilliant class contributions, outstanding effort and great homework, classwork and attitude

Sociology

Britney O 12MTI - for excellent in class contributions to discussion

Spanish

Kharis B 12GCO - for her resilience in the mock exams.

Politics

Hafsa A 12CSN - For the incredible progress you have made in Politics!

Student Rewards April 2023



Year 13

Art

Meena S 13SNU - Is an academic weapon! Effort and attitude to learning are superb!"

Biology

Hafsa S 13SNU - for taking on board exam tips and actually having a go at them in her mocks. You should be so proud that the hard work has paid off!

Business Studies

Isna N 13SNU - for her continued improvement to lessons and valuable contribution to discussions.

Chemistry

Sarmiga P13SNU - for her perseverance and determination to do well

Classical Civilisation

Miriam S 13SBR - for her improved attainment and effort ready for her exams!

Economics

Claudia I 13SGf for her continued improvement and effort for her examinations.

Geography

Manahil W 13SBR - For being super focused and hardworking.

H&S

Munira B 13PBL - for her hard work and dedication in and out of lesson. Plus, her determination to finish the course with a high grade.

History

Ella S 13SG - Consistently working hard and showing great progress

Maths

Sarmiga P 13SNU - For her continuous effort in her work & for always asking questions in order to improve.

Further Maths

Faith M 13SG - for her enthusiasm for the subject and her commitment to always improve.

Physics

Mohadesa S 13SBR - for her fantastic effort in physics both within and outside of the classroom.

Psychology

Usha B 13 PBL - for making great strides and progression in psychology this half term, Well done.

Sociology

Nkiah B 13SBR - for excellent effort in Mock exams

Spanish

Miriam S 13SBR - for the extra effort to prepare for her speaking exam

Politics

Nisreen H 13PBL - For your consistent hard-working attitude in Politics. Always going above and beyond!

Information and advice for students and parents

Keeping Safe Over The Easter Holidays

We wish you a safe Easter Break. If you have any concerns, the school's reception will be open over the holidays from 9am - 4pm. (Please be aware, the office will be closed over the public holidays)

School Holidays

Did you know...

According to studies, 40% of parents do not keep track of their children's social media use. Only 47% of parents are 'friends with' their children on social media

During the Easter holidays, young people may be online or with their friends for longer periods of time. Parents may miss important indicators as to what they're doing.

Some safety tips:

- 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.

Online Safety Advice:

- Discover and keep up to date with the newest social networks and applications (apps).
- Wait until your child is of an appropriate age before agreeing to which social networking sites they may join.

- Assist your child with helping to create their profile and configuring their privacy settings.
- Make sure you're aware of any changes in your privacy settings, and change them as needed.
- If you find any bad language or pictures, use the support, reporting and assistance tools.
- Help keep your children safe online by teaching them how to block or ignore individuals on games and social networking sites, as well as when to do so.
- Teach your child that they should never disclose personal information, such as their password, address, or school
- Determine how long they may use various websites each day, together.
- Maintain a relationship with the same social media platforms to keep an eye on things.
- Make sure children understand that those they meet online may not be who they claim to be, and that meeting them could be very dangerous.

There are a number of things that parents can do to help keep their child safe, such as staying up-to-date on new social networks and applications, assisting with profile creation, parental controls and privacy settings.

If you are worried about how to keep your children safe online over the Easter Break, or unsure about parental controls or want to learn or talk about how to stay safe online, see links below for additional support:

[Child Safety Online](#)

[Parents, Kids, and Social Media](#)

[Navigating Social Media Effectively](#)

[Conversation starters to understand your child's online life](#)



Online Safety Advice

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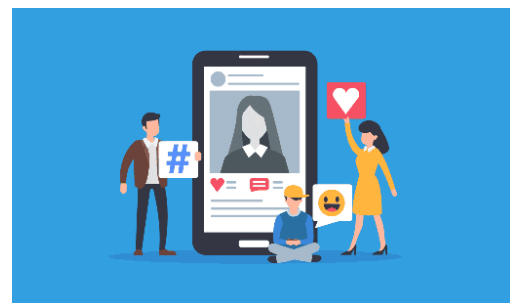
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[Navigating Social Media Safely](#)

[Conversation starters to understand your child's online life](#)



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

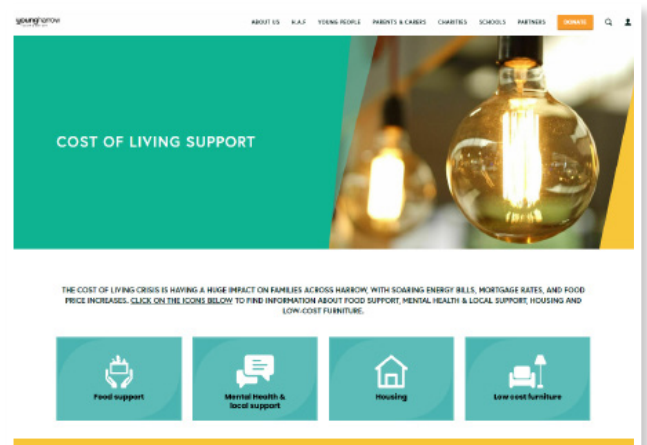
A new web page has been launched to help Harrow families find support during the cost of living crisis

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



Information and advice for students and parents

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Bentley Wood: Exciting Developments for Your Daughters

Recent headlines have been rife with concerns about mental health, especially among teenagers. As a school, we recognize the immense pressure on today's young people, from social media, peer pressure, and academic expectations. At Bentley Wood, we're devoted to supporting your daughter's emotional well-being and mental health, alongside her academic success and personal development.

As we approach the exam season, we want to share with you the innovative strategies and exciting new developments we're introducing to help our students become more resilient and feel better.

Introducing: Meditation Club and 'Healing Hearts' Team

We're thrilled to announce that our Mental Health Ambassadors run a **Meditation Club** during lunchtime. This club offers a space for your daughter to practice mindfulness meditation in a supportive environment. After a break for exams it will return again from the week of March 27th.

We're also excited to introduce the **Healing Hearts Team**, a group of staff trained in mental health and wellbeing strategies. Many have Mental Health First Aid Certificates. Your daughter can now easily access an understanding and empathetic member of staff to discuss how she's feeling and any concerns with these trusted adults. If she wants someone to speak to if she's feeling a bit down or just needs someone to chat to, she can come and see any one of us anytime. Their wonderful faces are in posters all over the school!

Stay Connected: Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams Channel

We regularly upload new resources, tips, and advice to the Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams channel. Here, you can find videos, articles, guided meditations, and more to help your daughter cope with stress and anxiety, and to become more resilient.

Innovative Approach: Bespoke Wellbeing Advice Through a New Survey Platform

In our commitment to enhancing mental health support, we're trialling an innovative new wellbeing survey platform called 'Govox'. This technology-assisted approach sends out

bespoke wellbeing advice to your daughters, allowing them to check in and let us know how they're doing. It also allows us to keep tab on trends and things that are a concern across the year group. For example, we recently found that not getting enough sleep and self-image /esteem were important issues for our Year 9 Students.

We followed up by focussing on these two issues for Children's Mental Health Week. We're excited about the potential of this personalized approach to better understand and support our students' wellbeing. At the moment, we're trialling it with year 9 only, with a view to rolling out to the whole school if successful and sustainable.

How Are You?



Miss D Ferrer
Designated Safeguard Lead



Mr F O'Sullivan
Senior Mental Health Lead



Ms C Angel



Miss E Gill



Mrs N Burridge



Ms A Hussain



Mr A Farquhar



Mr A Ferris



Miss L Bramble



Ms G Howes



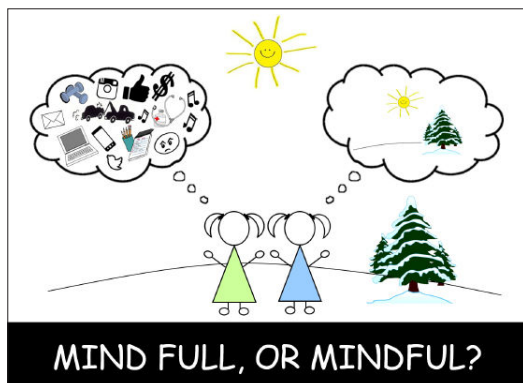
Ms A Mayers

"Hello! We're the BW 'Healing Hearts' Team

We all have expertise in mental health and wellbeing

If you are feeling a bit down, or worried, and would like to chat with someone, just come and see one of us and say 'Hello'.

Have a great day!"



A Concise Guide to Mindfulness

Mindfulness, or paying attention to the present moment with curiosity and kindness, has been shown to improve well-being, focus, and resilience. Just 10 minutes of meditation per day can have significant long-term benefits.

Encourage your daughter to participate in our Meditation Club, sign up for a mindfulness course, or access some of the many resources guided meditations in the **Student Mental Health and Wellbeing channel**, to experience these benefits.

The Importance of Sleep and Exercise

Sleep and exercise are essential for emotional well-being. A good night's sleep improves learning, attention, decision-making, and creativity. Encourage your daughter to maintain a healthy sleep schedule and practice mindfulness before bedtime if she has trouble sleeping.

Richard Burton, in his 'Anatomy of Melancholy' (1621) writes:

"As fern grows in untilled grounds, and all manner of weeds, so do gross humours in an idle body...They that are idle are far more subject to melancholy than such as are conversant or employed about any office or business." After four hundred years, the advice is much the same.

Physical and mental exercise is a good way to alleviate stress and dark moods. Your daughter could go jogging, practice Aikido or Ninjitsu, go swimming, play croquet, go mountain-climbing, or any other sporting endeavour she enjoys. Physical and mental exercise, such as sports or engaging in hobbies, can alleviate stress and improve overall well-being. Encourage your daughter to pursue her passions and interests in both physical and mental activities.

To summarize, focus on mindfulness, sleep, exercise, and the pursuit of passions for your daughter's well-being. These practices are enjoyable, achievable, and crucial for a flourishing life.



Top Tips to Help Your Daughter Get Good Quality Sleep

- Be understanding of their biological and environmental factors that affect their sleep cycle.
- Allow them to sleep in more on the weekends.
- Limit screens in the bedroom as the blue light interferes with sleep.
- Encourage them to get fresh air and exercise at least three hours a week. This can help to improve sleep and make them more tired before bed.
- Suggest they write down any problems they may be facing so that they don't go to bed worried.

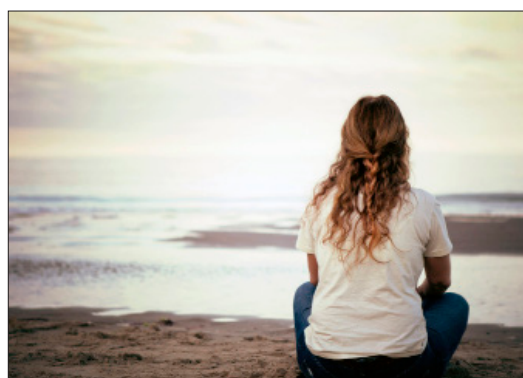
Additional Mental Health Support at Bentley Wood

We continue to offer a wide range of support, including our PSHE curriculum, Wise Thoughts discussions, sports and extra-curricular clubs.

We are lucky to have an **NHS Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHP)**, Emma, working with us, two trained **Counsellors**, and our own student **Wellbeing & Mental Health Ambassadors**.

For additional wellbeing and mindfulness resources, consider the Headspace and Calm apps, meditation MP3s in the Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams channel, or books such as "Mindfulness: Finding Peace in a Frantic World" by Professor Mark Williams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Mr. O'Sullivan (AHT/Senior Mental Health Lead)** or your daughter's **Head of Year**.



Useful Apps and Websites:

[Meditation and Sleep Made Simple - Headspace](#)

[Calm - The #1 App for Meditation and Sleep](#)

[Home - Kooth](#)



Information and advice for students and parents

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:



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



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 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




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).



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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

Bentley Wood High School
1447 31W Grammar

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

Need help using Arbor?

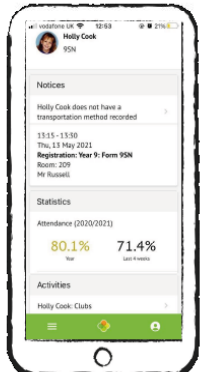
Email the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

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



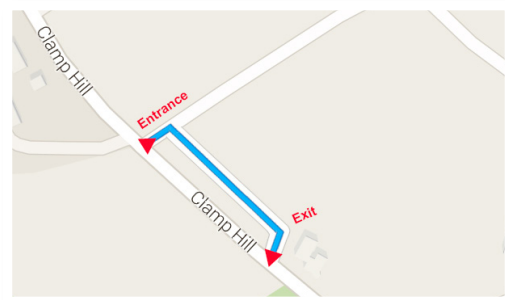
Dropping off and collecting your daughter from school

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

Friday 31st March - Year 10 practice interviews 8:30am to 1:00pm.

Year 8 Options interviews 9:00am to 12:30pm

Friday 31st March - Last day of term. Year 7, 8, 9 at 12:50pm. Year 10, 11, 12, 13 at 1:00pm.

The school day finishes early for all students.

1st April to 16th April - Easter Holidays

3rd April to 11th April - Easter University at Bentley Wood. Year 7 and 8 students, letter to follow

Monday 17th April - Start of new term for all students. Usual school timings

Wednesday 19th April - Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Thursday 20th April - Berlin trip parent information evening. Being held on Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 25th April - Year 7 MFL choice Interviews

Wednesday 26th April - Year 12 Anthropology Taster Day at Brunel University. 8:30am to 3:30pm

Monday 1st May - May Day Bank Holiday. School Closed

Monday 8th May - Coronation Day Bank Holiday. School Closed

Monday 15th May - Year 11 GCSE exams start

Tuesday 16th May - Year 6 Transition Meetings. 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Thursday 25th May - Last day of half term for students. Usual school timings

Friday 26th May - Staff Training Day. School Closed to students

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June - Half term holidays

Monday 5th June - Start of term. Usual school timings

Monday 3rd July - The BWHS 2023 Awards Evening.

Mainly for Year 8, 11 and 13 students, celebrating end of Key Stage achievements.

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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk