



Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter July 2023



Bentley Wood celebrates achievement at Awards Evening for 2022 - 2023

The anticipation was almost tangible, the parents' and carers' excitement was evident and the students' joy shone clear: yes, it was one of the most anticipated events of the year, Awards Evening! As Head Girls, Neha and I were privileged to be invited to Award Evening 2023, a night of honouring the pupils and staff of our school, for their splendid skills and behaviour throughout the year.

Our Headteacher, Ms Akbar, opened with a speech and introduced our guest speaker, Dr Howkins, our previous Headteacher of 16 years. She captivated us with stories detailing her extensive travels to South America, which her new job as an Ofsted Inspector enables, as well as the struggles such a transition presented, and how she overcame these.

The Heads of Year, Mr Curtis, Ms Jones, Ms Burrige, Ms Dacosta and Ms Bairstow, announced those who were to be honoured. An endless river of names flowed, a river that glittered from the amazing achievements of the students in all subjects: not only commemorating accomplishments but also celebrating effort; at Bentley Wood, how much you strive is just as important as what you achieve.

Neha and I, together with last year's Head Girl, Isma, asked the guest speaker, Dr Howkins, a few questions, and were gifted with beneficial advice and inspirational words.

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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have the pleasure of sending you the final Bentley Wood High School Newsletter of the year. In this edition we look back at a few memorable moments over the course of the year.

As always, the very last half term of school is packed with many events, trips and celebrations. We celebrated the end of year with an amazing Awards Evening, Sports Day, Music and Drama Performances and Tea with the Headteacher. Year 10 and 12 have successfully completed their work experience placements and Year 11 and 13 students came together to celebrate the end of exams at their proms.

It has been a busy year ending with a grand finale where staff and students enjoyed Activity Days together. I hope everyone enjoys their well-earned summer break.

I look forward to seeing you all again in September.

My very best wishes to you all.

Kind regards,



Naseema Akbar

Afternoon tea with the headteacher

On the last Tuesday of term, a group of students were invited to a celebratory afternoon tea with the Headteacher. Ms Akbar was proud to meet with the students who have achieved the most reward points throughout the year. The students enjoyed sweet treats with their Headteacher while talking about their achievements and memories of the year to her.

Students attending were:

Year 7: Hana, Jasmine, Mihika, Khushi.

Year 8: Chayma, Ira, Zahrah.

Year 9: Anna, Anvi, Asla, Jayna.

Year 10: Hena, Nia, Sana, Sara, Sainthavi.

Year 12: Kharis, Nikita, Zenab.



Awards Evening for 2022 - 2023

The cherry on top was the many awards for extracurricular achievements, Jack Petchey awards, Headteacher awards, creative writing awards and more! Dr Howkins was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a portrait of herself which now hangs on our library wall, next to the portraits of previous headteachers. This will be a wonderful way for her contributions to this school to be remembered by future students and it made a fitting end to this memorable evening. I greatly look forward to seeing you all there next year!

Maryam A 12TRA, Head Student

As a sixth form student at Bentley Wood, I see awards evening as a great way to close off the academic year, through acknowledging students and teachers who have shone through throughout the year. The awards evening is inclusive to high school students, sixth form students and parents, which is awesome, allowing everyone to praise each other's achievements.

Palisha S 12TRA, Head Student



Rewards and achievement

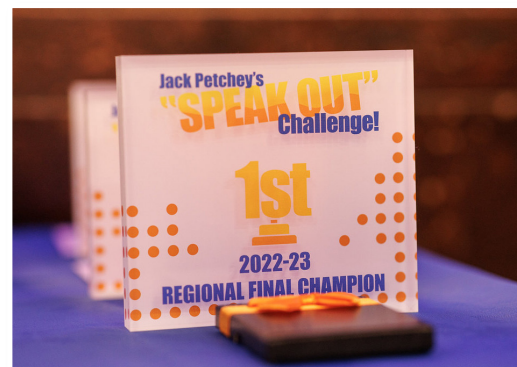
Victory for Bentley Wood in the Harrow Speak Out

Challenge Regional Final We are delighted to congratulate Bentley Wood High School students on their exceptional triumph in the Harrow Borough Final of the esteemed Speak Out Challenge! On the evening of 23rd March, Park High School graciously hosted this event, featuring talented speakers from various schools in the borough. Amidst an atmosphere of anticipation and excitement, our remarkable Year 10 students achieved an outstanding feat, securing both first and second place.

Sara Alrefai emerged as the champion of the evening. With her engaging speech titled 'The Law of Attraction,' Sara captivated the audience with her thought-provoking and inspiring discourse. Delving into the depths of psychological knowledge, she skilfully demonstrated its potential for personal growth and self-improvement. Sara's eloquence and passion resonated deeply with everyone present, leaving a lasting impression and firmly establishing her as the deserving recipient of the first-place trophy.

Equally deserving of recognition, Maria Laly secured an impressive second place with her speech entitled 'The Best Type of Intolerance.' Infusing her oration with humour, Maria shared her personal experiences and shed light on the challenges of living with lactose intolerance. Her witty anecdotes and captivating storytelling abilities kept the audience engaged and entertained throughout her speech. Maria's talent for transforming potentially frustrating situations into light-hearted narratives exemplified her exceptional ability and left a memorable impact on all in attendance.

Mr Nussbaum



Jack Petchey's
"SPEAK OUT"
Challenge!

Jack Petchey Awards

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!

Mrs Burridge

First Give Event

This year, Year 9 took part in the social enterprise initiative First Give. In each of the form classes, students selected a charity that they wanted to raise awareness and money for. They worked collaboratively on their plans which included friendship bracelet making sessions, bake sales and competition events. A small group within the form then prepared a presentation detailing their charity's cause and the work they have done as a class.

The presentations took place in the grand final event where the judges on the night found it very hard to decide a winner as all of the groups' presentations were fantastic. The winning form was 9SAS who were raising money and awareness for St Luke's Hospice. The form had done some outstanding work and had a very engaging presentation. Well done to all of the students who put excellent work across the year for this project!

Ms Osborn



Literacy and poetry competitions

Students have their literacy work published

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 book prizes awarded to the highest scoring contestants.

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 the 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



Horror Literature Quiz

Short Story Writing Competition

The library kicked off October with a short story-writing competition, inviting students to pen a scary story of at around 500 words. We had some truly spine-tingling entries and the judging panel had the unenviable task of picking only three winners from the 45 short stories that were submitted.

Bailee in Year 9 won first prize which was a £25 Amazon gift card for her gripping and original tale about distorted realities. Aleeza in Year 7 came second and received a £15 gift card for an atmospheric piece with a blood curdling ending. Asma in Year 10 won the third prize of a £10 gift card for a chilling fantasy horror story.

Five runners up were also highly commended for their stories and received a signed copy of a Chris Priestley book.

Ms Khan

Young Writers Competition: Congratulations to students for having their work 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: The Power of Poetry for students aged 11-18, with the theme of My World:

My Voice and a new event organised by the Poetry Society. Foyle Poetry Competition 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.

Mr Zabielski



Short Story Writing Competition



Young Writers Competition:

Adisa gives Year 7 poetry inspiration 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

Award winning author Chris Priestley

We were very excited to welcome award-winning author Chris Priestley to Bentley Wood High School. Chris has written over 30 books covering a wide range of genre from historical fiction to young adult books and he has also enjoyed a successful career as an illustrator. His illustrations have featured in *The Economist* and *The Independent*, and his books have been translated into several languages. He is best known for his horror stories for children and, with Halloween around the corner, it was the perfect occasion to have him visit the school to talk about his life and work.

Chris spent the day talking to our students in years 7, 8 and 9 about his background and the experiences that led him to his chosen career of writing fiction. The girls had lots of questions for him, and it was lovely to see their genuine interest and curiosity about the world of publishing and the process of becoming a writer. We hope that the experience has inspired our girls to follow the advice Chris shared of having the courage to follow their passion when choosing their future careers and not being daunted by the challenges ahead.

After lunch, 30 lucky students were selected to take part in a story writing workshop, where Chris Priestley talked to them about the creative process behind writing a scary story. The girls had fun planning a scary story set in a library and they enjoyed exploring the idea of what inspires fear in the reader. It was an enjoyable and inspirational day and we look forward to welcoming Chris back to visit Bentley Wood in the future.

Ms Khan



Reading and literacy at BW

Spotlight on International Fiction: Literature from Algeria

Our last stop on our tour of world literature is Algeria, a place which over the centuries has produced literature in Latin, Spanish, Berber and its main languages of French and Arabic. The country's eventful history is mirrored in its vast and panoramic literature which offers a wealth of political and social commentary. Algeria also boasts its own unique tradition of ritualistic and divinatory poetry known as Buqalah which evolved into a form of feminist expression and cultural resistance in the colonial era of the country's history.

The library has translations of several Algerian classics and some critically acclaimed contemporary novels for students to gain an insight into the country's culture and history as well as the dominant social concerns of its people over different periods of time. Featured writers include Faiza Guene, Assia Djébar, Mouloud Feraoun, Ahlam Mosteghanemi and Mohammed Dib to name just a few.

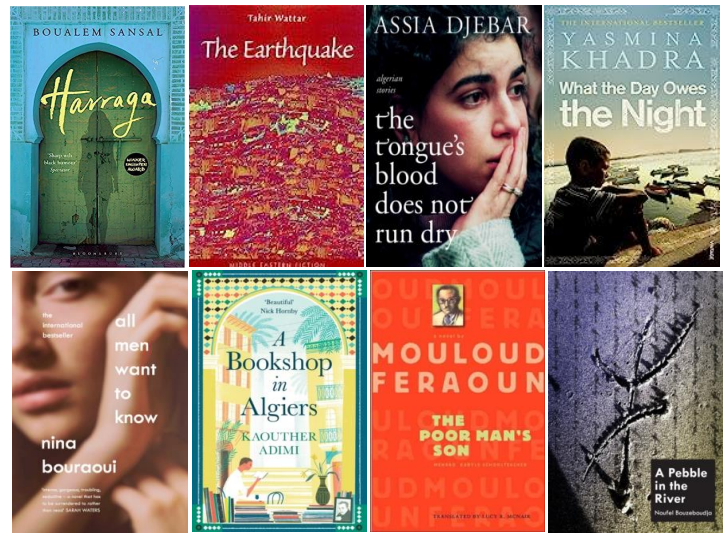
Boualem Sansal's *Harraga* is a heart-breaking tale of the friendship between two very different women who become allies in their determination to survive their brutal circumstances. *What the Day Owes the Night* by Yasmina Khadra is an epic love story which deals with the themes of identity and the notion of fighting fate by carving one's own fortune.

The Earthquake by Tahir Wattar is about the religious hypocrisy embodied by a man who is desperate to dodge the land reforms being introduced by Algeria's new socialist government. In Tahar Djaout's *The Last Summer of Reason*

a bookseller resists the totalitarianism that threatens to obliterate his country's rich literary heritage.

Our travels across the world of international fiction have sadly come to an end for now but we hope it has been an enriching experience for the students who availed the opportunity to read books from our range of Japanese, Iranian and Caribbean fiction this year. We also hope that it has inspired students to continue to form a deeper and more meaningful understanding of other cultures by engaging with their art in all its forms of expression.

Ms Khan, Librarian



Summer Reads

Warrior Girl Unearthed by Angeline Boulley

Accustomed to living under the shadow of her high-achieving twin, Perry Firekeeper Birch is resigned to the prospect of an uneventful summer. But when she discovers that the stolen remains of a Native American ancestor are being kept in the archives of a local university, she is spurred into action to bring "Warrior Girl" back home. She calls on her twin and her friends to help her on this mission which turns out to be more dangerous than she envisaged.

Silver in the Bone by Alexandra Bracken

Tamsin Lark is a Hollower. In search of treasure, she breaks into the ancient crypts of dark sorceresses.

Rumours abound of a powerful ring from Arthurian legend, a ring that could free her brother, Cabell from a curse. But they aren't the only ones who covet it and word spreads, bringing greedy Hollowers in search of the ring. Tamsin is forced into an alliance with her rival Emrys, and she must battle dark forces and inner demons in her quest to find the ring.



Warrior Girl Unearthed
by Angeline Boulley



Silver in the Bone
by Alexandra Bracken

Throwback by Maurene Goo

Samantha Kang feels suffocated by her Korean mother's ambitious dreams for her and longs to live life on her own terms. When mother and daughter have a huge falling out, Sam finds herself thrown back into the 1990s alongside her 17-year old mom Priscilla. As she contends with dated tech and regressive attitudes, she also begins to see her mom in a new light. Will she be able to mend bridges and their relationship?

Lying in the Deep by Diana Urban

After being jilted by her ex-boyfriend and best friend, Jade decides to embark on the adventure of a lifetime on a luxurious cruise ship, hoping to wedge an entire globe between herself and the people who broke her heart. But then Jade discovers the backstabbing couple are also setting sail, and events take a very dark turn with a series of shocking murders on board.

One Dark Window by Rachel Gillig

An ancient, mercurial spirit is trapped inside Elspeth Spindle's head - she calls him the Nightmare. He protects her. He keeps her secrets. But nothing comes for free, especially magic. When Elspeth meets a mysterious highwayman on the forest road, she is thrust into a world of shadow and deception. Together, they must cure the town of Blunder from the dark magic infecting it. Elspeth's attraction to the highwayman intensifies. As does her realisation that the Nightmare is slowly taking over her mind...

Ever Since by Alena Bruzas

Seventeen-year-old Virginia makes bad choices and is branded as That Kind of Girl. As long as she has her tight knit group of friends, she is able to ignore the gossip. Until she finds herself falling in love with Rumi, Poppy's boyfriend.

Virginia also discovers that Rumi's little sister, Lyra, is being groomed for abuse by a respected member of the community. If she stays quiet, Lyra will become a victim. But coming forward feels equally impossible.

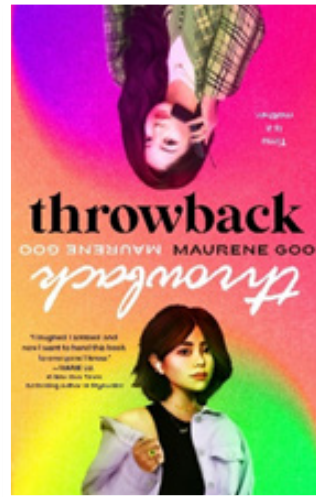
To Shape a Dragon's Breath by Moniquill Blackgoose

The remote island of Masquapaug has not seen a dragon in many generations--until fifteen-year-old Anequs finds a dragon's egg and bonds with its hatchling. She must now enrol in a school on the mainland to learn the skills needed to raise her dragon. Anequs is determined to learn new ways but not at the cost of her identity or heritage, which are under threat from the conquerors of her land.

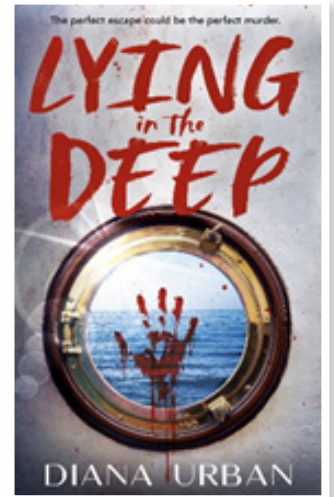
Where the Light Goes by Sara Barnard

"Lizzie Beck" is one quarter of British pop sensation The Jinks, and has lived her life in the spotlight since finding fame. She has dealt publicly with relationship issues, addiction problems and mental health struggles. To Emmy, though, she will always be her older sister, Beth, the person whose footsteps she intends to follow.

When Beth makes a heart-breaking decision, Emmy is forced to face a world without the guiding light of her bright, brilliant big sister. Emmy must wrestle with the impact of private grief, public scrutiny and discover who she once was and who she will become, now that Beth is gone.



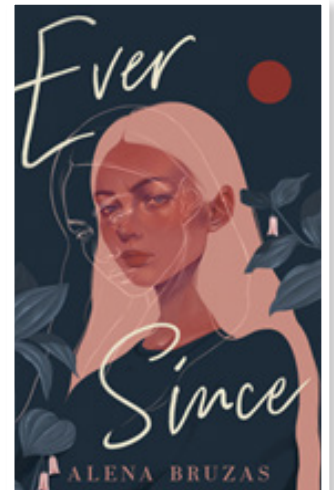
Throwback
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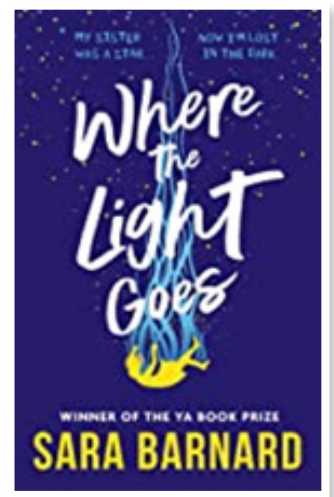
One Dark Window
by Rachel Gillig



Ever Since
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**To Shape a Dragon's
Breath** by Moniquill
Blackgoose



Where the Light Goes
by Sara Barnard

Student Rewards July 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

Lakshya L 7GHO - for her fantastic contribution in Art Club from Miss Culloty

Computer science

Greta C 7LSB - for your excellent progress in Computing. You have a fantastic personality and really make the lessons engaging!

Drama

Maryam H 7GHO - for consistent hard work in lessons and fantastic work in extra-curricular drama, a marvellous performance as Theseus.

English

Ruby C 7KPO - for her enthusiasm and effort in English.

Lalita B 7YT - for her enthusiastic attitude and always entering writing competitions to express her creativity

Food

Jasmine G 7LSB - Fantastic commitment to learning always completing the extensions in homework tasks

French

Connie P 7ROR - for always trying her hardest and applying herself and contributing to every lesson.

Geography

Yukta 7ROR - for her outstanding enthusiasm in lessons! Well done for all the hard work!

History

Holly H 7ROR - for her enthusiasm in lesson and commitment to her studies.

Maths

Dalia A 7ABR - it has been a treat to teach Dalia Maths this year. She walks into every lesson with a positive

attitude to learning. She is a diligent and hardworking student who has shown tremendous progress through the year and I am very proud of her achievements! Wish you all the best for Year 8!!!

Music

Giulietta L 7GHO - for her commitment to music, her outstanding contribution in lessons and helping everyone!

PE

Yukta V 7ROR - for her outstanding enthusiasm and progress she has made in PE this year.

Philosophy

Zahra K 7LSB - for her Oscar winning performance in the Islam project.

Science

Annabelle C 7ROR - working so hard all year.

Spanish

Yukta V 7ROR - For her enthusiasm and participation in language lessons.

Textiles

Ameera R 7AHU - effort and attainment - a diligent worker

Student Rewards July 2023

Year 8



Art

Nergis A 8LBM - for always being prepared for class and trying to improve her artistic skills.

Computer science

Naiya A and **Neive A 8TSG** - for being absolute superstars in Computing. Your passion for the subject inspires others around you and I know you will be leaders in tech :)!

Drama

Malak A 8GI - for infinite enthusiasm to do drama and a wonderful contribution to the Roman plays as the Lion!

English

Zainab H 8IL - for being an outstanding reader, reflective thinker and expressive writer.

French

Clara G 8TC and **Skye H 8FER** - for always putting their hands up and contributing during the lessons.

Geography

Li Mei S 8IL - for her passion and enthusiasm for Geography!

Graphics

Maryam R 8GI - Well done for all your hard work this term consistently going above and beyond in her class work

History

Safa H 8CJG - always contributes well in class, challenges herself and did tremendously well in her end of year exam.

Maths

Lauren M 8IL - For consistently working super hard in Maths. She always perseveres, even when she finds it really difficult. She shows such amazing resilience and I am so proud of her.

Music

Elisha K 8FER her outstanding commitment to everything musical

PE

Eshel R 8TC and **Rahima H 8TC** - for their enthusiasm in PE lessons and demonstrating fantastic commitment to PE clubs.

Philosophy

Lana M 8TC - for her brilliant efforts in RS which has led to a fantastic achievement in the end of year exam.

Science

Dorothea H 9GI - for her diligence and commitment to her learning in science this year - well done!

Spanish

Safa A 8ILF - for amazing and consistent contributions in Spanish.

Textiles

Zikra Khan 8GI - for hard work and good development of skills in Textiles

History adventures for Year 7 and 8

Year 7 History Trip to Windsor Castle

On the 5th of June, all Year 7s went to visit Windsor Castle as part of their history curriculum on Castles and William the Conqueror. Students had the chance to explore the grounds and take part in two workshops about the history of Windsor Castle since 1066 and the role of a knight in the medieval ages. It was a beautiful day full of historical knowledge and scenic sights. Here are a couple of students giving their account of the day.

Miss Bharj

The trip to Windsor was great! The coach ride was full of singing, but when we arrived it got even better!

We had a 5-10 minute walk to Windsor Castle which allowed us to see the cobbled streets lined with celebratory Union flags from the Kings coronation. As soon as we arrived, we took multiple pictures and explored the outside of Windsor Castle. We then had a session on castles which refreshed our minds on our knowledge of motte-and-bailey and stone keep castles. We also learnt new facts such as the history behind the Union Jack. Lunch was also really enjoyable as we got to sit with our friends and share conversations!

Ashanea R 7GCP

After lunch, we had a second session in the castle that was about becoming a knight. It was hilarious watching my friends 'train' as knights and squires, and other people try on armour that was either too big or too small! We even had a chance to see a copy of Henry VIII's helmet which was followed up with the full body armour in the State Apartments.

Afterwards, we walked around Windsor Castle and went inside St George's Chapel. It was weird - like walking inside an indoor cemetery, but it was kind of cool, because the chapel was quite grand. We even saw the resting place of late Queen Elizabeth II. The only thing I have to say, is that the gift shop was too expensive! It didn't stop me from having a good look though!

Anniyah R 7GCP

It was a fun experience being a Page. This was the first stage boys had to go through at the age of 7 before becoming a knight. As part of my training, I got to have a great sword fight with my friend, wear Tudor garments, and have people shouting at me to clean the gutters and scrub the floors. I think after that session, I could become a great knight!

After that, we had a further look around the grounds and the castle itself, but unfortunately, we weren't allowed to take pictures inside, which was a massive disappointment.



Windsor Castle

However, it was still cool to take in our surroundings, like the intricate jewellery and detailed paintings. The State Apartments even had paintings on the ceilings which were very grand. I enjoyed spotting all the different monarchs that we have learnt about such as Elizabeth I and Charles I. Overall, the trip was amazing, and we definitely made some great memories.

Khushi D 7GCP

The Windsor Castle trip really helped bring my historical knowledge to life. We learn about William the Conqueror and motte-and-bailey castles at the start of the year, so it was cool to see a real-life motte-and-bailey castle in front of me. We had to be very quiet in the chapel, but it was fascinating to see all the intricate architecture. My favourite part was seeing the Kings bedroom in the State Apartments as it gave me inspiration and I would like a room like that too. I also bought a pen with a stylus from the gift shop so I could remember the day.

Sara H 7GHO

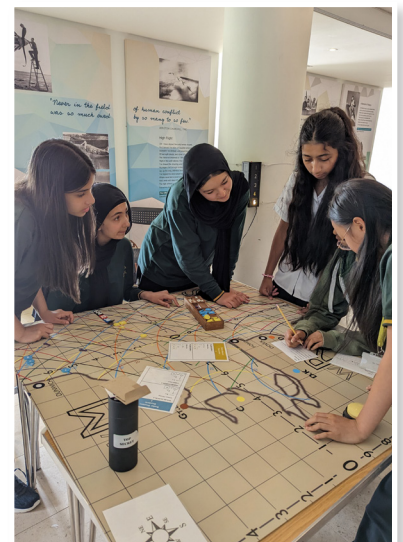
Year 8 learn about the Battle of Britain at Bentley Priory

Our Year 8 students have spent the last few weeks visiting their local museum - Bentley Priory museum. This was the location of the RAF headquarters of 'fighter command' during the Second World War and central to the British defence against Nazi Germany during the Battle of Britain.

The students enjoyed a tour of the museum where they learned stories of the women who collected all the information from the radar defence systems to aid the British defence and they also completed a workshop where they gave it a go themselves!

Most students agreed that it was mentally demanding work and appreciated the role that their local area, Bentley Priory, had in the war. All students demonstrated our CARE values proudly on the trip and we are already looking forward to bringing a new group of students back to the museum next year!

Mr. Curtis



Culture and history in European capital



Year 9, 10, 12 and 13 Trip to Berlin 12th - 15th July. Students at the Brandenburg Gate

Students have a memorable experience during trip to Berlin

In the early hours of the 12th of July, 27 of us started our journey to Berlin. It was an eye-opening experience which consisted of visiting major Berlin sites and experiencing German food, culture and humour.

Our first visit was to Alexander Platz where we shopped and indulged in German cuisine. We then visited Wannsee House where the Wannsee Conference took place. It was a beautiful setting, tainted by history as it was the place where the Final Solution was decided. We then made our way to the impressive Brandenburg Gate and took many photos.

The end of the day was spent walking alongside the Berlin Wall, a fascinating feature showing both the past and present of Berlin. It was covered in wonderful graffiti, each of which told a different story. It showed us how the East and West merged as a strong city and looking around Berlin really showcased that.

The following day, we went to Checkpoint Charlie and the Palace of Tears, a key transport spot used during the Cold War which highlighted hardships faced by individuals wanting to travel from East to West Berlin.

The rest of the day was spent at various museum exhibitions and guided tours of the Topography of Terror, German resistance, and the Reichstag. It was very enlightening to hear all the stories by our very knowledgeable guides. Walking to the top of the Reichstag building also allowed us to see the beauty of Berlin from above!

Our last day was incredibly moving as we visited the

Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, it was an eye-opening experience as we were able to witness the harsh conditions faced during the Holocaust. We then had a last-minute shopping spree in the Berlin Mall for souvenirs and presents and then made our way home.

Berlin is a beautiful city, full of history. It was a lovely trip in which it gave us the opportunity to practice our German and also make friends throughout the school!

Thank you to Mr Curtis, Miss Bharj and Ms Shah for all their effort and enthusiasm in making this such a memorable experience!

Keziah M and Anvi R 10BME



Students at the Resistance Museum



Visiting Wannsee House



Students at Checkpoint Charlie



Visiting the Reichstag Building



Wannsee House guided tour



Shopping at Alexanderplatz



Engaging geography and science themed trips

Bentley Priory River Trips

Throughout this half term, Year 8 classes have visited the stream in Bentley Priory, to conduct an investigation about how a river changes as it moves downstream, as the culmination of their Rushing Rivers unit. It was a great opportunity to make use of the natural landscape around our school and for students to practise fieldwork and research skills.

Students really enjoyed the chance to be outside the classroom (even though they contended with high temperatures and torrential downpours) and had fun in the stream. Haifa, from 8TC said "I recently went on a trip to Bentley priory, and it was really entertaining. The river was beautiful with surroundings of plants and nature.

I tried so many new things and found them all so compelling. It had really helped my understanding of rivers. I also got to see some incredible teamwork from my classmates and got to explore Bentley Priory. It was a truly captivating experience that I will constantly remember."

Mr Ferris



Geography Field trip to West Wittering

At the end of June, Year 10 Geographers visited West Wittering to carry out physical fieldwork for their GCSE course.

They investigated how longshore drift has affected the characteristics of the beach and were very thorough in collecting data and were a credit to the school! We were impressed at how well they coped with a long coach journey.

The students enjoyed experiencing the beach and a definite highlight was the ice lollies after lunch, which students bravely had in the sandy wind!!

Well done Year 10!!

Mr Ferris





Year 10 take part in STEM activities at Oxford University

This term we had the privileged opportunity of visiting St John's College Oxford with some of our Year 10 students. The day centered around university life at the college and exploring the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) towards undergraduate study and beyond.

Our day started with an introduction to the university and college life before our students were challenged by the Materials Science department to build different solar cells in one of their undergraduate labs.

This was an exciting introduction to some of the novel research and advancements currently taking place within this field. This also linked in well with our Year 10 Chemistry module on Electrolysis!

The afternoon continued with an exclusive tour of the college campus from a current undergraduate student before a Q&A session. Our final activity for the day was an

escape room style challenge facilitated by the Chemistry Department. Here, our students had to use their chemistry knowledge together with their critical thinking skills to problem-solve creatively and win the challenge!

We were delighted to have had the opportunity to visit the college and look forward to visiting again in the near future.

A huge thank you as well to our excellent Year 10 students who were exemplary throughout the day representing themselves and Bentley Wood.

Ms Robson



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Students get a taste of university life

Year 9 attend Goldsmiths, University of London for Scholars Graduation Event

The Scholars Programme helps students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to progress to the most competitive universities.

The programme is available to state schools across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It is structured around seven tutorials, and pupils also attend a graduation event at a partner university to speak with current undergraduates and learn about university life.

Students work towards completing a challenging final assignment which is marked and moderated using university grades. Placements at schools take place in autumn, spring and summer terms, with each lasting around eight weeks.

Here is a student's experience of the Scholars Programme:

The Scholars Programme was such an amazing experience for all of us. Having this experience end meant that we had one last day to conclude our course. This was our graduation

ceremony and was held at Goldsmiths, University of London. During the day, we got a tour of the university, had a Q&A session, and received our certificates!! Whilst receiving our certificates, Mahi and I delivered a speech, and we were both very grateful to be able to take part and share our course with the other schools.

During the speech we mentioned what topic our course was on (Inside #10) and we also read short extracts from our final essays.



Year 10 students attend Language Summer School hosted by prestigious universities

Upon hearing of this Summer School programme, I was very intrigued. Capital L is an organisation of universities, led by SOAS and the University of Westminster in partnership with Queen Mary, UCL, King's College London and The Open University. The summer school offered a week of "university-style" culture and language taster sessions, hosted by the prestigious universities: SOAS, Queen Mary, UCL and King's College.

The first day was at SOAS university; I was extremely nervous given that Jasmin and I were the only two from our high school and had no expectations since this was my first of these programmes.

Upon arrival we met some friendly faces and began some small talk – and I was immediately at ease. We were all Year 10 students, so we quickly found common ground and I remember being quite surprised with the pace at which we became friends.

During the week, we experienced fun-filled, informative language and culture sessions on a plethora of languages, including Korean, Japanese, Arabic, Catalan, Portuguese, French, German, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish and Chinese. These sessions were led by professional lecturers in linguistics who made the learning experience entertaining and fun.

We also had the chance to go on campus tours, ask current students about university life, and of course the visits wouldn't have been complete without the standard university tote bags.

Overall, I'm so glad to have taken this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, because in the process I made amazing friends, gained so much confidence in socialising and speaking languages, and it has inspired me to take a language for further education.

That was one of the key things I took away from this experience: learning a language does not take you to solely education or translation; it is a gateway for so many opportunities and sets you apart from the majority.

We were shown a statistic that those who are bilingual earn 5-20% more than the average salary for their role – showing languages are the key to opening many doors for yourself.

Sara A 10MAKf



Careers guidance at Bentley Wood

Year 10 Employability Workshops

Thank you to our business staff, governors, ex-colleagues and other employers linked to our school for helping Year 10 students have the experience of going through an interview process as part of our Employability Workshops on 31st March.

It was wonderful to see the students feel so positive about themselves after their interview and looking so smart in the interview formal dress. It was their first step into the world of work for most of the students. Thanks to our visitors' care and kindness many of their prior apprehensions were removed. The students' feedback after their interviews was very positive and many commented on how they enjoyed taking part, how supportive their interviewer was, and how they were made to feel comfortable and able to showcase their skills.

Every year our students really appreciate the opportunity this exercise gives them to develop their interview skills and improve their CVs in preparation for their work experience placement later in the year.

As part of our broad and balanced curriculum activities like this prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life, which includes preparation

for working life. We welcome any parents with industry contacts and Bentley Wood alumni wanting to take part and support us with our careers programme (please see our website

<https://www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk/curriculum/careers/>) to contact **Mrs Ortega (Careers Leader/Assistant Headteacher)** or **Mr Lincoln Tapper (Careers Adviser)**



Year 10 Employability Workshops

Year 8 Careers Morning:

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



Year 8 Careers Morning, Midwife



Year 8 Careers Morning, Lawyer

Engagement with universities and careers at Bentley Wood Careers Fair

The Bentley Wood Careers Fair 2022 was organised by Education Development Trust who gathered employers, universities and colleges to the event held on 6th October 2022. The atmosphere was excellent with many of the girls eager to speak to the variety of visitors in attendance.

The Year 12 students appeared to engage with all of the employer organisations with many wanting to discuss apprenticeships as an alternative career pathway, they also discussed degree courses with Brunel, Royal Holloway and University of West London. Some were eager to learn about digital animation careers with Escape studios whose alumni have worked on many of the Marvel films

Year 11 students appeared more willing to participate by wearing police helmets and specialist equipment that they brought along. They spoke to Harrow college and Hammersmith and West London colleges about the different vocational courses available to study and to the different employers from the British Army, Royal Air Force and a variety of construction businesses including McGinley and Clancy group.

Harrow Law Centre presence meant that those young people interested in law careers were able to find out about an organisation that serves the wider community through legal representation in social welfare law. The job centre representative provided information about apprenticeships in the civil service and working across all government departments which increased awareness to all the girls of the importance of public service roles.

If you would like your organisation to participate in the Careers Fair in 2023 then

email: ltapper@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk
with Name of organisation and contact details.

Lincoln Tapper Career Adviser
Education Development Trust



Artist talks and Art Exhibition

Artist talk with Sarah Graham

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, the USA, Australia, the 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

Artist Talk with Aleesha Nandhra

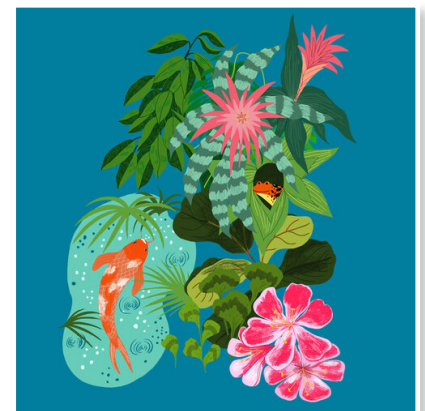
On Monday 24th April, we were delighted to host an artist talk with the successful illustrator and printmaker Aleesha Nandhra. Aleesha is a local artist who grew up in Harrow and had previously studied at Nower Hill High school. Since graduating from the prestigious Cambridge school of

Art she has created work for the Los Angeles Times, Google, the Barbican and has previously been shortlisted for the World Illustration Awards (2018).

The talk was aimed at KS4 and KS5 students who are interested in pursuing careers in the creative industries. The students were able to view artworks Aleesha had been commissioned for by various publishers and companies.

Aleesha also brought along various publications and sketchbooks she has accumulated throughout her career. It was wonderful to see students have the opportunity to ask Aleesha personal questions about her art practice and how she stays motivated whilst working under self-employed status. Students were in awe of the sketchbooks Aleesha had developed independently to keep herself inspired and to hone her craft. We hope to have Aleesha back in the future to inspire our next generation of young artists at Bentley Wood!

Aleesha Nandhra





Summer Exhibition 2023

This year almost 140 students had their work on display during the exhibition which took place on Tuesday 12th July in the school gym. The work exhibited came from GCSE Fine Art, GCSE Graphic Communication, GCSE Textiles Design, A Level Fine Art and Year 12 Fine Art students. The close up pictures here show the talent of our current Year 12 students.

Ms Tebby



Culture, music and theatre

Summer Concert 2023

On July 5th, I played piano in our Summer Concert 2023. It was my first time performing in front of the public and understandably, I had mixed feelings. I selected a classical song by Kristina Arakelyan called "Daydream". I chose this piece as it has got a calm, daydream-like quality, which makes me feel like I am getting lost in a different world. I must admit that in the hours leading up to the concert, I was very nervous. I was racked with this self-conscious thought that I was going to play the wrong rhythm on bar 4.

However, as soon as I approached the piano my apprehension disappeared. As I felt a rush of excitement, I hit the first note. There was something really lovely about it. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I must say that performing on stage was a highly rewarding experience.

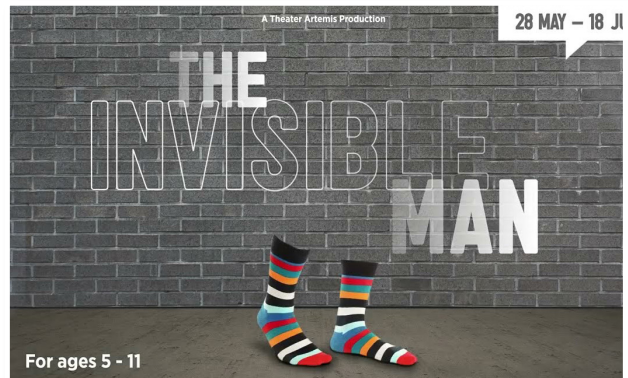
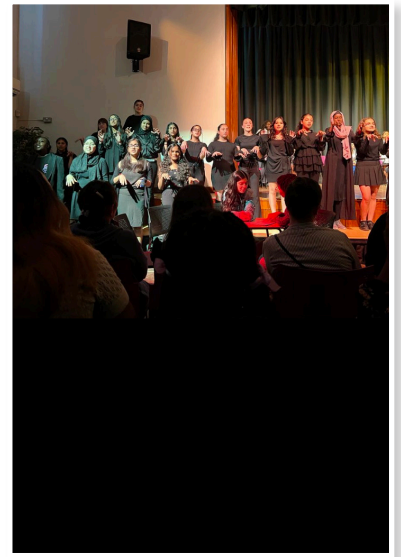
Jasmine G 7LSB

'The Invisible Man' at the Unicorn Theatre

Recently, I had the pleasure of seeing the Invisible Man performed beautifully at the Unicorn Theatre in London. This ingenious show follows its own kind of curious logic and it's fun to keep up with as you question what you're seeing. It makes you feel like you are playing a continuous game of hide and seek. The simplicity of the show with its timeless tricks brings joy and delight.

My favourite part of the show is when a door swings open and someone enters the room. There isn't a physical person visible, however, a spotlight follows someone to the piano. The piano stool moves as the pianist positions it, the cushion compresses under the weight and the instrument's lid is lifted. I would encourage you to go and see this production. If you want to escape from the hustle and bustle into a land of illusion, then come out and support these talented performers.

Jasmine 7LSB



Cultural Day 2023

Hi, my name is Palisha and I'm a Year 12 sixth form student at Bentley wood. I think that the cultural day concert was a great way of bringing everyone together to experience talent through different cultures at Bentley Wood incorporating musical talent, like singing and playing classical pieces of music, traditional dances and more.

I performed my mashup on the day which consisted of English and Hindi lyrics. This was an amazing opportunity like no other, and I'd be willing to participate in this next year too!! I also would promote the idea of traditional foods which we could sell in school during an interval in the concert and donate to a local charity.

Palisha S 12TRA

This year's cultural day was very successful. Everyone dressed up in their cultural/traditional clothes and at lunchtime I organised a range of performances from dances to Carnatic violin duets and singing solos. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement.

Having also performed a dance duet it was an amazing experience. I want to thank everyone who took part including the sound and lighting team. It was a spectacular event that I hope will become a Bentley Wood tradition for years to come.

Neha P 12JT



Musical theatre at Bentley Wood

A spellbinding Night at the Musical

On Thursday, the 6th July the music department proudly hosted A Night at the Musical, a musical extravaganza which showcased the amazing talent at Bentley Wood.

This was the school's first ever event of its kind, with the Glee Club singing and performing perennial favourites from the 80s and 90s on a stage that was beautifully set up as a coffee shop. The atmosphere was electric and the audience couldn't help but sing along to "Money, Money, Money", "9 to 5" and "Popular" among other famous songs.

The musical was a culmination of several months of hard work, with the Glee Club even rehearsing at weekends. Special thanks are due to Beth Leighton for her tireless and devoted efforts in making it such a memorable evening.

We are very fortunate to have such a talented music teacher who not only directed, choreographed and produced the musical, but also wrote and composed the memorable and emotional finale, "See You Later".

Faith, one of our brilliant Year 13 students, did a fantastic job of supporting Beth with the production and her sister, Keziah, was also on board during the week of the performance, offering invaluable support to everyone on stage and behind the scenes.

The evening was a resounding success and those who attended were unanimous in their praise for the students and staff who were responsible for making it such an unforgettable experience.

We are so lucky to have such a wealth of musical talent at Bentley Wood and the music department look forward to presenting more musicals in future, making them a regular feature of our events calendar.

Ms Bancroft



Opportunity to complete LAMDA exams

We are excited to inform you that as part of our enrichment programme, students will have an opportunity to work towards and complete LAMDA examinations here at Bentley Wood. This is a pilot programme the school is launching this year offering individual sessions with a qualified LAMDA tutor for students from the start of September.

What is LAMDA? London Academy of Dramatic Art is a well-known establishment offering qualifications in Speech of Verse & Prose, Acting, Musical Theatre and Public Speaking. It is well respected and recognised on a person's CV and offers UCAS points for Grade 6,7 & 8.

Working with the local Stagecoach Stanmore & Harrow Weald we are able to offer this opportunity at £150 for 10 sessions per term. LAMDA examinations will incur an extra fee. If your daughter is eligible for free school meals, then the lesson charge will be at a discounted price. Please express an interest as indicated below and speak with Mr Rankin, Head of Drama.

How will it work? One-to-one specialist teachers will work with the student to prepare for all aspects of the examination. This is an extra commitment and sessions will be timetabled during lessons on a rota to avoid continuous disruption to a single subject.

The first session will explore which grade the student will be best suited to work towards. If you've done LAMDA before elsewhere but want to switch to us, let us know which grade they completed, and we can pick up on the next grade up.

How to book

If you are interested in enrolling your child for this opportunity, please email lamdabw@gmail.com expressing your desire to book lessons for the autumn term. We will then send you the appropriate booking forms that will need to be completed along with payment to secure a place.

Please note: parents will be directly invoiced by the tutor providers Stagecoach Stanmore & Harrow Weald. The school will aid with setting fees, timetabling, premises, classrooms and access to equipment; however, the school cannot act as an agent in relation to invoicing or payments.

Spaces are limited so please be sure to email and complete the sign-up process before the end of the summer term.

Mr Rankin

LAMDA



Matilda: School Production 2023

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

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

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

ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

Student Rewards July 2023



Year 9

Art

Honey S 9MGR - You blow me away fantastic commitment to learning you are always looking for ways to improve your work.

Business studies

Anastasia C 9LAN - for her engagement and quality of work throughout the term. Anastasia is always looking to improve.

Chemistry

Fatima R 9SAS - for her resilience and work ethic this year. She has shown great initiative in working out where she needs to improve and independently working towards her goals.

Computer science

Haleema N 9ALN - for consistently demonstrating our CARE values and your fantastic progress in Computer Science. Well done!

Drama

Swara C 9IRK - for consistent effort and hard work in everything you have done so far, keep it up!

English

Sahida S 9SHA - for her excellent attitude and progress in English this year. Anna C 9IR for her consistent high achievement due to dedication, effort and response to feedback

Geography

Asiya U 9ABI - for being ultra-resilient and awesome through a hardcore walking trip around Stratford - she never complained despite being on crutches. She was even faster than most fully able bodied students.

Graphics

Zahra A 9IRK and **Mya A 9ALN** - For exceptional effort in classwork and homework

H&S

Zahara T 9AB - for her wiliness to contribute in class and her excellent work ethic in and out of lessons.

History

Faatima H 9ALN - for consistently aiming high and excelling in lessons.

Latin

Zulfah R 9BKB - for her participation in the Roman myths event!

Maths

Jenna M 9SHA - For making a really fantastic start in Maths. She is always so hard working, always makes really positive contributions in class and is always looking for more challenge!

Music

Asla S 9IR - for her hard work and cheeriness which is always so lovely to see!

PE

Kalpana M 9SAS - for consistently demonstrating a fantastic work ethic and attitude.

Philosophy

Sonia A 9SHA - for her consistent effort and focus in lessons.

Physics

Fatima R 9SAS - for her fantastic work effort. She is always going above and beyond.

Psychology

Mahi A 9ALN and **Abi M 9MGR** - for continued hard work and perseverance across their first year of psychology

Spanish

Sritha K 9BKB - for excellent writing skills and amazing grammar knowledge. MCO

Student Rewards July 2023



Year 10

Art

Parisa M 10HJ - for improved effort and achievement in Art. **Ritika S 10EAW** - for consistent effort in Art

Business studies

Zara O 10HAJ - for her participation and quality of work throughout the term. Zara is always looking to improve.

Chemistry

Hirah S 10MTM - for her excellent resilience and progress this year. It has been such a privilege to see her confidence in her own abilities in chemistry develop.

Computer science

Maria L 10NMA - for your passion for Computer Science and excellent engagement in the subject. Your bubbly personality shines and uplifts our lessons :)!

Drama

Zina J 10MEM - for a massive improvement in effort and attitude to learning, you have been fantastic!

English

Fariah S 10NMA - for her consistent efforts and improvements in English. **Noor A 10 EAW** - for her diligence, studiousness and ambition in the subject.

French

Fatema M for always working so hard and putting 100% effort in every lesson.

Geography

Reem A 10EAW - for being so hardworking and participating fully on a hot trip to West Wittering.

Graphics

Salma S 10BME - Achievement in exams

H&S

Hila A 10MTM - for her hard work and dedication towards her exams.

History

Noor A 10EAW - for excelling above and beyond her target grade in the end of year exam.

Latin

Fatima M 10MTM - for her work ethic all year and improving her language skills by taking every intervention opportunity possible!

Maths

Sana S 10BME - For such a positive attitude towards Maths. She works hard in lessons, homework is always done on time and to a really high standard, and her book is beautiful too! Just amazing!

Music

Asra K 10HJ - for her stunning performances throughout the year on her guitar! A pleasure to listen to.

PE

Hamida O 10HJ - for being the most committed GCSE student with the highest attendance at clubs and intervention. As well as for always having a positive attitude.

Philosophy

Zina J 10MEM - for showing real potential this year; Zina is a philosopher!

Physics

Huda M 10EAW - for taking leaps and bounds in Physics this year.

Psychology

Kezia M 10BME - for her work ethic in psychology, for her insightful and engaging questions, and for her positive attitude towards psychology lessons

Science

Suhaila A 10NMA - for consistently giving it her all in every chemistry lesson this year. Well done!

Spanish

Shiffa C 10BME for impressive speaking skills during the exam. MCO

Classics: Outdoor theatre in our amazing school grounds

Roman Myths Tuesday 11th July 2023

Classics and Drama put on our annual outdoor event in the gorgeous grounds of Bentley Wood with the focus this year on Roman Mythology.

Roman mythology developed from the stories that the ancient Greeks created. These stories tried to explain situations and circumstances that they did not understand, such as the origins of the world, or why natural disasters occurred.

The stories the Romans continued to tell, spread as far as their empire did; from Briton, to Northern Africa and into modern day Turkey. It is from these stories that literature continued to evolve. Writers that we cannot imagine as never existing have been inspired by stories that were told over 2 thousand years ago; writers such as Shakespeare, John Keats, Mary Shelley, Rick Riordan, JK Rowling, Tolkien and Margaret Atwood to name but a few.

Mythology back then was not definitive and just as modern writers put their own ideas and spins on well-known ancient mythology, so did the Romans themselves.

Ovid was a Roman poet who gave voices to women in Greek myth who were largely forgotten, or not focused on by the Greeks. Virgil wove in a tragic tale of love between the Roman hero Aeneas and the African Queen Dido into his Roman epic, the Aeneid.

Mythological tales are ever changing, they have no boundaries and because of this they are everlasting. They act as mirrors that reflect the society they are being told in and the commentaries that our year 12 Classical Civilisation students gave after each performance hopefully provided much food for thought for the audience.

This year's performance was started off by a surprise juggling act from our very own Mr Farquhar! He wowed our audience with a special performance that ended with fire and truly warmed the audience up!

The cast were largely made up of students from lower down in the school and they put on three incredible performances of *Pyramus* and *Thisbe*, *Pandora's Jar* in Latin, and *Theseus and the Minotaur*.

Once again this performance could not have happened without the fantastic Mr Rankin, Head of Drama. His vision, choice of music and faith in our cast made him an integral part of this event. A special thank you to Miss Illingworth, Ms Chaggar, Ms Karsan and our site team for helping out on the night with organising refreshments and setting up!

See you all again next summer term!

Miss A Hussain

Full cast list:

Year 7

Amira H
Deivpra J
Lalita B
Ecrin S
Hana V
Ameera-Zenab R
Maryam H
Saanvi P
Simran P
Khushi D

Year 8


Ikram H
Meadow H
Skye H
Malak A
Elina A
Haniya A
Maria B
Maryam R
Yasamin N Z

Year 9

Diva I
Zulfah R

Year 12




Kashi D



**Classics & Drama
Present**

ROMAN MYTHS

**11th July 2023
6pm**

The performance of Pandora's Jar is in Latin. Please find the English translation below to support your understanding.

Narrator: **PANDORA'S JAR.**
I am the narrator. This story is about Pandora's Jar and about the evils of mankind.

Narrator: Scene one. In the sky.

Hephaestus: I am Hephaestus. This is a beautiful woman whom, on Jupiter's order, I have made out of mud.

Athena: I am Athena. I am giving her an expensive robe.

Aphrodite: I am Aphrodite. I am giving her charm and elegance.

The 3 Graces: We are the Three Graces. We are giving her golden necklaces.

The Seasons: We are the Seasons. We are giving her crowns decorated with spring flowers.

Hermes: I am Hermes. I am not giving her magnificent things, but fraud and flattery. She will have a sweet voice.

Hephaestus: Because the gods and goddesses are giving her so many gifts, I, Hephaestus, am giving her the name of Pandora.

Narrator: Scene two. On earth.
Pandora descends to earth and she is the bride of the good Epimetheus. The evil Jupiter is giving them a Jar.

Jupiter: I am giving you this Jar, but do not open it!

Narrator: Pandora and Epimetheus agree.

Pandora: I am very inquisitive. What is in the Jar? I must open it.

Narrator: Pandora lifts the lid. Suddenly all the evils of the world fly out.

Voice 1: Look, hatred!

Voice 2: Look, anger!

Voice 3: Look, old age!

Voice 4: Look, diseases!

Narrator: Pandora tries to shut the lid, but in vain. It is too late. However, in a corner of the Jar is one thing which will bring salvation to mankind.

All: Hope!

Narrator: The end.





Roman Myths

A poem written by Zulfah R in 9BKB during a slam poetry club session with Miss Mohan

*Thisbe's blood pooled on the ground
Pyramus lay there, quiet and sound
A bush of pale white berries now red
Is where they lay, their coffin, their bed.*

*Hyacinthus, flower from this day forth,
Zephyrs' jealousy grumbled from the North,
Apollo cradled his lover in his arms,
Mortal lovers always coming to harm.*

*Even Achilles, the best of the Greeks
At the hands of his tragic love
Falls to his feet.*

*Even Medea, granddaughter of Helios,
At the hand of heartbreak,
Feels the bubbling fury that is loss.*

*Never has there ever been,
Never has there ever been seen,
Love that comes and lasts forever,
It comes in on a high and fades away like a fever.*



Classics students engage at lectures, societies and classical theatre

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



Classics Society

This term our sixth formers, Dilara P and Mawada N in Year 13 established Bentley Wood's first Classics Society. The Society have met every Tuesday this term with the aim of inspiring and educating the school in all things Classics. The Classics society are also aiming to host half termly events throughout the year.

The first event was a presentation delivered by our founding students in early November, on what Classics is about. Our next event was hosted by the teachers of the Classics department themselves; myself, Miss Illingworth and our PGCE teacher Mr Boyd each gave a presentation to our students on why we loved Classics.

Classics event

The Classics Society also hosted a webinar event with bestselling author of 'Ariadne' and 'Electra', Jennifer Saint. Jennifer spoke about how her love of ancient mythology and her degree in Classics led her to a career in writing. She even answered a few of our students' questions!

Ms Hussain



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

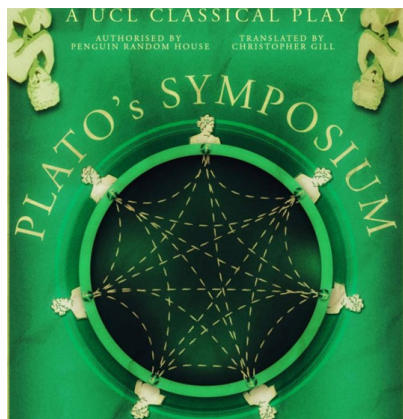
Euripides' Medea

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



Plato's Symposium

Euripides' Medea



Students get involved with the Arts at clubs throughout the Year

Textiles Club

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. Wormwood'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.

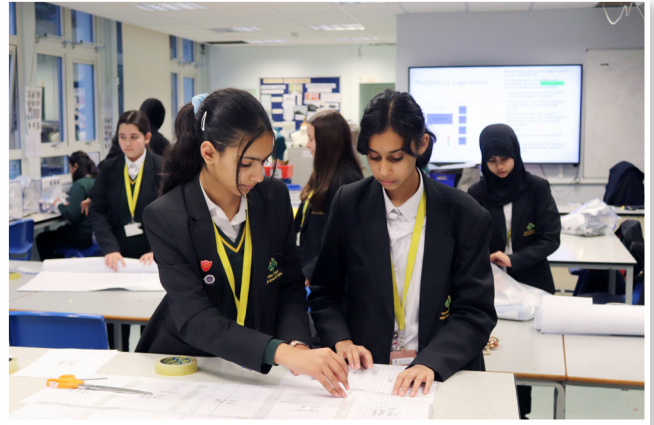
It really helped me gain confidence in my textiles work and on how to use the stitching machine and it overall was a very fun experience being able to work with other people, my friends, and my teachers to put together this project.

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 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 sewn and turned into something amazing is one of the best feelings.

Thamiisha D 9MGR



Art Club

In Art Club we went outside where the beautiful trees are by the reception; we took paper and ink and started painting with twigs, leaves and tree branches. It was amazing! I think this is a way to connect with nature and express ourselves through art.

Evelyn 7LSB





Orchestra

Orchestra is the perfect opportunity for students learning instruments such as violin, flute and cello, to practice playing as an ensemble and working with other peers across the school. Bentley Wood offers two orchestras: Senior orchestra and Junior orchestra. This allows students to start as early as Year 7 to Year 9 (Junior orchestra) and continue through Years 10-11 (Senior orchestra). Rehearsals take place Tuesday lunches and offer a wide range of pieces from classical music to more modern songs. All of the hard work has a chance to be showcased during all three concerts throughout the year.

Anna C 9IRK

Junior Choir

Hi, I am Meadow and I have been going to choir since I started in Year 7. I am now in Year 8 and haven't missed a session. Something I love about choir, is that everyone is so welcoming and so friendly and you meet lots of new people that you share interests with.

I have been involved in two concerts and have thoroughly enjoyed them both. In the concerts we sing our songs we have been practicing all year. As well as performing to people in our school we invite primary school children to watch us sing. Choir has definitely boosted my confidence as the teachers are so kind and caring. Also going to choir has helped me find my passion for singing and I know a lot of other people feel the same. Choir is Friday lunchtime for Year 7s and 8s which is really lovely because we get to meet Year 7s and they get to meet us. Junior choir will be open to new members from 13th January 2023. Please come along and join us!

Meadow H 8GI

Year 9 Choir

Hello, my name is Jayna, and I am part of the Year 9 choir. As a person who doesn't do GCSE music I think choir is an amazing enrichment music club which allows people in my year to sing together in harmony. I have seen many positive impacts of choir such as it allows people to make friends with people of similar interests and talents. Not only that but it helps develop a passion for music.

My favourite part of joining choir is that you get to perform in the concerts to an audience which are always so fun and allows you to build up your confidence. So, for anyone who is interested in singing and wants their voice heard I think you should join choir as it is an amazing opportunity.

Jayna P 9ABI



Skills and debate at enrichment clubs

Chess Club compete in a tournament

Chess club continues to be a popular feature of Bentley Wood's broad programme of enrichment activities available to students throughout the year. This term our chess enthusiasts have further developed their skills and strategies through the use of Lichess, a platform they were introduced to when they first joined the club.

The students have shown a genuine appreciation for all aspects of the game and it's wonderful to see their confidence grow week by week. What's great about chess is that there is always something new to learn and a player can perfect their tactical skills, fine-tune their ability to read the strategies of their opponent and even pick up new jargon along the way! It is all this and the great atmosphere created by our very enthusiastic future grandmasters that makes chess club so special!

Chess has a growing profile at Bentley Wood. Following the high-profile visit by International Chess Master Lorin D'Costa in the Autumn term, Chess Club has been popular throughout the year, especially with years 7 & 8.

We have had some great summer sessions on the park tables outside the sixth form block which drew a lot of interest from girls that were new to chess.

There have been a few girls that wanted to improve their chess and have been self-improving under the guidance of N Shah who runs the chess club. It culminated in five girls representing Bentley Wood in an away chess match against Hertswood Academy where they played a tough opposition with grace and fortitude. We look forward to inviting Hertswood Academy for a rematch at our school next term.

Chess brings out all the qualities we want in our students: patience, resilience, strategic thinking and problem solving, team camaraderie, and displaying grace whether you win or lose. We hope to raise the number of rising stars in this beautiful game to new heights going forward.

Mr Shah





Debate Club

Started in 2010 by the Philosophy Department (who still run it) it is a cherished and lively forum.

Our students have the opportunity to debate and discuss ethical, political, legal, scientific issues, and more besides. We try to nurture an interest in current affairs by casting our eyes across the week's news headlines each week. We have taken keen debaters to prestigious and exciting Model United Nations (MUN) events in the past and this is a practice we are keen to continue. This is the forum at Bentley Wood to find the future writers, journalists, philosophers, politicians, diplomats, barristers, and world-changers of tomorrow.

Mr O'Sullivan
Assistant Headteacher

As someone who's been attending debate club for over a year now, I find it fun and interesting to debate. Due to the skills I've acquired in debating, I'm now proud to say that I'm a Youth Activist, representing London on a National Youth Board, as well as representing Bentley Wood as part of the Harrow Youth Parliament.

Debating is a part of my life that I love, and most definitely will be continuing past Year 11. I've made so many fond memories in debate club that I will cherish. Debating is a sophisticated skill to have, and I'm proud to call myself a member of this club.

Amal B 11MCO

Criminology Club

In Criminology Club we have looked into crime cases and investigated the reasons for why these crimes have happened. We've also discussed the punishments that the criminals should face, depending on their involvement in the crime they have committed.

We explored the idea of prisons and debated how accessible things should be in prison; such as food, sleeping arrangements and contacting. We looked at the differences between prisons in England and Norway, how despite Norway's prisons being more luxurious, crimes by the prisoners weren't committed again compared to prisoners in England. In criminology we have debated a lot and extended our knowledge about how our surroundings and circumstances impact us positively and negatively.

Manasika R 9IRK

We are regular attendees of Criminology Club, and we return every week because the topics we discuss are extremely interesting. 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.

Anniyah R 7GCPf

Achievement in Maths competitions

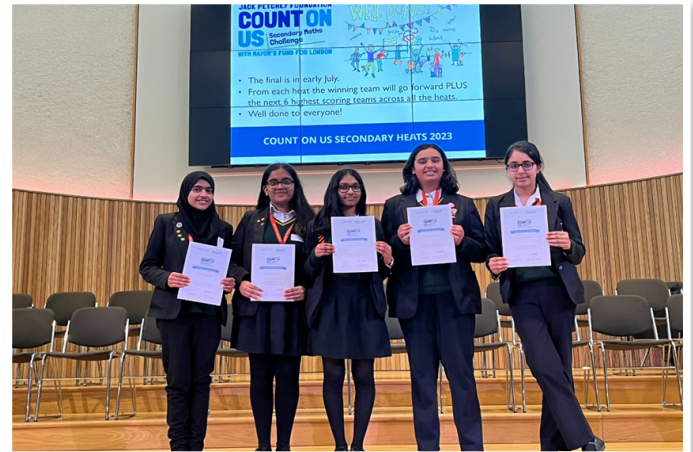
Count On Us Maths Challenge...

The Count on Us Maths Challenge 2023 is a unique maths tournament for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 across London, which aims to improve confidence and fluency in maths. Students practise in school and compete in an exciting maths competition against their peers with the aim of reaching the final in late June, which is held at a prestigious location.

Five students were selected to represent the school in the regional heats of the tournament on Wednesday, 10th of May. The girls trained for the event with a range of activities providing different and unusual ways to develop curriculum-focused skills. The mathematical topics covered included stats and probability, geometry, numbers, and algebra.

The tournament consists of 5 rounds: The Game of Hedgehog, Data-Chart-Statistics, Gridlines Geometry, the 24@Game, and the Algebraic problem-solving round. It will encourage them to see maths as more than calculations but also as something that requires the problem-solving skills of strategy and resilience.

A big congratulations to our outstanding maths students who represented Bentley Wood High School at the Mayor's Fund for London 'Count on Us Challenge' 2023. Well done, Anvi, Saaliha, Amira, Swara and Jayna!



Count On Us Maths Challenge...

UMKT: Junior Maths Challenge...

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

We were extremely pleased to be able to enter pupils from Years 7 to 8 into the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Junior Maths Challenge last month. This Challenge is aimed at Years 7 to 8 and there were several able, bright and enthusiastic pupils in the younger year groups who benefitted from the opportunity. Congratulations to the Bentley Wood girls who achieved bronze, silver and gold certificates in this national competition.

Congratulations to all of our mathematicians who took part! We wish you the best of luck in the next rounds!



UMKT: Junior Maths Challenge

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.



24-game at Aylward Primary School

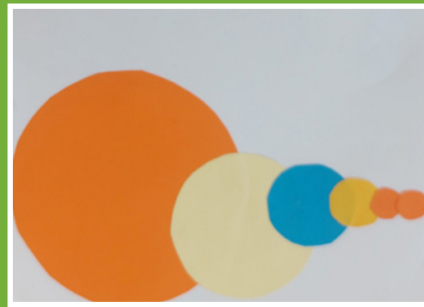
Art in Maths...

This autumn tree math craft is a fun way to celebrate the colours of autumn with a mathematical theme. Our year 7 students made this triangle tree using coloured tissue paper while working on the mathematical concepts that underpin triangular shapes. This maths activity is a visually impactful approach for students to appreciate the spatial and geometrical properties of triangles as they create art with a variety of colours and sizes of a single shape.

Fibonacci Sequence

Year 7s this term learnt about the Fibonacci number sequence. This a STEAM art task which encourages students to apply their knowledge of a concept in creating a fabulous piece of art! The Fibonacci sequence follows the rule that each number is equal to the sum of the preceding two numbers. The sequence, which is found frequently in nature, is named after 12th century mathematician, Leonardo Fibonacci.

It must be noted that Fibonacci did not “discover” the sequence; the number sequence had been part of Hindu-Arabic mathematics for centuries. Fibonacci is credited with introducing the sequence to Europe and he also introduced the Hindu-Arabic 10-digit place value that we use today (fun fact!).



National Numeracy Week...

One of the best ways to encourage young people to feel positive about numbers is to make them feel confident in themselves. Our school took part in the National Numeracy Week 2023; it was a week of fun mathematical activities for years 7 to 9. We celebrated the importance of numbers for children and adults, inspiring them to improve their numeracy, something which in the long run is guaranteed to open up opportunities and lead to brighter futures.

Here are some of the fun activities that were running all week:

Maths Treasure Hunt: The treasure hunt was lots of fun and at the same time it encouraged leadership and communication. Teamwork was also a vital component as the girls had to work in groups to solve the maths puzzles. Congratulations to the winning team 7KPO who found the maths treasure & celebrated their achievement!

Numeracy Wise Thoughts: “Wise thoughts” are a regular feature in form time, affording students the opportunity to reflect on thoughts and ideas across a range of subjects and from a variety of viewpoints. During Numeracy Week we wanted the students to focus on how maths can be involved in everyday life, with the aim of discovering areas that they might initially not realise involve maths. Students thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the daily Numeracy wise thoughts, and then completed a 5-day challenge in a bid to win a Numeracy Passport.

Congratulations to the winners of the Numeracy Passport: 7LSB, 7ABR, 9EV

Non-Uniform Day: Our celebration of Numeracy Week ended with a non-uniform event on the final day. Students in years 7, 8 and 9 came in dressed up as Number Heroes on Friday, the 19th of May, wearing their numbers with pride on t-shirts and sweatshirts. Our Number Heroes had the opportunity to learn some fun maths dance moves from the one and only Katya Jones, who had the following to say about what maths and dance have in common.

“My dancing activities will help everyone to see that maths doesn’t have to be scary. It’s completely normal to find maths difficult. But just like dancing, if we break it down into manageable steps and keep practising, we can ALL get better.”



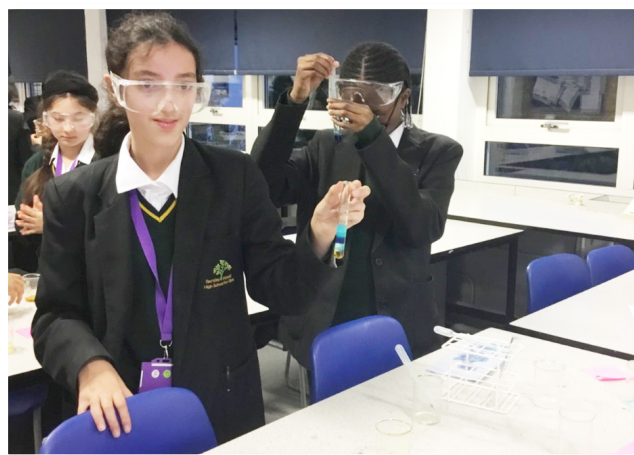
A year of engagement with science: Year 7 Science Club

Science Club Science Club is a weekly experience where Year 7 sign up and take part in various interactive experiments. We can make or build things like rockets or lip- balm. We can do dissections, of hearts, lungs kidneys or eyes. We can experiment with acids and carbonates to make a rainbow of colours in neutralisation reactions. We have also held fire in our hands... without getting burnt. Science Club runs every Friday and is free to join each week. Just sign up! Mr Koyejo and the science team.

Colourful density layers

On Friday 18th November students had so much fun experimenting in Science Club!! They investigated how different liquids would not mix due to their different densities. Because of this, they were able to create layers of unmixed liquids starting off with honey and ending with alcohol, which was found to be the least dense. They were even able to go as far as filling test tubes with seven different unmixed layers which created a super cool colourful look as you may see on the right!! At the end, students chose their best test tube which included the most defined layers in order of density. Of course, we decided to keep these test tubes to sit over the weekend in order for the layers to separate the most so they can look even more wonderful!

Sara A 12MTI



Colourful density layers

Dissecting a chicken

On Friday 25th November in Science Club, students dissected a chicken wing to get down to the muscles. They searched for the shoulder bone, the biceps and the triceps by following along Mr Koyejo's instructions. Sir congratulated the students with encouraging affirmations such as "this is a beautiful dissection" and "I couldn't have done it better myself." Overall, students thoroughly enjoyed the practical and easily followed instructions to make sure all safety precautions were met.

Kamila D 12CSN



Dissecting a chicken

Science Club: Students get messy making slime

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



Making slime

Creating 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 Graff 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

Marble Run

In October at Science Club there was a marble run!!! The class was split into 4 teams. They had to create structures that could slow down the marble and the structure that slowed down the marble the most won. They used cardboard, paper, tape, and even clamp stands! The pupils had such a fun time creating these amazing marble runs. In the end, the slowest time on average was 2.71 seconds making Team A-Team the winners!

Mr Koyejo



Creating static electricity



Marble Run



A year of events and achievements in the Sixth Form

Sixth Form Head Girl Team 2023

Salutations! We are delighted to introduce our Head Student team for this academic year: Maryam, Neha, Aarushi, Lubnah, Harini, Nikita, Izzabella and Zenab.

We eagerly anticipate serving you all this year and feel so privileged to have this gift-the gift of fulfilling your wishes and shaping your school experience, an honour that is simply invaluable.

This year we have divided the student leadership and prefect roles so we can focus on several aspects of school life at the same time.

This includes Teaching, Reading, Careers and Learning, Student Council, Student Mentoring, Volunteering and Mental Health, Houses and Charity, Year 7 induction and Prom and Enrichment teams.

We are looking forward to making your Bentley Wood experience splendiferous, and have already begun to put our ideas into motion, like the upcoming volunteering opportunities, first aid training, a Bentley Wood Bake Off and more!

In the words of Shakespeare, "We know what we are, but know not what we may be" - this, is what our team completely believes. This, is what drives us to exert all our efforts, to ensure your dreams come true, and Bentley Wood's vast potential is

realised.

Please, feel free to stop us whenever you like-we are always available to lend you an ear, whether you'd like to suggest an activity we can introduce, give some feedback about an event, ask for advice about a problem or even to have a chat. We hope that you shall be content during the coming year, that we help your wishes and dreams to be transformed into reality, and we wish you all a meritorious summer!

Maryam A and Neha P



Year 13 Prom: a celebration of seven years of success!

On Thursday 29th June 2023 our Year 13 students gathered at Apollonia in Stanmore for their end of year Prom. The event was a huge success with around 80 students attending.

Many staff enjoyed the evening, including some form tutors who had left the school; for example, Mr Butler (form tutor of many of the students from Y7 -11) returned to celebrate with the students.

All students looked beautiful and enjoyed the evening. The event was also a feat of the Head Student Team's organisation.

A special thanks must be given to the Head Student Isma Mirza and the Deputy Head student Nadia Ibrahim who planned the majority of the Prom which included a DJ, a buffet, a sweet table and a chocolate fountain.

We are so proud of the students; the sixth form is academically challenging and a time where students

are forming their identities. At Prom it is a pleasure to celebrate the students' academic prowess and character development after an intense two years.

Ms Jones





Head of Sixth Form reflects on the year 2022-2023

It has been another busy year for both Year 12 and Year 13 students. We are delighted at the academic success of the students. Year 13 students have received offers from a variety of Russell Group Universities, including Oxford University and Cambridge University. Several students this year have opted to choose a degree apprenticeship and have gained places at some of the UK's top companies. We are also delighted at the Year 13 Health and Social Course cohort who secured places on excellent vocational degree courses.

Year 12 students have already made significant progress academically with over twenty students benefitting from external programmes such as the St John's College (Oxford University) Inspire Programme, the Lucy Cavendish College (Cambridge University) Programme, the Corpus Christi College (Cambridge University) Pelican Programme, the 'Thursday Group (run by Haberdashers' Aske's School), and the Social Mobility Foundation.

In addition, we are so proud of the students for flourishing beyond the classroom; all students are strongly encouraged to regularly volunteer for either the school or local community. Our links with Harrow Community Kitchen were strengthened this year with many students going there weekly during the winter and spring terms. Annual clubs such as the Bar Mock Trial and the Ethics Cup returned

this year; both of these opportunities required students to compete against other schools. The students representing Bentley Wood in both competitions made the school proud. The debating skills the students have honed by taking part in these activities are highly prized by employers and universities. Furthermore, amnesty club, anthropology club and various sports clubs continued to be enjoyed by many students this academic year.

With the AS level and A-level examinations now over for this academic year, I am once again impressed with the resilience and perseverance of the students. We look forward to celebrating with them on results day.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new Head Student Team. We are proud to have two Head Students this year: Neha P and Maryam A Working closely with them are: Zenab Z (Head of Houses), Harini J (Head of Induction), Nikita M (Head of Enrichment), Lubnah M (Head of Teaching and Learning), Izzabella P (Head of Student Council) and Aarushi B (Head of Student Communication). They have already begun their roles raising and maintaining the high standards of the Bentley Wood Sixth Form.

Ms. A Jones, Head of Sixth Form

Lectures and competitions in Social Science, Law and Debate

London Anthropology Day at British Museum

The Anthropology Society visited the British Museum on its annual London Anthropology Day.

London Anthropology Day (LAD) is an annual university taster day for Year 12, 13, FE students, undergraduate or graduate students interested in Master's degrees, careers advisers and teachers, organised by the Royal Anthropological Institute.

London Anthropology Day took place at the British Museum's Clore Centre for Education on Friday 30th June 2023. Our students learned what anthropology is about, the types of careers anthropologists have, found out what it is like to study the subject at university.

Students were able to learn about the various specialisations of participating universities and asked anthropologists from specific departments questions in live sessions.

Mr Maric



Sociology students attend lecture about religious organisations

Sociology students attended a lecture by Ruby Forrester of Inform organisation from Kings College, University of London. As a part of Year 13 topic Beliefs in Society Sociology students learn about religious organisations such as cults, sects, denominations and churches.

Our sociology students had a lecture by Ruby Forrester from Inform. Inform organisation is an independent educational charity providing information about minority religions and sects which is as accurate, up-to-date and as evidence-based as possible.

They exist to prevent harm based on misinformation about minority religions and sects by bringing the insights and methods of academic research into the public domain. Their name Inform is an acronym for "Information Network Focus On Religious Movements." Students learned about New religious movements especially The Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (FLDS Church) which is a religious sect of the fundamentalist Mormon denominations.

Mr Maric



Bar Mock Trial Competition: Year 12 Students experience a real court room trial

The bar mock trial competition is a popular event which is designed to give students an opportunity to gain experience in courtroom procedures. Teams of Year 12 students competed against each other by simulating a courtroom trial, taking on the roles of lawyers, witnesses, and other participants. In order to prepare for the competition, students had to carefully research and memorise the statements of witnesses and anticipate challenging questions that may be asked in the courtroom.

The London round of the competition, which was held at Snaresbrook Crown Court in East London, involved teams of students from a variety of schools across London competing against each other in a series of trials.

The teams were given two hypothetical cases to prepare for, and they spent time researching and rehearsing their arguments and presentations.

On the day of the competition, each team presented their case in front of the judges and a courtroom audience, with the lawyers presenting opening and closing statements, examining and cross-examining witnesses, and making legal arguments. The judges evaluated the teams' performances and decided on two winning teams to go forward to the final.

The competition was a valuable learning experience for law students, as it allowed them to develop their legal

skills and gain hands-on experience in a courtroom setting. Many students found the competition to be a thrilling and rewarding experience, as it allowed them to apply what they had learned in their studies to a realistic legal scenario.

At the same time, the competition could also be nerve-racking for some participants, as the pressure of performing in front of a panel of judges and an audience could be intimidating. Overall, the participants can look back on their experience with pride and satisfaction.

Mr Nussbaum



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



University taster days: Life beyond Bentley Wood



Life after Sixth Form Week, Trip to University of Reading

On Monday the 10th of July, I along with some other students, had the privilege of going on a school trip to visit The University of Reading. My experience has broadened my horizons and showed me the opportunities that we are offered outside our local area and outside Russel Group universities.

When we arrived at the university, we were welcomed very warmly by one of the educators and she gave us a very informative presentation followed by a small quiz on universities, including how to apply and certain things that are necessary to know when entering university life such as the acronyms and how to manage university life.

There we met the head students at the university and were separated in groups to have campus tours with each of them.

The campus was very big and beautiful, my personal favourite factor was how green it was. Rather than being industrial it was on a field, and it had beautiful sights, including a pond with swans and ducks and so many beautiful plants.

We were very lucky to go there on a sunny day because the weather and the sights complimented each other very well.

Something that was particularly great about the campus was the amenities; it had so many cafés, restaurants, shops and eating facilities' including many other incredible facilities such as my personal favourite, the library.

The library had 5 floors which was incredible and was modern in the sense that it had high technology. There was

also a café in the library and in our guided tour we were told that it cost 45 million pounds to build the library.

Their lecture halls and rooms for classes were very highly maintained and they had large lecture halls as well as study rooms. They also had a film studio for film students and an MRI scanner for psychology students, and many other unique facilities.

The campus itself was amazing and we had the freedom to go to the different cafés and food stores for lunch and even ate on the tables outside.

When we finished the guided tour, we went back inside and attended a talk by one of the students about student life and she told us about her experience and shared tips on what would make it an enjoyable experience for us. We even got a Q&A at the very end and all our questions were answered frankly.

Overall, this experience that we had on this trip was a memorable and informative one, we were very lucky to attend this trip and got to take a lot out of it, learning about life after sixth form, how to maintain a good life as a student in university and even new knowledge about courses and how to choose the best university.

Farah N Year 12



**University of
Reading**

Year 12 gain inspiration from visit to Cambridge

The centuries old, regal establishments dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge loomed before us, the clear sky a backdrop that simply emphasised the sheer power such buildings contain.

Cambridge University was built in 1209 and to this day the foundation of knowledge and desire to learn imbues the university with a magnificent atmosphere. The entire city felt like a snapshot from times gone by.

Our trip to Christ's College, Cambridge was a simply splendid experience: we got to absorb the sheer, potent history, tour the picturesque grounds and most importantly, gain information that will be important for success when applying for universities and beyond, like the vital importance of supra-curricular activities not to mention the value in checking your desired course's content, imparted to us by the college's admissions officer.

My favourite part was seeing Milton's Mulberry Tree, which was planted the year after John Milton was born, and still produces mulberries to this day!

I truly enjoyed and cherished the opportunity, and thank Ms Jones and Mr Maric for helping it happen!

Maryam A and Hoda M Year 12



Sixth formers helping and volunteering in the community



Sixth formers enjoy volunteering at a local pharmacy

I was able to take a few students to volunteer at a local pharmacy. This was such a fantastic opportunity for us future medics to learn new skills and apply them to our future careers.

We all had various tasks to do, meaning we all learnt something new, with some students working in pairs to stick labels onto medicine, doing admin work and restocking.

We all had so much fun working together and it was a space where we could ask questions about the healthcare field and gain experience from talking to a pharmacist.

Volunteering at the pharmacy was a good way to clear my head about my studies, as communicating with customers,

meeting new people and doing something I love, just helped me be in my own haven.

Being able to provide the work experience that excited so many students has been truly rewarding and I am incredibly thankful to the pharmacist for giving such a great opportunity to us students.

We have a rota system where 5 students will work there each week, I can't wait to go back and take some new students next week!

Sarmiga 13SN

Volunteering at Harrow Community Kitchen

In 2021, our Head Girl Team made excellent links with Harrow Community Kitchen. The opportunity to volunteer here was so popular that we had to run a rota system where 10 students attended each Tuesday after school to volunteer.

The team who work at HCK really value the speed at which our students work and how efficient they are in the food bank. This opportunity has remained from the previous Head Girl Team's legacy where the new Head Student Team of 2022 have continued to run this opportunity for Year 12 and Year 13 students. Rota systems are well organised and students make their way to volunteer every Tuesday after school. Students help to package food parcels for those in the local community who collect weekly from the food bank.

As you can see from the photos, the students make this a fun experience. They regularly play music and enjoy themselves, feeling rewarded for giving back to their local community. We are proud of them and know that this experience will remain the legacy of Bentley Wood sixth formers for many years now.



Ms Lomax

Baking at Harrow Community kitchen

Being able to be a part of Harrow Community Kitchen has been a very rewarding experience. We are given the opportunity to learn more about how food can truly have an impact on people's lives. Every Friday the foodbank opens in order to give out packages to those in need.

This experience has brought our sixth form closer together. A lot of the girls come together as a team so we can help out as much as we can, by packing bags and preparing the food that goes into the bags. Knowing we are trying our best to give back to the community while having a good time keeps big, warm smiles on our faces.

Nilofar F 13SNU

Sixth Form students have taken advantage of baking classes at Harrow Community Kitchen. On Tuesday 2nd November, students attended the baking lessons and learnt how to make scones. Students are on a rota based system and will be learning to bake different things each week. Our students love learning new skills and seize all opportunities that come up for them!

Ms Lomax



Student Rewards July 2023



Year 11

English

Eileen M 11SEO - for her dedication and consistently achieving extremely high standards in the subject.

History

Nefertari B 11AAL - for her diligent revision, commitment, and making excellent progress in the run up to her History GCSE.

Music

Britannia 11AAL - for her continued help in the music department!

Philosophy

Lamees B 11SEO - you should study Philosophy A-level at Bentley Wood!

Spanish

Thusmena S 11CCH - Looking forward to teaching you A Level Spanish!



Year 12

Art

Niyathi T 12JT - consistent effort throughout the year

Biology

Harini J 12MTI - for really engaging in biological discussions this term

Business studies

Sowmiya T 12MTI - for her enthusiasm for the course, hard work and active participation in all lessons. Keep up the hard work.

Chemistry

Salma M 12JTF - for her hard work, positive attitude and diligence this term.

Classical Civilisation

Zaynab A 12GCO - for her hard work all year and her support in the Roman Myths event!

Drama

Kashi D 12TRA - for once again being a fantastic performer and leader of extra-curricular drama.

Economics

Hoda M 12TRA - for her hard work and effort in Economics. Hoda has been an active participant who is always looking to improve.

English

Maryam A 12TRA - for her continued pursuit of excellence, her enthusiasm and dedication

Student Rewards July 2023



Year 12

Geography

Neha Patel 12JT - For showing great initiative, diligence and drive in and around the subject.

H&S

Safiya D 12TRA - for her positive attitude to learning and her enthusiasm for the course.

History

Nikita M 12CSN - for her commitment to history and undertaking further study through the EPQ.

Maths

Fatima I 12MTI - Excellent work ethic and application throughout the year, and has made an excellent start on the Further Maths content. A model student!

Philosophy

Farah N 12CSN - for trying hard throughout the year.

Physics

Fatima I 12MTI - for her consistently brilliant results.

Psychology

Julia C 12TRA - for outstanding effort, knowledge and application of psychological ideas to real world concepts

Spanish

Kharis B 12GCO - for enthusiasm shown in the study of the literary work by Lorca in Spanish.

Politics

Khadija M 12CSN - for your growing passion for politics translating into excellent effort!

Year 13

English

Aleema K 13SG - for her enthusiasm, dedication, reliability and strength of character

History

Sireen B 13LFO - for her generosity, donating multiple books to the history department for future pupils to benefit from.

Philosophy

Tobaa K 13SNU - for showing enthusiasm and inquisitiveness in every year during her Bentley Wood RS and Philosophy journey!

Spanish

Isma M 13LFO, Nadia I 13SBR and Zahra R 13PBL - the best Spanish A Level class ever! Os voy a echar mucho de menos

Politics

Paray S 13SNU - for your incredible effort in Politics throughout the entirety of the course!



Students show resilience at Sports Day and expeditions

Students complete six hours of walking on DofE expedition

On Friday 30th June, 60 Year 10s met at Clamp Hill bright and early, ready for their assessed Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Preparation for this weekend started in December, with weekly after school sessions in Woody's where students have got to grips with map reading, compass navigation and route planning.

We travelled to St Albans by coach where, prior to beginning their walks, each group had to have a pre-expedition brief with the Duke of Edinburgh assessor. Once this was complete, each group set off with bags full of sleeping bags, tents and plenty of snacks! We camped at Phasel's Wood on the Friday night before setting off once more on Sunday morning.

The girls showed excellent resilience, teamwork and determination to complete 6 hours of walking each day using their routecards, maps and compasses. The drizzly weather did not dampen spirits and they all looked forward to a hot shower once they got home!

Miss Bairstow



Duke of Edinburgh expedition at Phasel's Wood

TfL STARS seminar

On Thursday 6th July, the school's TfL STARS ambassadors attended a seminar at the London Transport Museum (of course, we travelled by bus and tube). They delivered a presentation about their work to industry consultants and other school groups before participating in a discussion about how London can move towards more active and sustainable transport.

The industry consultants praised the confidence of those presenting and said it was particularly impressive to see reflections on the challenges faced. We also got the chance to explore the museum - seeing how transport has changed over time in London was really interesting, especially as you could get on some of the old vehicles. I am so proud of the ambassadors, and I look forward to working with them more next year!

Mr Ferris



Sports Day 2023

On Friday 23rd June all students in Year 7-10 took part in the Annual Bentley Wood Sports Day at Bannisters. It was an incredible day where we got to see students competing in a range of different athletics events. The atmosphere amongst students was electric with lots of cheering and supporting of each other.

There were some fantastic performances throughout the day with lots of students winning medals for all their success! Thank you to all the 6th formers and staff who supported on the day as it ran seamlessly! Here is to 2024!

Ms Collen



Sports Week, tournaments and primary Sports Day

Students take part in first rounders match of the year

On Tuesday 13th June, the Year 8 Rounders Team took part in a rounders competition against year 8 to 10 students from Avanti High School and Park High School. It was an amazing experience that has helped us improve our gameplay and benefit from playing against other schools.

This was our first rounders match of the year and it helped us apply our skills to real games against other schools. It allowed us to develop strength as a team and understand our strongest positions which we can use in future matches.

Rounders is not usually a very common sport, but we have found it to be very fun and competitive. We enjoyed not only playing rounders but also watching a live match between the other schools which we found to be very useful.

In the future, we look forward to taking part in many more rounders matches, as well as the many other sports enrichment clubs available throughout the year!

Sayyidah - 8SSH



Sports Leaders help run Aylward Sports Day 2023

On Monday 10th July, 26 Year 9 Sports Leaders went to Aylward Primary school to help run their KS2 sports day. Throughout the day the Year 9's led different sporting activities for the primary school children to complete.

Some of these events included tug of war, egg and spoon race and the sack race. All of the staff at Aylward were so impressed with the sports leaders and were so thankful that they came to help with the day! You are all a huge credit to Bentley Wood.

Miss Chandler

Guide Dogs charity football tournament

This is the third year in a row that Bentley Wood High School teachers participated in a football tournament in support of Guide Dogs charity. The Guide Dogs for Blind Association, known colloquially as Guide Dogs, is a British charitable organization founded in 1934.

The Association uses guide dogs to help blind and partially blind people. Seven schools across north London participated in this year's tournament. This is now a traditional annual event that all of our teachers are proud to participate in.

Mr Maric



Sports Week 2023

During the week beginning 19th June we had different PE lessons for students to participate in Sports Week. We had a boxing coach come in, a martial arts coach and a dance teacher.

All students had the opportunity to have a 30 minute taster during their PE lesson and a lot of students thrived trying new activities.

We also had the opportunity for some students to have a go at archery! Participation was incredibly high all of this week with students joining different lunchtime clubs and after school clubs.

Ms Collen



Students have Archery lesson during Sports Week



Boxing lesson during Sports Week



Challenging and enjoyable activities

STEM Primary Days

“The maths department welcomed 56 Year 5 students from a local primary school who took part in a variety of activities. Students enjoyed some ‘Number Magic’ where students explored the Fibonacci sequence as well as making models of Platonic Solids. We certainly enjoyed delivering the sessions and the primary students along with their teachers left Bentleywood on a Maths high!”

Ms Ali

Activity Days 2023

To finish this academic year off, Years 10s were given a fantastic and fun opportunity to have a go at lots of new activities such as ceilidh dancing, taekwondo, Taskmaster and many more.

There was still more fun in store as we rounded off the day with an engaging, enjoyable performance from an international performer and semi-finalist of the TV show Voice 2022, Triniboi Joochie!

The day was packed with excitement and joy! On behalf of all Year 10 students, I would like to say a massive thank you to all the staff for giving us enthusiasm throughout the day and especially to Mr Rayner for organising an incredibly eventful day for us all!

Mr Rayner



Primary students building structures on Primary STEM Day



Year 9 and 10 trip to see the musical Wicked



Year 8 trip to Walton-on-the-Naze





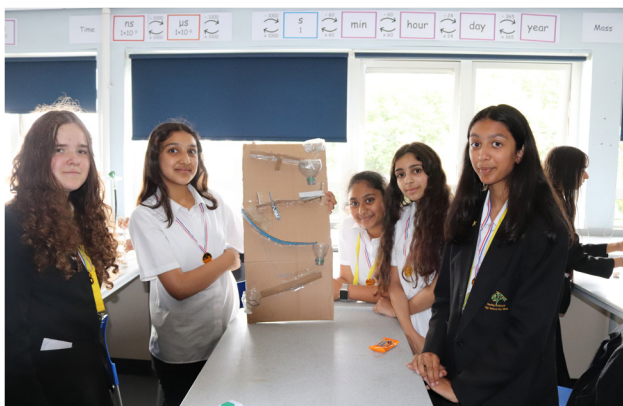
Performance by Triniboi Joojie! from The Voice



Year 10 students taking part in a range of activities including Ceilidh Dancing, Taekwondo and Taskmaster



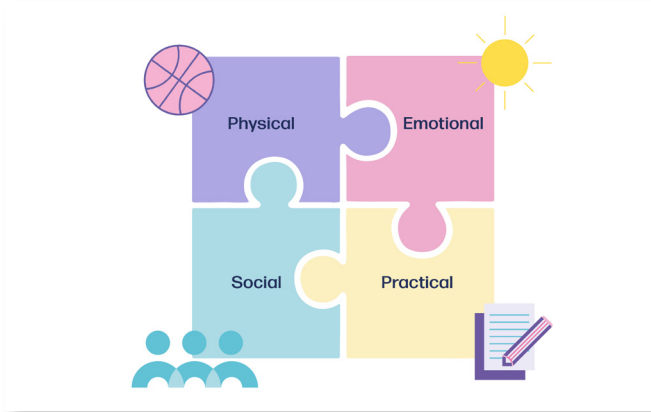
Year 8 science, Marble Run



Student wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing Updates from the Bentley Woods

At Bentley Wood, we're committed to supporting your daughter's emotional well-being and mental health, alongside her academic success and personal development, to the best of our ability. As we enter the summer break, we want to share with you some strategies, developments, and advice for your daughters (and you).



Self-Care:

Self-care is about what you can do to help yourself feel better or to keep yourself feeling good. It's a way that we can look after our own mental health and wellbeing.

Everyone's approach to self-care will look different. What works for you might not work for others. There are lots of different self-care strategies so you can try out different ones until you find something that works for you.

The **Anna Freud** centre has produced a resource that walks young people through a series of steps, helping them create a detailed self-care plan that works for them.

The plan helps young people identify activities that they can use to support their mental health. It's adaptable on a weekly or monthly basis, so that it can fit differing schedules or priorities.

The suggested activities in the plan are split into different categories, including:

- **Physical activities** – ideas include eating a healthy diet, and spending time away from technology.
- **Emotional activities** – Writing down good things we do as a reminder to be less hard on ourselves, developing the 'right' friendships, namely, those that are supportive in positive ways.
- **Social activities** – such as creating a playlist with friends, joining a local youth group.
- **Practical activities** – suggestions such as organising your day (nothing makes you feel less mentally 'cluttered' than writing down a list!), and setting realistic goals to give a sense of purpose and direction.

You can **download the full guide here:**

[Creating a Self-Care Plan](#)

Preparing for Results Day:

The period leading up to exam results can understandably be a stressful time for many young people and their families in our community.

Here is a **free webinar for parents**, carers and family members, on **August 8th** which will explore ways in which you can support young people with feelings of anxiety before results day.

[Supporting young people with anxiety before results day](#)



Transition to Year 7:

The move from **primary school to secondary school** can feel both exciting and overwhelming for your child. It can also be an anxious time for you as a parent as your child takes the next step in their education.

The Anna Freud is putting on a **free webinar** on **August 9th** for parents and carers which will explore ways that you can support your child during this period of change.

[Transition to secondary school supporting your Year-7 child](#)



Managing Wellbeing when Moving to University

The move from secondary school or college into higher education and university can feel both exciting and scary. The Anna Freud Centre is putting on a free webinar by specialists to explore top tips to help your daughter manage their wellbeing in the first few weeks of university, what they might want to consider and what they might expect during this transition period. It will cover:

- Common worries around the transition to university and how to deal with them
- The positives and opportunities associated with this change
- Healthy coping strategies for managing the impact of change.

[Managing your wellbeing when transitioning to university](#)

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 you and your daughter cope with stress and anxiety, and to become more resilient.

Additional Mental Health Support at Bentley Wood

We will continue to offer a wide range of support for your daughter at Bentley Wood, including our PSHE curriculum, Wise Thoughts discussions, sports and extra-curricular clubs. Some examples follow.

- We introduced our **'Healing Hearts Team'** this year. They are a group of staff trained in mental health and wellbeing strategies. These members of staff are available to connect with and speak to students, offering invaluable support and guidance.
- We continue to have an **NHS Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHP)**, Emma, working with us.
- We have a fully-trained **Senior Mental Health Lead** who is a Senior Leader, in line with best Government-endorsed practice, and this means we have support from the **Harrow Mental Health Support Team. (MHST)**
- We have two **Counsellors in each week.**

- We have our own **student Wellbeing & Mental Health Ambassadors** to lead on whole-school initiatives and offer advice to fellow students.
- 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.
- This year we trialled 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. We will be rolling this out to more year groups next year to assist our bespoke support for your daughter.
- 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**.

And finally, this is a great local hub of mental health services for Harrow teenagers, should you or your daughter need it over the summer break:

<https://youngharrowfoundation.org/harrow-is-here>

Useful Apps and Websites:

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

How Are You?



"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!"

Information and advice for students and parents

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:

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 Safely](#)

Summer holidays – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

School's out for summer!

It's always best to be prepared

During the summer holidays, without the distraction of school, internet usage for many young people can increase all the way up to September. This guide is designed to help parents with a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please click on each image below for more information.



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school if you would like to attend a parents internet safety workshop or have any concerns.

Schools please [contact us](#) if you would like a SKIPS Safety Net session delivered to your parent groups or staff.

Skips Educational
 Web: www.skipssafetynet.org 142 Newton Road
 Email: info@skips.com Great Barr
 Tel: +44 121 227 1941 Birmingham B43 6BT

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Developed in partnership with





Skips

Keeping children safe online

www.skipssafetynet.org

Staying safe over the summer

We wish you a safe summer break. The School's reception will be open over the summer from 9am-4pm if you have any safeguarding concerns.

Advice for Students:

- 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.
- **Always** tell a trusted adult where you are going and what time you will return.
- 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.
- **Don't share** any passwords/login information – keep them private and use complex passwords, too.
- Never give personal information to any person you don't know.

Safety and your mobile phone:

- Speak to a parent/trusted adult about who you are connecting with and not to purchase anything online without gaining an adult's permission first.
- Age Ratings on Apps are **there to keep you safe**.
- **Only** connect online with friends and family you know in the physical world and not to accept 'friend play request' from strangers.
- Don't put up with abusive texts, photos or video. Show them to an adult and report them.
- You should **always** speak to a trusted adult if you see or hear anything online that makes you feel **scared** or **uncomfortable** and to **never** arrange to meet someone who they have met online.
- When sharing images: **you need consent** to take and share images/videos of others. People also need your **consent** to **take** and **share** your image.
- If an image shows the private parts of a person who is under 18; it IS an indecent image: It is an **offence** if you: save it, share it, keep it, print it, forward it, show it.

Safety and Social Media

With social media you can send messages, share pictures, videos and chat with people all over the world. ... **but who are you connecting with?**

Anyone can use the Internet. Not everyone is who they say they are and some people are not nice.

Most social media platforms require users to be of a minimum age to use their services:

Snapchat	13 years old
Instagram	13 years old
TikTok	13 Years old
You Tube	13 years old
FaceBook	13 Years old
WhatsApp	16 years old

Advice for Parent/Carers:

During the summer holidays, without the distraction of school, internet usage for many young people can increase all the way up to September. Parents guide to help keep children safe online is designed to help parents with a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games:

Additional Support:

- Online Safety: www.nspcc.org.uk
- Staying safe online in the summer holidays – 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://MentalHealthSupportServicesinHarrow)

Supportive Websites:

- Childline: 0800 1111
- NSPCC:
- Samaritans: Call 116 123 (24 hours 7 days a week)
- [Campaign Against Living Miserably \(CALM\)](http://CampaignAgainstLivingMiserably(CALM)) : Call 0800 58 58 58 – 5pm to midnight every day
- 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](http://TheMix): 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

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.



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).

Arbor Bentley Wood

Available on the

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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).

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
HA7 3JW Stanmore

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.

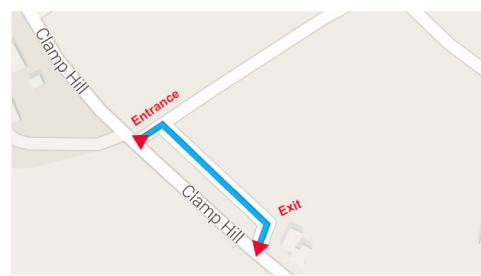
Email the school office if you have any issues or queries:
schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk

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

Thursday 17th August - A/AS Level Results Day

Thursday 24th August - GCSE Results Day

Thursday 24th August - Sixth Form enrolment

Wednesday 6th September - Year 7 and Year 12
- Start of new Academic Year

Thursday 7th September - Whole School Return

Thursday 14th September - Open Evening

Friday 15th September - Open Day - 11:15am - 12:15pm

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd September -
Open Week - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Saturday 23rd September - Open Saturday

Saturday 30th September - Open Saturday

Thursday 12th October - Sixth Form Open Evening

Half term break: Monday 23 Oct - Friday 27 Oct

We would like to invite you to our Open Evening



Thursday 14th September 2023 6:30pm - 9:00pm
Head teacher's speech: school hall at 7:00pm & 7:45pm

We welcome you to visit our school on the following days:

Open Mornings: Friday 15th September 2023 from 11:15am - 12:15pm
and **Monday 18th - Friday 22nd September 2023** from 9:00am - 12:00pm

Open Saturdays: Sat 23rd September and Sat 30th September 2023
Tours will run for 40 minutes starting at 10:30am, 11:15am and 12:00pm



If you are unable to make the above dates and wish to view the school then please contact the school for an appointment. Telephone 020 8954 3623 www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk. Please look at our website for more information



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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk