



# Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter October 2023



## Classical harpist Bianca Watts performance at Bentley Wood

Bianca began studying the harp at age seven in Chantilly, France, and has been charmed by the instrument ever since. She is an award-winning musician who has captivated audiences with her enchanting harp playing, mesmerising vocals, and heartfelt songwriting.

Her passion for music led her to complete her Masters degree in classical harp at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, with Distinction. However, Bianca's artistic exploration didn't stop there. Fuelled by her diverse musical tastes, which encompass folk, classical, pop, jazz, and more, she delved into the realms of composing.

This fusion of genres creates a unique and captivating sound, which Bianca has taken to numerous renowned venues across the United Kingdom, including iconic establishments like Ronnie Scott's, Folk Room Records, Q Bar, and the Barbican.

In addition to her performances, Bianca has also released her debut EP, featuring her original compositions for harp, voice, electric bass, double bass, clarinet, and percussion. The EP has garnered positive reviews from critics and is earning airtime on local radio stations.

Beyond her artistic pursuits, Bianca is deeply committed to using music as a tool for positive change. She specialises in music outreach work, performing and leading workshops in prisons, hospitals, refugee camps, schools, centres for people with additional needs and many more communities. Additionally, she runs projects for underprivileged children with the esteemed charitable organisation, Wind-Up Penguin. Bianca's musical journey is a testament to her versatility, creativity, and her belief in the positive and unifying impact of music.

**Mrs Bancroft, Associate Assistant Head Teacher, Head of Music**

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

[www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk](http://www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk)



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community,

I have the pleasure of sending you the first newsletter of the year.

Join me in congratulating all the Year 11, and 13 students who have done so well in their GCSE, BTEC and A Level courses. We wish them all the best for the year ahead onto their next phase. Thank you all for working so well with us to ensure your daughters all achieve their very best.

Our new Year 7 and Year 12 students have settled in really well, it was a pleasure to meet them at our Year 7 and Year 12 engagement evenings.

As always, our Year 7 and 8 students have been stars at our Open Evening and Saturday tours, talking with such confidence and pride about their school.

Ms Bancroft has again treated us to another live music performance, this time we have all been entertained by a very talented harpist, Bianca Watts. The Sixth Formers enjoyed their Fright Night trip to Thorpe Park, I believe the tickets sold out in a record 3 minutes, all the students experienced a very rich and eye-opening careers fair. Please continue to encourage your daughters to engage in as much enrichment clubs and experiences as they can.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely half term break and I look forward to seeing all students again on Monday 30th October.

Kind regards,



Naseema Akbar  
Headteacher



## Harp performance

Here are some comments from students who enjoyed the performance

I really enjoyed the harp production. I learned lots of interesting facts about harps such as: what the strings are made of, how they come in different sizes, and I found it interesting watching her fingers move so complicatedly so fast! I hope we have lots more lovely experiences like this.

**Rachel R 7NME**

Today at school we all sat in the hall and were immediately stunned with the sight of a huge harp. We were warmly welcomed by the musician and then the performance began. We kicked it off with a jazzy piece which all woke us up and put us in a dazzling mood. Following that was a mesmerising piece which gave a tranquil vibe to the audience. Finally, we were able to ask some burning questions and find out about the lady. We gave her a well-deserved round of applause and we headed off. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the making of this wonderful performance.

**Faryal O 7SZ**

At 9:00, all of year 10s and sixth formers were lead into the hall where we all saw the harp. I was very shocked by the size of the harp. When we sat down we were introduced to Bianca, the harpist. Bianca then rested the huge harp on her left shoulder and began to play.

We were all mesmerized by the calming and soothing sound of the harp. The piece was very emotive and expressive. It consisted of a main melody which was played with the right hand and lower chords that were played with the left hand.

After the piece, a loud round of applause was heard and another piece began. This piece was different because it was played like a guitar and was strummed quickly. I also noticed that Bianca wasn't always strumming the harp in the middle and was moving higher and lower on the strings. I later found out that the middle was used to create more of an open sound and the lower area was used to create a more guitar like sound. The piece carried on for about 8-10 minutes.

Afterwards, we were allowed to ask questions, such as how long has she played the harp and what were the pedals for.

She told us that she has been playing from a young age and has played for about 22 years. The pedals found at the bottom of the harp were used to create a flat, natural or sharp note, like the black notes on the keyboard. We also found out that the string was made of cow gut and that she always carried spares for any concert just in case. I found these facts very interesting. The harp performance was an amazing experience and I hope that we will be able to have many experiences like this in the future.

**Faiza S 10SEO**

On 10th October, the entire school had been to a harp performance by Bianca. She started off the performance by explaining her instrument. Then, she moved on to playing her first piece.

The music was really upbeat, and it was not what I expected the harp to sound like. The next piece she played symbolized Spring. First, she played the harp to sound like it was raining, and as the piece went on, she added a waterfall and even started to hit the harp in tune to the strings. Finally, she played a fiery piece of music which was really enjoyable.

Overall, I loved the harp performance, it was really gentle and mesmerizing. I cannot wait for the other harp performances to come.

**Sara S 7SZ**

We had a performance today done by a professional harp player. One of the pieces that she played was called le Printemps which translates to the Spring. The way she played the harp was just so calming and freeing. I felt like I was flying in the sky without having to worry about anything. It was so relaxing to listen to such a wonderful piece of music. The Harpist herself had been playing the harp for 22 years and she started to play the harp aged 7. I feel so special because I get to listen to such amazing professional musicians.

**Christina K 8ABR**

# Students enjoy enrichment opportunities attending many clubs

## Students challenge their minds at Debate Club

Debate Club is an enjoyable after school enrichment club that happens every Wednesday for all years in W4. I first started going to Debate Club at the beginning of last year and it really helped me become a better speaker and listener. This Enrichment Club is a safe and comfortable area to express your opinions and learn new things! Debate Club really helps me become aware with what's happening around the world and how other people see it and it also helps me lead a team and work well with one while critically thinking about new ideas! Finally, it's a great way of making new friends and stepping out of your comfort zone!

**Zara A 8ABR**

Every Wednesday at 3:30, we have the pleasure of meeting at W4 to participate in Debate Club. Debate Club is a safe, fun environment where we can share our opinions and challenge our minds by trying to create arguments for the opposing team. It starts off with a quick check on the news, reading headlines trying to spot any debate worthy topics to debate about. My favourite part is when we use the randomiser to generate random topics. These topics can either be political, ethical, or environmental. One of the best topics that I personally loved to do was whether AI should be considered part of our everyday lives. Before debating we get around five minutes to split up into our teams ( for and against) and come up with some notes which can help us later.

Thanks to Mr O'Sullivan, we have learnt many ways to start, end and challenge a point during a debate and I am a lot more confident in debating than when I started. Debate Club is an incredible experience which Bentley Wood offers, and I am so glad to be a part of something really special.

**Sarah A 8LCU**

## Criminology Club

My experiences with Criminology Club were great, interesting and fun. Before attending the club, I didn't know that criminology was really fun, but as we learnt so many interesting facts and tried to solve some engrossing crimes as a team and a community,

I realised that Criminology Club was not just about investigating crimes, it was also about developing life skills and having fun. If you have an interest in mysterious and some thrilling crimes to solve and have fun along with learning, this club is for you.

**Saanvi B 8LSB**



Debate Club



Criminology Club

# Our new Year 7 settle into school life

Our new Year 7 cohort has settled into life at Bentley Wood seamlessly and although they have only been with us a few short weeks, all have demonstrated our CARE values in their lessons and around the school environment. Personally, it is so pleasing to be greeted enthusiastically by smiling faces every morning either in assembly or in their form groups and many teachers have passed on messages of the kindness that they see from each form towards each other and our school community.

Our year group theme is 'shooting stars' as we believe that all of our Year 7s have a bright future ahead of them - every form has received a shooting star achievement during this half term and the competition is truly heating up to see which form will win the first form prize at the end of the term in December.

Not only do our students excel in their lessons but they always volunteer their time for the school community. A big thank you to our Year 7 students who were our tour guides for prospective families at our Open Evening and to those who even volunteered to come in on a Saturday to do the same. Families were very impressed with their knowledge of the school after a short period of time and how well they communicated.

We have the highest expectations of our students in relation to uniform, attendance and punctuality. I am glad to say that the Year 7s have risen to the challenge in this respect. A big thank you must go to our families of Year 7 students who I know support their daughter in maintaining these high standards.

I've also enjoyed seeing so many of our Year 7s enjoy the enrichment opportunities that Bentley Wood offers. Over just the past few days I've heard our students talk excitedly about Science Club, art activities, Coding Club and of course our many music and arts programmes. Every student should be attending at least one of these incredible enrichment activities each week.

After an incredibly busy first half term, they should enjoy a well-deserved break over the half term.

**Mr Curtis, Head of Year 7**



# Careers guidance at Bentley Wood

## EAL Post-16 Options coffee morning

A coffee morning was arranged with parents and the Careers Adviser Mr Tapper to inform them of their children's Post-16 options and to support those who don't speak English or speak English as a second language to make successful transitions to college. We were joined by staff who speak Arabic, Pashto and Farsi and by Year 12 students who speak these languages.

Parents were grateful for the support that their children will receive from the school as they are very motivated to see their children fulfil their educational potential.



## Employer enrichment talks Autumn Term

These talks are held every Wednesday after school. This term we have had a lawyer, an intern from the Bank of England and a marketing consultant. Each speaker was given a clear brief to open the minds of young people to see the full range of opportunities working in a sector so that they don't limit themselves to the one or two job roles that they are familiar with.

Some students have taken advantage of the talks by networking with the speakers to assist them with work experience in the future and to ask them more questions about working in their represented field. These talks will continue throughout November 2023.



EAL Coffee Morning

## Work experience with Harrow MP Bob Blackman

Hosai Y was supported by the school's Careers Adviser to secure work experience with Harrow MP Bob Blackman during the 2023 summer holidays. Hosai had not compiled a CV before or written a covering letter, but with some support she was able to do both of these to a good standard. She applied and was successful and spent the week learning about the role of a parliamentary MP and joined them and other young people going door to door to find out about the needs of constituents. Hosai was invited to visit Number 10 Downing Street and the House of Commons as part of this unique experience.



Employer enrichment talks  
Investment Banker at Morgan Stanley

## Work experience for Year 10 and Year 12 students

Students are preparing for their summer term work experience by securing placements with local employers. Year 10 work experience will take place from 15th - 19th July 2024. Year 12 work experience will take place from 22nd - 26th July 2024.

Work experience forms must be returned by 3rd November.



Bob Blackman Harrow MP



## Student engagement with careers at Bentley Wood Careers Fair 2023

38 organisations attended Bentley Wood High School for its annual careers fair on Thursday 12th October 2023. Organisations came from healthcare, banking and finance, uniformed services, hospitality & catering, construction, IT, the civil service and higher education universities and further education colleges.

The morning started with Year 11 and Year 12/13 all very keen to explore opportunities as they make significant educational/career choices. Employers were very keen to promote work experience opportunities to Year 10 and Year 12 students. Some students took advantage of these by making useful contacts with each organisation.

Year 9 were as keen to meet with each organisation and begin further exploration into education and career choices that they face. Meanwhile Year 8 and Year 7 were just very enthusiastic as they engaged with all of the visitors and collected lots of pens, sweets and stickers!

**Mr Tapper, Careers Advisor**



# Creative and practical activities to help with subject knowledge



## Year 9 Geographers go to Epping Forest to bring their learning to life

They investigated biodiversity and collected data from contrasting sites (a young versus a mature woodland). These observations and methods allowed them to understand more about the ecosystem and the nutrient cycle. A student shares her experience in the account below.

“On Friday the 13 of October, my friends and I went on a geography trip to Epping Forest, which is found in Essex. I had a lot of fun as we were in a different environment and learning outside. It was nice to learn some geography outside of the classroom.

When we arrived at Epping Forest, we were able to see all the beautiful nature around us. Epping Forest is not only a forest, but it includes woodlands, marshes and some moorland. While we were there, we were taught how to identify the differences between trees, and we saw habitats of a lot of animals. My friends and I saw a beetle and they named it Gerald.

We used measuring tapes to measure the tree girth which helped us figure out how old the tree was. Did you know an oak tree can live for more than 150 years! We also used a light metre to measure how much light we can find on the forest floors, we learnt how to use a clinometer and a quadrat as well.

I found it very interesting to see how we are able to measure and figure out tree ages and light intensity on the forest floor with the new technology we have. While walking in the forest we also saw some bones which could have been from a dead deer.

I am thankful for this trip that was organised as it helps us engage with the geography around us rather than just writing it all down in a classroom.”

**Inshirah B 9EOG**



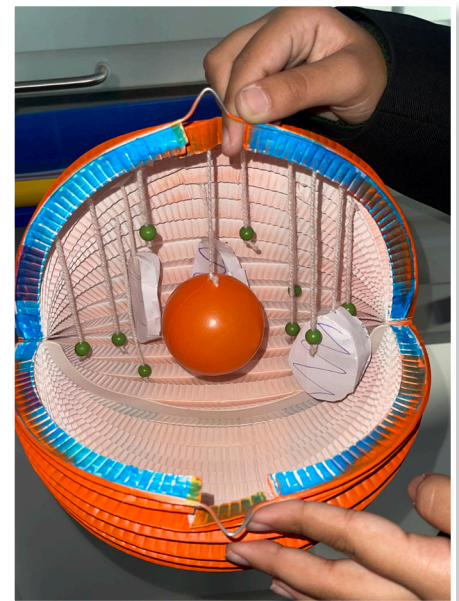
# Year 7 create incredible models of cells for biology competition

BioArtAttack is a national competition by the Royal Society of Biology as part of Biology Week. The competition aligned well with the topic 'Cells' that is currently being taught in Year 7. Students across the U.K are creating 3D models of any biological concept.

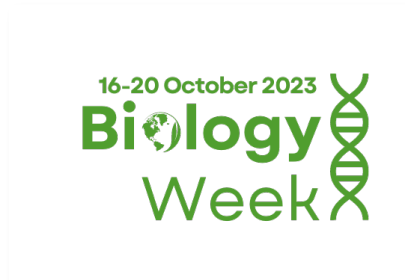
The entries will be submitted to the RSB and judges will determine the winner in March 2024. these 3D models will be judged on: the variety of materials used, the variety of creative skills used, the aesthetic quality of the piece, the originality of the piece and how well the piece captures the biological basis of the subject matter.

Some of our Year 7 scientists have crafted some incredible 3D models of plant or animal cells, and some included delicious cakes!

Miss Alsharifi, Head of Biology



Model by Kayla J 7EBD



Model by Aliyaa A 7EBD



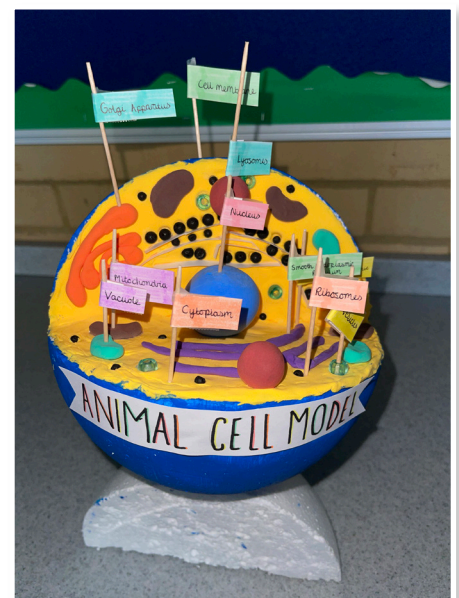
Model by Iman H 7EBD



Model by Jayni H 7EBD



Model by Fathima M 7EBD



Model by Dayana B 7EBD

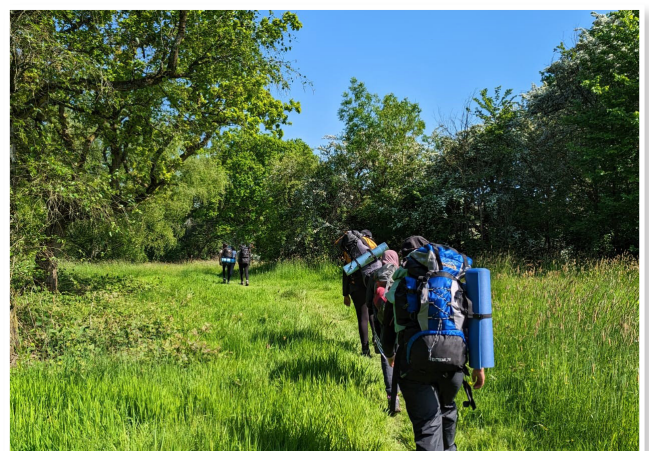
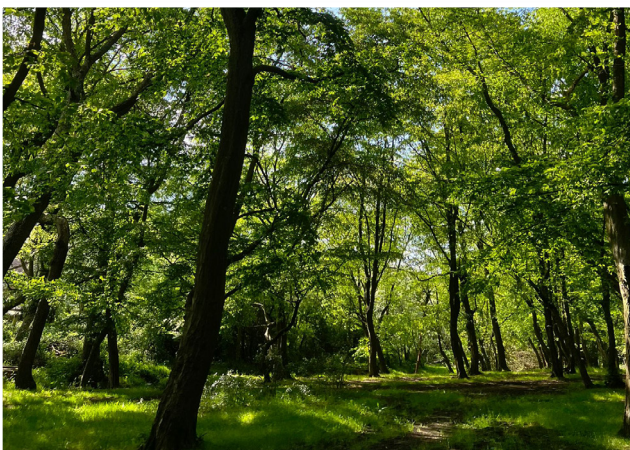
# Students take part in enriching outdoor activities

## Year 10 start their journey towards the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

We are excited to announce that our Year 10 students are embarking on a thrilling journey of self-discovery and personal growth as they undertake training for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. This prestigious programme encourages our young adventurers to push their limits, develop invaluable life skills, and become active members of their communities.

Over the coming months, our students will be honing their outdoor skills, engaging in community service, and embracing physical fitness challenges. The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is not only an opportunity to foster resilience, leadership, and teamwork but also a chance for our students to create lasting memories and friendships. We look forward to witnessing their growth and achievements as they take on this remarkable challenge. Stay tuned for updates on their inspiring progress!

**Miss Howes,**  
Teacher of Psychology/Health and Social Care



# The Great Outdoors at Forest School

A small group of Bentley Wood students have been enjoying the wonders of the great outdoors at the Woodland Adventure Forest School in Harrow.

They have been visiting on a Wednesday morning to take part in a variety of exciting activities. So far, the students have enjoyed woodland walks whilst collecting natural objects for arts and crafts activities. They have created collages, paintings and worked with clay while in the beautiful surroundings of the forest.



## Clay Work by Emmanuela De Heer 7SCH

In future sessions the students will be participating in camp fire and shelter building as well as pond dipping. They will also be enjoying stories around the camp fire when the cold weather sets in.

Another highlight for the students is definitely the delicious cup of hot chocolate which they enjoy in the woodland camp at the end of every session.

Mrs Howell



## Woodland Adventure Forest School Harrow

Learning to Learn Out of Doors



### THE AIMS OF WOODLAND ADVENTURE FOREST SCHOOL

The principle aims of Woodland Adventure Forest School are to:

- Teach about the natural world, promote care for the environment and raise awareness of the importance of conservation at local, national and global levels
- Develop a sense of adventure and accomplishment
- Support creativity, by presenting environmental challenges, providing exciting experiences and stimulating imagination
- Close the attainment gap by promoting Learning to Learn principles
- Increase self-confidence, improve behaviour to support in-class learning and develop better communication skills
- Encourage the use of green spaces by families e.g. school grounds, local woodlands, parks
- Promote good practice in conservation on site and in the wider community



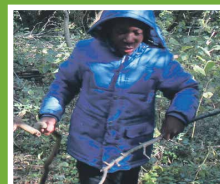
### PARTICIPANTS IN THE WOODLAND ADVENTURE FOREST SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

Woodland Adventure Forest School works in partnership with schools, youth organisations, and charities.

It provides an enriching outdoor curriculum which caters for young people (aged between 18 months - 16 years) with a very wide range of abilities and needs.

Pupils attending include those who:

- Are vulnerable e.g. refugees, asylum seekers, new arrivals, Travellers, Looked After Children
- Have moderate/extreme social and emotional difficulties, including young offenders
- Have severe learning difficulties
- Experience difficulty learning, and may have difficulty sustaining concentration, in the classroom situation e.g. kinaesthetic learners
- Children usually attend in small groups of up to 12. Curriculum extension activities catering for whole classes are also offered. These include:
  - Activity Days e.g. Neolithic Stone Age Curriculum Days
  - Team Building Days
  - Field Studies



All the activities the children take part in will involve learning new skills through a fun and challenging curriculum which follows the Learning to Learn principles of:

- Readiness – starting from where the children are in terms of emotional behaviour, ability, needs
- Resourcefulness – problem solving e.g. finding materials to use
- Resilience – being undeterred in the face of new challenges and minor frustrations
- Responsibility – working as a team, respecting the rules of Woodland Adventure Forest School

### THE SESSIONS

The Forest School experience provides structured sessions which are created to meet the specific needs of the groups attending. There is a basic menu of topics which are assembled to form a programme of work, usually 10 weeks long. These topics are adapted according to age range and ability.

Lesson plans incorporate a number of key skills from the National Curriculum. In this way sessions support the work which is going on in the mainstream classroom and can bring about a breakthrough in understanding. Skills taught through the Forest School curriculum are highlighted in the synopses which follow.

Programmes are also designed to meet the needs of children with severe learning difficulties. Pupils work in groups and as individuals depending on what they are doing or how they wish to operate.

Those who are traumatised or introverted often prefer to take themselves off into one of the quiet areas which are set up every week. These may be covered with a tarpaulin and consist of a blanket on which woodland puppets, bowls of cones and other natural items of interest are displayed.

Sometimes children with special needs may want to engage with their own task e.g. filling a barrow and pushing it along. If a child feels most comfortable in a quiet place he/she will never be coerced into joining the main group against his/her will.

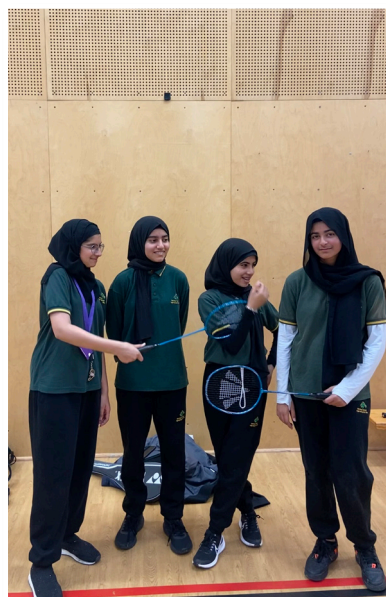


# Engagement in sport this term

## Year 8&9 Badminton Tournament

4 players from our Under 14s team entered their first Under 14s badminton tournament this year, at Avanti House School. Our Under 14's practise weekly after school, every Thursday. They competed against 3 schools, and played against Avanti first, then Nower Hill, then North London Collegiate.

The Under 14s were very supportive of one another and remained positive. They were very competitive and used attacking shots, which have progressed, such as an overhead clear and smash shot to gain points. On the day, we came fourth place. eight schools entered the ranking tournament; our Under 14s team came 6th place overall. The next tournament will be on Tuesday 5th December!



## Year 10&11 Badminton Tournament

Five players from our Under 16s team and one player from our Under 14s team entered their first Under 16s badminton tournament this year, at Avanti House School. Our players practise on a weekly basis every Thursday after school. They versed 3 schools, in which they played against Avanti House first, then North London Collegiate, then Nower Hill. Our team remained positive and encouraged each other throughout. It was great to see their competitive nature which remained strong throughout. On the day, we came third place. Eight schools entered the ranking tournament; our Under 16's team came 5th place overall. The next tournament will be on Tuesday 28th November!

U14	
Rank	School
1	Avanti
2	Park High
3	John Lyon
4	NLCS
5	Nower Hill
6	Nower Hill
7	Park B
8	Canons

U16	
Rank	School
1	John Lyon
2	Nower Hill
3	Avanti
4	Park High
5	Bentley Wood
6	Salvo
7	NLCS
8	Whitmore

Ms Halai

## Year 8 netball

The Year 8 netball team have started the season off very strong. They have played three matches against Avanti, Sacred Heart and Whitefriars. They have won two, but lost one.

All the students in the team have regularly been attending after school training and this is showing in their game play! There is still going to be a Year 8 netball tournament later in the year and we look forward to playing against the schools, so we can have more practise.

Students played last the match of this half term and the team needed to win to go through to the semi-finals. The students played a fantastic match against Park High, it was very close as it finished a tie. We played an additional two minutes and Bentley Wood scored and Park High did not, so the team are through to the semi-final. Once all the other league matches have finished we will find out who we are playing against! Well done girls!



Year 8 Netball team

## Year 9 netball

This year the Year 9 netball league started earlier so the team have not had as much time to practise, however they have been very supportive of each other.

The team had their last match against Park High, but unfortunately lost. The team played well with each other and at times were in the lead, or kept the goal difference close. However during the last quarter Park High managed to score more goals and the final score was 10-5.

Now we have a lot of time to prepare for the netball tournament which will take place later in the academic year. The girls showed great resilience and have been very committed to attending netball training, especially as many of them have not been selected for the team before.



Year 9 Netball team

## Year 10 netball

On Wednesday 18th October the Year 10 netball tournament took place. In our group, the students had to play against Whitmore (drew 3-3), Hatch End (won 7-1) and Pinner (lost 4-2). The team made it through to the semi-final and had to play Park High, unfortunately they lost the game 3-1.

They then played against Sacred Heart for a play off for third place and this finished with a draw, however Bentley Wood did come 3rd overall as they had a greater goal difference.

Despite the rain the students motivated each other and encouraged one another to keep doing their best and they did play very well.

They will start playing league matches after January, the team is not set in stone and everyone is still welcome to join training on Friday's afterschool until 4:30pm.

The commitment from all the students at clubs has been fantastic and we will continue with training for all on a Tuesday after school.



## Year 11 netball

The Year 11 team had to play 4 other matches in the group stages which were 2x5minute halves and they won all their games!

Bentley Wood vs Avanti **5-3**.

Bentley Wood vs Pinner **4-1**.

Bentley Wood vs Hatch End **10-0**.

Bentley Wood vs Whitmore **10-0**.

They made it through to the semi-final and had to play Sacred Heart. Unfortunately fatigue started to set in and they lost 6-3.

The girls played extremely well and were very supportive of one another which was fantastic to see. They came 3rd overall which is amazing.



Year 10 Netball team



Year 11 Netball team

**Ms Collen Head of PE**

# Student Rewards October 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

**Nega N 7LJO** - for a fantastic start to her sketch book with consistent high standards!

**Lamees E 7LNO** - for fantastic use of tone and pattern in her artwork.

### Drama

7SZ so many outstanding Drama students in this form! Excellent contributions so far from **Sara S** and **Tahlia L**

### English

**Hawa H 7EBD** - for her enthusiasm, positive attitude and curiosity. **Jasmin K 7MEM** - for her superb start to secondary school English

### Food

**Lucia M 7MCO** - for excellent contributions to discussions on the Eatwell guide and nutrients.

### French

**Stefania T 7MCO** - for consistently producing excellent test results and working well in class.

### Geography

**Azana L 7LNO** - for producing an outstanding piece of HW in her first few weeks. Great content and presentation.

### Graphics

**Liliana E 7SZ** - for outstanding classwork and homework. Well-done for going the extra mile

### History

**Joanne A 7LJO** - for enthusiastically participating in lessons

### Maths

**Sana S 7LNO** for an excellent start in Maths. Keep up the good work :-)

### Music

**Ciara and Kyra 7LJO** - for making a great start to their musical journey.

### PE

**Kristina P 7EBD** - for her consistent determination whilst learning practical skills, her contributions during lesson, and her leadership roles during lessons.

### Philosophy

**Joanne A 7JLO** - for your excellent contributions in RS lessons!

### Science

**Dua Z 7MCO** - For her resilience and for going above and beyond to complete homework to an exceptional standard

### Spanish

**Victoria G 7SCH** - for amazing contributions in her Spanish lessons and for her enthusiasm for the subject.



# Student Rewards October 2023

## Year 8



### Art

**Louisa M 8KPO** - for always having creative original ideas and attending club every week! Well done!

### Drama

**Sapphire M 8ABR** - for being so committed and creative with her contributions and characters in Drama half term.

### English

**Ayesha P 8AHU** - for her effort, enthusiasm and contributions in class. **Nisbat B 8ROR** for her active listening and contributions to class discussion

### French

**Annabelle C 8ROR** - for producing amazing results in her summer holiday project and in subsequent tests. She is clearly extremely conscientious.

### Geography

**Sapphire M 8ABR** - for being focused and positive in lessons. Contributing well and producing excellent CW and HW.

### Graphics

**Barbora F 8GHO** - for excellent organisation and catching up and putting in the extra effort for classwork and homework

### Maths

**Saanvi B 8LSB** - An outstanding student who works incredibly hard every lesson and completes her homework to a very high standard. You are extremely polite and an excellent role model to your peers. Keep up the good work!

**Juhi S 8ABR** - for her amazing level of commitment to learning and her positive contributions to lessons. She is always trying her best and shows a positive attitude at all times. Keep up the good work! :-)

### Music

**Emma A** and **Greta C 8LSB** - for always being cheery, working hard and having big smiles on their faces!

### PE

**Shiloh N 8ABR** - fantastic leadership demonstrated in all PE lessons so far. She supports all students to help them be successful.

### Philosophy

**Barbora F 8GHO** - for your shining enthusiasm in Philosophy lessons!

### Science

**Saanvi B 8LSB** - Always works incredibly hard every lesson and completes her homework to a very high standard.

**Holly H 8ROR** - Always works hard and willing to help in science, willing to contribute to discussion and always completes homework to a high standard.

**Yukta V 8ROR** - continuously outstanding positivity, enthusiasm and engagement in science"

### Spanish

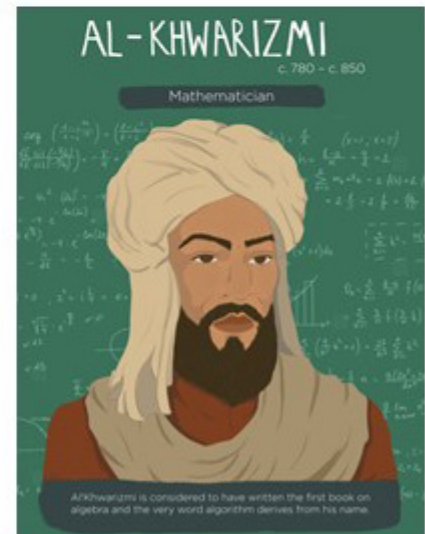
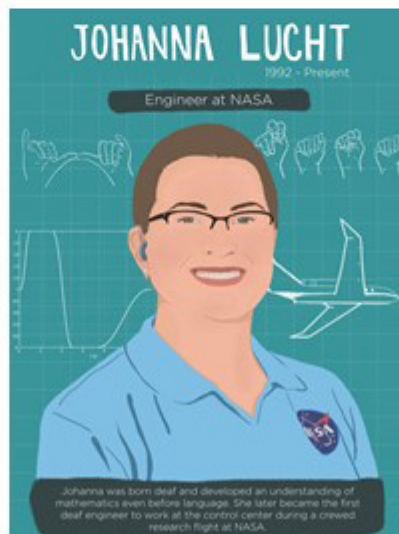
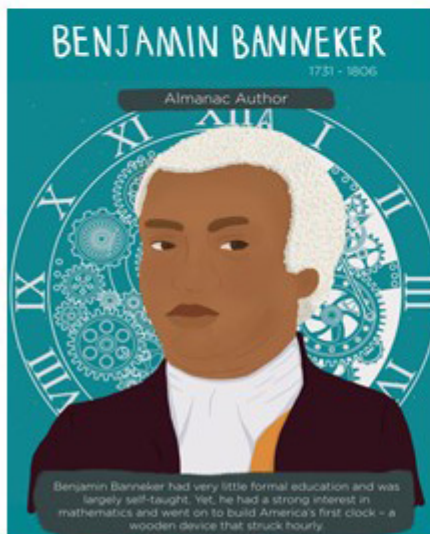
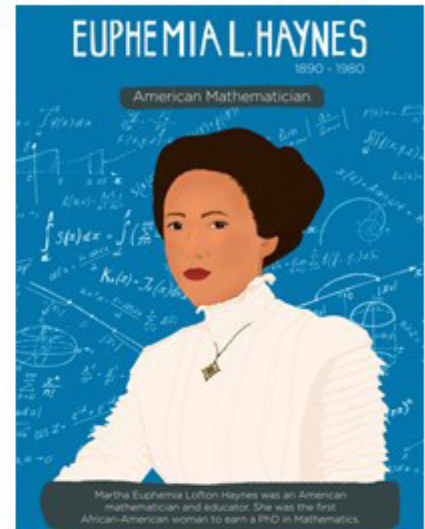
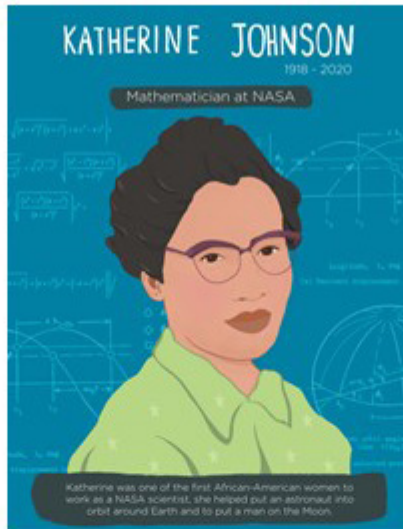
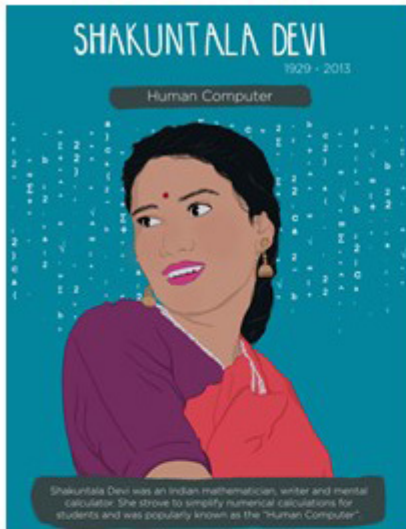
**Patricia S 8MD** - for her amazing contributions and engagement in Spanish. MCO

### Textiles

**Sara K 8ABR** - for her consistent hard work in hand embroidery and supporting others in using the sewing machine



# Maths competitions and challenges



ALL maths classrooms have posters of these key mathematicians who have inspired us and positively impacted the way that we live today; from Katherine Johnson, the first African-American woman to work as a NASA scientist, to Al-Khwarizmi, the man who is considered to have written the first book on algebra.

**This year, all of year 10s will be working in a weekly Maths Challenge to show their appreciation for these important mathematicians**

Can you solve for which mathematician we are talking about?

- |                     |                            |                                |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) $8w + 20 = 4$    | 7) $7w + 3 = 5w + 9$       | 13) $7x = 28$                  |
| 2) $12 - y = 5$     | 8) $7y + 6 = 5(y - 2)$     | 14) $12x = -18$                |
| 3) $18 - 4a = 2$    | 9) $4(2x - 5) = 5x + 4$    | 15) $5(3c - 2) - 7c = 40 - 2c$ |
| 4) $2e - 8 = 14$    | 10) $3(5x - 2) = -126$     | 16) $3y + 4 = 22$              |
| 5) $5(2y + 7) = 20$ | 11) $4(3x + 5) = -76$      | 17) $16x = -128$               |
| 6) $3(y + 4) = 24$  | 12) $2(2x + 1) = 3(x - 4)$ |                                |

Here is the key

- |           |            |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| • A = 7   | • J = 11   | • S = 3.5  |
| • B = -14 | • K = 4.5  | • T = -3   |
| • C = 2   | • L = 8    | • U = -4   |
| • D = 1   | • M = -2   | • V = -5   |
| • E = -8  | • N = 6    | • W = 5    |
| • F = 0.5 | • O = -1.5 | • X = -6   |
| • G = 100 | • P = 1.5  | • Y = -100 |
| • H = 72  | • Q = 0    | • Z = -72  |
| • I = 3   | • R = 4    |            |



**GOOD LUCK!**



# Bentley Wood girls achieve excellent results in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge 2023

Earlier this month, our Year 11 further maths, Year 12 and 13 A level Maths girls participated in the prestigious UKMT Senior Maths Challenge and their results were outstanding. Our senior mathematicians achieved **1 Silver BiS, 6 Silver and 17 Bronze medals**.

Below you can see a typical question that students would be given to solve in the UKMT Maths Challenge, which demonstrates how difficult the competition actually is.

15. A square is inscribed in a circle of radius 1. An isosceles triangle is inscribed in the square as shown.

What is the ratio of the area of this triangle to the area of the shaded region?

- A  $\pi : \sqrt{2}$     B  $\pi : 1$     C  $1 : 4$     D  $1 : \pi - 2$     E  $2 : \pi$



Over 74,000 pupils from across the UK returned scripts for the Senior Maths Challenge with the top 10% receiving a gold certificate, the next 20% silver and the next 30% bronze.

We are particularly delighted with the success of one student, Maryam J from Year 12, who was invited to participate in the follow-on rounds of this prestigious competition – the first round of the British Mathematical Olympiad and the Senior Kangaroo respectively.

Many congratulations to all our girls for their excellent results and a big thank you to our Maths Department for preparing the students

Ms Vagi

Khadeeja	11X/Ma1	50	Bronze
Mithra	11Y/Ma1	62	Bronze
Parisa	11Y/Ma1	55	Bronze
Zara	11Y/Ma1	55	Bronze
Niveditha	11Y/Ma1	55	Bronze
Niva	11Y/Ma1	55	Bronze
Zara	11Y/Ma1	51	Bronze
Oorvi	12A/Ma1	62	Bronze
Safa	12A/Ma1	58	Bronze
Raagavie	12A/Ma1	57	Bronze
Kavya	12D/Ma1	58	Bronze
Maryam	12fm	75	SilverBiS
Sana	12fm	72	Silver
Zahra	12fm	58	Bronze
Jiya	12fm	55	Bronze
Sarah	13C/Ma1	66	Silver
Niyathi	13C/Ma1	64	Silver
Imaan	13C/Ma1	61	Bronze
Nagin	13C/Ma1	60	Bronze
Hadiqah	13fm	72	Silver
Nabeela	13fm	71	Silver
Hafsa	13fm	61	Bronze
Aarushi	13fm	52	Bronze

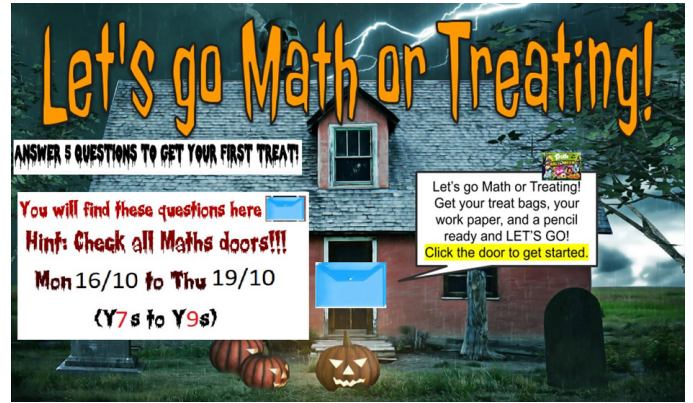


# Halloween maths competitions

## Halloween: Spooky, Fun, and Sweet

Halloween is a celebration of all things spooky and fun, where people dress up in costumes and go trick or treating for candy and treats.

We brought a spooky theme to our school with our Halloween Maths Challenge Cards!! Here are some of their answers from students taking part in the Halloween Quiz

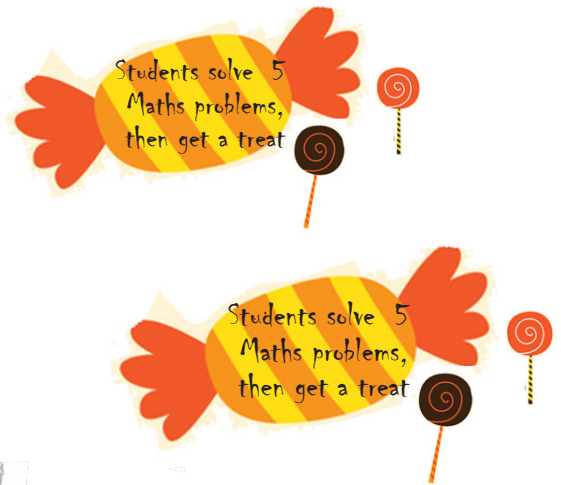


Bob and his friends have just been 'trick or treating'. Bob got 34 sweets, Bill got 45 sweets, Sam got 21 sweets and Sarah got 44. What was the range?  
(To work out the range subtract the smallest number from the biggest)

Answer: 24  
Name: urooj FORM: qssh

All 8 witches need 6 rats each and 2 newts each for their potions. How many do they need altogether?

Answer: 64  
Name: urooj FORM: qssh



A dozen pumpkins in each row  
Seven rows, and not one more  
Altogether we should know  
The pumpkins number

84  
7x12

Name: Aisha Jemerd FORM: TMCO

The area of a large, rectangular-shaped pumpkin plantation is  $15.17\text{km}^2$ . The length of the plantation is 4.1 km kilometers. How many kilometres is the width of the plantation?

$15.17 \times 15.17 = 230.1289$

Answer: 3.7 km  
Name: Aisha J FORM: TMCO

There are 350 monsters under the bed. 35% of those monsters are purple.

a) How many monsters are purple? 105  
b) Monsters are gremlins or trolls. The ratio of gremlins to trolls is 4:3. How many gremlins are under the bed? 200

Answer: 3.5  
Name: Mansal FORM: TMCO

Through a telescope, a full moon looks like a circle with a radius of 4cm.

What is the area of the full moon circle?

50.265  
π r<sup>2</sup> = A  
π x 4<sup>2</sup> =

Answer: 50.26  
Name: Aisha J FORM: TMCO

How far can a bat travel in nine hours, if it is flying at nineteen miles per hour?

Answer: 171 miles  
Name: Henri FORM: 752

I bought 26 masks for a Halloween party. Some were vampire masks (they cost £3.99 each) and some were witch masks (cheaper ones - only £2.75). In total I spent £91.34. How many vampire masks did I buy?

Answer: 63.80  
Name: Mansal FORM: TMCO

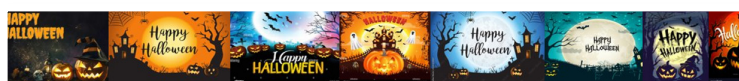
Winners of the Halloween Maths Quiz. Students received treats



Winners

# Math or Treating!

Year 7s	Year 8s	Year 9s
Marwa, 7SCH	Monisha, 8KPO	Jessica, 9TC
Fatima, 7SCH	Hana, 8KPO	Zainab, 9TC
Marwa, 7MCO	Saymath, 8KPO	Parwana, 9TC
Menaal, 7MCO		Eshel, 9TC
Aisha J, 7MCO		
Lucia, 7MCO		Shadia M 9SSH
Urvi K, 7MCO		Urooj, 9SSH
Dhriya, 7MCO		Kanisha, 9LBM
Henna, 7SCH		
Diana, 7SCH		
Dua Zaidi, 7MCO		
Ishika, 7MCO		
Zarah 7MCO		
Sabeen 7MCO		



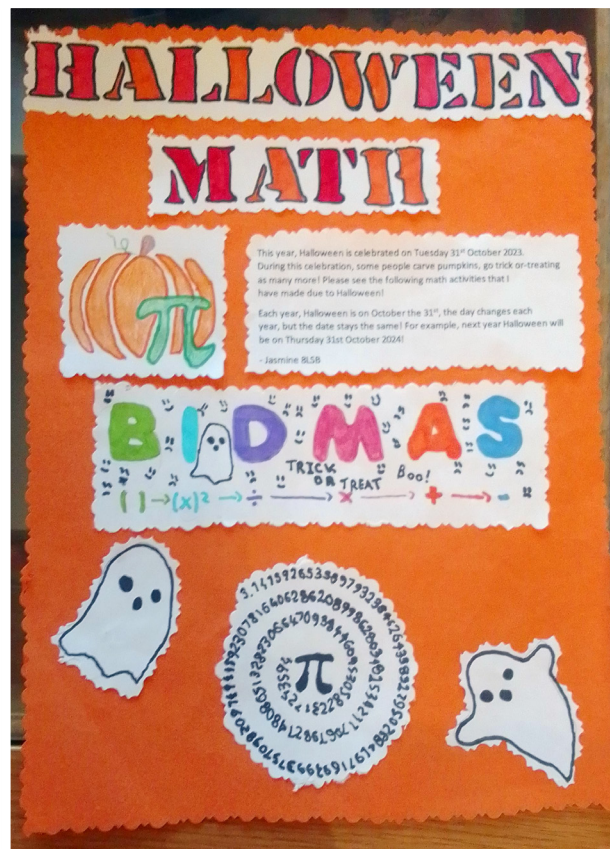
## Math Ambassadors - Halloween

This year, for Halloween, the math ambassadors, came up with an exciting idea for you all to take part in!

**ACTIVITY:** You are going to have to design a math poster for Halloween- you can make it as creative as you would like. Once you have completed it, please show your form tutor and they would be able to award you with some achievement points! Then, either give it to your head of year, math teachers, one of the math ambassadors or Ms. Vagi.

**DATE:** You can hand it in, from the 11th October - 18th October and the winners will be announced on Teams! Remember this is optional, but you will be able to win achievement points for doing this!

**EXAMPLES:** Please see the following math examples for your poster.



Poster designed by Jasmine G 8LSB

## Halloween poster competition maths



# Languages and dance, students embrace cultural events

## Celebrations for European Day of Languages 26th September 2023

It was a busy week for the MFL Department celebrating European Day of Languages on 26th September.

We had taster languages sessions taking place in German, Portuguese and Italian alongside a treasure hunt for Years 7 to 9 and an Interform Quiz across the whole school that everyone enjoyed. Students learned why learning languages is so important.

Well done to **8ABR** for being the winners of the Interform Quiz. Joint runners up in second place were: **7MCO** and **9NMO** and joint third place: **8LSB**, **9SSH** and **8KPO**.

Congratulations also to these outstanding linguists for winning the treasure hunt competition:

**1st place** - Aliyah Z 9TC

**2nd place** - Safa U 9NMO,

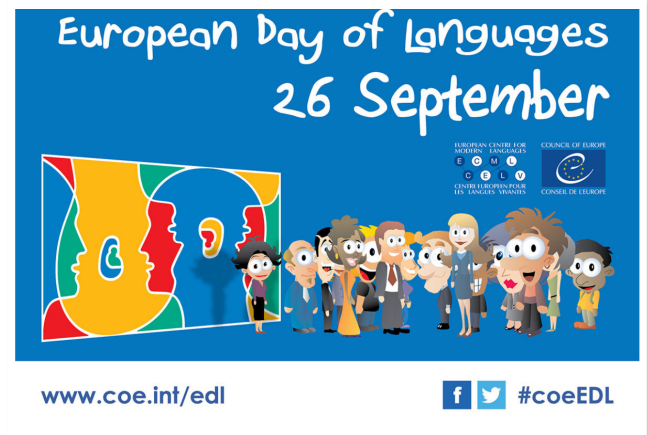
**3rd place** - Arnika N, Maryam Z, Zaina Z and Zainab H 9NMO.

**4th place** - Jasmine G and Ashalina G 8LSB

**5th place** - Parwana S 9TC

Students were awarded extra achievement points for their house and some tasty treats.

Ms Graham



Congratulations also to these outstanding linguists for winning the treasure hunt competition:





Students attend German taster sessions during European Day of Languages



## Indian Bharatnatyam Dance Workshop

Taking part in this 6-session dance workshop was an amazing experience. It was interactive and fun, the ladies who led the class were patient and enthusiastic. It was nice to see the other girls trying out something new and learning the skill to master the footwork. Showing interest through extracurricular activities like this will allow you to explore skills and learn new things.

Thanks to Srishti dance and music organisation, Mr Rankin and students who attended the sessions.

Palisha S 13JG



# GCSE Results 2023



## GCSE Results 2023

Bentley Wood students are celebrating another year of outstanding GCSE results



**Eileen M achieved**  
12 x Grade 9



**Baveena S achieved**  
2 x Grade 9, 8 x Grade 8, 1 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade 6

**Abigail C achieved**  
4 x Grade 9, 3 x Grade 8, 4 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade 6



**Zaina M achieved**  
12 x Grade 9

We wish all our students every success as they progress onto the next stage of their education with a large number of students joining our Sixth Form to study A Levels or BTECs.

**Naseema Akbar Headteacher**

### GCSE results in 2023

Student performance has continued to **excel** following on from the success from previous years. Our **GCSE** students have achieved a fantastic set of results.

#### GCSE Results

%	GCSEs	grades
38	All Results	9-7
82	English and Mathematics	9-4
67	English and Mathematics	9-5

### A Level results in 2023

**31%** of student grades resulted in an **A** or **A\*** grade, which is excellent. We are delighted that so many of our students have been accepted into their preferred universities including:

Cambridge University, UCL, Kings College London, Nottingham University, University of Warwick, University of Southampton and Queen Mary University of London to study their first-choice courses including: Architecture, Economics, Geography, History, Medicine, Modern Languages, Law, Education, Graphic Design, Nursing, Philosophy, and Theology.

Some of our students will be starting degree apprenticeships at top city firms including: KMPG, PWC and UBS. We are proud of their achievements and wish them and their families

# A Level Results 2023

## A Level Results 2023

Over a third of students achieved top grades in their A Level and BTEC results where **36%** achieved **A\*, A, D\*** and **Distinctions**  
 We are celebrating the majority of students attending their first choice universities



**Laylah M achieved**  
**A\* Psychology**  
**A\* Philosophy**  
**A Biology**  
 Studying Psychology at Durham University



**Isma M achieved**  
**A\* History**  
**A\* Philosophy**  
**A\* Spanish**  
 Studying History at University of Cambridge



**Kamoy W achieved**  
**D\*D\*D BTEC Health and Social Care**  
 Studying Paramedic Science at University of Greenwich

All students are going onto next steps that we are incredibly proud of, including top Russell Group Universities and Degree Apprenticeships.

**Naseema Akbar Headteacher**

continuing success on their journeys. Our sincere thanks go out to all staff, parents / carers and governors for supporting the girls throughout their studies. Congratulations to all the students on their achievements.

### A Level Results

Key ( ) = National figures

	2019 A Level Results	2020 A Level Results	2021 A Level Results	2022 A Level Results	2023 A Level Results
<b>A*-B</b>	<b>56.4% (52%)</b>	<b>66.7% (66%)</b>	<b>69.8% (70%)</b>	<b>70% (62%)</b>	<b>64% (54%)</b>
<b>A*-C</b>	<b>86.7% (76%)</b>	<b>93.7% (88%)</b>	<b>93.2% (88%)</b>	<b>90% (82%)</b>	<b>88% (76%)</b>

**BTEC Health and Social Care Achieved 86% D\*-D**



# AI competition and author visit

## Helen Dennis: thriller and mystery writer visits Bentley Wood

On Thursday, 19th October author Helen Dennis visited Bentley Wood to talk to Years 7 and 8 about her life and work. Helen writes thriller and mystery books and has penned two series for 10 to 14 year olds: River of Ink and Secret Keepers.

She shared her passion for codes with the students in a presentation that invited them to look for the symbols and codes that can be found everywhere in the world around us. The students were captivated and there were lots of questions at the end of the session.

Author visits are an amazing opportunity for our students to gain insight into the life of authors and to appreciate the inspiration and hard work that shapes a career in writing fiction. They were genuinely interested in Helen Dennis' personal story as much as the subject of the presentation, which was evident from their questions about her childhood and wider experiences.

The visit was a huge success and we look forward to welcoming Helen back to Bentley Wood in the not too distant future.

Ms Khan, Librarian





# AI Fictional Character Portrait Competition

The library ran a competition with a difference in September, inviting students to use an AI image generator to create a portrait of a fictional character from a book. There were some fantastic entries that reflected the wide-ranging reading interests of the students.

The idea behind of the competition was to encourage students to reflect on the descriptive details that bring a character to life and also to demystify AI a little bit for those who had hitherto not engaged with it.

Ms Khan , Librarian

**Five prizes of a £10 Amazon gift card each were awarded to:**

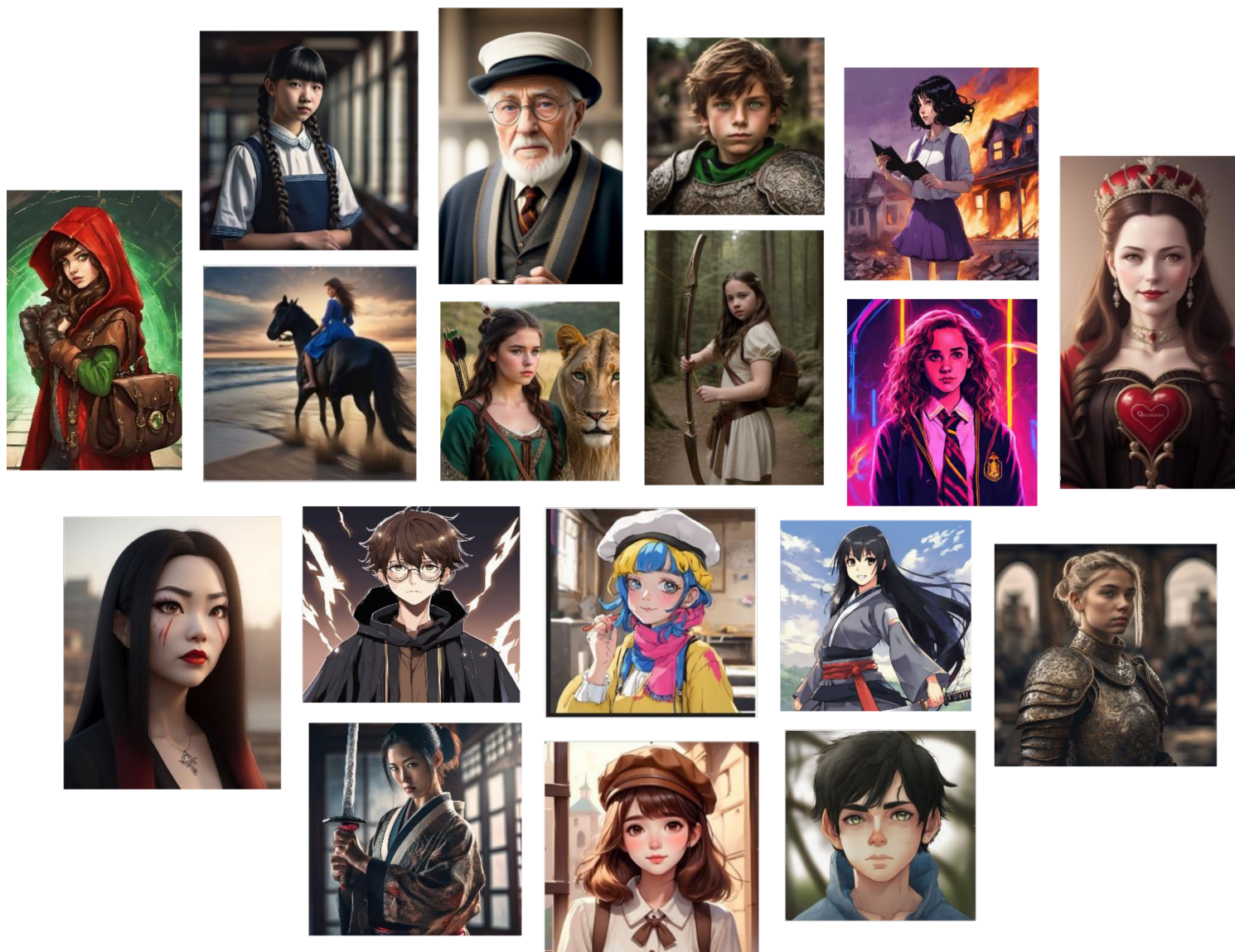
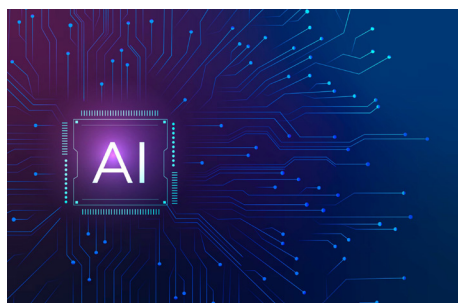
**Yalini B** for her portrait of Susan Pevensie (The Chronicles of Narnia)

**Hannah J** for her portrait of Hazel Wong (Murder Most Unladylike)

**Elizabeth A** for her portrait of Violet Baudelaire (A Series of Unfortunate Events)

**Alexa K** for her portrait of Jo Green (Black Beauty)

Lucia M for her portrait of Cho (Ninja)



# Autumn reads

## In the Shadow of the Wolf Queen by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Ysolda has lived her life in a forest haven, sheltered from the tyranny of the wolf queen's ruthless reign. But when her sister vanishes in the wake of a mysterious earthquake, she must embark on a dangerous rescue mission. Ysolda is forced to strike a bargain with the wolf queen and the deal uncovers unforeseen challenges which jeopardise her own survival...

## Foxlight by Katya Balen

Fen and Rey are twin sisters who were discovered as babies at the edge of the wildlands, curled up with foxes. They grow up with an unbreakable bond despite their very different personalities and they share the ever-present desire to know where they came from. So when a fox appears at their foster home one day, they take it as a sign to go out in search of the truth about their family and their past.

## Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell

Christopher discovers that his reclusive grandfather is actually the guardian of the way between the real world and the Archipelago, a cluster of magical islands where mythical creatures coexist alongside humans. He then finds himself caught up in a whirlwind adventure, encountering strange beings, making new friends and taking on scheming villains.

## The Scarlet Alchemist by Kylie Lee Baker

Zilan dreams of being a royal alchemist someday. In the meantime, she dabbles in illegal alchemy, resurrecting the dead for a price.

When she heads to the capital to compete against the world's best alchemists, her reputation for raising the dead causes a stir. The Crown Prince, fearing an assassination attempt, wants to know how she could help him. Political intrigue and Zilan's personal past threaten not just her livelihood but also her life.

## Spellstone by Ross Montgomery

Evie is used to not being noticed. But when she meets the mysterious Wainwright, she discovers that going unnoticed might just be what makes her unique. Recruited into a secret magical organization, Evie finds herself at the heart of an ancient and magical battle. Evil is returning to the land, and Evie is the only person who can stop it. But how can she defeat the most dangerous magician in the world, when she doesn't even know her own powers?

## Tyger by S. F. Said

Adam has found something incredible in a rubbish dump in London. A mysterious, mythical, magical animal. A TYGER. And the tyger is in danger.

Adam and his friend Zadie are determined to help, but it isn't just the tyger's life at stake. Their whole world is on the verge of destruction. Can they learn to use their powers before it's too late?



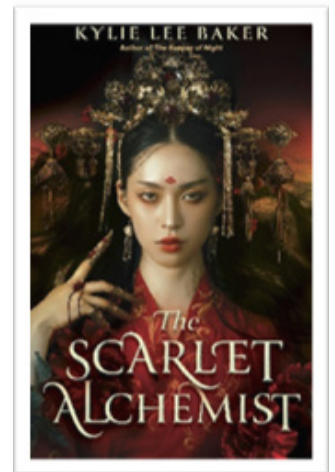
**Throwback**  
by Maurene Goo



**Lying in the Deep**  
by Diana Urban



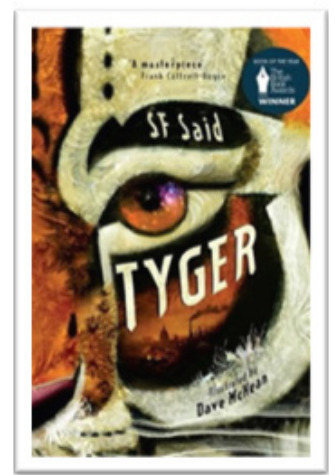
**One Dark Window**  
by Rachel Gillig



**Ever Since**  
by Alena Bruzas



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



**Where the Light Goes**  
by Sara Barnard

### Suddenly, A Murder by Lauren Muñoz

Best friends Izzy and Kassidy host a glamorous high school celebration which takes a sinister turn when Kassidy's boyfriend turns up dead. And when a raging storm traps the guests on the island with two detectives, the sparkling young socialites become the prime suspects in his murder. Friendships, loyalties and motives.

### Mermedusa by Thomas Taylor

It is midwinter once again, and the hosts of a paranormal podcast have descended on Eerie-on-Sea eager for a sighting of the legendary malamander. Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, senses something is dreadfully wrong, and it seems to be coming from Eerie's very core. Herbie and his friend Violet Parma will need all their courage as they head deep below the town to seek answers. Perhaps here, finally, they will discover the Deepest Secret of Eerie-on-Sea.

### The Blunders by David Walliams

Meet the Blunders: Bertie, Betsy, their children, Brutus and Bunny, along with their beloved grandma Old Lady Blunder, and their pet ostrich, Cedric. An ostrich is not a sensible pet, but then the Blunders are not sensible people.

This crazy upper-class family lives in a crumbling country house named Blunder Hall. When their home comes under threat, they must embark on a series of comic misadventures to save it.

### Deadly Deep by Jennifer Killick

Year 8 are on a boat off the coast of France, learning about ocean life. But things are about to get weird. . .

Who is the creepy man on board the ship? And what IS the vast, shadowy creature seen lurking at the bottom of the ocean?

When the ship is sunk, Club Loser rush to rescue their classmates. Can they outwit and defeat a giant, deadly sea monster from the depths or will Year 8 end up in a watery grave...

### Nightshade Revenge by Anthony Horowitz

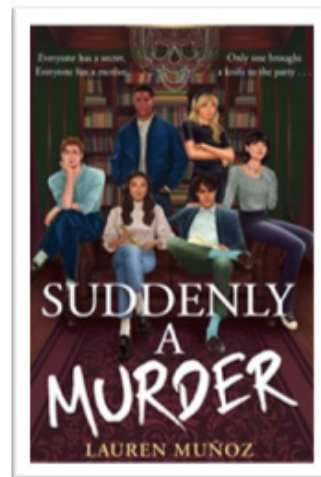
When his best friend Tom is abducted, Alex Rider is given an ultimatum by Nightshade – a sinister cult of assassins with a score to settle. But what twisted evil are they planning, and how is it connected to a revolutionary new gaming system?

With no idea who to trust, Alex finds himself dragged into a nightmare world – where nothing is real but the game could kill you. The clock is ticking and Nightshade is closing in...

### If I Have To Be Haunted by Miranda Sun

Cara's just trying to stay on top of all her classes, excel at her extracurriculars, and prepare for college – which means not speaking to the dead, an ability she inherited from her grandmother. Ghosts are trouble, and Cara doesn't need to add their problems to her own.

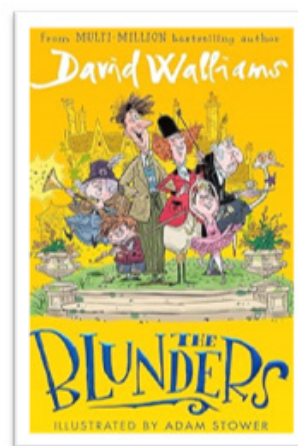
But then she stumbles upon the body of Zach – the super popular but very newly dead high school golden boy – in the woods, and guess what? He wants her to resurrect him. Cue trouble.



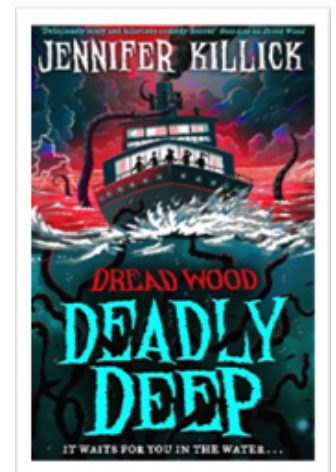
**Throwback**  
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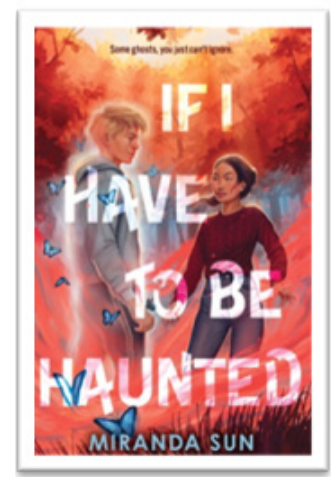
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**Ever Since**  
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**To Shape a Dragon's Breath**  
by Moniquill Blackgoose



**Where the Light Goes**  
by Sara Barnard

# Student Rewards October 2023

## Year 9



### Art

**Ameera H 9CJG** - for a fantastic start to Fine Art going above and beyond in homework tasks

### Biology

**Maria B 9NMO** - for an excellent start this year with biology and coming to every lesson with passion and enthusiasm beyond the curriculum. Well done!

### Business studies

**Sophie S 9THA** - for making a positive start to GCSE Business studies and some outstanding contributions to class discussions

### Chemistry

**Elina A 9NMO** - for an excellent start this year in Chemistry - she goes above and beyond every lesson. Well done!

### English

**Inshirah B 9EOG** - for her critical curiosity and valuable contributions in class. **Maria B 9NMO** for her excellent reading fluency and intonation and enthusiasm for the subject

### Food

**Mariam H 9CJG** - working independently in practical

### French

**Rukhsara R 9LBM** - goes above and beyond in the work she produces. Her work is an absolute pleasure to mark and her summer project was amazing.

### Geography

**Jannat B 9LBM** - for growing in confidence and contributing her excellent ideas and opinions in lessons. She also consistently produces outstanding HW and CW.

### Graphics

**Zainab H 9IL** - for handing in an outstanding piece of homework and working super hard in lessons. Your creativity does not go unnoticed! well done. **Rukhsara Rizvi 9LBM** - for very neat presentation and skill in her graphics work

### H&S

**Caitlin P 9CJF** - for excellent contributions in class and showing a real passion for the subject.

### History

**Elisha K 9EOG** - Fantastic start to the year

### Latin

**Fatema S 9EOG** - for her fantastic analysis of Medea. Sophisticated, confident and in depth!

### Maths

**Margaret R 9SAL** - It has been an absolute delight seeing your love for Maths shine again! Your effort in class is outstanding and I admire that you strive to be challenged and push yourself to succeed. Keep it up superstar!

### Music

**Nia B 9TC** - for working really hard on vocal skills which is really paying off! Well done

### PE

**Rahima H and Eshel R 9TC** - for attending the most number of PE clubs this half term.

### Philosophy

**Diana I 9EOG** - for always willing to share her philosophical point of views!

### Physics

**Sophie S 9THA** - for her positivity and focus in Physics lessons. She consistently works hard both independently and in pairs. Well done!

### Psychology

**Maraam K 9LBM** - for excellent contributions and understanding in Psychology so far this year

### Science

**Urooj K 9SSH** - For her resilience and for always catching up on her missed homework **Caitlin P 9CJG** - For always going above and beyond with classwork and homework in Physics. **Caitlin P-J & Navira N 9CJG** - Consistently excellent attitude to learning in Science, including outstanding effort for revision/homework. **Clara G 9TC** - Always focused, hard working in and out of school, not afraid to ask if unsure. Keep up the great work!"

### Spanish

**Safa A 9NMO** - for taking Spanish very seriously and being incredibly committed.

# Student Rewards October 2023



## Year 10

### Art

**Honey S 10SEO** - for her amazing art boards and fantastic attention to detail in all her work - well done!

### Biology

**Aliya M 10SJ** - for interesting questions and going beyond the syllabus

### Business studies

**Isabelle M 10EV** - for demonstrating fantastic focus, producing quality work and engaging well with the subject.

### Chemistry

**Anna C 10JP** - for consistent excellence in Chemistry. Her class work and homework are always outstanding. Well done!

### English

**Mursal G 10CON** - for her efforts in literature and finding interpretations. Anna C 10JP for her excellent start to GCSE English

### Food

**Sara N 10EV** - always working independently in practical

### French

**Isobel M 10EV** - for her constant efforts in French and for achieving outstanding results for her Listening and Reading Mock (grade 9).

### Geography

**Anvi K 10SEO** - for going above and beyond in her efforts whilst completing CW and HW. She works consistently hard and is focussed and driven, supporting her fellow classmates' successes whilst doing so at all times. She is amazing.

### Graphics

**Maryam R 10EV** - for going above and beyond with her classwork as well as homework. Keep it up!

### H&S

**Mursal S 10AB1** - for her continued hard work and dedication to the subject.

### Latin

**Fatima J 10SJ** - for consecutively succeeding in her vocabulary tests and keeping on top of her grammar!

### Maths

**Rozera H 10SG** - for her very dynamic start in Year 10. Keep up the good work!

### Music

**Mahi A 10ALN** - for working hard on her composition which is progressing well. Well done

### PE

**Kalpana M 10SJ** - fantastic start to Year 10 GCSE PE. Very committed and enthusiastic to learning and supporting others in her class to be successful.

### Physics

**Ganah F 10ALN** - Consistently outstanding hard work in lesson and at home, contribution to class discussions.  
**Abeeha R 10SG - Fatema R 10SJ.**

### Psychology

**Awrad A 10SEO** - for an excellent start to Psychology this year, with a positive attitude to classwork and engaging well!

### Science

**Aya Mohamed 10EV** - For the effort she has put into completing all Physics classwork and homework to the best of her ability

### Spanish

**Nandni M 10EV** - for her hard work in Spanish. From being a complete beginner in Year 9, she has excelled and achieved a good result in her assessment.



# Sixth form students engage with their subjects on various trips

## Year 13 Sociology class visits Karl Marx grave at Highgate cemetery

Sociology students in Year 13 had an opportunity to visit Karl Marx's grave at Highgate cemetery. Karl Marx was exiled from Prussia in 1845 as a result of his political philosophy that was deemed dangerous to Prussian authorities.

He moved to London in 1850 and remained there for the rest of his life. He produced his best philosophical writing *Das Kapital* which became international working-class guiding principles.

Sociology students learn Marxist theory during their two years of study at A level. This is a great opportunity for students to pay respect to one of the most influential philosophers of the 19th century

Mr Maric



## Engaging students over four years. The Anthropology Society

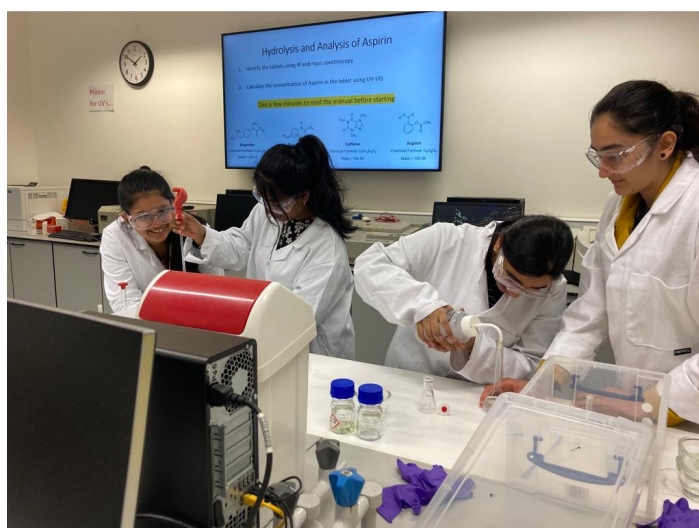
Anthropology is the study of people throughout the world, their evolutionary history, how they behave, adapt to different environments, communicate and socialise with one another.

The Anthropology Society at Bentley Wood aims to engage students from Year 11 and Sixth Form with a common interest in anthropology. We organise weekly sessions where we discuss topics such as material culture, evolution, migration, globalisation, body modification and many more topics.

In addition, we organise visits to museums and invite anthropologists to come and give talks to our students. This society is now in its fourth year of existence.

Mr Maric





## Year 12 students take part in chemistry practicals at Chemistry Outreach trip to Imperial College London

Bentley Wood was delighted to have recently been selected to attend the annual Year 12 Chemistry outreach experience at Imperial College London.

This was an exciting opportunity to glimpse into the world of chemical research and the opportunities that await in higher education. Imperial College London is one of the top ten universities internationally and is renowned for its novel research in many different STEM fields.

During our outreach day, our Year 12 students first had the privilege of attending sessions led by academics in the chemistry department that provided valuable insights into university life and potential careers in chemistry. Our students then had a taster lecture on acids and alkalis given by Dr Charlotte Sutherell, which had a particular focus on pKa extending their learning into Year 13 content and beyond.

A highlight of the trip was the undergraduate practical work, where our students completed a multistep synthesis and used analytical techniques such as UV VIS Spectroscopy and IR Spectroscopy. Guided and supported by both academic staff and students, our Year 12 students had the opportunity to conduct experiments and delve into the practical application of theoretical concepts.

Our students also had a tour of both the chemistry department and Imperial's campus led by postgraduate students with a Q&A session at the end.

We were thrilled to have such an exciting and enriching start for our Year 12 students with their learning in chemistry and hope that this inspires them for the year ahead!

**Ms Robson, Head of Science**

# Sixth formers share experiences at Met Police summit and Fright Night

## Year 13 attend Met Police Summit about Violence against Women and Girls

After attending the Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Summit with the Met Police hosted at North London Collegiate School, 6th formers, Morgan, Julia and Lubnah are feeling empowered to speak up and protect their peers in and around Harrow. Students were asked their opinions about how safe they feel at school and in and around Harrow.

The girls had the opportunity to share experiences and suggestions of how the police can help to be informed and also action changes. Staff from schools in Harrow were also given the opportunity to sit with local police officers to give their views on VAWG in Harrow and their schools and there was a chance to brainstorm solutions.

The police are actively trying to increase presence and educate people through assemblies to change attitudes and keep women safe. We are proud to have been a part of the conference and collaborate with local people.

Ms Lomax





# Sixth formers have a spooky and scary time at Fright Night! Thorpe Park

On Friday 13th October, sixth formers were fortunate enough to be taken on Bentley Wood's spooky annual Halloween trip to Thorpe Park's Fright Night!

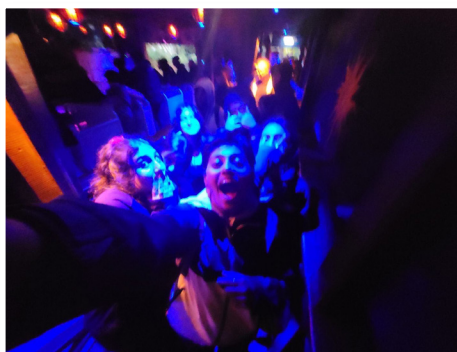
Both students and staff had an incredible night spent wandering through sinister mazes, enjoying thrilling rollercoasters and being chased by scarecrows and zombies!

With new additions to Thorpe Park's Fright Night this year, a great highlight of the night was the new maze: Stitches, Toy Emporium!

This especially unsettling maze invites you to tour the toy store and factory, but be careful because the moment the lights turn off, the toys and toymakers get up to sinister things and all is not quite as it seems with the toymakers!

Overall, the sixth former's trip to Fright Night this year was certainly one of the most memorable nights of the year!

Lubnah M 13JT



# Student Rewards October 2023



## Year 11

### Art

**Sophie M 11MNA** - consistently excellent quality in her work  
**Sayuri S 1PS** - much improvement in effort and outcomes in Art

### Business studies

**Marwa N 11HJG** - for showing great determination to succeed at a high level and producing outstanding work.

### Chemistry

**Zara S 11NMA** - for the incredible progress she has made from her hard work and contributions in lessons to homework. Well done - keep it up!

### English

**Fariha S 11NMA** - for her determination to improve in Literature; **Keziah M 11BME** - for her excellent attainment in Language

### Food

**Sana B 11CCH** - effort in lessons and coming to catch up sessions even when shes been in all the lessons

### French

**Rawda M 11PS** - for producing extended answers in French in each lesson.

### Geography

**Maaria A 11EAW** - for being consistently focussed so far this term. She has completed great HW and CW and is growing in confidence when contributing in class.

### German

**Hanaan T 11BME** - for consistently working hard and achieving great results in her tests.

### Graphics

**Priya P 11MAK** - what a superstar! excellent quality in her work and such a positive and proactive attitude.

### H&S

**Huda M 11EAW** - for working extremely hard in and out of lessons and showing a mature approach to her education.

### History

**Sarah Y 11MAK** - for aiming high and showing commitment to her history studies.

### Latin

**Avni R 11BM** - for a great start to the year; well done for taking criticism and improving!

### Maths

**Marwa N 11HJ** - for her commitment & enthusiasm to learning and supporting those around her. Keep up the good work:-)

### Music

**Avni R 11BME** - for showing the care values to our new classmate.

### PE

**Maya-Louise B 11HGJ** - fantastic contributions during theory PE GCSE lessons.

### Physics

**Omrya Q 11BME** - For not being afraid to ask questions when she doesn't understand something, and for her perseverance in completing all homework to the best of her ability

### Psychology

**Ismah J 11MAK** - for excellent contributions and understanding in Psychology so far this year

### Science

**Rosie H 11MTM** - for her consistent hard work and effort both in lessons and with homework - she has approached science with such an excellent attitude this term. Well done!

### Spanish

**Georgia M 11MAK** - for her positive attitude in Spanish and for fantastic contributions. **Ismah J 11MAK** - for outstanding effort and achievement in her first half term in Yr11 Spanish.

# Student Rewards October 2023



## Year 12

### Art

**Thusmeena S 12RGR** - resilience and persistence in order to improve her work.

### Biology

**Warda W 12PBL**

### Business studies

**Oorvi G 12NS** - for making a fantastic start to AS Business and producing outstanding work, in addition to participating in King's Entrepreneurship competition.

### Chemistry

**Baveena S 12RGR** - for her positive attitude to starting Year 12 Chemistry and confident understanding with Bonding and Atomic Structure.

### Classical Civilisation

**Maryum R H 12KW** - for making a great start to Class Civ. Excellent essays and confident understanding of Oedipus!

### Economics

**Sara V 13JG** - for leading Economics Reading Enrichment club and being an enthusiastic student

### English

**Marwa A 12RGR** - for her effort and enthusiasm in class

### Geography

**Kavya J 12NS** - for always doing excellent work in class and for putting in lots of effort - a great start to Y12 Geography!

### H&S

**Elizabeth A 12SNU** - for making such an excellent start to her Health and social qualification. Always contributing in class and demonstrating hard work and commitment in lessons.

### History

**Soha O 12SNU** - for displaying resilience and commitment to A Level History

### Maths

**Oorvi G 12NS** - for a dynamic start in Maths. I hope she will continue with the same enthusiasm & tenacity!

### Physics

**Yashvi V 12NS** - For the outstanding laboratory work she produced this half-term

### Psychology

**Daisy H 12NS/ Eshaal K 12PBL** for their great work representing Psychology at open evening, considering they have only been studying AS for 6 weeks! they showed great dedication to their subject!

### Sociology

**Shay H 12PBL** - for making such a great start to Sociology. She is always contributing in class discussions and is always striving to do her best!

### Spanish

**Hafsa R 12RGR** - for stepping up and joining the Year 13's bilingual students. Her hard work and resilience is outstanding.

### Politics

**Hosai Y 12KW** - for excellent contributions in Politics lessons!



# Year 11 GCSE Religious Studies trip



## Students visit St John's church to understand more about Christianity

On Friday 13th October Year 11 students visited St John's church in Stanmore to gain a greater understanding of Christianity as part of their GCSE syllabus.

To begin, the Vicar gave a brief overview on the Church's rich history, dating back hundreds of years ago! He then delivered an informative speech about Christian practises, beginning with the forms of worship practised in services and the importance of these types of worship. He explored the belief of festivals, the holy communion, pilgrimage etc.

Students engaged actively throughout by constantly asking questions about the significance of certain practices.

New ideas and words were presented to them which they could use to their advantage in their GCSEs! They were then allowed to explore and identify key parts of the church and explain how they are used in Christian worship.

This visit was a new learning environment due to it being out of the classroom, which allowed students to experience

the church tangibly. In addition, a talk with a member of the church provided a more personal perspective, so therefore, greater insight into Christianity practises as a whole.

Definitely an amazing educational trip!

Noor A 11EAW





## 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](mailto: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

# Information and advice for students and parents

## Whatsapp

What Parent and Carers need to know about

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

**AGE RESTRICTION 16+**  
in UK and Europe; rest of the world 13+

**...MSG ME...**

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**  
With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

**EVOLVING SCAMS**  
WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

**CONTACT FROM STRANGERS**  
To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

**FAKE NEWS**  
WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

**ONLINE**

**'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT**  
The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing content' – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

**CHAT LOCK**  
Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

**VISIBLE LOCATION**  
WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

**Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...**

**EMPHASISE CAUTION**  
Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

**THINKING BEFORE SHARING**  
Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

**ADJUST THE SETTINGS**  
It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

**CHAT ABOUT PRNACY**  
Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**...HEY OSCAR...**

**NOS National Online Safety®**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://bit.ly/whatsapp-com-9pin-letter> | <https://iaa.whatsapp.com/107701838956232> | [https://iaa.whatsapp.com/361005896189245/mhlpref=hc\\_mav](https://iaa.whatsapp.com/361005896189245/mhlpref=hc_mav) | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://bit.ly/whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.wara.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

**@natonlinesafety** **/NationalOnlineSafety** **@nationalonlinesafety** **@national\_online\_safety**

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# Student Rewards October 2023



## Year 13

### Art

**Aziza E 13JT** - for her excellent start to her personal investigation.

### Biology

**Hafsa T 13GCO** -for asking lots of thought provoking questions and really trying to understand the biology behind it all.

### Business studies

**Yasmin S 13JG** - for continuing your excellent work into A level and demonstrating resilience to do well.

### Chemistry

**Zaynab Ali 13GCO** - for going above and beyond this term and leading on Chemistry in the department!

### Classical Civilisation

**Preesha S 13JT** - for her excellent extra presentation on the gods, her confidence when sharing her ideas and her diligence in class

### Geography

**Neha P 13JT** - for delivering consistently good quality Geography CW and HW throughout this term.

### H&S

**Sarah K 13AP** - for making an excellent start to Year 13 and showing real determination to achieve her best.

### Maths

**Salma M 13JT** - for her love of Maths & the support she offers to her peers.

### Physics

**Morgan D 13SBA** - for her continued hard work and support with Sixth form open evening

### Psychology

**Sowmiya T 13SBA** - for such a great start to the year in Psychology, engaging with her classwork, homework and her peers in such a positive manner

### Sociology

**Preesha S 13JT** - for consistent commitment shown in Sociology so far. She is also producing amazing classwork and homework this year.

### Spanish

**Zainab S 13EXT** - for her amazing research and presentation on Latin-American dictatorships in Spanish A Level

### Politics

**Bushra A 13JG** - for excellent outcomes in Politics Assessments! Great Revision paying off!



# Information and advice for students and parents

## Online Parenting Courses in November

Brilliant Parents knows that most parents are brilliant, but we also know, as parents ourselves, that bringing up children is one of the most challenging and emotionally demanding jobs a parent will ever do.

Sometimes it can feel that parenting has turned into a battle, rather than an adventure. Brilliant Parents runs Parenting Courses supporting families across London, working with parents to turn the experience back into something that is positive and rewarding.

For you, the parent, our courses make daily life a little less about conflict and more about fun, by introducing techniques we can help you break a negative cycle with an emotional toddler or a complex teen.

For more information please go to

[Parenting Courses](https://www.brilliantparents.org)

**Brilliant Parents**  
Transforming Children's Lives

### Teen Triple P Discussion Group

Getting Teenagers to Cooperate

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
6-8pm  
Delivered via zoom

**IS THIS YOU?**

You are doing a pretty good job at raising your teenager, but sometimes you struggle with knowing how to encourage him/her to cooperate. This can be particularly challenging when you are not sure when to respect a teenager's growing independence and when to insist that they do as you ask.

This Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) small group workshop will look at some of the reasons why teenagers can be uncooperative and give you some practical suggestions to both help you teach your teenager to cooperate with your requests and manage any problems if you need to.

To register, kindly complete and submit both the registration form and parenting experience survey at these links:  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/brilliant-parents-bl-registration-form/>  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/triple-p-parenting-experience-survey/>

LOTTERY FUNDED

brilliantparents.org Brilliant Parents is a Charity to Inspire and Empower Change

**Brilliant Parents**  
Transforming Children's Lives

### Teen Triple P Discussion Group

Building Teenagers' Survival Skills

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023  
6-8pm  
Delivered via zoom

**IS THIS YOU?**

You are doing a pretty good job at raising your teenager, but sometimes you struggle with knowing how best to help your teenager cope with the challenges of peer pressure.

This Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) small group workshop will look at some of the reasons why teenagers can get into trouble and gives some practical suggestions to help you teach your teenager how to anticipate and manage problem situations. It also provides a step-by-step guide on how to discuss this with your teenager in a positive and supportive way.

To register, kindly complete and submit both the registration form and parenting experience survey at these links:  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/brilliant-parents-bl-registration-form/>  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/triple-p-parenting-experience-survey/>

LOTTERY FUNDED

**Brilliant Parents**

Do You Want To Be The Best Parent?

BRILLIANT PARENTS – November 2023					
Parent Support Programmes for the London Borough of Brent, Harrow & Hammersmith and Fulham					
S/N	PROGRAMME TITLE	WHO IS IT FOR	DELIVERY DATE	BOROUGH/TIME	LOCATION
1.	Managing Fighting & Aggression	Parents with 2–10-year-olds	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10-12noon	zoom
2.	Getting Teenagers to Cooperate	Parents with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6-8pm	Zoom
3.	Developing Good Bedtime Routines	Parents with 2–10-year-olds	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Harrow 9.30-11.30am	Alexandra school
4.	Dealing with Disobedience	Parents with 2–10-year-olds	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10-12noon	Zoom
5.	Coping with Teenagers' Emotions	Parents with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10-12noon	Zoom
6.	Dealing with Disobedience	Parents with 2–10-year-olds	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Harrow 9.30-11.30am	Aylward Primary School
7.	Hassle Free Shopping with Children	Parents with 2–10-year-olds	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6-8pm	Zoom
8.	Reducing Family Conflict	Parents with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10-12noon	Zoom
9.	Building Teenagers' Survival Skills	Parents with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2023	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6-8pm	Zoom
10.	Reducing Family Conflict	Parents with Teens (11+)	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	H&F 10-12noon	Latymer Upper

To register for any or all the Discussion Groups, kindly complete and submit both the registration form and parenting experience survey at these links:  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/brilliant-parents-bl-registration-form/>  
<https://www.brilliantparents.org/triple-p-parenting-experience-survey/>



# Staying safe

## 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.
- How to recognise the signs of bullying and sexual exploitation: [www.harrowlscb.co.uk](http://www.harrowlscb.co.uk)
- Mental Health: [www.youngminds.org](http://www.youngminds.org) and [Mental Health Support Services in Harrow](#)

## Supportive Websites:

- [Childline](#): 0800 1111
- [NSPCC](#):
- [Samaritans](#): Call 116 123 (24 hours 7 days a week)
- [Campaign Against Living Miserably \(CALM\)](#) : 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](#): Call 0808 808 4994 (3pm to 12am)

## 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

## Additional Support:

- Online Safety: [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)
- Staying safe online in the summer holidays – advice for parents and carers: [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

## 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](http://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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**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  
HAT 3/W Scanmore

Enter your password

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](mailto:schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk)

## Dropping off and collecting your daughter from school

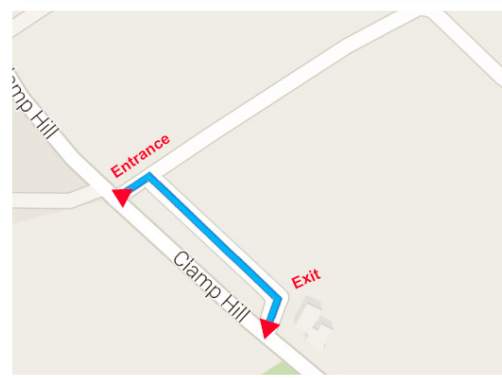
For student safety only use the Clamp Hill entrance to drop off and pick up your daughter from school.

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](mailto:schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk) with their up to date contact details including mobile numbers and email addresses to be sure that they are receiving all the information being sent to parents from the school.



## Dates for your Diary 2023

**Monday 30th October - Start of Autumn 2. All students in**

**Thursday 16th November 2023- Year 8 Parents Evening. Early finish 13:25/13:30**

**Wednesday 29th November 2023 - Year 10 Parents Evening. Early finish 13:25/13:30**

**Thursday 21st December 2023 - Last day of term. Early finish. 12:50/13:00**

**Friday 22nd December 2023 - Friday 5th January 2024. Christmas Holidays**

**8th January 2024 - CPD teacher training day. Students not in**

**Wednesday 24th January 2024 - Year 11 Parents Evening. Early finish 13:25/13:30**

**Thursday 1st February 2024 - Sixth Form Parents Evening. Normal school day**

**Monday 12th February 2024 - Friday 16th February 2024. Half Term**