



# Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter May 2024



## Students enjoy a vibrant and engaging Culture Day

Bentley Wood High School recently hosted a vibrant and engaging Culture Day, bringing together students and staff to celebrate the rich diversity within the school community. The event was a resounding success, showcasing a multitude of cultural expressions through attire, performances, and culinary delights.

One of the highlights of the day was the sight of students proudly wearing their traditional cultural clothing. From colourful sarees and intricate kimonos to elegant abayas and vivid African prints, the school was awash with an array of stunning garments that reflected the unique heritage of each student.

This beautiful display of cultural pride fostered an atmosphere of inclusivity and mutual respect, as students learned about and appreciated the diverse backgrounds of their peers. The celebration extended to Woody's, the school dining hall, which offered an amazing array of international dishes.

In addition to the visual and culinary delights, Culture Day featured an impressive line-up of performances. Students from various year groups showcased their talents through a range of activities, including singing, dancing, and solo acts. These performances highlighted the artistic skills and creativity of the students, as well as the cultural traditions they represented. From traditional folk dances to contemporary musical pieces, the performances were a captivating aspect of the celebration.

Head Girl Neha P 13JT played a pivotal role in the success of Culture Day. She worked tirelessly to arrange all the performances across different year groups, collaborating closely with Mrs Bancroft (Associate Assistant Headteacher and Head of Department) and Mrs Boyadjan (Operations Manager), who assisted with the facilities and overall coordination. Additionally, Ms Akbar, the Headteacher, provided strong support and encouragement throughout the planning and execution of the event, ensuring its success.



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 feel we are finally moving towards some summer weather. During Mental Health Week Ms Bannon, Ms Collen and the PE department reminded us all how important movement and physical activity is in strengthening and supporting our wellbeing. This good weather will encourage us all to get out and about.

It has been an interesting half term of firsts. We had our first ski trip to Italy over the Easter holidays; we have our first ever Ethics Cup Regional finalists competing at St Andrews University in Scotland against the rest of the UK and a beautiful peacock decided to visit us on the top field this week. I see the courage and confidence of our students to try new things and to succeed in ways they never thought they would. I value the trust of our parents and carers to allow us occasionally to make some bold decisions to nurture and develop our students in creative ways. And I finally applaud the staff and students jointly celebrating again and again the beauty of our grounds with all the expected and sometimes unexpected creatures we share it with while strengthening our school community spirit and CARE values all the time.

Students benefit greatly from regular events like our focus on careers and the Arts. This half term we had a talk from the Orange Jackets and a Sports Champion. Book fairs and reading initiatives like 'blind date with a book', our annual Culture Day and huge variety of curriculum trips continue to allow our students, families and staff to creatively explore ways to share their love of learning together. All these are featured in this edition of our newsletter.

This half term our Year 11, 12 and 13 students were all fully engaged in their GCSE, Entry Level, AS Level, BTEC and A Level exam. Their coursework pieces have been sent off to the exam boards. I am confident their hard work and dedication will pay off and look forward to celebrating with them after their exams have finished. I know you will join me in thanking staff for all the support they have given to the students in the build-up to these exams. Equally we would like to show our appreciation to our parents and carers in being such an important part of this support structure.

Our site improvements continue, we have now fully replaced all our Wi-Fi cabling and updated the way staff can use the interactive screens using ScreenBeam technology. This has been a focus in our training on Friday 24th May, along with the use of AI to support us in planning and delivering lessons.

A reminder for any students coming onsite during the holidays to make sure they sign in and out as directed in reception and follow instructions always given to them by the supervising staff.

Please enjoy the half term break with your families and friends and I look forward to seeing you all again in June.

Naseema Akbar



# The community comes together for Culture Day 2024

The Head Student team, including Aarushi B 13AP and Head Girl Maryam A 13JC, also made significant contributions. They organised a Culture Day poster competition, which allowed students to express their creativity and promote the event. The poster competition added an extra layer of excitement and engagement, encouraging students to actively participate in the celebration.

Overall, Bentley Wood High School's Culture Day was a vibrant and heart-warming event that brought the school community together in celebration of diversity. It was a day filled with learning, appreciation, and pride, as students and staff embraced the richness of their varied cultural backgrounds.

The success of Culture Day highlighted the importance of such events in fostering a sense of unity and understanding within the school, setting a positive tone for future celebrations.

## Mr Khan

An impressive line-up of performances.  
in the school hall





# Reading and raising money for charity: Book Fair and Readathon

## Students get half price books at the Scholastic Book Fair

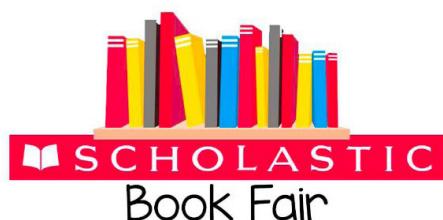
The last week of this half term saw the return of the very popular Scholastic Half Price Book Fair to Bentley Wood. The library hosted the fair during lunchtime from Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd of May. The selection of books available to purchase included some familiar favourites such as Alice Oseman's Heartstoppers series and Jennifer Lynn Barnes' Inheritance Games series of books. In addition, there were some exciting new titles from bestselling authors such as Faridah Ābíké-Íyímídé, Laura Wood and Kathryn Foxfield.

Book fairs are pivotal in fostering a love for reading and building a community of lifelong learners. They also introduce students to a wide range of books that cater to various interests and reading levels and Bentley Wood students are fortunate in that the school hosts two book fairs every year. Our May book fair is a half price event, giving students the chance to pick up some real bargains. Most of the books are priced between £2.50 and £5.00 and there is always a wide selection of books available to buy including fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, and educational books.

The week before the fair the library ran a bookmark competition with five £5 book token prizes for competition winners to spend at the fair. Students were invited to create a bookmark featuring a favourite quote from a book. There were some really unique and creative entries and the following students all won a book token each:

Zahrah S 9SAL  
Maarya S 9EOG  
Maryam R 9SAL  
Lucia M 7MCO  
Horeen S 8GHO

A huge thank you to Mrs Neena Chaggar and Mrs Taru Gulati-Kumar who so kindly help organise and manage the fair – they make an amazing team and the students have come to depend on them for their expert advice on all matters related to buying stationery and books. We also have a dedicated team of outstanding Library Leaders who so generously volunteer their time to help with the fair, welcoming students and fostering a wonderful community spirit around all library events.







Congratulations to our student readathon winners who won a prize of books for being top fund raisers

# Bentley Wood's Sponsored Readathon in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières

In a recent virtual presentation, we had the privilege of hosting Sam Taylor, the Director of Communications at Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), also known as Doctors Without Borders. Sam Taylor provided valuable insights into the vital work undertaken by MSF in communities worldwide, emphasising the critical role of humanitarian aid in saving lives in conflict zones, natural disasters, and epidemics. The presentation also marked the launch of Bentley Wood's Sponsored Readathon to raise funds for MSF.

After the successful launch of our charity event, we're thrilled to announce that Bentley Wood High School has raised a grand total of £1406.60 for Médecins Sans Frontières. This is a fantastic achievement made possible thanks to the enthusiasm and dedication of our students and the generosity of their friends and family who represent the wider school community. We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated in the Readathon; your contribution will support MSF in their mission to provide essential healthcare and humanitarian aid to communities in crisis.

Prizes were awarded to the top fundraisers in each of the key stages and the following students reached their inspiring reading targets whilst raising money for this worthy cause:

## Key Stage 3

Hannah J 8AHU read 13 books and raised £318.50  
Khushi D 8MD read 7 books and raised £238.33  
Abigail C 8AHU read 13 books and raised £112.30

## Key Stage 4

Leila B 9LBM read 16 books and raised £40.52

## Sixth Form


Maryam A 13JG read 3 books and raised £70.00

We received the following message of gratitude and encouragement from Sam Taylor:

"A huge THANK YOU to everyone in Bentley Wood who took part in the Readathon. The work that went into the event, and the money raised is highly appreciated by each and every one of us in the organisation. At MSF, we rely entirely on donations from private individuals like yourselves. This funding means we can act quickly and independently wherever the needs are the greatest."

Sam Taylor's message underscores the importance of community support and the tangible difference it makes in the lives of those in need. We are immensely proud of our students' engagement and enthusiasm for this cause.

This initiative was led by Mr Naseebullah Khan, Associate Assistant Headteacher, and Maryam A, the Head Student, who conceived the idea as a creative way to engage students in supporting a worthy cause.

<b>READATHON CHARITY EVENT</b>		
<b>£1406.60</b>	<b>£318.50</b>	<b>103</b>
Donation Total	Largest Donation by a Donor	Number of books read
Your kindness and generosity truly shine through, demonstrating the outstanding compassion and empathy within our community.		
A round of applause for the top fundraisers:		Sam Taylor (Speaker)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hannah J 8AHU</li> <li>Khushi D 8MD</li> <li>Leila B 9LBM</li> <li>Abigail C 8AHU</li> </ul>		<p>"A huge THANK YOU to everyone in Bentley Wood who took part in the readathon which raised funds for MSF. The work that went into the event, and the money raised is highly appreciated by each and every one of us in the organisation. At MSF we rely entirely on donations from private individuals like yourselves."</p>
Thank you to the Finance Team for their invaluable support throughout the donation process!		
		<b>Bentley Wood High School</b>

# Spring reads

## The Last Bloodcarver by Vanessa Le

Nhika is a Bloodcarver, a healer with powers that are coveted and feared at the same time, forcing her to live in the shadows of the industrial city of Theumas. When she is captured by underground thugs and sold to an aristocratic family, Nhika discovers evil forces at play which she must defeat. First, though, she has to decide where her heart and her allegiances truly lie.

## You Think You Know Me by Ayaan Mohamud

Hanan has always been good and quiet. She accepts her role as her school's perfect Muslim poster girl. She ignores the racist bullies. A closed mouth is gold - it helps you get home in one piece. Then her friend is murdered and every Muslim is to blame. The world is angry at us again. How can she stay silent while her family is ripped apart? It's time for Hanan to stop being the quiet, good girl. It's time for her to stand up and shout.

## The Reappearance of Rachel Price by Holly Jackson

18-year-old Bel has lived her whole life under the shadow of her mom's mysterious disappearance sixteen years ago. When her family agree to take part in a true crime documentary, Bel can't wait for filming to end and for life to go back to normal. And then the impossible happens. Rachel Price reappears and life will never be normal again.

## Burning Crowns by Catherine Doyle & Katherine Webber

Twin queens Rose & Wren have little time to recover from their previous adventures where they successfully brought back magic to their kingdom. Danger still lurks in Eana's shadows. Wren is afflicted by a curse that threatens to sabotage her magical powers and Rose is haunted by her undead ancestor Oonagh Starcrest. It will take everything they have to save Eana—including a sacrifice they may not be prepared to make.

## Dead Happy by Josh Silver

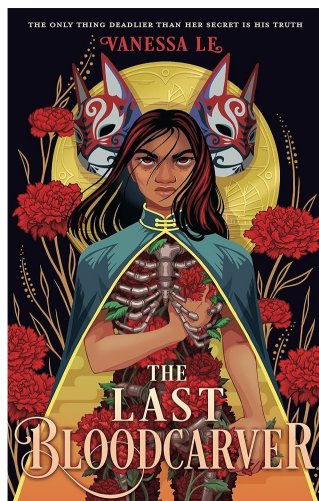
By some miracle, Seb has survived the HappyHead programme, only to find himself stranded on a remote island under the guidance of a freakishly beautiful couple.

Far from home, Seb reluctantly teams up with Eleanor again and the pair are forced to compete in a series of ever stranger trials to prove their connection. All the while, he can't stop thinking about Finn. Determined to find him, Seb's search uncovers an even darker reality. Can he escape the island and expose the sinister truth behind HappyHead?

## The Letter with the Golden Stamp by Onjali Q Rauf

Deep in the heart of Swansea, Wales, lives Audrey who is the sole carer for her increasingly sick mam and her two younger siblings. She also happens to be a seasoned thief.

The arrival of a mysterious, reclusive neighbour, who she suspects might be a spy, compels Audrey to undertake an adventure which takes her to places – and hearts – she never knew existed.



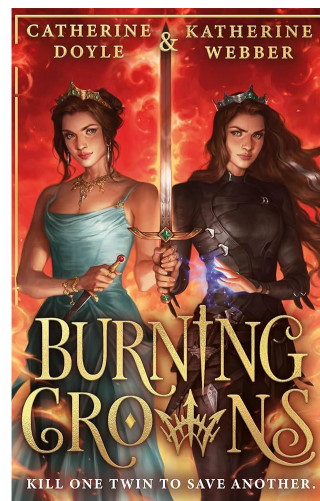
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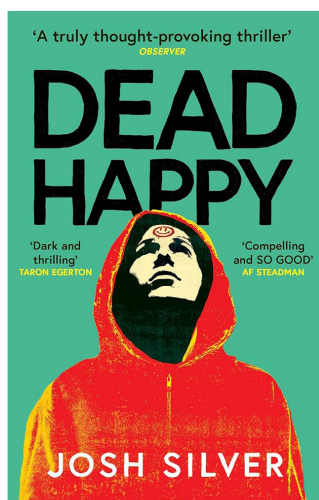
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**Keedie by Elle McNicoll**

As Keedie and her twin Nina approach their fourteenth birthday, they seem to only be growing further apart. Keedie instead feels drawn to, and fiercely protective of, their quiet younger sister Addie – who on the surface is the opposite of loud and fiery Keedie, but in fact they have more in common than anyone knows.

**Where Sleeping Girls Lie by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé**

Sade Hussein is the new girl at the prestigious Alfred Nobel Academy, a mysterious boarding school steeped in tradition. When her roommate Elizabeth goes missing on the first night, all eyes are on Sade. Suddenly everyone is talking about her, including the Unholy Trinity: the three most popular girls at school. Sade suspects there's more to Elizabeth's disappearance – especially as the teachers don't seem to care. And then a student is found dead...

**Icarus by K. Ancrum**

Icarus Gallagher is a thief. He steals priceless art and replaces it with his father's impeccable forgeries. For years, one man—the wealthy Mr. Black—has been their target in revenge for his role in the death of Icarus's mother. Despite all efforts to evade capture, Icarus is caught by Mr. Black's mysterious son, Helios. The latter, instead of turning him in, bargains for something even more dangerous—a friendship that breaks every single one of Icarus's rules of self-preservation.

**Snowglobe by Soyoung Park**

Raised in a climate-ravaged, frozen world, every day is a struggle for survival for Chobahm. Her only solace is watching twenty-four-hour reality television shows, streamed directly from Snowglobe – the climate-controlled domed city at the heart of her world, a place where the fortunate few enjoy fame and luxury. Chobahm's life changes in an instant when she is chosen to take the place of Goh Haeri, Snowglobe's biggest star. But all is not as it seems in Snowglobe and there are sinister forces at work beneath its glittering surface.

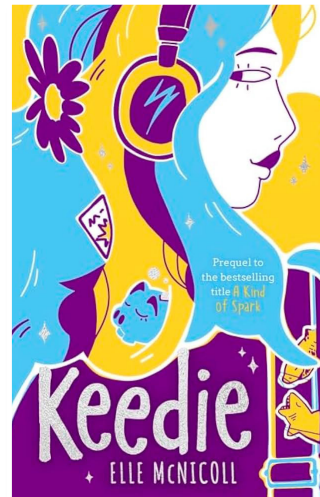
**You're Not Supposed to Die Tonight by Kalynn Bayron**

Charity Curtis has the summer job of her dreams, playing the “final girl” at Camp Mirror Lake. Guests pay to be scared in this full-contact terror game, as Charity and her summer crew recreate scenes from a classic slasher film. In the last week of the season, her co-workers start disappearing and the dream job turns into a living nightmare.

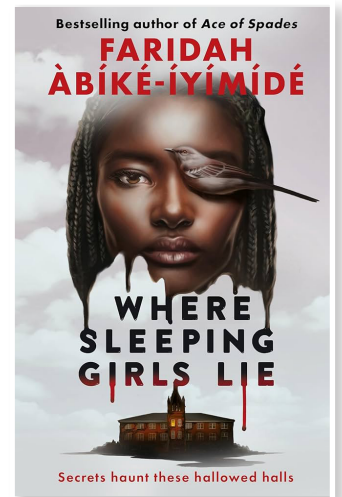
**In the Orbit of You by Ashley Schumacher**

It's been years since Nova Evans last saw Sam. When she bumps into him in her new school, she realizes he has forgotten her and their childhood promise to each other. Sam now has big dreams and a girlfriend which leaves no room for Nova to reach out to him.

When a school-wide personality test reveals Nova and Sam to be each other's top matches not only that, but a match of 99%, the highest in the school they begin to remember why they were such close friends, all those years ago. As well as the myriad of reasons this new yet familiar, magnetic, sparkling thing between them will never, ever work out.



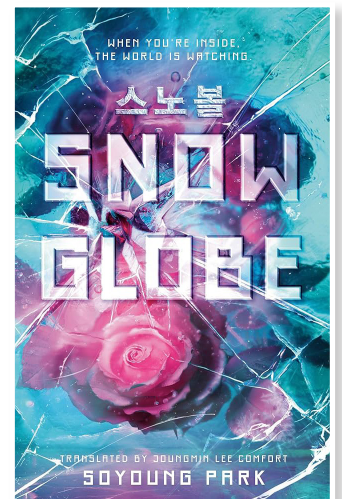
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# Student Rewards May 2024

## 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

**Aisha A 7NME** - for fantastic improvement in her engagement in class and consistently outstanding homework tasks.

**Namida T 7MEM** - excellent engagement in her artwork has developed a confident style.

**Emaan S 7EBD** - for outstanding effort in both classwork and homework. You have made exceptional progress this year. Well done!

### Computer science

**Victoria G 7SCH, Maria D 7LJO, Urvi K 7MCO** - For amazing achievement in her end of topic test and for always going above and beyond in lessons

### English

**Sara S 7SZ** - for her passion for reading and reliability;

**Isobel E 7LNO** - for her enthusiasm and participation in reading

### Food

**Le'Shae L 7LNO** - for her outstanding techniques and skills shown in our practical pasta salad! Also lots of extensions done in homework tasks this term - keep it up!

### French

**Jomana M 7MCO** - for participating so actively in class and with such enthusiasm.

### Geography

**Aadya A 7SCH** - for pushing yourself and giving 100% in every lesson. Your ability to apply geographical concepts to real life situations is a trademark of what makes an excellent geographer. Keep it up!

### Graphics

**Siobhan Khan 7NME** - for exceptional effort in both classwork and homework! Well done Ouzra G 7ME - for catching up so efficiently this term. Well done!

### Maths

**Hawa H 7EBD** - for working extremely well on her sparx homework every week. She finishes the homework

### PE

**Le'Shae L 7LNO** - for fantastic engagement and enthusiasm in all PE lessons and for always being the most polite student.

### Philosophy

**Vaneasha R 7LNO** - for her endless enthusiasm in class discussions.

### Science

**Urvi K 7MCO** - for her outstanding commitment to her learning and progress in Science throughout the year

### Spanish

**Esta D J 7SCH** - for her outstanding effort and commitment to Spanish throughout the whole year.





# Student Rewards May 2024

## Year 8



### Art

**Saymath U 8KPO** - for fantastic improvement this term in stretch and challenge tasks and outstanding homework always!

### Computer science

**Mihika T 8LSB, Shiloh N 8ABR, Zara A and Arya J 8ABR** - for consistently excelling in all lessons and demonstrating outstanding subject knowledge.

### English

**Adeena A 8LSB** - for her great improvement since the beginning of the year, and her creativity; **Anniyah R 8MD** - for her perceptive and ambitious approach to the subject

### Food

**Haseena N 8KPO** - for always being positive and supportive of others

### French

**Sarah A 8LCU** - for your consistent participation during the French lessons. Keep it up!

### Geography

**Rokhsar S 8ABR** - for always achieving so highly in her tests. Excellent work.

### Graphics

**Amrin K 8LCU** - for showing outstanding effort in both classwork and homework. Keep it up!

### Maths

**Rahi A 8GHO** - An outstanding student who is always willing and eager to learn, never gives up and pushes herself to achieve her fullest potential. It is a pleasure teaching you and has been wonderful to see your growth over the year.

**Sara P 8AHU** - she is always working hard and is always ensuring that the rest of the class are quiet and listening when I am speaking. She is like my right-hand woman!

### PE

**Zahra S 8ABR** - for her dedication and commitment to netball club this year as well as fantastic contributions in PE lessons.

### Philosophy

**Zara A 8ABR** - fantastic contributions to class discussion. Fantastic understanding shown.

### Science

**Ashalina G 8LSB and Jasmine G 8LSB** - for their outstanding effort in Science lessons. They are super focused and eager to learn. Keep it up!

### Spanish

**Sahar N and Summayah D 8KPO** - for their excellent effort in every Spanish lesson during the year. Always going above and beyond!

### Textiles

**Yazmina A 8AHU, Asiyah D 8ROR & Sana K 8ABR** - for fantastic hand embroidery skills in textiles



# An extraordinary skiing trip



Students at Italian Alps in Bardonecchia Italy

## Students from Year 9, 10 and 12 had an amazing time on ski trip to the Italian Alps

Ski trip 2024... five days of skiing on the Italian Alps in Bardonecchia, seeing wondrous sights from the tops of mountains and being immersed in the different cultures and lifestyles.

After a glorious sixteen-hour coach ride we began our ski holiday in Italy. Excitement and anticipation coursed through all fifty members of the trip, collecting ski supplies and taking much needed showers through the first day. Laughter and giggles as we entered our rooms with a “magnifico” view of the alps from the balcony. Yet we didn’t forget our British traditions on the first day, finishing the night with a big Easter egg hunt organised by our personal entertainers (the lovely Bentley Wood teachers)

The first day of skiing had arrived where we were met by our wonderful ski instructors watching as seven-year-old Italian children zoomed confidently past us on their ski’s. Yet after the slight nervousness of the first hour wore off and the hilarious falls and stumbles decreased (slightly) the experience was unforgettable. We made our way up the mountain day by day getting higher and higher being confidently assured by our ski instructor Eddo that “one of us will die”.

However, in all honesty most of us were too in awe to be scared; it was the most beautiful moment watching snow fall around you as your skis sliced through the blanket of snow beneath you. Throwing snowballs and building interesting looking snowmen at the top of the mountain. I have never felt luckier to be able to partake in this trip.

The fun didn’t end on the slopes we had the thrilling experience on the alpine coaster which was definitely not terrifying at all, capturing some candid photos of screaming skiers on the ride.

Organised events that were planned for us followed, pursuit in the evenings with awards ceremonies for best falls, outfits and more. Game night, quiz night and karaoke night with our own concert from none other than Mr Curtis.

The little trips to the village can’t be missed either buying souvenirs and trinkets, discovering new Italian pastries and mispronouncing the limited Italian we knew with bubbling excitement.

Finally, the experience being incredible enough as it was, above all we were able to experience it with all our closest friends, building new bonds and inside jokes with our roommates. Spending the trip with friends seemed to be the icing on the cake.

I genuinely cannot express my love for this trip enough from the skiing to the evening to the ‘al dente’ pasta it felt so incredibly magical to be there and I cannot thank Mr Curtis, Mr Matchett, Ms. Howes, Ms. Mouskis, Ms. Osborn and Mrs Patel who managed to make this trip even more wonderful.

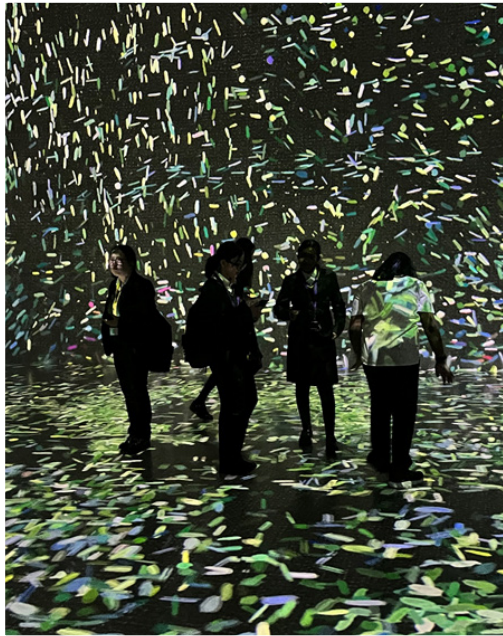
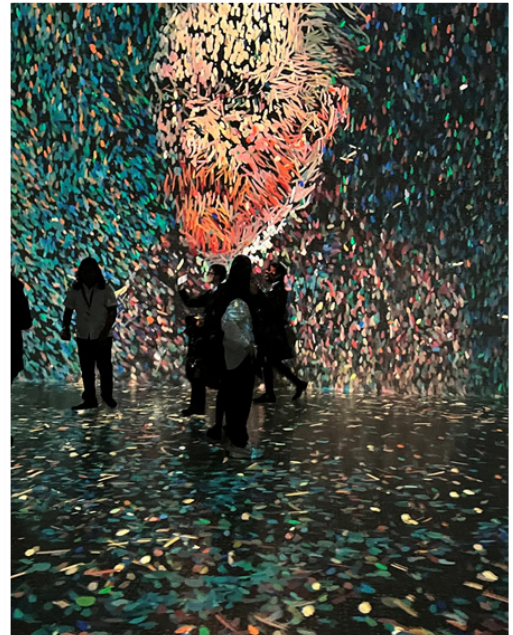
**Sayida A 10SJ**







# Art and culture at Kew Gardens and Frameless exhibition



## Students complete Transport Training and visit the Frameless Exhibition in London

On Thursday 9th May, our students completed Transport Training to become experts in using our local public transport. To apply their knowledge, our students then successfully navigated their way through our Underground system to the wonderful immersive experience exhibition at Frameless. Frameless is an exciting immersive digital art experience at Marble Arch.

We were able to experience the most iconic art pieces in a new way. We saw famous paintings come alive all around us. Our students enjoyed the day, which was filled with practical education and plenty of culture and fun.

Mrs Nye





# Kew

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

## Year 9 GCSE Art & Graphics trip to Kew Gardens

The excursion to Kew Gardens was so much fun! There were many different artists and artworks displayed that were lovely. The site was beautiful to wander around because there were so many flowers and plants. There were so many various sites to visit, including ponds, greenhouses, the 'Hive' and plenty of greenery. We all shot photos of the flowers and plants, but my favourite spot to visit was the greenhouse since I thought the flowers there were so beautiful.

There was also a café and a gift shop, they sold some wonderful plant-based food and the giftshop had many interesting books. My favourite were the plush animals, even if they were a little expensive. Walking around the garden was exhausting, but it was worth it to view all of the beautiful flowers grown there. T

here were also art galleries packed with many artist paintings, such as Marc Quinn, the guy who created a sculpture of himself out of his own blood. The day was so much fun and I do plan on going again.

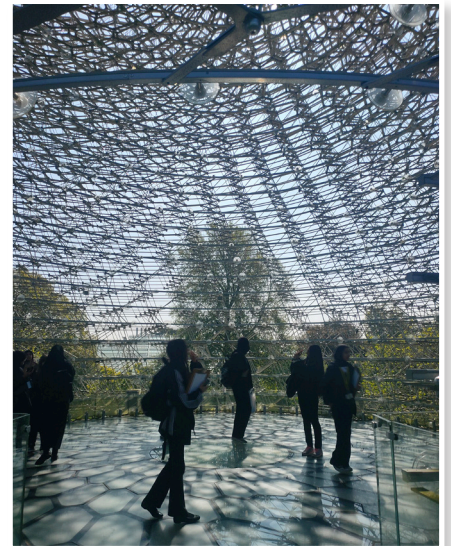
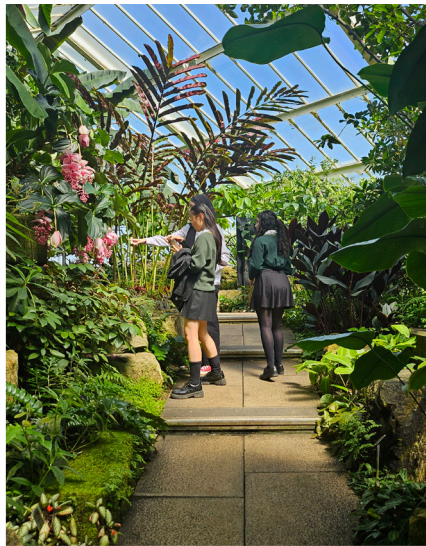
**Zaina A 9CJG**

The art trip to Kew Gardens was enjoyable and exciting; we shot numerous photographs of the magnificent environment and architecture. During our visit we went to an art gallery with many intriguing art works, such as the person who created an artwork out of his own blood!

There were many plants with extremely distinct habitats, such as cacti, water lilies, banana trees, and flowers. There were also various types of animals there, such as fish and ducks.

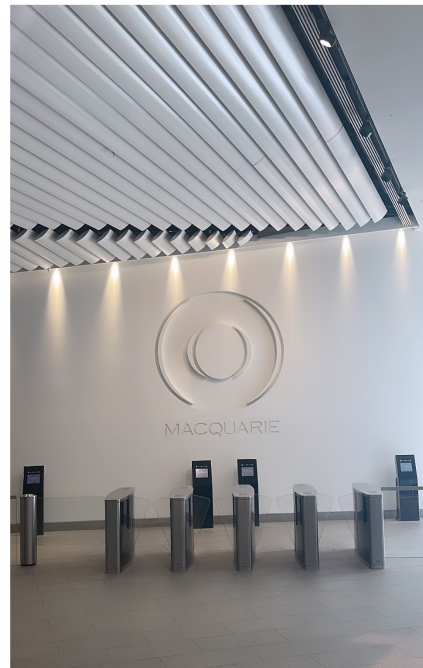
We drew some of the plants and admired the architecture, such as the famous sculpture installation, the 'Hive'. During lunchtime we enjoyed the café, shops, and a prayer place.

**Nergis A 9LBM**





# Careers and subject knowledge: Students enhance their studies



## Year 12 student experiences what a career is like working at an Investment Bank

### 2024 Rise to It with Macquarie Insight Day'

The Insight days at investment banks like Macquarie offer students a glimpse into the industry.

I attended with other sixth formers from across England and together we really enjoyed meeting current asset management employees. We received insights into what the organisation does, how they got in and advice they would give their younger selves.

From presentations, and networking opportunities we got valuable insights into the bank's culture, roles, and day-to-day operations, helping students to make informed career decisions. I especially enjoyed the games and case studies we worked on. It was very enjoyable & I will definitely be going to more Macquarie events in the future!"

**Hosai Y 12KW**



# Year 13 History students enhance their studies at the Imperial War Museum

Year 13 history students visited the Holocaust exhibition at the Imperial War Museum in South London to complement their studies on the rise of the Nazi party and their racial policy.

All of our students took their time carefully reading the personal stories of those affected by the horrors of the Holocaust and reflected afterwards about the lessons that can be learned from the events during WWII.

This was the first year this trip has been undertaken but it will certainly be an annual visit going forward.

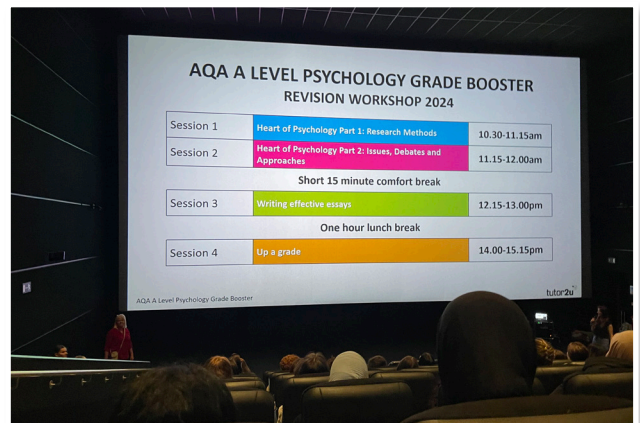
**Mr Curtis**

# Year 13 Psychology students have their knowledge enhanced at Booster trip

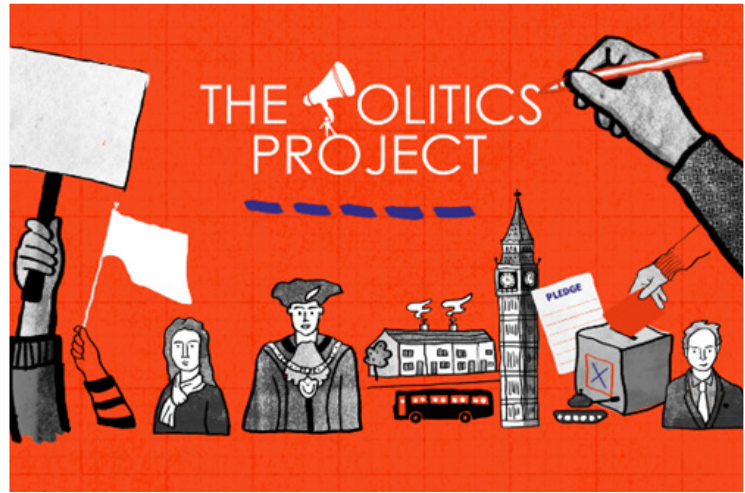
Year 13 Psychology cohort took a highly useful and informative trip to Stratford for the annual Tutor2U Grade Booster trip. This trip provided plenty of opportunity for students to practise active recall of difficult A Level content, such as inferential statistics and content analysis.

The students won prizes by positively engaging with presenters by answering challenging content, with our students wonderfully representing Bentley Wood High School. Additionally, students reported enjoying the trip, making use of the fleeting time they have left with school, and enjoyed bonding as a cohort!"

**Miss Bloom**



# Sixth Form subject enrichment: Humanities and Politics



## Sixth Formers learn about the importance of voting

Our Sixth Formers had the wonderful opportunity to hear from a member of the Politics Project about the importance of voting. This was a hot topic given our very recent local elections and the upcoming general elections later in the year.

With many of our Year 13 eligible to vote already and many more sixth formers becoming eligible later in the year, students were excited to soon have the opportunity to seek representation via their votes. Students had the opportunity to learn about how voting works with many registering to vote on the spot!

Mrs Nye

Voting is extremely important as it is a way for the people to represent their views and have their voices heard. I learnt in an assembly about voting that the turnout in 18-24 year old was just over 40% compared to over 70% in over 65 year olds. It is really important to raise awareness in young people that their vote matters and that they have the ability to affect how the country is being run. We all had the chance to register to vote, but if you still have not done it, just scan the QR code and fill in the form. You must be over the age of 16.

Eshaal K, Year 12



# KS5 Humanities Symposium

## English Department

The English department, with Classics and Philosophy, hosted an academic symposium on 28th March 2024 at Bentley Wood. Current Year 13 and 12 students studying English Literature, Classics and Philosophy were invited to deliver and/or simply attend a series of mini-lectures and collaborations. This was a brilliant opportunity for students to collaborate and learn from each other as well as gain an insight into studying at university.

Students were encouraged to select topics outside the curriculum and syllabus with the approach of focusing on theoretical ideas and give everybody an opportunity to apply key overarching theoretical and literary frameworks (e.g. Marxism, Postcolonialism, Psychoanalysis, Feminist Theory and etc) to their work.

Mrs Azad

## Humanities Symposium Running order

### Topic

#### 9.00 Introduction

##### First round of talks

1. Free Will
2. Ecriture Feminine
3. Ecocriticism
4. Robot Love
5. Femme Fidelis: Tracing the Unchanged Woman from Antiquity to Today
6. Marxism Feminism
7. The School of Athens
8. Nazis in Atlantis
9. Postmodernism
10. Foucault's Power theory

### Presenter

- Maryam J  
Muhaddisah H  
Misbah A  
Sarah O  
Yasmin S
- Naimah  
Britannia & Baveena  
Nikita M  
Mahnoor A  
Nasra F

#### 10.30 - 11 Tea/Coffee Break

### Topic

#### 11 - 12.10

##### Second round of talks

1. Feminism
2. Surgical Sagas: Delving into Ancient Scalpels and Sutures
3. Democracy
4. Freud's Psychoanalysis
5. Men for goddesses, or goddesses for men?
6. Social Darwinism
7. Death of an author
8. Female Gaze
9. Mythology in the Halls of Power

### Closing



# Challenges and milestones for Maths students

## KS5 Maths Party

The Maths Department celebrated the last day of the year with the Year 13 cohort of both Maths and Further Maths students. It was a day of mixed emotions for staff and students alike and there were tears of laughter and tears of joy!

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our sixth form students from the 2024 cohort for all their hard work over the last 2 years!

Finally, we said good-bye, wishing all our Year 13 students every success and happiness for the future, hoping they'll keep in touch and let us know how they're doing. They all looked a little nervous as they left but excited about what the future holds for them.

A message from the KS5 Maths Team:

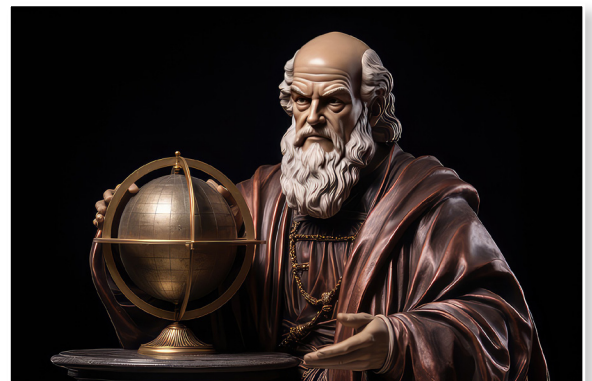
*"Remember to stay positive and best of luck, you will absolutely ace these exams. Sending you all the luck in the world, even though you won't need it as you're great. You're such dedicated and diligent students and all your hard work is going to pay off, just watch."*

**KS5 Maths Team**

As they continue with their studies beyond Bentley Wood we would encourage our Year 13s to be mindful of the following words of wisdom:

*"The universe cannot be read until we have learnt the language  
and become familiar with the characters  
in which it is written.  
It is written in the language of mathematics"*

**Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)**





# Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge HEAT Tournament at Hammersmith Academy



The Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge is an exciting pan-London programme that engages students with maths games designed to challenge and inspire.

This is an initiative of the Jack Petchey Foundation and five Bentley Wood High School students were selected to represent our remarkable school on the 1st of May for this year's challenge. As a Numeracy Ambassador, I was privileged to participate in this inspiring tournament.

The Count on Us challenge consists of 5 rounds:

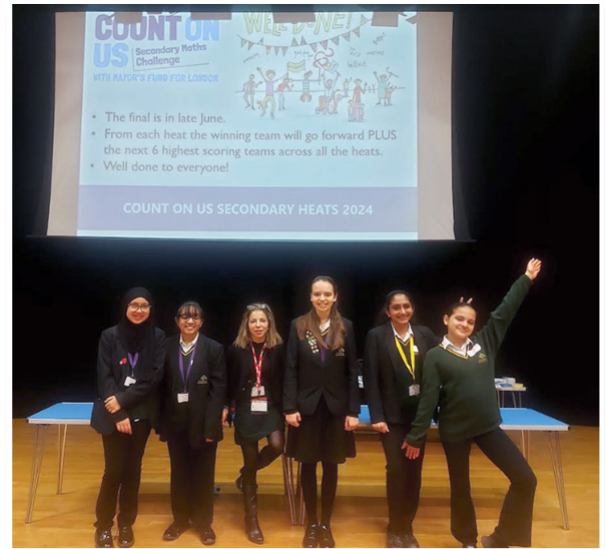
- Hedgehog: a dice game using probability
- Data-Chart Analysis: a game using real - world statistics
- Grid Lines: a card game of geometry
- 24 Game: a fast-paced game of mental arithmetic
- Algebraic Problem Solving: a themed team game of algebra

Hedgehog was my personal favourite. This particular game tests your judgement of probability. As the game involves rolling a single dice, it might sound quite simple and come across as a game of luck.

However, on your turn you are allowed to keep rolling a die and adding up your score but with three extra rules. If you roll 1, then your turn is over. If you roll a 6 your turn ends, and you score nothing. Or you can choose to pass and score all of your dice rolls up to these points. The first school to score 31 points wins. We played as a team of five - our cooperation skills shone through as we excelled and won all four rounds.

Thank you to Ms Vagi for her encouragement with this challenge. I had a fantastic experience!

**Jasmine 8LSB**



# Students excel at maths challenge

## UKMT Junior Maths Challenge Results 2024

Well done to our Year 7 & 8 pupils who represented Bentley Wood High School in the UK Maths Trust Junior Maths Challenge this year. Our students took part in the challenge on Thursday, the 25th of April, joining over 300,000 participants from schools across the UK.

The challenge stimulates mathematical thinking and problem solving. It involves answering 25 multiple-choice questions in one hour online. The questions were challenging and called on students to use existing knowledge to solve problems. The beauty of maths is there is often more than one way to solve the problem and these questions certainly reward ingenuity.

Congratulations and well done to all our girls who took part! If you are keen to test your own mathematical skills why don't you have a go? Click on the link and scroll down to see

the questions and solutions for the JMC 2024. Good luck!

<https://ukmt.org.uk/competition-papers>

Year 7	Student	Certificate
	Sana S	SilverBiY
	Bella P	SilverBiY
	Faryal O	SilverBiY
	Ciara K	Silver
	Maya L	Silver
	Maryam A	Silver
	Nuha A	Silver
	Victoria G	Silver
	Aroush A	Silver
	Serena M	Silver
	Safah R	Silver
	Zara M	Silver
	Aliyah S	Silver
	Aadya A	Bronze
	Isra FM	Bronze
	Aneri P	Bronze
	Vaneasha R	Bronze
	Shanaia C	Bronze
	Urvi K	Bronze
	Arushi H	Bronze
	Jasmin K	Bronze
	Sabeen F	Bronze
	Marwa F	Bronze
	Zofia O	Bronze
	Piya P	Bronze
	Joanne A	Bronze
	Rebecca M	Bronze
	Jude R	Bronze
	Stefania T	Bronze
	Yashvi P	Bronze
	Hafsah K	Bronze
	Ruqaiya J	Bronze
	Sara O	Bronze
	Sara S	Bronze
	Dayana B	Bronze

Year 8	Student	Certificate
	Evie R	GoldBiS
	Monisha K	Gold
	Zara A	Gold
	Simran P	Silver
	Aqsa N	Silver
	Mishkat R	Silver
	Anaiya S	Silver
	Hannah U	Silver
	Zahra S	Silver
	Patricia S	Silver
	Emma S	Silver
	Sara P	Silver
	Nikita P	Silver
	Abdia M	Silver
	Ritika K	Silver
	Anniyah R	Silver
	Dahaba T	Silver
	Saanvi P	Silver
	Heela A	Silver
	Sondus A	Silver
	Leila W	Silver
	Shanze S	Silver
	Aliza A	Silver
	Abigail C	Bronze
	Deva B	Bronze
	Tisha S	Bronze
	Maryam H	Bronze
	Amina K	Bronze
	Khushi D	Bronze
	Annabelle C	Bronze
	Sarah A	Bronze
	Zahra K	Bronze
	Madiha B	Bronze
	Hannah J	Bronze
	Zahra M	Bronze
	Yasmin A	Bronze
	Naomi T	Bronze
	Barbora F	Bronze
	Cheema, Avneet C	Bronze
	Summayah D	Bronze
	Jannat B	Bronze
	Nishtha G	Bronze
	Devji, Sienna D	Bronze
	Sofia I	Bronze
	Maryam I	Bronze
	Adeena A	Bronze
	Catherine M	Bronze
	Rumaisa A	Bronze
	Sania M	Bronze
	Sethuli S	Bronze
	Hannah U	Bronze
	Sarah J	Bronze
	Linda A	Bronze





# UK Maths Trust



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Evie R

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**GOLD CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Monisha K

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**GOLD CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Zara A

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**GOLD CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Sana S

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**SILVER CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Bella P

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**SILVER CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*



**UK Maths Trust**

**Junior Mathematical Challenge 2024**

Faryal O

of

Bentley Wood High School

is awarded a

**SILVER CERTIFICATE**



*Chair, UK Maths Trust*

# Engaging maths activities this term

# Bentley Wood Celebrates Numeracy Week

Bentley Wood High School devoted the final week of this half term to a whole school celebration of maths which kicked off on the 20th of May. There were plenty of maths-based challenges and activities to inspire our students and staff and it was wonderful to see everyone embrace the spirit of Numeracy Week with such enthusiasm. Here are some of the wonderful things that took place:

## Numeracy Passport Challenge

The week began with a whole school reflection on the importance of maths via Wise Thoughts during form time. All students were invited to take part in a challenge to earn themselves a Numeracy Passport by answering a series of maths skills bases on everyday tasks.


## What's Your Money Personality?

To celebrate Numeracy Day Barclays designed a quiz to discover people's money personality and our Key Stage 3 students attempted the quiz during lessons. It involved financial decision-making based on tasks such as planning a trip and buying a laptop. It was an eye-opening exercise for students who discovered that people have different approaches and underlying motivations when it comes to spending money and many of the factors influencing their choices are purely emotional. This was a great exercise because it prepares young people for financial independence and makes them more aware of the outcomes of their choices when it comes to spending money.

[illegible]

**Recognising your network personality**

Age range: 11-14

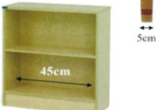
 **BARCLAYS** | LifeSkills

FORM: 8KPO

**NUMERACY PASSPORT**

SAVE THE DATE  
**National Numeracy Day**  
 22 May 2024

1. Each book is 5cm wide



45cm

5cm


(a) How many books fit in shelf 45cm wide?  
 $\frac{45}{5} = 9$

(b) If the books were 3cm wide, how many would fit?  
 $\frac{45}{3} = 15$

2. A Mars Bar weighs 55 grams.  
 How much do 6 Mars Bars weigh?  
 $55 \times 6 = 330$

3. Jacqui has a salary of £18300. She gets a pay rise of 8%. Find her new salary.  
 $£19764$

4. The Petrol tank is  $1 \frac{1}{4}$  full.  
 A full tank contains 80 litres.




FUEL

11 tiles

9 tiles

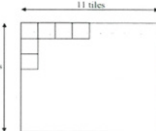
5. Each small square has an area of one square metre.



By counting squares, find the area of the dotted shape.

8 m

6. Javed is tiling the kitchen floor. The first few tiles are shown below.



How many tiles does he need altogether?  
 $11 \times 9 = 99$

## Financial planning – buying a new laptop

### Using your savings

- £250 up front cost

### Buying on finance

- £25 initial deposit
- £28.50 monthly payments for 12 months

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Financial planning: student sheet (1 year)	
250	367
15.99	97.45
18.00	97.45
19.95	97.45
21.95	97.45
23.95	97.45
25.95	97.45
27.95	97.45
29.95	97.45
31.95	97.45
33.95	97.45
35.95	97.45
37.95	97.45
39.95	97.45
41.95	97.45
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265.95	97.45
267.95	97.45
269.95	97.45
271.95	97.45
273.95	97.45
275.95	97.45
277.95	97.45
279.95	97.45
281.95	97.45
283.95	97.45
285.95	97.45
287.95	97.45
289.95	97.45
291.95	

Using your savings \$3500 of paid car	Buy on Finance \$4000 paid • £150 monthly payment for 24 months	£1000 to bank, £2500 to car £2500 to car, £1000 to bank £1000 to bank, £2500 to car £2500 to car, £1000 to bank
First car	Surveyor to buy	Buying on finance
Do you think it is a need or want?	Want	Need
How much would the cost in total, including overheads over the first year?	£5892	£4535
How much money is needed in one go?	£3667	£467
What are the ongoing costs?	Insurance MOT carpentry parking permits.	Monthly payment Insurance MOT carpentry parking permits.
Are there any additional costs for need or want?	Dile: Want	Dile: want
Do you think that the insurance is worthwhile?	This could cause him to get bankrupt as the car is over his budget and it is his first car to buy	This is good as buying something over costs a lot and it is better to pay for something over time.



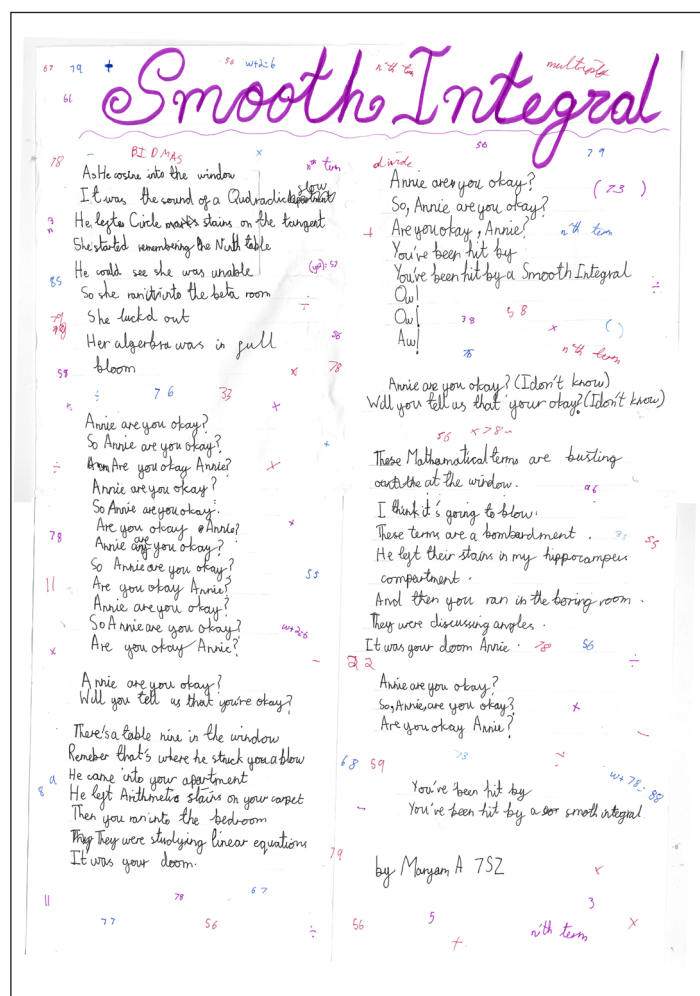
## Year 7 Numeracy Walk

Our Numeracy Week celebrations also included a Numeracy Walk for Year 7s who walked around the school noting down any numbers they spotted. Students were then set the challenge of forming the highest possible value using those numbers, with winners being awarded 5 achievement points. This was a fun activity which the students really enjoyed and it was great to see them embrace the challenge as they applied their mathematical knowledge to come up with some amazing figures.

## Year 7 Maths Challenge with a Musical Twist

Our Year 7s have been very creative and appreciative of the language of mathematics during Numeracy Week. They embraced the challenge of rewriting the lyrics to the song Smooth Criminal by Michael Jackson and changing them to something related to maths! Students had the option to submit their lyrics via email, as a poster or even to sing and record it! The winning posters and lyrics are displayed in the Maths classrooms.

Here are examples of some of the fantastic entries submitted by Year 7 students:



Smooth Integral by Mayam A 7SZ

## Here's a rewritten version of "Smooth Criminal" with math-themed lyrics:

**Name: Renad A**

**Form: 7LJO**

**Smooth Math-ician**

[Verse 1] She was a derivative, so fine and so sweet Tangents and curves, she could calculate at our feet But then I saw her, quadratic equation in sight I knew right then, I'd be solving for her tonight

[Chorus] She said "You're a smooth math-ician, playing with my prime numbers" But then I took her hand, and we started to simplify She said "You're a smooth math-ician, solving my problems away" And I said "I'm a math-ician, here to stay"

[Verse 2] We danced beneath the numbers, like the digits in the night I showed her the patterns, of the Fibonacci spiral light She asked me to prove it, with a proof so fine and so bright And I showed her the answer, in the morning's golden light

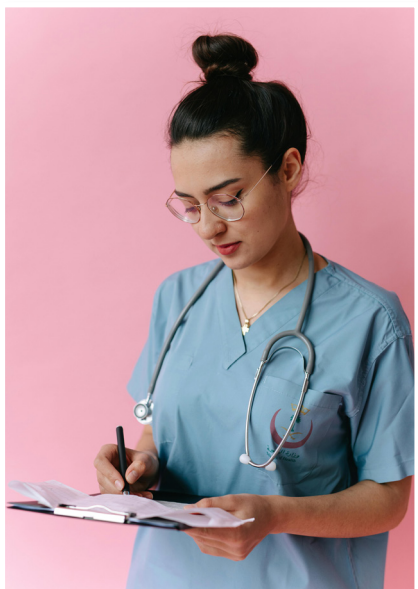
[Chorus] She said "You're a smooth math-ician, playing with my prime numbers" But then I took her hand, and we started to simplify She said "You're a smooth math-ician, solving my problems away" And I said "I'm a math-ician, here to stay"

[Bridge] We discovered the mean, of our love so true And found the median, of our hearts beating anew With every problem solved, our love did start to grow And we knew that our math-ical love would never let go

[Chorus] She said "You're a smooth math-ician, playing with my prime numbers" But then I took her hand, and we started to simplify She said "You're a smooth math-ician, solving my problems away" And I said "I'm a math-ician, here to stay"

[Outro] Now she's gone, but I still recall The theorem we proved, standing tall In the realm of math and love, our bond will never fade For I'm the smooth math-ician, and she's the problem I've solved.

# Career guidance for students



## Year 13 students watch Nursing Associate Degree Apprenticeship webinar

On 15th April 2024 North West London Hospital Trust Apprenticeship Team gave a webinar to some Year 13 Health and Social Care students about the Nursing Associate Degree Apprenticeship pathway.

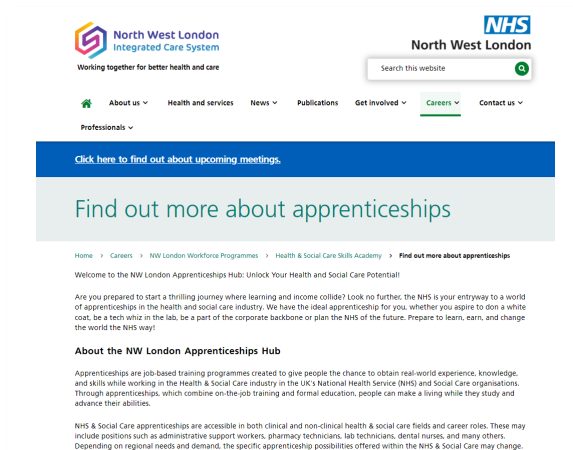
The pathway offers students the opportunity to qualify as a Nursing Associate in 18 months. After a further year of experience, they can apply for a Nursing degree apprenticeship and qualify as a Registered Nurse in 18 months.

The Nursing Associate degree apprenticeship offers an ideal taster for a healthcare job, which is both personally fulfilling and academically challenging. Giving young people the opportunity to make informed career decisions without accumulating student debt.

Choosing this pathway may reduce the number of students not completing their nursing degree (1:8) and increase the number of students that go on and become nurses because of the experience, qualification and salary that they have

received. Nursing Associate apprenticeships are advertised by hospitals on the NHS jobs website.

**Mr Tapper**  
Careers Adviser





# Year 10 Employability Workshop

24 visitors from various industries and further education as well as Bentley Wood Business staff, previous colleagues and Governors offered us their valuable time so that our Year 10 students could experience going through an interview process as part of our Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Programme.

Our students really appreciated the opportunity this event gave them to develop their interview skills and improve their CVs in preparation for their work experience placement later in the year. The students had prepared their CVs and interview questions as part of their PSHE lessons and they received helpful advice from our visitors after their interview.

All visitors commented on our students demonstrating our CARE values and their excellent communication skills. It was wonderful to see the students coming out of their interview with a smile and feeling it had been a worthwhile experience to showcase their interests, skills and achievements as well as their plans for the future.

## Interviewees

### My interview experience:

Recently I had an amazing opportunity to take part in an interview to prove to myself and the school that I can be professional in a workspace environment. Entering an interview can frequently evoke feelings of uncertainty and stress however, one thing I've come to realise is how crucial preparation is. Prior to the interview I set aside time to practice my interview questions which benefited as it allowed me to showcase my skills and feel more confident which I believe is very important.

### My first impressions:

Walking into the conference room, I was immediately struck by the positive atmosphere. The interviewer greeted me warmly and the overall experience was friendly and professional. This welcoming environment immediately put me at ease. Maintaining good eye contact during the interview allowed me to project confidence and attention. It helped me build a good connection with the interviewer and showed I was engaged in the conversation. Actively listening to the questions and feedback from the interviewer enabled me to respond thoughtfully and showed that I valued their input.

Beyond eye contact, my overall body language was positive. I sat upright, used hand gestures and leaned forward slightly to show interest. My clear communication benefitted me as it made it easier for my nice interviewer to understand my points and appreciate my communication skills. Overall, this wonderful experience boosted my confidence for becoming a chemistry teacher and future opportunities.

In conclusion, a combination of my great skills, sincere excitement, careful preparation, and adaptability led to my success in the interview. All these elements contributed to making a good first impression I'll apply these lessons moving ahead in my career and be confident in my abilities to conduct myself professionally throughout interviews.

**Bakhtawar W 10EV**

As I stepped foot inside the conference room, I felt confident. It wasn't really a new feeling, but it was all because of the preparation my form teacher had given me. As I started the interview, I realised it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. The interviewer was extremely amiable so I felt like I didn't have to struggle with answers because I just had to say what came to mind. I was completely honest with my interviewer and as it turns out, he enjoyed that!

What I loved the most was how my interviewer related some of the questions back to the profession I was looking at for my future and he was kind enough to also give me some tips during my interview. It felt like talking to a friend. After the interview I was relieved as he told me that he enjoyed the conversation and that I was the best interview he had so far. He honestly made my day.

### Mina S 10SG

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to take part in this fantastic workshop. It was an absolute pleasure to meet you face to face, your colleagues and of course the students.

It was great to see the effort and preparation the girls had given to enable them to have the experience of answering questions on the spot. They showed passion and enthusiasm and I feel that they enjoyed the experience although some of them were more nervous than others.

## Interviewers

### Nasrin Lewis, Resourcer at Maximus

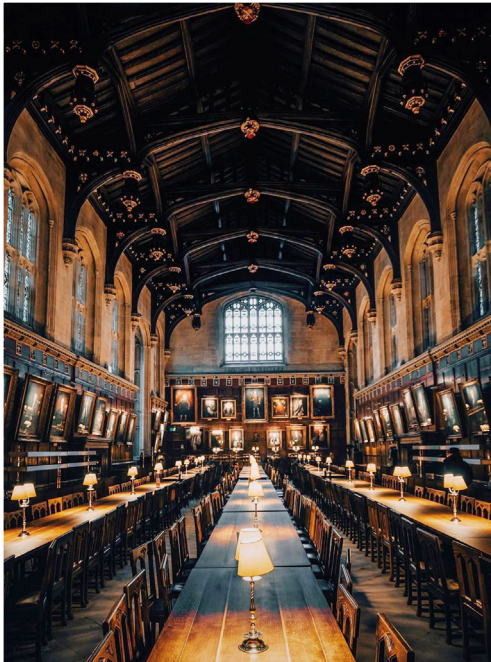
It was a pleasure to assist the school and students preparing for their future careers. I must say that the student's confidence and professional attitude towards the sessions was very impressive. I look forward to assisting again next year.

### Michael Smith, Building Surveyor at Academy estate Consultants

The pupils I saw were very engaging and clearly a credit to your school. Very well organised as usual

### Farrah Quintyne, Social Worker





## The Brilliant Club Graduation: A taste of university style studying

The Brilliant Club consisted of a group of students, including myself, who met with a PhD tutor once a week to study a course called "Why are we here?". We were approached by Ms Bairstow with the prospect at the beginning of the spring term.

We were taught to work like undergraduate students, which, at the ages of 13 to 14 was certainly a challenge. A final assignment at the end of the course consisted of using the knowledge we had gained to discuss the matter of worldviews from our own perspectives.

At the beginning of the summer term, we were taken to the prestigious Oxford university, where we were able to take a glimpse of what it was like to study in such a refined learning environment. The visit, along with the course itself, made studying at a university like Oxford seem significantly more achievable - education cares not for your background, but for the hard work you are willing to put in.

**Maria B 9NMO.**



# Students take a journey through history on trips to historic sites



## Year 9 historians improve their history knowledge at Hampton Court Palace

'Year 9 historians visited Hampton Court Palace to supplement their studies on Elizabeth I and Henry VIII. The day was split between a self-guide tour around the kitchens, royal rooms and gardens of Hampton Court.

The Great Hall was amazing and we later found out that it is the only place left in Britain where William Shakespeare performed in person. We also saw some royal portraits, such as ones of Henry VIII and his successors, Edward, Mary and Elizabeth.

The second part of the day was a workshop where we were guided around Hampton Court and shown places of interest where we might learn something of interest about Elizabeth I's character.

We discovered that Elizabeth spent her whole life trying to hide her personality from the outside world but through investigating different changes she made to Hampton Court we could make a few educated guesses about what she was like as a person.

It was a very enjoyable day out that was well organised by Ms Pulfer!'



**Mr Curtis**



# Year 10 Latin students visit Roman sites in St Albans

The Latin department organised a trip for our Year 10 class to visit the Roman site of Verulamium, better known to some as St Albans.

Our students enjoyed their day looking at beautiful mosaics, the Roman theatre, surviving pottery, jewellery, grooming sets and also discussed the ethics behind displaying human remains.

They also valued the walk to see part of the original Roman wall and the cathedral and of course enjoyed their free time on the local high street!

Ms Hussain



A range of bronze and lead weights and *stylus* writing implements to account for goods before they left the Roman villa for market



A selection of Roman coins made of silver, silver coating and bronze





# Classics themed competitions

## Theme: Artificial Intelligence

Demeter, the Greek goddess of grain, the harvest and agriculture face a mammoth task to tackle food Insecurity. Millennia passed since the Greeks relied on her work as she had never taught anyone else the secrets of agriculture.

The earth's fertility used to depend on her good will and that of her daughter, Persephone. In the past, she taught humans how to plant, plough, and nurture the Earth to provide food. In addition to controlling the crops growing, Demeter also had some control over the weather. She could change the seasons and temperatures if she wanted to.

Regrettably, the goddess generosity, love and kindness got torn apart when her beloved daughter had been abducted by Hades, who wished to make her his bride and queen of the underworld. The distress of her daughter's disappearance diverted Demeter's attention from the harvest and caused a famine. She witnessed the extreme crisis of access to food, where famine robbed people of their dignity, equality and for some their lives.

2024 is a year where Demeter has to use her power and expertise to save agriculture from the infamous climate change. However, it is not an easy task, even for an almighty goddess as she is. Fortunately, there is a great desire for a better future, and those who hope will renew their strength and set achievable goals.

**Jasmine G Year 8**

## Classics Week 2024 winners

### Creative writing competition

Theme: artificial intelligence

**Jasmine G Year 8**

### Creative art competition

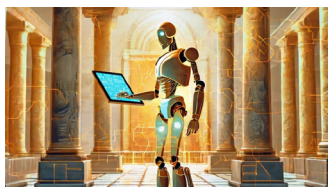
Theme: draw a scene that can be easily recognised from an ancient Greek or Roman Myth of your choice

**Malaika Z Year 9**

### 'AI: Mythos and Machines'

Classics Annual Writing Competition  
Spring Term 2024

For writers of all ages at Bentley Wood, win achievement points, receive amazing books on Awards Evening and also get published in the school newsletter.



AI is already an intrinsic part of the modern world and its fast development is making some question the dangers that may be ahead. The ancient Greeks were debating the practical and ethical dilemmas of artificial intelligence more than 2,500 years ago and solutions may lie in the mythological stories they created.

**This is your chance to fuse your love of an ancient mythological figure with your thoughts and feelings on AI. The Classics department challenge you to write an original piece imagining your chosen mythological figure in 2024 and their relationship with Artificial Intelligence.**

You can choose from one of the stories below, or research and choose your own figure:

- **Pandora** remains one of the most powerful AI allegories from antiquity.
- **Galatea** a beautiful statue brought to life by Aphrodite in response to Pygmalion's love.
- **The oracle of Delphi** who was a cryptic prophet channeling Apollo's divine wisdom through strange ravings resembling algorithmic output.
- **Talos** a giant bronze robot forged by Hephaestus to guard Crete's shores, predated military drones
- **Daedalus** the artist who created the maze that trapped the Minotaur and who also lost his son Icarus because of his ambition for humans to fly.

#### How to enter

Write a piece of creative prose or poetry of **no more than 1500 words** using the specified theme.  
Your story should reveal an understanding of the ancient figure's personality and character traits, even though it will be set in the modern world.

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

#### Prizes

The house with the most entries will get **50 house points**  
There will be the following **3 categories with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes in each category:**

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

1<sup>st</sup> prize – Prize given at Awards Evening - Newsletter entry - 20 achievement points - Assembly shout out  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize - 10 achievement points - assembly shout out



# CA X BLOOMSBURY COMPETITION

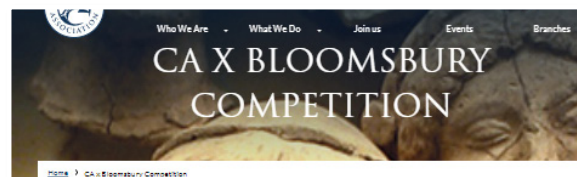
In 2023, in partnership with Bloomsbury Publishing, The Classical Association ran a creative writing competition to give girls, young women and non-binary writers aged 19 or under the opportunity to have their creative work appear alongside bestselling authors Madeline Miller and Jennifer Saint.

Students were asked to submit a piece of creative writing of 1500 words or less, inspired by the classical world. There were hundreds of amazing entries.

A huge congratulations to Hafsa T 13GCO who was the runner up of this prestigious Classics creative writing competition. Here is a small extract from her writing.


To view the full piece and see the results of all of the long and short-listed writers go to The Classical Association website at

<https://classicalassociation.org/bloomsbury-x-ca-competition/>



**RESULTS**

In 2023, in partnership with Bloomsbury Publishing, we ran a creative writing competition to give girls, young women and non-binary writers aged 19 or under the opportunity to have their creative work appear alongside bestselling authors Madeline Miller and Jennifer Saint. We asked entrants to submit a piece of creative writing of 1500 words or less, inspired by the classical world, and there were hundreds of amazing entries. [Click here for the results page \(scroll down to see all the long and short-listed writers\)](#)




**WINNER**

Calli Kramenstein - In the Bad Times

Calli's brilliant story has been selected as the overall winning entry and will be published by Bloomsbury in the upcoming Women Re-creating Classics Contemporary series, co-edited by Dr Emily Praeger (author of the acclaimed For the Most Beautiful) and Dr Helena Taylor, where they foreground discussions and interweave between writers and academics, reflecting on why classical creative retellings are so popular now, and showcase fantastic contemporary reimaginings of Classics by women writers. Make sure to look out for this exciting publication and read in the Bad Times!

Listen here to our podcast interview with Calli about the inspiration for her winning story.



**RUNNERS UP**

Hafsa Tifit - An Ouroborosian Odyssey

Our Penelope

**FINAL SHORTLIST**

Maddy Browne - Orpheus at Temple Meads

Orpheus at Temple Meads

Chloe Choi Chu Kim - The Metaxa Confesses in the Whispered Dark

The Metaxa Confesses in the Whispered Dark

## An Ouroborosian Odyssey

I do not have a name. I have a calling, a summons. It is an utterance, a syllable, light as the whine of a Dunnock as he folds together the flock. And like the Dunnock, doing as his neighbour does and being as his neighbour is, the call means little to us other than expending. It cannot mean more.

\*\*\*

I am a string of flesh.  
Rotten. Being. Eating. Eaten.  
I am a string of flesh.  
Bubbling. Coagulating. Sick. Sickening.  
I am a string of flesh.  
My being demands a response.  
And yet, I am still suspended, floating in pellets, like olive oil in hot tea. I live and pump, I join and bellow. A murmuration of starlings and I am at the tail of it all, or was it the face or the body or the hand or the mass?

\*\*\*

Soaring.

I discover where I have already been. I am then and now. I am gone and here and my mother is also here as is my father and his father and we are all here in this hut crumbed between skyrisers. We learn movement, we wipe chunky custard from the lips of electrical impulses, we are them. We talk of our days and we iron our abayas and we roll our chia-seeded bread into cloth and wear it on our mouths.

\*\*\*

I am Dad, Dad is Mum, Mum is me, they are we.

**Hafsa T Year 13**



# Student Rewards May 2024

## Year 9



### Art

**Aishah A 9SSH** - for fantastic commitment to learning attending all tuition sessions and showing maximum engagement on the Kew Gardens trip!

### Biology

**Ikram H 9SAL** - for her positive attitude to her learning where she consistently aims to do her very best and her excellent progress with homework - keep it up!

### Business studies

**Zaynab A 9TC** - for fantastic engagement in class consistently.

### Chemistry

**Kashvi M 9TC** - for her outstanding contributions in lessons, mature and considered attitude to her learning and striving to achieve her very best. Well done!

### Computer science

**Aleena M 9THA** - for outstanding effort in class and for always going above and beyond with homework.

### Drama

**Malaika K 9NMO** - for being an absolute star! Creative, hardworking and consistently professional in performance.

### English

**Zikra K 9SAL** - for her commitment to academic excellence in English; **Leyla B 9LBM** - for her positive attitude in English, her determination to succeed, and her in-class contributions

### Food

**Zahra R 9THA** - for being kind supportive and helpful to other students in lessons.

### French

**Nusrat A 9TC** - for doing her best in a new subject. Always prepared to try to read out loud no matter the challenge.

### Geography

**Hayfa O 9THA** - for her continued positivity, passion and dedication to geography. She always goes the extra mile and is so inspirational to others.

### Graphics

**Shimlah M 9SSH** - for taking constructive feedback well and putting in 100% for both classwork and homework! Well done, keep it up!

### Latin

**Khadija R 9TC** - for her willingness to improve and for genuinely working so hard this half term. You are a star! Keep it up!

### Maths

**Maria B 9NM** - For her positive contribution to lessons & examples. Without fail, on any given day, she will have her hand up and is prepared to get stuck in to the Maths!

### PE

**Keira A 9EOG** - for consistency demonstrating a positive attitude in GCSE PE, showing a huge amount of resilience and perseverance throughout the year.

### Philosophy

**Margaret R 9SAL** - Outstanding evaluation in an essay. Excellent philosophical thinking.

### Physics

**Maryam R 9SAL** - For her consistent hard work in Physics.

### Psychology

**Momoko T 9LBM and Nusrat Ahmed 9TC** - for their outstanding effort in their memory projects!

### Spanish

**Zikra K 9SAL** - for always maintaining high standards in her work. MSU



# Student Rewards May 2024



## Year 10

### Art

**Andra-Mihaela M 10EV** - For her engagement in the Sweets and Treats project and developing her tonal observational skills with colour! Well done keep this up!

**Haseena H 10CON** - for exceptional effort and achievement in art

### Business studies

**Saaliha K 10SEO** - for outstanding progress in Business studies. Keep this up.

### Chemistry

**Skandaja K 10ABI** - for consistently working hard and excelling in Chemistry this year. She has an outstanding subject knowledge.

### Computer science

**Michelle M 10SEO** - for consistent hard work

### Drama

**Fatema R 10SJ** - for fantastic initiative and effort in devising drama.

### English

**Mya A 10ALN** - for her originality and creativity in making interpretations in the subject;

**Riana F 10CON** - for her positive attitude, effort and attentiveness.

### Food

**Sara N 10EV** - for her excellent practical work.

### French

**Mursal G 10CON** - for your consistent participation during the French lessons and your enthusiasm. Bravo!

### Geography

**Tareem N 10SJ** - for working incredibly hard and gaining awesome results in her end of unit test. For always smiling and being incredibly resilient.

### Graphics

**Sritha K 10CON, Nishka T 10ABI, Aleena A 10ALN** - for exceptional amounts of effort throughout the year. You have really pushed yourselves this year and you should be really proud! Well done.

### Latin

**Zulfah R 10CON** - for her effort with the photo project at the Verulamium site - can't wait to see your best selfie from the day!

### Maths

**Sumaira O 10CON** - Always does the XP Boost and Target tasks as extra on Sparx. Every week!!  
**Aneya S 10SG** - for always displaying excellent behaviour for learning and always working super hard in all lessons. Keep up the good work!

### PE

**Mina Safahe 10SG** - for continued effort in all GCSE PE lessons. Also, for maintaining her swimming at club level and smashing her PB's week in week out.

### Philosophy

**Courtney S 10EV** - for excellent classwork this half term. Her end of unit test showed she has an excellent foundation to excel in Religious Studies.

### Physics

**Taahirah F 10EV** - For her resilience and her vastly improved effort in classwork and homework for Physics this term.

### Spanish

**Skandaja K 10 ABI** - for excellent grammar knowledge. MCO





# Events and performance

## Orange Jackets: A fascinating talk on stage management


Today we had a talk with Sam Hunter about her career in stage management. She has stage managed at the Olympic Games since 2004 to coordinate the opening ceremonies.

I found this very cool as someone that is a part of the school's sound team for concerts, and I think that it was interesting and inspiring, too.

This is something that involves many different types of things as you can do sound, lighting, props, costumes and could end up travelling the world and that I would enjoy.

Skye H 9EOG








ORANGEJACKETS

HOME ABOUT US NEWS STAGE MANAGEMENT MASTERCLASSES SCHOOL TALKS THE PERFECT TEAM! MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKING AFTER DINNER TALKS

LET OUR EXPERIENCE INSPIRE YOURS








Sam Hunter and Julia Whittle have been involved in some of the most spectacular international live events and prestigious theatrical productions to have taken place in the last 25 years.

Together in Control Rooms, they've run the largest shows on the planet.





# BW students take part in the Glee Club Finals at the O2

In Glee we had the amazing opportunity to perform at the O2 indigo for the Jack Petchey Glee Club Finals! We competed against other glee clubs and learned so much from the process including teamwork and stamina.

We also improved our singing, dancing and acting skills that we are so excited to use for next year's competition. Overall, it was a fantastic experience and we had so much fun!

Elisha K 9EOG





# A showcase for drama, students take GCSE and LAMDA exams

## Year 9 GCSE drama workshop


Unique Community delivered the workshop to kick start our small group devising project. I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and found it so helpful.

As the workshop “the supermarket” is our stimulus for this term we really took to it to ensure our devising is a great performance with good key ideas. Some of the ideas that came up in the workshop were “gaslighting” “hope” and “cost of living crisis”. These ideas were really good for our devising process as it led us to thinking deeper about the times we are going through right now.

During the early stage of our devising these ideas were so important as these led to our Dramatic Intentions. My group intend to explore the cost of living crisis through a “Murder mystery” genre. We hope our performance can explore these ideas and spread awareness to others.

Meadow H 9SAL



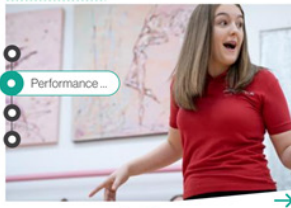


Communicati...

### Speaking Verse and Prose

For creative individuals who want to develop their memory skills and build a strong speaking voice.

Regulated




Performance...

### Acting

Learners delve into characterisation and develop strong speaking skills in one of our most popular exams.

Regulated



### Speaking in Public

Develop the confidence to deliver powerful and engaging speeches, as you build the foundations of effective public speaking.

Regulated

# LAMDA

**What is LAMDA?** London Academy of Dramatic Art is a well-known establishment in 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.

**How much will it cost?** Bentley Wood has partnered with the local Stagecoach providers and are able to offer the 10 sessions for £150 (FSM discounts can be offered). In addition, there is the cost of the exam, the price of the exam varies dependent on grade.

## LAMDA Success at Bentley Wood

### 100% Pass rate, with 77% at Distinction

"The LAMDA exams are a fantastic way to improve your creativity, better your communication skills and enrich your learning in a rewarding way. Due to my rudimentary knowledge on the qualification itself, I was under the impression that having picked the acting qualification this would leave me with little space for creativity. However, I was fortunately wrong.

There was vast opportunity for me to incorporate my personal interpretation into the performance, and due to the support of my teacher as well as the convivial atmosphere of the exam (which I previously believed would be a high-pressure environment) I was able to receive a distinction. The qualification provided me with valuable skills, and I would highly recommend it to anyone looking to step out of their comfort zone while also learning skills to last them a lifetime."

**Sahida S 10SG**

- At Bentley Wood you can receive 10 sessions to help you prepare for a graded **LAMDA** exam at the end of term.
- If you are interested in completing this in the Autumn term 2024 speak with your parents and then email **Mr Rankin**.



# Student wellbeing

## Mental Health and Wellbeing Updates from the Bentley Woods

At Bentley Wood, we're committed to supporting your daughter's emotional well-being and mental health, alongside her academic success and personal development, to the best of our ability.

As we reach the mid-point of the summer term, I wanted to share with you some strategies, developments, and advice for your daughters (and you). We want to help you, the very best we can, in fostering your daughter's resilience and emotional wellbeing.

### Supporting Teenagers' Mental Health: Tips for Parents

As parents, it's crucial to support your teenagers' mental health during these challenging years. Here are three key tips to help you navigate this journey:

- **Open Communication:** Engage in meaningful conversations with your daughter. Give them your full attention, be curious about their feelings, and take their concerns seriously. This helps them feel understood and supported.
- **Empathy and Timing:** Show empathy by acknowledging their emotions and providing a safe space for them to express themselves. Choose appropriate times for discussions, ensuring you can focus on them without distractions.
- **Self-awareness:** Reflect on your own stress and negative feelings. Being mindful of these can help maintain a positive and supportive environment at home.

Your presence and understanding are vital during these formative years. For more resources and support, visit the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families at:

[www.annafreud.org](http://www.annafreud.org)

### Mental Health Awareness Week

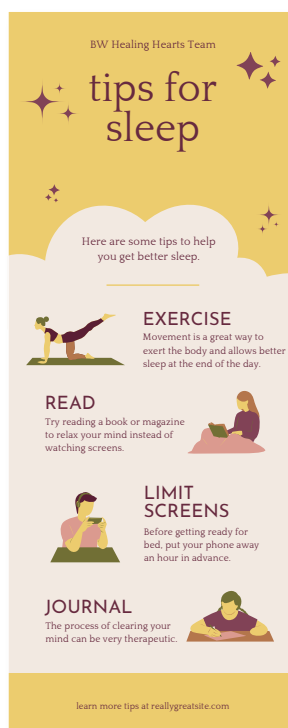
We recently celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week (May 13th) focusing on movement, exercise and developing resilience. As we always say to you, exercise – going for a walk, cycling, etc. is so helpful for your daughter's wellbeing. In this spirit, **Ms Bannon** (Associate Assistant Headteacher) organised a number of activities during MH Awareness Week – see her account below in this newsletter.

In the spirit of movement for wellbeing, **Ms Hussain**, Head of Classics, took the opportunity of the good weather to take her students onto our grounds for some outdoor learning. -see her account below in this newsletter.

Last year, to celebrate MH Awareness week we created and shared a series of **wellbeing infographics**. Your daughters are encouraged to download and print these infographics as posters, serving as reminders of practical, actionable advice to maintain good mental health throughout their school journey.

### Infographics.

You can access and download a series of Infographics from the **Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams channel**.



## Resource for Older Teenagers

**Harrow Cove** is a service where individuals can go if they are experiencing a mental health crisis. You can simply turn up, no appointment necessary.

They are a safe, inviting, and inclusive space for individuals who are struggling to cope with their mental health and daily life. It is for students aged 16+, the Cove offers support with drop-in sessions, arts and crafts groups, and a group specifically for ages 16-25. More details can be found [here](#).

## New Book on Smartphones and Mental Health:

A recently published book, by the American scholar, Jonathan Haidt, delivers a damning verdict on smartphones, social media, and wellbeing, particularly for teenage girls. It is called, **'The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness.'**

You can read more about it here:

[The Anxious Generation Out Now. Order the Book.](#)

## Mental Health Hub for Teenagers and Parents - Harrow:

Harrow services have produced an excellent online hub of mental health services for Harrow teenagers, should you or your daughter ever need support.

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

They have a specific area for parents and carers, with links to lots of activities:

<https://youngharrowfoundation.org/parents>

Digital Wellbeing Platform - Govox:

This year, after a trial with Year 9 last year, we rolled out our **wellbeing check-in platform (Govox)** across Years 9 10, 11, 12 and 13. This is a way to identify students in need of a 'check-in', to deliver them bespoke wellbeing resources, and to take the pulse of how our students are feeling each half-term.

We email them a survey link each half-term, which they are asked to complete. Please do encourage your daughter to complete the survey each half-term. The next one goes out **Monday June 10th** (the second Monday back after half-term).

Whether she's on top of the moon, or down in the dumps, we want to know how she's doing.

## Stay Connected: Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams Channel

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

## Select Mental Health & Wellbeing Support at Bentley Wood

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

Our **'Healing Hearts Team'**. These are a group of staff trained in mental health and wellbeing strategies. These members of staff are available to connect with and speak to students, offering support and guidance for low-level concerns.

We have a fully-trained **Senior Mental Health Lead** who is a Senior Leader, in line with best Government-endorsed practice, and this includes support from the **Harrow Mental Health Support Team**. (MHST)

We have a number of **Counsellors in each week**, including a representative from the **Wish Centre**, in case your daughter requires higher-level intervention than the Healing Hearts Team can provide.

We have our own student **Wellbeing & Mental Health Ambassadors** to lead on whole-school initiatives such as Wise Thoughts, wellbeing Teams tips, and be a friendly face if needed.

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

Useful Apps and Websites:

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

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

To wrap up, I'll share two favourite quotations on mental health once more. **Richard Burton**, in his **'Anatomy of Melancholy'** (1621), suggests that staying active can help alleviate melancholy:

*"As fern grows in untilled grounds, and all manner of weeds, so do gross humours in an idle body...They that are idle are far more subject to melancholy than such as are conversant or employed about any office or business."*

*The Stoic philosopher Epictetus advises, "The first job in life is this. To distinguish between externals I cannot control, and the choices I make about them that I do control."*

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Mr. O'Sullivan** (Assistant Headteacher) or your daughter's **Head of Year**.

Wishing a very happy half-term.

Mr O'Sullivan

Assistant Headteacher

Senior Mental Health Lead



# Activity to improve mental health

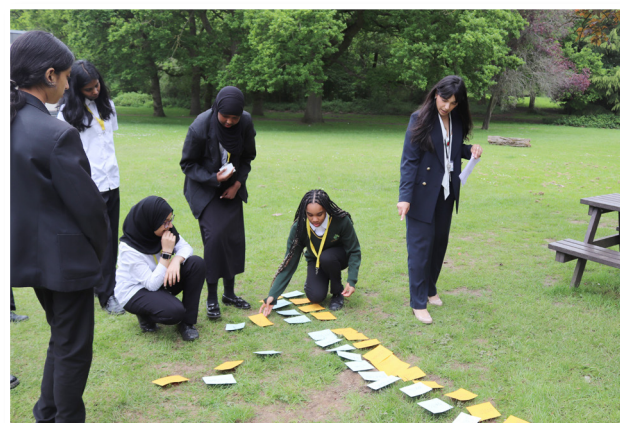
## Mental Health Awareness Week 2024 - Outdoor interactive Latin class

The ancient Greeks were the first to establish a specific area dedicated solely for physical activity but this was only really used for training for public competitions. The Romans then went on to create a system of bath houses that always consisted of an exercise ground for men and women to use before swimming and bathing. These ancient civilisations understood that a healthy mind was connected to a healthy body and further to this, the Romans also incorporated exercise into their daily routines as a preventative measure to ensure good health.

In recognition of mental health awareness week, I took my Year 9 Latin students outside for a physical competition linked to their learning of noun-adjective agreement. Students were split up into two teams and had to match their noun to an adjective in a race, going back and forth until all students in each team had a successful pair. They had to think of the gender, case and number of their nouns and adjectives while also running fast enough to beat their peers. It was a great consolidation grammar activity that used Bentley Wood's beautiful grounds while also topping up our students with some sunshine and fresh air!

*'mens sana in corpore sano'*

Ms Hussain





# Mental Health Awareness Week 2024 - Moving for your Mind!

This year at Bentley Wood, we have been celebrating Mental Health Awareness Week by embracing the idea of moving for our mind. In our Wise Thoughts, we explored the physical benefits that happen during and after exercise and how this impacts positively on our mental health. This included the benefits of exercising outside to improve our levels of vitamin D and to appreciate the calming impact of nature.

The PE department put on special lunch time activities which we were really pleased to see so many students at. Ms Bannon particularly enjoyed being welcomed into the Year 9 dance group and her new walking squad whose choice of walking songs was particularly impressive! It was a pleasure to see so many of you enjoying yourselves, socialising with new people, laughing and working hard to strengthen your Mental Health. We are looking forward to seeing more of this at the upcoming Staff vs Student Rounders tournament.

If you are worried about your Mental Health and would like more advice as to steps you can take to feel better, please come and speak to us where we would be happy to support.

Alternatively, you can seek further guidance on our school website:

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

**Ms Bannon**





# Inspiring sports champion and sportswear in the fashion industry

Following the Non-Fiction unit in English, Year 9 student Alessio F 9LBM used her skills learnt to write an article exploring the rise in sportswear within the fashion industry.

## The rise in sportswear as everyday wear

Sportswear has become essential in everyday outfits all around the world, beyond its initial sporting use. Sportswear has been taken from the gym to the streets with the development of outstanding durability fabrics and stylish patterns. Sportswear has captured current trends as a symbol of an active lifestyle and a cutting-edge fashion statement, erasing any differences between daily wear and workout wear. The rise of sportswear as an everyday item will be discussed in this article, along with its social significance, and its possible future in the world of fashion.

It's amazing how much the sportswear market has grown in popularity. Athletic clothing sales have exploded in the last few years. Sportswear is now something people purchase for everyday wear besides only using it for exercise. The range of sportswear options has increased due to this change, giving a wider range of tastes and fashions.

To satisfy the growing demand for sportswear that can be worn every day, brands are always coming up with new ideas and providing a variety of options, from athletic wear to casual. It's evident that sportswear has grown to be a success in the fashion business, drawing in a wide range of people looking for practicality, style, and comfort in their everyday clothes.

A variety of factors that have influenced modern fashion trends have contributed to the growth of sportswear as an everyday need in people's wardrobes. Sportswear that is fashionable and comfortable at the same time, has been a focus for brands, appealing to buyers for everyday wear.

Sportswear has become increasingly popular because of the efforts of celebrities and influencers who promote their everyday looks on social media. In addition, sportswear has become a popular option for many people looking for fashionable and accessible clothing. The popularity and wide acceptance of sportswear as a staple of daily outfits can be linked to all these factors.

It's true that our closets now contain a greater selection of sportswear. How often have you seen someone out and about in their comfortable sportswear? I have seen it millions of times.

The fact that many people are beginning to like wearing it has several advantages, including an endless number of new fashion trends. Numerous fashion businesses have gotten increasingly well-known and are beginning to receive even more promotions from well-known influencers.

'I think there has been a massive investment in sportswear becoming fashionable. People spend a little more money on nicer quality things, and it makes them feel better when working out' - personal trainer, Olivia Eleni.

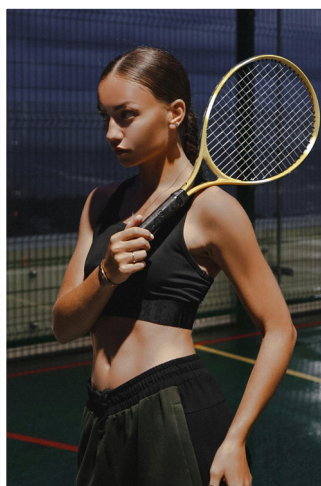
There are many advantages and changes in the fashion industry as athletics become more popular for daily wear! These days, brands are concentrating on making sportswear that is fashionable and useful at the same time, making it desirable for everyday use.

Sportswear has been increasingly popular thanks to all the posts of celebrities and influencers who share their everyday clothes on social media and wear them themselves. New fashion trends that combine practicality and comfort with a fashionable aesthetic have also been influenced by this trend. Sportswear has been a popular option for many people looking for flexible and stylish clothes due to the movement toward more casual and comfortable clothing.

Many sportswear companies have become more well-known recently due to their fashionable styles. The athleisure trend has been driven by companies like Nike, Adidas, Lululemon, Under Armour, and Puma, who provide a wide range of sportswear suitable for both daily activities and workouts. These companies are well-liked selections for people searching for fashionable yet comfy clothes. The appeal of some sportswear labels has also increased due to partnerships between fashion designers and athletic businesses.

In summary, the rise of sportswear has completely transformed the fashion industry by successfully combining comfort and style. Several companies have started a new trend for fashionable and adaptable sportswear that can be worn outside of the gym. A trend towards a more carefree and practical approach to clothing is reflected in the increasing popularity of sportswear, which has become a wardrobe essential because to the focus on high-tech textiles and clothing, inclusivity, sustainability, and partnerships with fashion designers.

**Alessio F 9LBM**





## A Sports Champion inspires students during her visit

On Monday 29th April we invited Kirsty Way who is a European double mini trampoline champion to come in and lead an inspirational talk with students at Bentley Wood.

It was a brilliant morning as she shared her story, explaining how she began as a trampolinist and then moved to a double mini trampoline. She was incredibly inspirational, especially as she brought in her medals for the students to see.

She did not only talk about her many successes but all the struggles that she has also had to go through, such as coming back from injury, making mistakes on the day of competition as well as her strict routine that involves over 4 hours of training daily.

She led a fun fitness session for the students who were very engaged throughout.

**Ms Collen**





# Students enjoy taking part in enrichment clubs this term



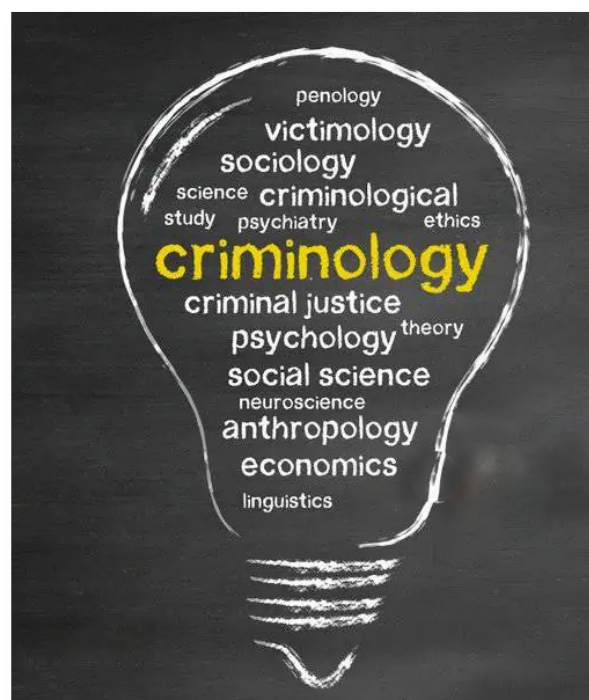
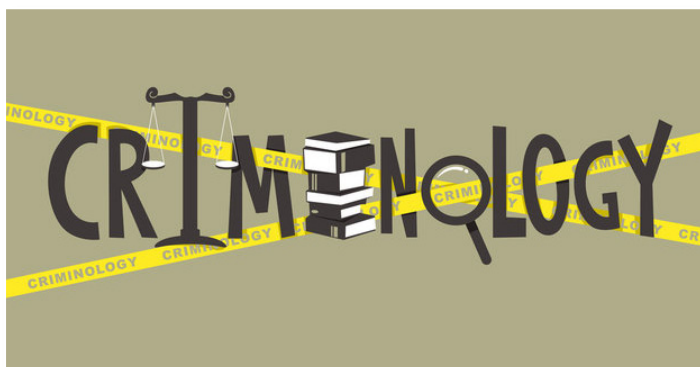
## Year 13 help organise Criminology Club for younger students this term

Some of our fantastic Year 13 students took ownership of Criminology Club this term, they helped our KS3 students pick up some amazing skills through verbal discussions, murder mystery style games and inquisitive thinking.

Well done to all involved, Year 13's you will be missed!

**Miss Howes**

Teacher of Psychology/Health and Social Care



# Year 7 students have a fun lesson about static electricity

This term our Year 7s took part in a fun science lesson during Science Club where they learned all about static electricity and also undertook two fun experiments to explore the properties of static electricity using everyday objects.

The lesson started in a rather thrilling and spectacular fashion when a student volunteer was selected to demonstrate how a Van de Graaff generator causes a person's hair to stand on end. The student volunteer placed her hands on the sphere and as charge flowed into the student and through her hair, the similarly charged strands repelled each other. This created the dramatic "electrocuted" effect often depicted in animation and film.

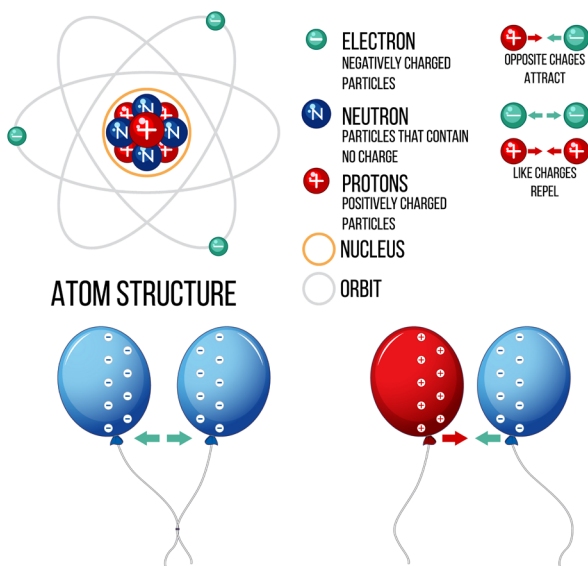
The students then conducted two further experiments to consolidate their understanding of static electricity. In the first experiment they took plastic cones and rubbed them with a cloth. The negatively charged cones were then held next to a stream of water flowing from a tap. There were exclamations of amazement as the students observed the flowing water bend towards the plastic cones.

The last experiment involved making small figurines from tissue paper with their feet taped to the surface of the table. A plastic ruler which had been rubbed with a cloth was then passed over the tissue figures, making them rise as a result of the charge in the ruler attracting the tissue.

Science Club is a popular feature of Bentley Wood's broad enrichment calendar and it aims to harness the creativity and nurture the curiosity of our budding scientists. We look forward to more exciting experiments and stimulating learning experiences in Science Club next half term.



## STATIC ELECTRICITY





# Student Rewards May 2024



## Year 11

### Art

**Parisa M 11HJG & Amal K 11CCH** - For smashing their art exams! **Sayuri S 11PS** - for consistent effort and hard work in art

### Biology

**Emily S 11MTM** - becoming more and more confident in biology and getting support to prepare for her exams.

### Business studies

**Maria M 11HJG** - for fantastic effort in preparation for her exams. I'm certain you will smash it.

### Chemistry

**Kabissa U 11PS** - for her resilience and progress this year - she has proactively this year to consolidate her learning and aspiring to do her absolute best!

### Computer science

**Hitesree R 11MAK** - absolute powerhouse of encouragement to other students in terms of revision and hard work.

### Drama

**Sabah H 11BME** - for relentless pursuit of excellence.

### English

**Tia M 11NMA** - for her improvement and determination to succeed in English Language; **Luna S 11MAK** - for her dedication and thorough preparation for English Literature

### Food

**Moska N 11CCH** - for her hard work during her practical exam

### French

**Boujemaa N 11PS** - for your impressive efforts you put in French.

### Geography

**Fariha S 11NMA** - for being incredibly dedicated to her study of geography and always being a kind and friendly member of the class

### German

**Zayna I 11BME** - for attending so many revision sessions and really trying her best.

### Graphics

**Zahraa F 11CCH** - For smashing her graphics exam!

### H&SC

**Liana B 11MAK** - consistently showing high standard of work.

### History

**Sainthavi S 11CCH** - for always asking questions and thriving to be the best she can

### Latin

**Haya Rizme 11PS - and Farrah S 11EAW** - for their fantastic grammar presentations which helped their peers revise.

### Maths

**Manar A 11CCH** - Amazing in her dedication and commitment to Maths. She is an outstanding student with a marvellous work ethic. Keep up the good work and good luck on your journey after the Summer!

### Music

**Sayuri S 11PS** - for working hard in her performance

### PE

**Zahra D 11HJG and Larisa C 11BME** - for their continued effort all the way until the end of Year 11 for the entry level in PE

### Philosophy

**Priya P 11MAK** - is delightful! Always takes her work seriously, always listening, answering and asking questions. Excellent persistence over the last few years. Your hard work will be pay off.

### Physics

**Keziah M 11BME** - For going above and beyond to improve her understanding of Physics in preparation for her GCSE exams

### Psychology

**Keziah M 11BME** - for her help in expressing her love for psychology to Year 8 students and her constant hard work

### Spanish

**Sara A 11MAK** - for her outstanding effort in Spanish always and performing such an impressive GCSE oral exam. Such an outstanding linguist!

### Textiles

**Asma Hussaini 11NMA** - for consistent hard work and for always having a smile on her face and supporting others in Textiles

# Student Rewards May 2024

## Year 12



### Business studies

**Louiza S 12PBL** - for outstanding progression in Business studies

### Chemistry

**Diana Q 12KW** - for being so focused in the run up to exams and aiming high!

### Classical Civilisation

**Shahed H 12PBL** - for improving her work ethic and learning behaviour this half term.

### Computer science

**Maryam J 12NS** - for being amazing and display outstanding progression in Computer science.

### Geography

**Nedjma Z 12RGR** - for an amazing year in Geography, always contributing and always so polite

### H&S

**Sana H 12PBL** - Excellent coursework and consistently working at a high standard across units.

### History

**Lamees B 12KW** - for dedication to her studies and always trying her best

### Maths

**Stefani G 12NS** - for her super effort and commitment to improving in Maths. Keep up the good work!

### Philosophy

**Britannia N 12SNU** - always enthusiastic, keen, helpful, engaged, and very hard working in Philosophy.

### Physics

**Kavya J 12NS** - for her resilience in catching up on missed content in Physics

### Psychology

**Mahnoor A 12SNU** - for her continued effort in psychology, and her developing confidence in sharing her psychological ideas

### Sociology

**Nasra F 12KW** - For amazing effort in sociology in the preparation for her exam. Nasra will often go the extra mile to work hard.

### Spanish

**Thusmena S 12RGR** - for her determination and hard work in preparing for her AS Spanish exams.

### Politics

**Aisha E 12NS** - for your general commitment in Politics!





# Students take part in challenges and competitions this term



# Students' sporting achievement in Borough Athletics Competition

On Thursday 9th May a group of the GCSE PE students represented Bentley Wood at the Borough competition. The students competed in a range of different athletic events and we had some fantastic results.

Elga D came 5th in the 100m final, Riddhi H came 3rd in the Javelin, Precious M came 3rd in the discus and Kalpana M came 3rd in the shot. Well done, girls!

At Bentley Wood we have a proud tradition of providing a broad range of sporting activities and plenty of opportunities for students to participate in competitive events. It is wonderful to have our students avail themselves to these opportunities to showcase their sporting talent.







## Year 10 complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition

On 19th and 20th April over 60 of our Year 10 students completed their DofE bronze expedition, faced with all weather conditions their resilience and CARE values shined through as all girls remained high spirits, helped one another and made it to the end! Well done to all involved!

### Ms Howes

It was a great experience for me as I got to spend time with my friends, but I also got time to reflect on myself. It was a tough and challenging journey, but it was worth it in the end. I was able to learn new skills such as reading a map and using a compass. But DofE also included doing volunteering, physical and skill building which also needed a lot of commitment every week. DofE is a great opportunity for young people to challenge themselves while having fun and so I would recommend it for others. And for me, I would love to do the Gold expedition!

### Anvi K 10SEO





# Student Rewards May 2024

## Year 13

### Art

**Yasmin SK 13JG** - Resilience in her studies and demanding nothing but her best.

### Biology

**Madina M 13GCO** - for working so hard and attending all the revision lessons. She has grown in confidence in biology and will do amazing in her upcoming exams.

### Classical Civilisation

**Zaynab A 13GCO** - for her dedication to Classical Civilisation and her enthusiasm in every lesson.

### Drama

**Kashi D 13JG** - for always being able to support the drama department when asked. Thank you!

### Economics

**Sara V 13JG** - for outstanding progress throughout the year

### English

**Zara S 13JT** - for her improvement this year, and her focused effort on her A Level coursework

### Geography

**Afaf M 13JT** - for her camaraderie and amazing attitude. She is a fighter and demonstrates resilience regularly.



# Student Rewards May 2024

## Year 13

### H&S

**Sana K 13AP** - always being cheerful and hardworking in class.

### History

**Rebecca B 13JT** - for her excellent attendance and commitment to lessons.

### Philosophy

**Lubnah M 13JT** - for consistent hard work, great enthusiasm for her learning, and always remaining cheerful and positive.

### Physics

**Fatima I 13SBA** - for her continued success and hard work in physics this year

### Psychology

**Nikita Mehta 13AP** - for her dedication to psychology, until the last day!

### Sociology

**Demetria H 13JG** - For being super positive about Sociology all year, she is always willing to help and support with extra-curricular activities and she has worked hard all year.

### Spanish

**Neila M** - for her outstanding independent research project on the evolution of Women's Rights in Spanish Society.

### Politics

**Hoda M 13JG** - for your general commitment to Politics!





# Information and advice for students and parents

## Parent Ambassadors

Parent Ambassadors at Bentley Wood High School help parents and carers in many ways to facilitate communication between themselves and school.

We can translate information about the school and their daughter's progress in Arabic, Pashto, French and Urdu.

Our role consists of helping 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



# Arbor

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

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and messages from the school.

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

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

**How to get started**

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

**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.

**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

# 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.

## 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)

- 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)

## 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 Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2025. 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**



# Online Parenting Courses in June 2024

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.

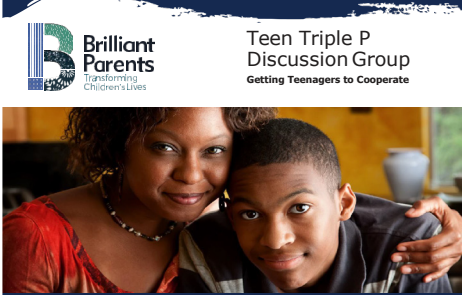
Sometimes it can feel that parenting has turned into a battle, rather than an adventure.

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://brilliantparents.org)



**Brilliant Parents**  
Transforming Children's Lives

**Teen Triple P Discussion Group**  
Getting Teenagers to Cooperate

**Triple P Discussion Group – Getting Teenagers to Cooperate**  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024  
10 am–12 noon  
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.

Do you know that it is always difficult for parents, as teenage children begin to spend increasing amounts of time away from home and are influenced by friends to do things that might put their health or wellbeing in danger?

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

**Triple P Discussion Group – Building Teenagers' Survival Skills**  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
10 am–12 noon  
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.

Do you know that it is always difficult for parents, as teenage children begin to spend increasing amounts of time away from home and are influenced by friends to do things that might put their health or wellbeing in danger?

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 – June 2024

### 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.	Dealing with Disobedience	Parents/Carers with 0–11-year-olds	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10–12noon	Zoom
2.	Coping with Teenagers' Emotions	Parents/Carers with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6–8pm	Zoom
3.	Dealing with Disobedience	Parents/Carers with 0–11-year-olds <b>Special needs group</b>	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent 10–12noon	FWC
4.	Managing Fighting & Aggression	Parents/Carers with 0–11-year-olds	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10–12noon	Zoom
5.	Developing Good Bedtime Routines	Parents/Carers with 0–10-year-olds	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6–8pm	Zoom
6.	Getting Teenagers to Cooperate	Parents/Carers with Teens (11+)	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10–12 noon	Zoom
7.	Building Teenagers' Survival Skills	Parents/Carers with Teens (11+)	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 10–12	Zoom
8.	Reducing Family Conflict	Parents/Carers with Teens (11+)	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Brent/H&F/Harrow 6–8pm	Zoom

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/>

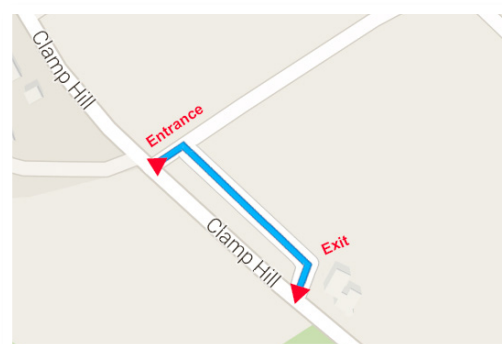


## Dropping off and collecting your daughter from school

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 2024

- 9th May to 26th June 2024** - External Examinations - Y11, Y12, Y13
- 24th May 2024** - Inset Day - Open exam students only
- 27th May to 1st June 2024** - Half term
- 3rd June 2024** - Return to school 08:40 usual registration
- 13th June to 14th June 2024** - Year 12 Fine Art Examinations
- 17th June to 20th June 2024** - Sports Week 2024
- 21st June 2024** - Sports Day (Banister Sports Centre). Expected finish - 2:00pm
- 24th June to 28th June 2024** - Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Week
- 27th June 2024** Summer Concert
- 27th June 2024** Sixth Form Prom
- 28th June 2024** Year 11 Prom
- 1st July 2024** - Awards Evening
- 1st July to 3rd July** - 2024 Art Exhibition
- 3rd July 2024** - New Student Day 9:30am - 2:00pm
- 8th to 12th July 2024** - Year 12 Life after Sixth Form Week
- 10th July 2024** - Aylward Collaboration Concert
- 15th July to 19th July 2024** - Year 10 Work Experience Week
- 19th July 2024** - UCAS Reference deadline - Sixth Form
- 22nd July to 23rd July 2024** - Activity Day 1. Times to be confirmed
- 23rd July 2024** - Activity Day 2. End of term. Times to be confirmed
- 22nd July to 26th July 2024** - Year 12 Work Experience
- 24th July 2024** - CPD / Inset Day. School closed to students

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

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