



Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter March 2026



Students embrace Culture Week 2026 at Bentley Wood

Culture Week at Bentley Wood High School was a vibrant and inspiring celebration of diversity, creativity, and community spirit. Taking place over the final week of the Spring Term, the event brought students and staff together to recognise and appreciate the many cultures represented within the school, creating an atmosphere of inclusivity and excitement.

The week began with a "Diverse Community Showcase," where flags from around the world were proudly displayed across the school. This visual celebration immediately set the tone, reminding everyone of the rich cultural backgrounds that make up the Bentley Wood community. Alongside this, cultural business stalls during lunchtime allowed younger students to explore traditions, crafts, and ideas from different parts of the world in an interactive and engaging way.

Tuesday was a particular highlight, featuring a combination of music, fashion, and performance. The opera performance rotation in the morning exposed students to a new artistic genre, broadening their cultural horizons. Later in the day, the Cultural Attire and Performance event encouraged students to wear traditional clothing and celebrate their heritage with pride. The hall came alive with colour, music, and energy as students shared performances that reflected their backgrounds and talents.





Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you enjoy catching up on all the exciting events at Bentley Wood this term.

We have ended the term with a fantastic Cultural Week. We had the pleasure of experiencing Italian and German opera, performed by Ms Pintaudi and accompanied on piano by Ms Kuzuma. The stories behind each piece were shared, and for many of us, it was our first time experiencing opera. The students' cultural performances during lunchtime were also extremely popular.

Our Year 7 and 8 students impressed us with their creative costumes on World Book Day, and I had the pleasure of joining them in the library for a wonderful celebration hosted by Ms Khan.

The school grounds are looking beautiful as spring arrives with daffodils and tulips planted by the gardening club and staff, now coming into bloom.

Students in Years 11, 12, and 13 have recently completed a set of exams and are busy collecting feedback from their teachers as external exams approach. A reminder to check the revision timetable and to ensure that when on site, students sign in and out and follow all school procedures.

I wish you all a relaxing Easter holiday and look forward to welcoming you back soon.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Naseema Akbar." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Naseema Akbar
Headteacher

SSAT Educational Outcomes Award 2025 Exceptional Student Attainment

Awarded to

Bentley Wood High School

In recognition for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment in the 2025 end of KS4 exams

Sue Williamson

Sue Williamson
Chief Executive

ssat the schools, students
and teachers network



Bentley Wood High School achieves national recognition for outstanding performance

Bentley Wood High School is proud to announce that it has been recognised by SSAT (The Schools, Students and Teachers Network) in this year's *Educational Outcomes Awards*.

This national award places the school among the highest-performing secondary schools in the country, based on the latest performance data.

Bentley Wood High School was recognised for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment in the 2025 end of KS4 exams.

The awards are based on analysis from SSAT's *Educational Outcomes Database*, which combines data from DfE and Ofsted to compare performance across all state-funded schools in the country.

Receiving a *SSAT Educational Outcomes Award* is a significant achievement and reflects the dedication, expertise and commitment of the entire school community.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, commented:

"Congratulations to Bentley Wood High School on winning an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award. This success is down to the superb learning and teaching, outstanding support and inspirational leadership of staff. You have made a huge difference to the lives of the young people in your school.

Thank you."

Celebrating Diversity

Culture Day 2026

A special mention must go to the cultural dance show, which stood out as one of the most memorable moments of the week. The level of dedication, practice, and teamwork required to bring the performances together was truly remarkable. Students worked tirelessly behind the scenes, rehearsing routines and coordinating costumes to deliver a polished and captivating showcase. The result was an incredible display of rhythm, storytelling, and cultural expression that left the audience inspired. It was clear that an enormous amount of effort had gone into every detail, and the performers should be immensely proud of what they achieved.

Wednesday's "Cultural Lesson Takeover" brought culture directly into the classroom. Teachers incorporated cultural references into their lessons, encouraging students to spot them and earn achievement points. This creative approach not only made learning more engaging but also demonstrated how culture influences all areas of life, from history to everyday traditions.

On Thursday, students were challenged to take part in a cultural activity of their choice, promoting independent exploration and curiosity. This initiative encouraged students to step outside their comfort zones and try something new, whether it was learning about a tradition, tasting new food, or engaging with cultural media.

The week concluded with a house recipe competition on Friday, where students submitted dishes representing their heritage. This friendly competition, combined with a cultural food experience available throughout the week, allowed everyone to enjoy flavours from around the world.

Overall, Culture Week was a resounding success. It not only celebrated diversity but also strengthened the sense of unity within the school. Through performances, lessons, and shared experiences, students gained a deeper appreciation for one another's cultures—making it a truly unforgettable week.

Opera performance

Miss Pintaudi kicked off Tuesday's Culture Day musical extravaganza with a spellbinding performance of three operatic arias: Mozart's *Als Luise die Briefe* in German and Puccini's *Nessun Dorma* and *Vissi d'arte* in Italian.

Seeing my form tutor perform for our year group was a phenomenal experience. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see true opera singing. We were able to find out a lot about opera as an area of study in music from asking her questions and received a lot of knowledge about the subject.

From that, we were made aware of the numerous years of experience, practice and dedication that is required to be able to perform like she did. It was amazing to see her performance and our whole form group is very proud!

Victoria G 9SCH



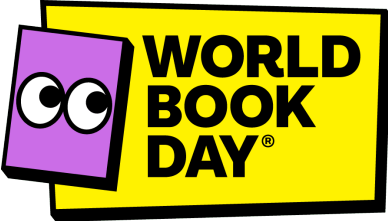


Opera Performance by Miss Pintaudi



Year 8 Business stalls

World Book Day 2026



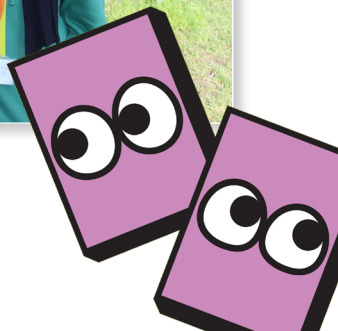
We're celebrating World Book Day

Students and teachers dress up for World Book Day

World Book Day was celebrated on the 5th of March this year, bringing a vibrant and exciting atmosphere across the school. The day was packed with quizzes, challenges and activities designed to celebrate reading and creativity. Years 7 and 8 fully embraced the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters, while teachers also joined in the fun with imaginative, book-inspired departmental costumes.

The corridors were transformed as students and staff proudly showcased a range of wonderful and eye-catching costumes. Everywhere you looked, characters from books came to life, sparking conversations about favourite stories and authors and creating a lively, festive buzz that celebrated the joy of reading across the school.

Our World Book Day celebration kicked off with not one but two literature-themed form time challenges. Students took part in an interform literature quiz for a chance to win 150 House points and the English department also ran a fun Wheel of Fortune style quiz on the most popular fiction reads at BWHS last year. It was the perfect opportunity to start the day with conversations around reading and we are pleased to announce that 10BKO outshone everyone with an impressive score of 65 out of 70 in the literature quiz.



World Book Day 2026



Students took part in Harry Potter themed challenge

At lunchtime students were invited to take part in a Harry Potter themed challenge in the library. They lined up outside the library for their turn to walk through platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ and enter a world buzzing with excitement, working in teams to complete the activities in the challenge. With it being an inter-house competition, there was plenty of healthy rivalry on display. Apart from a series of questions designed to test their knowledge of the wizarding world of Harry Potter, they also took part in a Quidditch Bootcamp challenge, competing to score as many “quaffles” as possible through three golden hoops.

We are incredibly proud of our brilliant team of Library Leaders, who did an outstanding job of hosting the competition. They greeted students warmly, skilfully managed the crowds and ensured that everyone had a fair attempt at the Quidditch Bootcamp challenge. Well done, Library Leaders – you are a credit to the school!

The results of the competition were as follows:

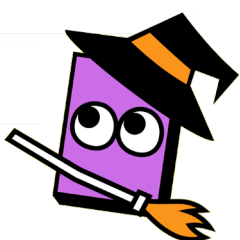
In 1st place Air with an impressive score of 178 points

In 2nd place Fire with 164 points

In 3rd place Water with 130 points

In 4th place Earth with 120 points

Well done to everyone who took part – we look forward to seeing you next year with more World Book Day competitions and activities!



We're celebrating World Book Day

Party for students with most original and creative costume

Our World Book Day festivities drew to a close with a special party in the library for 12 students from each of Years 7 and 8, selected for their original and creative costumes. This has become a valued Bentley Wood tradition, where the Headteacher, Ms Akbar, joins students in the library to share a talk about the books and writers that have inspired her love of reading.

Students then took part in a creative activity, decorating bookmarks with pressed flowers to take away as a memento. For one day only, they were even allowed to break the usual library rules by enjoying food and drink as they reflected on a fun-filled and memorable day.



Spring reads

Wolf Siren by Beth O'Brien

Red is forbidden from entering the woods—everyone knows they're dangerous, filled with strange magic and lurking wolves. Yet she's drawn to them, and to the place where her grandmother vanished three years ago. When a woodcutter disappears and wolves creep near the village, fear drives a deep divide between the villagers and the wild. Only Red seems to hold the key—but she has a secret that could destroy her family forever...

The Night I Borrowed Time by Iqbal Hussain

Eleven-year-old Zubair is a seventh son—with a lot of big brothers. But when his granny gives him a mysterious amulet, he discovers it also means he can time-travel. With his dad changed after an accident and his mum worn down, Zubair decides to fix his family. But every trip has consequences—small changes can reshape the future, and one mistake could be devastating.

Popcorn by Rob Harrell

Andrew who has anxiety and OCD is just trying to survive school photo day. But things aren't going well. There's a bully, the science experiment gone wrong, scary news about his grandmother, and someone else's juice snot (don't ask). As his worries build toward a possible panic attack, can Andrew find a way to survive an extra stressful school day?

On the Wall by Anne Fine

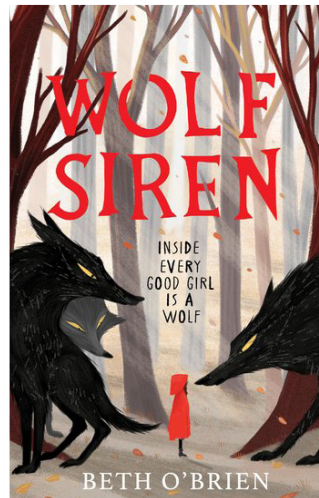
Amid the frantic bustle of breaktime and lunchtime, Finley Tandy sits peacefully on the wall at the edge of the school playground. His teachers admire his capacity to be still and happy absolutely everywhere. And all the time. And maybe tranquillity can be catching. Because gradually everyone in the school comes to appreciate what Finley's long silences can offer. But what if the wall should fall? Can happiness really be found anywhere?

Not Going to Plan by Tia Fisher

Marnie's messed up—expelled and stuck at a new school, seated beside Zed, a nerd with zero tolerance for mistakes. They couldn't be more different, but both need help to pass the subjects they hate. What begins as a study deal turns into an unlikely friendship. And when Marnie's personal life looks like it might implode, she turns to Zed for help facing the hardest decision of her life.

Role Model by Elle McNicoll

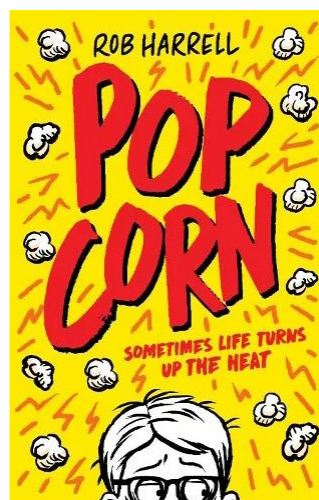
Aeriel Sharpe doesn't want to be anyone's role model. When her mother is elected to be the most important politician in the country (yes, that one), she is unwillingly thrust into the spotlight. With the world's eyes on her, friends don't seem that friendly and she feels trapped by everyone's expectations. They want her to be the voice of every autistic teenager, but Aeriel must find a way to speak for herself...



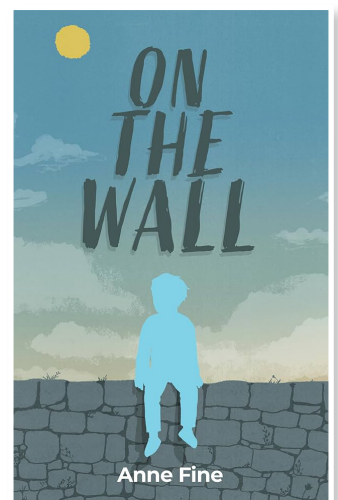
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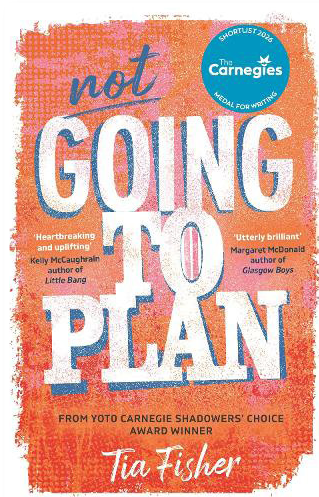
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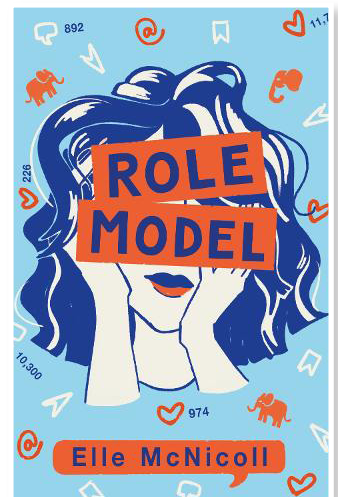
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Not Going to Plan
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Role Model
by Elle McNicoll

This Thing of Ours by Frederick Joseph

A torn ACL ends Ossie Brown's promising basketball career, forcing him to rethink his identity at his affluent, mostly white school. When a teacher draws him into a writing programme, he finds new purpose—until a viral “anti-woke” video threatens everything, compelling Ossie to find his voice.

The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli by Karina Yan Glaser

In ancient Chang'an, Han Yu sells steamed buns amid rumours of his mysterious powers, while in Depression-era New York, Luli dreams of a world beyond her family's restaurant. But when plague strikes Chang'an and financial crisis threatens Luli's family, Han Yu and Luli must each venture out into the larger world—and into danger-filled adventure—to save what they love most.

And the River Drags Her Down by Jihyun Yun

When her older sister is found drowned in the river that cuts through their small, sleepy town, Soojin is beside herself with grief. Disregarding every rule, she uses her ancestral magic to bring Mirae back from the dead. At first, the sisters delight in their reunion, but Mirae soon grows tired of hiding from the world. She becomes restless and hungry... As the town is rocked by a series of harrowing, unusual deaths, Soojin fears the sister she brought back to life isn't the one she knew.

Solo by Gráinne O'Brien

Daisy often feels like a solo act, overshadowed by her twin brothers and relying on her father for support. A passionate classical musician, her world unravels when her boyfriend breaks up with her, leaving her disconnected from music. A new friendship with the mysterious Flora offers hope—but as family tensions rise and her father falls ill, Daisy must decide who she wants to become.

Black Star by Kwame Alexander

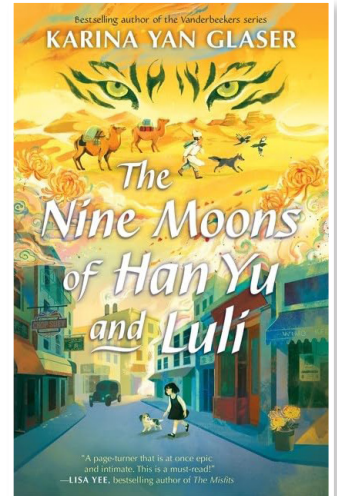
Twelve-year-old Charley dreams of becoming the first female pro baseball pitcher—a bold goal for a Black girl in the American South in the 1920s. Her big dreams are fuelled by her grandfather's thrilling stories of a glorious ancestral past. But when she challenges a bully at a church picnic, one fateful decision leads to consequences she never imagined.

'Til Death by Busayo Matuluko

True-crime-obsessed Lara Oyinlola is heading to Lagos for the wedding of her favourite cousin, Dérin. Bride-to-be Dérin's been receiving anonymous threats telling her to cancel the wedding . . . or face dire consequences. Lara rushes to the rescue, sleuthing her way through a web of secrets, malicious crimes, and near-death encounters that threaten to tear the family apart for good .



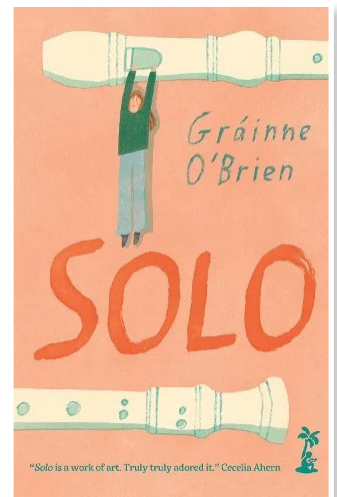
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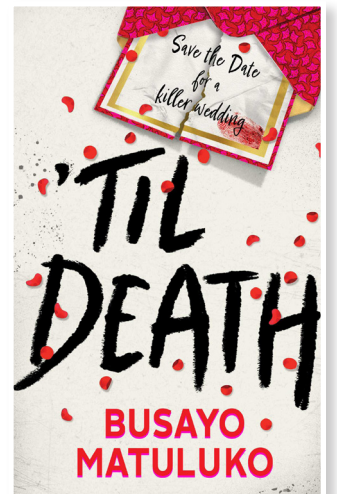
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Solo by
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Black Star by Kwame
Alexander



'Til Death by Busayo
Matuluko

Students enjoy workshops by artist and author on the theme of Art

Virtual author visit: Katy Hessel

Students in Year 7 took part in a very informative and engaging virtual visit by art historian and writer Katy Hessel on Friday, 6th March. This was an exciting opportunity for them to hear directly from a well-known voice in the art world and to learn more about the history of art from a fresh perspective.

Katy spoke to students about her debut book *The Story of Art Without Men*, which looks at female representation in the art world from the 1500s through to the present day. The idea for the book first came to her after visiting an art fair and realising that none of the artworks on display were created by female artists.

Students enjoyed hearing about Katy's journey into the art world, the research that went into writing her book, and some of the fascinating artists she has discovered along the way. The session encouraged students to think critically about representation in art and they were able to explore the topic further in an animated Q & A session at the end of the talk.

Here is what two students had to say about the experience:

The author visit online was something new as Farhat and I have never been that intrigued by art galleries or even

heard of Katy Hessel. Katy Hessel shared her interest with us and talked about how she enjoyed art history when she was younger, encouraging us to explore history of art. We both enjoyed learning about the important works of art by female artists and might even visit an art gallery to discover more about the topic.

Dhiya N and Farhat K 7ESO



Jessica Grady Textiles Workshop

On Thursday 19th March, I had a fantastic experience taking part in a workshop led by artist Jessica Grady. It was really fun to step away from traditional sewing and instead learning how to use mixed media to create bold, textured designs. We spent the session experimenting with a variety of new materials, including colourful buttons, sequins, and different types of fabric scraps, which we layered and hand-stitched onto our work. It was a creative and enjoyable day.

Rayan A 10JAZ

Taking part in the Jessica Grady workshop was an inspiring experience that changed the way textiles and creativity are understood. Her ability to transform recycled materials into vibrant, textured embellishments showed how layering different surfaces and colours can create striking effects.

Instead of focusing on perfection, the workshop encouraged a carefree, experimental approach that made the process far more enjoyable. Using bold colours, unusual materials, and playful layering techniques added to the excitement of the session. Creating a sample under her guidance highlighted how expressive textiles can be, especially when combining a range of materials to build depth, texture, and individuality.

Nishtha G 10JAZ

On Thursday 19th March 2026, I took part in an inspiring textiles workshop led by Jessica Grady, where we created our own textile samples based on her unique style. During the session, we used small circular cut-outs from recycled materials and carefully sewed them onto fabric to build up interesting textures.

We also added felt pieces, buttons, and sequins, and experimented with techniques such as couching to enhance our designs. Jessica brought along a range of her own work, which was helpful as each piece showed different styles and approaches, giving us lots of inspiration for our own samples. I really enjoyed the workshop because it allowed me to be creative and try new techniques that I hadn't used before.

Shanze S 10KP

I really enjoyed the workshop that we did with Jessica as she showed us lots of new techniques that we could use to make samples. This was a great experience for all of us as we learnt new techniques and she showed us how we can use anything to make new textiles pieces.

Bianca G 10JAZ



Science Week 2026

Using scientific principles to make ice cream

This year's Science Week was an absolute blast! We kicked things off by making delicious ice cream using scientific principles, transforming simple ingredients into a tasty treat. With the help of our enthusiastic teachers, we learned about the science behind freezing and mixing, all while sharing laughs and enjoying the sweet results. It was a fantastic way to combine learning and fun, creating lasting memories and a delicious treat!

The ice cream-making activity demonstrated several key scientific principles:

1. Phase Changes

Freezing: The process of turning liquid cream into solid ice cream involves lowering the temperature until the ingredients freeze.

2. Heat Transfer

Cooling: Using ice and salt to absorb heat from the cream mixture, lowering its temperature to facilitate freezing.

Salt's Role: Salt lowers the freezing point of ice, allowing the mixture to become colder than 0°C (32°F) and speeding up the freezing process.

3. Mixture and Emulsification

Combining Ingredients: Mixing cream, sugar, and flavourings creates a homogeneous mixture, essential for a smooth texture.

Emulsification: Understanding how fats in cream combine with other ingredients to create a stable mixture.

4. Kinetic Energy

Movement of Particles: As the mixture is churned, the movement of particles helps incorporate air, giving ice cream its light and fluffy texture.

- These principles not only make the process of making ice cream delicious but also provide a hands-on way to understand fundamental concepts of chemistry and physics.

Here are some students' comments about the activity:

It was break and science combined!!

It was a fun experience and we had lots of fun and it was delicious. It was a really fun experiment and we think it was a fun way to get together on Science Week. I really enjoyed it I laughed so much.

It was so enjoyable! The teachers were helping us have a blast making ice cream!

Mr Kerai



Students have fun making and launching their own rockets

We also took inspiration from the recent Artemis II launch, embarking on our own rocket-making adventure for Science Week. On Thursday 12th March Mr Koyejo led students in Years 7 and 8 in a fun activity where they made and launched their own paper rockets. The excitement was palpable as we constructed our rockets and sent them soaring into the sky.

The session began with an energetic burst of creativity as the students designed and created their paper rockets, considering simple concepts in aerodynamics such as the shape and size of their final design. Once all the cutting, sticking and decorating was complete it was time to go outside and test the rockets by placing them on rocket launchers.

Positioned on the launch tubes, the rockets were propelled skyward by a powerful burst of compressed air generated from a stomp on the launcher pad.

As they launched, students witnessed key physics principles in action, including Newton's Laws of Motion, thrust, gravity, and air resistance. The windy afternoon added an extra challenge—and plenty of excitement—making the experiment even more dynamic and memorable.

Aisha T from 7SHA noted how high her rocket flew, while others had a good laugh when their rocket got stuck! The bright colours of the rockets added to the joy of the experience.

Overall, Science Week was a joyful celebration of creativity and exploration, bringing us all together in the spirit of discovery

I loved it my rocket got stuck and it was so funny!! It was fun and was really enjoyable and the colours were really bright.

Kawsar A 7SHA

I really enjoyed and it was so fun and mine went the highest and we also watched a video.

Aisha T 7SHA



Science Week: Students interact with creatures at Zoolab

Year 8 get up close with animals and insects of the rainforest at ZooLab

On Friday, 6th February, ZooLab, the UK's leading provider of ethical, hands-on animal encounters and educational workshops, visited the Year 8 students.

During the session, the presenter talked about the rainforest environment and explained how different animals have adopted to survive in this unique habitat.

We had an exciting opportunity to see a range of animals up close, handle some of them and ask questions, making the experience both engaging and educational.

One of the animals we saw was a Giant African Land Snail, which had been intercepted by Border Force at Heathrow Airport before being cared for by ZooLab. The life story of this animal was particularly compelling and captured my attention.

We also encountered other fascinating animals, including a tarantula, two gerbils, and a cockroach. The workshop

sparked curiosity and helped us better understand how animals survive and thrive in rainforest ecosystems.

Sienna G 8ZHA





Inspiring Futures: Year 8 Careers Morning 2026

Representatives from diverse sectors help support student career choices

On Tuesday 24th February, we were delighted to have representatives from ten different employment sectors come to the school to inspire our Year 8 students. We had speakers from a wide range of employment sectors including technology, uniformed services, healthcare, business, media, construction, engineering, finance and law.

Each student was able to attend three sessions, where they discovered different career pathways, and could see where their current studies and GCSE options could lead in the future. These sessions are designed to inspire our girls and help them make informed decisions when choosing their GCSE options later this year.

Here is one student's impression of the event and how it has supported her learning:

'The speakers talked about their own personal journey in their career. It was fascinating to listen to their stories about their experience which made it easier to understand what the jobs were really like and helped me remember what they said. Listening to the stories was more interesting than just hearing facts about each job.'

'The Careers Morning helped me think about jobs I may not have considered before. It also showed how the subjects I choose at GCSE can affect the types of careers I can do in the future. Overall, the event encouraged me to explore the world of work and think more carefully about my own future career choices.'

Sienna G 8ZHA

We were lucky enough to have a GP attend, who was able to talk about her rewarding and demanding career to the many students interested in healthcare as a career pathway. Students were able to ask insightful questions and understand the role in more detail.

Students were also able to hear about roles in the Army, including apprenticeships, and the funding available for healthcare degrees. The use of AI in the technology sector was explained as well as opportunities and apprenticeships in the media sector, which are both growing areas for future employment. The firefighter talked about essential employability skills and allowed students to try on firefighter equipment.

We were particularly pleased to welcome back our alumni, Tinhinan, a Law graduate, and Hafsa, who is doing a degree apprenticeship with KPMG. Our girls really enjoyed learning about their journeys from Bentley Wood to successful careers and were able to ask them lots of questions. We welcome any other alumni to get in touch if they would like to be involved in future careers events.

Ms Kabel
Careers Adviser



Student trying on firefighting equipment with Katie Knell, Firefighter with the London Fire Brigade





BW alumna Tinhinan Souak speaking to students about what is it like to study Law at Warwick University



Kathryn Ridyard, Resident Liaison Officer & Social Value Advisor at Construction company Bouygues UK



Alfie Gilling, Director of Marketing at Global Academy explaining careers in media



Bentley Wood alumna, Hafsa Syed detailing her path from BW to a KPMG Degree Apprenticeship in Taxation



Alison Delius, Education Advisor University of West London



Colin Fiddy, Colour Sargeant, British Army explaining apprenticeships and degree funding available in the Army

Year 10 Interview Day 2026

Students have a rewarding experience and practise their interview skills

Thank you to all our volunteers for giving up their time to help our students to practise interview skills. With their care and kindness, the students could let go of their prior apprehensions and it was wonderful to see the students smiling and saying it had been a great opportunity. This was their first step into the world of work for most of the students as they are preparing for their work experience placement later this year.

The interviewers were very impressed with the maturity and achievement of our students and how well prepared and confident they were during their interviews. They commented on all the extracurricular activities and interests the students spoke about and how they demonstrated the interesting and well rounded individuals they are.

The students' comments after their interviews were very positive and many commented on how they enjoyed taking part, how supportive their interviewer was, and how they were made to feel comfortable and able to showcase their interests, skills and achievements.

Mrs Ortega

Here are some student comments about the day:

My thoughts on the interview were that it was amazing because they asked the questions nice and clearly and they did not mind if I asked to repeat the question multiple times.

In conclusion my thoughts on the interview process was 10/10.

Yukta V 10FTR

The interview was a truly enjoyable experience, and I sincerely appreciate the time and effort the interviewers dedicated to meeting us. The professional I spoke with was very kind and made me feel completely at ease, while also providing valuable advice that will stay with me for future interviews.

Having the opportunity to showcase my skills made the experience even more rewarding and left me feeling confident.

I am deeply grateful to everyone involved in organising such a meaningful experience.

Jasmine 10LSB

I think that the interview practice mock day really helped me, as I learned what a real interview is like. I liked that they gave us feedback at the end, as I learned what I need to improve on.

I learned that I need to explain my points more, rather than just saying what I do. I also learned that I need to tell them about what I have learned from these experiences, how I have improved because of them.

This really made me realize that interviews aren't just about listing things, but about showing them what I have learned. I think that I am more prepared now to go to future interviews, as I have a better idea of how to discuss myself.

Sahar N 10KPO





Student Rewards March 2026

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

Layan A 7JYO - Consistently going above and beyond in her skills development this year.

English

Maya T 7JSH - for her continued enthusiasm and great work;

Lyla R 7ABU - for her creative and poetic imagination and expression

French

Sophie J 7ABU - for always participating in class, doing her homework and showing values of Care and Effort. LSB

Geography

Sarah A 7ESO - is one of the kindest and hardworking students in Year 7. She is always actively engaged in lesson and makes valuable contributions. She also takes the time to support her fellow students and encourages them with their learning. Sarah really embodies the CARE values of BW.

History

Muzhda F 7ABU - for showing real growth and developing an appetite for History. Your curiosity is evident in the thoughtful contributions you make in lesson.

Maths

Sharanika S 7JSH - for practising maths problems regularly and showing great improvement through determination and effort.

Pia B 7ESO - You have done fantastic work in class and are always so engaged in your learning. Your excellent red book homework shows real commitment to maths, and you should be very proud of the amazing progress you have made!



Zainab H 7JYO - Always does extra for HW (Target and XP boost in Sparx, independent learning on Dr Frost etc). Has a positive attitude to learning. Puts in effort for every task. Well done!!

Esme B 7SEO - A very polite and lovely girl. A quick and capable learner who picks up new concepts with ease and completes tasks efficiently. Also great at following classroom expectations, others can definitely learn from you. Very well done!

Erum K 7JYO - for trying her best during lessons and putting in her best effort. Keep up the good work Erum!

PE

Sarah A 7ESO - Sarah puts 100% effort in every lesson and approaches all activities with enthusiasm and determination. She is also very encouraging of her peers, supporting others and contributing positively to the group and demonstrating the schools CARE values.

Spanish

Sadaf K and **Muzhda F 7ABU** - both for creative flair and accuracy in their writing exams as well as continuous excellent attitude to learning

Textiles

Arzo H 7NGA - For showing excellent attitude to her learning through progress and skill level. Ambereen H 7SDO for consistent hard work and creativity in Textiles.



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 8



Art

Arnika J 8SGU - Consistently going above and beyond in her skills development this year.

Maya S 8HJG - for consistent hard work and great outcomes in Art.

English

Reme H A 8SGU - for her excellent attitude and progress in the subject; **Maysoon K 8MAK** - for her engagement and effort in class

Food

Minha A 8ZHA and **Emily C 8ZHA** - you have made such a huge improvement in your practical cooking skills this term. Keep up the great work!

French

Janaiah O 8MAK - for impressive contributions in French, commitment and hard work. LSB

Geography

Sienna P SGU - for your passion and enthusiasm related to everything geography and learning in general. You always have a smile on your face and are eager to share your opinions in class. Your positivity is infectious.

Graphics

Anjali P 8HJG and **Pranisha G 8CMI** - for producing some great responses to Typographer Oscar Wilson

History

Huda Y 8MJE - for your excellent outcomes in History!

Maths

Sienna G 8ZHA - she has shown tremendous improvement and continues to impress with her conscientious attitude and exceptional work ethic. She approaches every task with dedication, positivity, and a genuine desire to do her best. It has been an absolute

pleasure to teach her in Year 8. Keep up the amazing work!!

Minha A 8ZHA - for regularly achieving high scores in times tables and showing great improvement with solving equations.

Riya P 8SGU - Really hard working, great focus and determination. Puts in effort to swiftly progress through class tasks and always does extra for HW (Target and XP boost in Sparx). Great at following classroom expectations too. Well done!!

Renata P 8ZHA, for always putting in great effort during independent work and being willing to raise her hand to answer questions. Well done Renata!

PE

Iqra T 8HJG - Iqra consistently demonstrates great maturity and leadership in PE lessons. She is always keen to take on responsibility, confidently leading parts of lessons and guiding her teams during gameplay. Alongside her strong ability, she shows excellent sportsmanship, treating others with respect and encouraging fair play.

Science

Sophia S 8CMI and **Anchuka R 8CMI** - for their hard work, determination and engagement in every single lesson. This is also reflected in all assessed tasks, where they are consistently among the highest performers. Well done both of you!

Spanish

Nazifa R 8ZHA - for impressive knowledge of grammar and active participation in lessons. MCO

Textiles

Milli P 8MAK - for hard work and creativity in Textiles this term

Celebrating languages



La Francophonie Week

From 17th to 20th March, our school celebrated **Francophonie Week**, a time to appreciate the diversity of French-speaking countries around the world. To mark the occasion, we conducted a range of activities, including watching the French movie *Miraculous* with English subtitles. It was a fun and engaging way to experience French language and culture. We also decorated a section of the library with Francophonie-themed displays to raise awareness, complete with a selection of French books for students. To finish off the celebration of Francophonie Week, we are running a poster competition all about Francophonie Week. Entries are due the first week back after Easter.

The French Language Ambassadors

Tisha S, Saanvii B, Mihika T

This is what some students said:

'In French Movie Club after school, we watched *Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug & Cat Noir* in French; to celebrate La Francophonie and I really enjoyed it. I learned new words like super-héros (superhero), méchant (villain), and pouvoir (power). Watching the movie was a great way to practice the French language and explore the French culture.'

Simra R 7JYO

'On Monday 23rd March, we watched a movie set in France in French. It was an extremely memorable experience for

me and my friends. I really enjoyed myself watching a movie I have watched before in English and now in a new language which was great. I am extremely grateful for this movie evening - all thanks to Mrs Sambo'.

Sophia R 7JYO

'On 23rd Monday, I watched *Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug & Cat Noir* (the movie) in French. It was so interesting, funny, cute, romantic, and enjoyable! I absolutely loved it. There were some Year 10s there, too, and they were handing out snacks like cupcakes which were so delicious. They were also making sure we were having a good time! We also got our link book's enrichment page signed. I had the best time of my life. The teacher there was also so nice and caring and made sure we were enjoying the movie. It was just so much fun and so enjoyable - you have to come next time and experience it yourself! Last thing I would like to do is express a big thank you to Mrs Sambo for giving me this opportunity. Merci.'

Aisha S 7JYO

'The movie was incredible and I learned some new words in French. It was a fun experience and I would definitely go again!'

Esther M 7JYO

Spanish Conjugation Challenge Success at North London Collegiate School

Students from our school recently had the exciting opportunity to take part in the Spanish Conjugation Challenge held at North London Collegiate School. This prestigious event brought together talented linguists from a range of schools, all eager to put their Spanish grammar skills to the test in a fun yet competitive environment.

We were proud to send a team of twelve students to represent our school, with three participants from each of the following year groups: Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, and Year 12. Each group demonstrated impressive dedication and enthusiasm throughout the competition, tackling complex verb conjugations with confidence and determination.

The event proved to be both challenging and rewarding, and all of our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They not only strengthened their language skills but also had the chance to meet and compete with other students who share their passion for Spanish.

We are especially delighted to celebrate the achievements of our teams. Our Year 8 and Year 9 students performed exceptionally well, earning an impressive third place. Meanwhile, our Year 12 team achieved an outstanding second place, showcasing their advanced skills and hard work.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part in the challenge. Their commitment, teamwork, and positive attitude were truly commendable, and they represented our school with great pride. Congratulations to everyone involved!

Miss Codrean



Success in sporting arena and camaraderie in field trip

Year 8 student gains silver in martial arts competition

On Sunday March 8th, Emily C 8ZHA attended a sparring competition called the Warrior Opening and managed to secure a Silver Medal!

The atmosphere was very supportive and Emily felt that this was a great opportunity for her and the other participants to step out of their comfort zone. A huge congratulation to Emily for entering this competition, and for her success too.

Miss Halai (Teacher of PE)

Year 10 student enters Trampoline Competition

On Sunday 22nd March 2026 a Year 10 student took part in a regional trampoline competition, here is her account of the day

“Competing in the recent regional trampoline meet was a whirlwind of adrenaline, though it didn’t exactly go as planned. During my first routine, I messed up my second skill, although that jolted my outcome, I still finished strong. It taught me that precision and mental discipline are just as vital as the physical strength required to launch.

I'm excited to share this experience. It's a reminder that we're doing amazing things outside the classroom, and even the "mess-ups" are part of the journey toward getting better."

Camille W 10MD





Geography field trip to Juniper Hall

My trip to Juniper Hall was a mix of proper geography fieldwork and the kind of chaotic fun that only happens when you're outdoors with your friends. Even though the aim was to investigate how the River Tillingbourne changes downstream, the day became just as much about teamwork, laughter and wading through the shallow river together.

Measuring width and depth turned into a group effort, with everyone shouting instructions while trying to balance on slippery stones, and the float velocity test somehow turned into a moment where half the group splashed along the river trying to catch the cork before it drifted away.

Each site felt different, and seeing the river widen and deepen made the Bradshaw Model finally make sense, but what made the day memorable was the atmosphere — the jokes, the near falls, the shared snacks, and the way we all helped each other when the data got confusing.

By the end we were muddy, tired and slightly damp, but it felt like we'd actually learned something real while having a genuinely good time together, and that combination made the whole trip feel special.

Sara H 10JAZ

Musical highs: Glee, choir and Spring Concert

Jack Petchey Glee Competition

Performing in the Jack Petchey Glee competition was an incredible experience from start to finish. Our journey began with a bright and early wake-up call to head to the Chelmsford Theatre.

The energy was electric as everyone prepared for the big moment. We spent the day getting ready styling our hair, doing our makeup and playing games.

The support from our friends and family was overwhelming. The audience was packed with Bentley Wood fans, including many of our families who travelled to cheer us on. All the hard work finally paid off. When the judges announced that Bentley Wood was going through to the Grand Final at the Shaftesbury Theatre in the West End!!! We cannot wait to perform again.

Meadow H 11CS



Glee students get into
Grand Final of the Jack Petchey Glee



Year 9 Choir perform at Harrow Arts Centre

My experience at Harrow Arts Centre was lively and enjoyable. It was thrilling being able to sing on the stage with people in a similar position to me.

This was not my first time going on a trip outside of school for a concert, however it was certainly a turning point in my journey with performing and singing.

This opportunity has made me feel more confident, comfortable, and capable, and I am extremely grateful.

Nadia B 9SZ



Year 9 Choir at
Harrow Arts Centre

Bentley Wood Spring Concert

The Bentley Wood Spring Concert has always been one of the most exciting parts of my school year, a moment where I get to step on stage and truly be myself.

I've been performing in it since Year 7, and I've never once stopped enjoying the experience. Every term, it gives me something to look forward to. A goal, a buzz, a reason to keep pushing. What makes it even more special is performing alongside my friends. Sharing the laughter, the rehearsals, the nerves, and the pure fun that comes with it.

For me, the concert isn't just an event, it's a reminder of how much talent Bentley Wood has to offer and how lucky and happy I am to be part of it.

Sapphire M 10ABR



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 9



Art

Namida T 9MEM - for working so hard and producing a fantastic still life painting. Well done!

Biology

Mariam M 9SG - for consistently achieving excellence in every lesson, test and task. She is a truly positive example of hard work and dedication to her peers. Mariam approaches each lesson with enthusiasm, and she always brings a huge variety of knowledge each time.

Chemistry

Isabel M 9MCO - for her excellent contributions this term - keep it up!

English

Isabel L H 9AV - for excellent achievement; **Sara S 9SZ** - for fantastic effort and contribution to class discussions

French

Akshayah P 9LNO - for your consistent effort in French in terms of classwork and participation in class. LSB

Geography

Kaianna F 9SZ - for working incredibly hard and consistently through the year and going above and beyond.

H&S

Khajurei R 9LNO - for her excellent contributions and hard work in lesson

History

Victoria G 9SCH - for constant commitment and enthusiasm in History lessons

Maths

Zofia O 9MCO - Your hard work since I started teaching you in Year 8 has always been consistent - you are fantastic. Your recent test success is clear evidence of

that effort, and you should be very proud of yourself - keep it up! If you continue this way, success will always light your path!

Fatima A 9SCH - Wow, what a turn around. Comes to class with positive attitude towards learning, showing much more focus and progress through class tasks. Amazing participation during class discussions and active engagement too. Well done and continue the good work!

PE

Lucia M 9MCO - Lucia has shown a fantastic attitude to learning throughout her GCSE PE studies. She consistently demonstrates a strong understanding and depth of knowledge in both practical and theory lessons. Always eager to contribute, Lucia regularly volunteers thoughtful answers and engages positively in every lesson. She has also shown excellent leadership skills, setting a great example to others around her.

Philosophy

Marwa F 9SCH - for your frequent contributions in RS!

Physics

Maryam A 9SZ - Consistent focus, engagement and achievement throughout the year, and such a positive attitude!

Spanish

Hiba M 9MEM - for amazing effort and homework in Spanish and excellent contributions in lessons JOR

Textiles

Amyama K 9LNO - for continuous excellent work in Year 9 Textiles.



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 10

Art

Dalia A 10ABR - for consistent hard work and great outcome in Art.

Biology

Hana V 10MD - Hana is growing in both knowledge and confidence with each passing lesson, and she deserves recognition for her extracurricular preparation and her tireless pursuit of biological knowledge. Hana is always eager to tackle the most challenging tasks in Biology, and her excellent subject knowledge means she often succeeds! Well done!

Chemistry

Krishna S 10BKO - although having recently joined the Bentley Wood community, she has shown hard work, dedication and resilience in abundance. Well done!

English

Anniyah R 10MD - for excellent achievement in Language; **Aqsa N 10JAZ** - for excellent achievement in Literature

French

Sarah A 10GCP - In recognition of your diligent work in French and your consistently kind approach in class. Merci, Sarah! LSB

Geography

Jesmira M 10LSB - for always bringing a positive energy to the classroom and asking questions to clarify understanding.

Graphics

Samara S 10LSB and **Kaya P 10GCP** - for consistently putting in effort in homework and designs created in class.

H&S

Betool S 10GCP - for always asking though provoking questions and having a great attitude towards her studies



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 10

History

Sana K 10ABR - for showing great enthusiasm and inquisitiveness for History

Maths

Sara S 10JAZ - for showing clear improvement in maths through regular practice, careful thinking, and a willingness to learn from mistakes. Her persistence is helping her grow in confidence.

Zahra M I 10ABR & Rumaisa A 10BKA. Such lovely girls. Really hardworking. They put in effort to learn and are always following classroom expectations. A kind of discipline that is exemplary. Well done girls!

PE

Anjali R 10LSB - Anjali is a consistently positive presence in Core PE, always bringing a smile and a willingness to get involved in practical lessons.

She is polite, helpful, and supportive of those around her, contributing to a great learning environment. Through her performance in lessons, she clearly demonstrates her knowledge and understanding, applying her skills with confidence.

Avneet C 10FTR - Avneet always puts in full effort in GCSE PE lessons, in both practical and theory. Avneet engages in every lesson and always maintains a positive attitude towards her learning.

She is a great role to others around her and continuously displays sportsmanship qualities, some of which include respect, fairness and supportiveness. Furthermore, Avneet has demonstrated resilience, this is shown by her ability to remain positive and strong despite injury. Well done Avneet!

Physics

Ameera-Zenab R 10BKO - For her ever growing dedication and participation in physics

Zara A 10ABR - Continued excellence in every lesson with her contributions, work ethic and attitude."

Spanish

Venessa F 10BKO - for putting in effort above and beyond to reach her potential and always asking good questions

Textiles

Lina A 10GCP - for working so hard in Textiles and always catching up with missed work.



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 11



Art

Naiya A 11THA - for resilience and determination to improve in Art. Great work this term!

Biology

Zikra K 11CSN - Zikra has been one of the most consistent students throughout the entire year. Her relentless pursuit of excellence and her meticulous attention to the minutiae of mark schemes, means that Zikra often outcompetes all other students in almost every marked task or assessment, and deserves to be recognised for her brilliance in Biology. Well done Zikra!

Business studies

Rahaf A W 11LBM and **Sophie S 11THA** - for excellent effort and attainment in Business Studies. Doing the right thing every lesson, every day. Well done and good luck in your exams.

Chemistry

Maria B 11CCH - for her engagement in lessons and her attitude to learning - always prepared to go above and beyond!

Computer science

Zahra S 11CSN, **Iman O 11TC** & **Arnika N 11CCH** - for excellent performance in their Computing Mocks

English

Iman O 11TC - for excellent performance in her Language mock; **Maria B 11CCH** - for excellent performance in her Literature mock

French

Saira C 11SSH - for your strong work ethic, your valuable contributions in class and for your enthusiasm for the subject. LSB

Geography

Zahra R 11THA - for bringing incredible levels of effort into lessons and applying this in all that she does, with an aim of exceeding her target grade.

H&S

Tiana S 11CON - for working incredibly hard in her PSA and having a mature attitude towards learning

Maths

Neha M 11CCH - for trying super hard in class, always putting in her best effort, and not giving up even when the maths questions are challenging. You have shown great improvement in your mocks. Zinaat

B 11SSH - for most improved from Mock 1 to Mock 2. Keep up the good work Zinaat!

PE

Isla A 11CON - Since the start of the spring term, Isla has shown a consistently positive attitude and a strong commitment to improving her performance. Her hard work has led to significant progress in both her practical and theory grades, reflecting her resilience and focus.

Physics

Sophia A 11SSH - For her incredible resilience and for not giving up despite missing many school days, instead working hard to catch up on the content she missed

Science

Well done to **Zahra R 11THA** - for working so hard in Biology - you have shown that hard work pays off. Keep up the good work.

Maarya S 11CON - for working incredibly hard to make progress she has in science. This has shone through this term, keep it up!

Spanish

Shanum C 11CON - for displaying great writing skills. MCO

Textiles

Khkula S 11CON - for consistently excellent work in Textiles. Khkula goes above and beyond with her Textiles work.

Jack Petchey Awards and Speak Out



Inspiring evening for students at Jack Petchey Awards 2026

We were delighted to attend this year's Jack Petchey Awards Evening, held on Wednesday 11th February at Harrow Arts Centre, celebrating the achievements of young people across the borough. The evening recognises students who have shown outstanding commitment, resilience, leadership and kindness, as well as the staff who support and inspire them.

It was a truly uplifting occasion, filled with pride and positivity, and a wonderful reminder of the incredible things young people can achieve. Seeing so many students celebrated for their contributions to their schools and communities was both inspiring and heartwarming.

We were especially proud that Bentley Wood had the largest group of award winners recognised across Harrow this year.

An incredible 12 students from Years 7-13 received awards, alongside two of our dedicated staff members, Mr Young and Ms Tweed. We were also thrilled to celebrate our

very first Environmental Award winner in Year 8, marking an exciting milestone for the school.

Congratulations to all of our award winners – we are immensely proud of you!

Mrs Burridge



Bentley Wood hosts Harrow Speak Out Challenge Regional Final

On the evening of 11th March, Bentley Wood had the privilege of hosting the regional final of the prestigious Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, featuring talented speakers from Year 10 from various schools in the borough.

As reigning champion, Shadia Shamil Ibrahim from Year 11 was the MC for the evening, guiding all the speakers through the speech and punctuating them with encouraging words and the occasional witty remark.

The standard for the final was possibly the strongest it has ever been, and featured 22 different speeches from 11 schools, making Harrow among the most competitive boroughs in the entire competition.

Bentley Wood contributed three speakers to the event. Sarah A had the daunting prospect of being the very first speaker of the night with her inventive and original speech 'Let the Cat in', drawing inspiration from the Dr Seuss classic 'the Cat in the Hat' to reflect on the importance of coping with disorder and avoiding excessive risk-aversity.

Our next finalist Monisha K also gave an excellent performance with her reflective and heartfelt speech 'Silence has a Price', urging the importance of using your voice and not allowing situations to go unnoticed. Our final speaker was Christina K, who captured the audience with her challenging and motivational speech 'Decide Like Nobody's Watching', about the habits which form character.

The judging panel, composed of local experts from various fields, faced the task of evaluating the exceptional performances of the talented speakers.

Additionally, we were honoured to have the Deputy Mayor of Harrow present at the event, to hand out the awards to the competitors and our champion. We extend our appreciation to the school staff members and Year 10 students who attended the event and supported their peers with school spirit. Thanks also to Mr Nussbaum from the English Department, who runs the competition at Bentley Wood and has coached the students as they prepared for their final speeches.

The Speak Out Challenge serves as a testament to the significance of effective communication skills, empowering our young individuals to become confident and influential leaders of tomorrow.

Congratulations all the finalists, all the participants who participated in the earlier round of the Challenge at Bentley Wood with passion and creativity, and to the victorious Whitefriars school who will host the tournament for next year's Year 10 cohort.

Mr Nussbaum



Sixth formers excel in ethics and oratory competitions



Zahara T, Skandaja K, Asiya U and Shruthinaya S focused their presentation on the moral responsibility of countries to protect migrants from harm caused by dangerous sea crossings.



Sarah B, Aliya M and Anila A delivered a presentation on procreative beneficence, the idea that parents have a moral responsibility to select the embryo most likely to lead the “best possible life.”

Students awarded “Highly Commended” in the Uehiro Practical Ethics Competition

Two Bentley Wood Year 12 teams have been awarded Highly Commended status in the prestigious Uehiro Oxford Institute Practical Ethics and Responsibility Competition (PERC).

This national competition invites students in Years 11-13 to explore complex ethical challenges by producing a short video that analyses an ethical problem and examines how responsibility is involved.

The competition receives a large number of entries from across the UK, with an exceptionally high standard of submissions every year. This makes our students' achievement especially impressive.

The judges praised Bentley Wood for presenting strong arguments which featured excellent explorations of moral responsibility in a complex context.

Zahara T, Skandaja K, Asiya U and Shruthinaya S focused their presentation on the moral responsibility of countries to protect migrants from harm caused by dangerous sea crossings.

Sarah B, Aliya M and Anila A delivered a presentation on procreative beneficence, the idea that parents have a moral responsibility to select the embryo most likely to lead the “best possible life.”

This recognition places our students among the top entries across the UK and highlights their maturity in addressing sophisticated ethical questions.

Their careful reasoning, teamwork, and creativity shine through in their work, reflecting the spirit of the Uehiro competition—encouraging young people to grapple thoughtfully with real world moral challenges.

We look forward to sharing their video with the school community once it appears on the Uehiro competition webpage, and we are delighted that a prize book will soon be arriving for our school library.

Congratulations to both teams for this outstanding achievement—you have represented our school with insight, integrity, and imagination.

Ms Tweed

Outstanding success in the Sovereign Minds SPEAR Competition

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our students in this year's Sovereign Minds SPEAR Oratory Prize, one of the UK's most competitive public speaking and global issues competitions for young people aged 16–18. With more than 2,000 applicants nationwide, the standard was exceptionally high. Five Bentley Wood students reached the quarter finals (Mariah A, Sarah B, Dalia E A, Abi M and Salena M) already placing them within the top few percent of entrants. Even more impressively, two progressed to the semi finals, a remarkable accomplishment that reflects their confidence, clarity, and commitment to engaging with some of the world's most challenging questions.

What is the SPEAR Competition?

The Sovereign Minds SPEAR Prize invites students to deliver speeches inspired by global challenges framed by the ten official SPEAR targets. These targets encourage young people to tackle issues that shape our shared future and promote leadership, advocacy, and critical thinking.

As requested, here are five of the SPEAR targets highlighted by Sovereign Minds:

- End poverty
- Improve health
- Education for all
- Protect our planet
- Responsible consumption

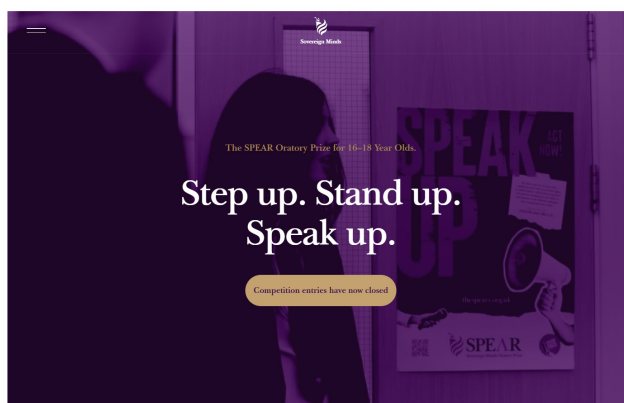
These themes encourage participants to explore urgent ethical, environmental, and social questions, synthesising personal insight with global awareness.

Celebrating Our Students

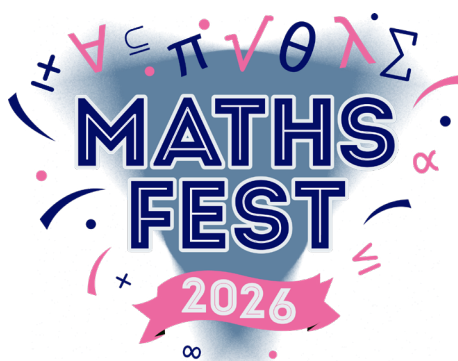
Our students delivered powerful, thoughtful speeches that demonstrated maturity beyond their years. Their progress through the early rounds—held at prestigious venues across London—reflects their hard work, courage, and ability to communicate ideas with conviction.

Congratulations to all five students—and especially our two semi finalists Dalia E A and Salena M —for their outstanding success in the SPEAR competition.

Ms Tweed



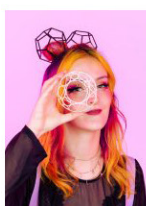
Captivating Sixth Form trips



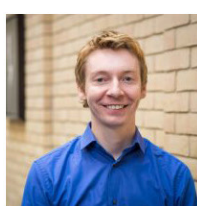
Ben Sparks



Matt Parker

Ayliean
MacDonald

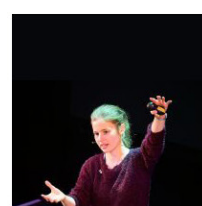
Nicole Cozens



James Grime



Laura Taalman



Sophie Maclean

Sixth formers have an enjoyable and engaging day at Maths Fest 2026

This year, a group of our sixth form students had the exciting opportunity to attend Maths Fest 2026 – an all-day mathematics extravaganza held at Kensington Town Hall on 26th February. It was managed and organised by renowned mathematician and stand-up comedian Matt Parker and maths author Rob Eastaway.

The event featured an impressive lineup of speakers including Sophie Maclean, Laura Taalman, James Grime, Ben Sparks, and Ayliean MacDonald, who led interactive sessions celebrating mathematics in new and engaging ways. Exam advice from Nicole Cozens was also a welcome addition for our students heading into their A-level exams going forward.

Our students returned inspired and enthusiastic, having spent a day seeing their favourite subject through an entirely new lens. Each attendee also received a booklet packed with puzzles and speaker notes to take home and enjoy.

It was a fantastic day out, and we hope to return again next year!

Mr Shah

Here is some information about the speakers on the day

Matt Parker is a maths author and YouTuber who started out as a classroom maths teacher. His books *Humble Pi* and *Love Triangle* were both number one best sellers. He's

probably most famous as a YouTuber; his channel Stand up Maths has 1,000,000 subscribers.

Sophie Maclean is a mathematician and experienced maths communicator currently studying for a PhD in analytic number theory and additive combinatorics at King's College London.

Laura Taalman is a mathematician and professor at James Madison University whose work spans knot theory, the mathematics of puzzles and games and computational approaches to mathematical design in digital fabrication and the fibre arts.

James Grime has toured the world with his code-breaking talk and a genuine WWII Enigma machine. In his spare time, James creates videos about maths for Youtube

Ben Sparks is a mathematician and musician who travels the country demonstrating the beauty of maths and occasionally singing about it. He's based at University of Bath and gets surprisingly passionate about maths, music, the maths of music and the music of maths

Ayliean MacDonald has travelled the world spreading joy and a love for maths through art. Her maths videos have featured in film festivals in Canada and have gathered millions of views on TikTok.

Nicole Cozens is a Maths teacher and exam expert who starred alongside Matt Parker on the BBC's *The Maths Show*.



Year 12 students at the
Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.



Year 12 students at the
Houses of Parliament

Year 12 politics students attend the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court

On Monday 23rd February, our Year 12 Politics students had the opportunity to visit two institutions that lie at the heart of the UK's political and legal system: Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. The trip provided students with a valuable chance to see many of the concepts we study in the classroom brought to life.

Our day began with a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament. As we moved through the historic corridors, our guide introduced students to the traditions and architecture that shape the working environment of MPs. We saw the statues of key political figures, the House of Lords and the areas where constituents can meet their representatives. Throughout the tour, the guide regularly quizzed the students on their political knowledge, which they were keen to demonstrate.

A key part of the visit was a workshop focusing on the role of backbench MPs in the legislative process. Students explored how MPs who are not part of the government can still influence politics through scrutiny, debate, and initiatives such as Private Members' Bills.

The session encouraged students to think about the importance of parliamentary scrutiny and how backbenchers can hold the government to account, propose new laws, and raise issues on behalf of their constituents. It was an excellent

opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of how Parliament functions beyond the actions of ministers and the executive.

In the afternoon, we visited the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. Here, students applied their knowledge about the role of the judiciary within the UK constitution and the function of the Supreme Court as the country's highest court of appeal.

Overall, the trip was an extremely rewarding experience for the students. Seeing Parliament and the Supreme Court first-hand helped reinforce many of the topics we study in A-level Politics, particularly the functioning of Parliament, the role of scrutiny, and the relationship between different branches of government.

It was a memorable day that brought our subject beyond the classroom and into the real institutions where political and legal decisions are made.

Mrs Nye

Student Rewards

March 2026



Year 12

Biology

Faza K 12AM - Faza deserves praise and recognition for being such a dedicated, passionate and hardworking student. Faza makes great progress every lesson, and she is often a role model to other students, proven by how frequently she is seen helping her peers in lessons. Well done Faza, keep it up!

Business studies

Aneya S 12AM and **Ruby M 12AM** - working hard in Business, contributing well in lessons, well done

Chemistry

Siham A 12JPR - for her resilience and mature approach and attitude to her learning in chemistry. Well done!

English

Suvathika T 12SNU - for her improved confidence, engagement and written work

Geography

Swara C 12JPR - for being an amazing student who always works hard in lessons and outside. She is always keen to contribute in lessons and is a lovely human.

History

Iklas H 12AM - for consistent positive participation and enthusiasm in History

Physics

Abeeha R 12AM - For the incredible progress she has made this term in physics

Spanish

Aneya 12AM - for incredible work ethic in Spanish, your effort has paid off with an excellent Mock Exam result!

Politics

Kashvi K 12JPR - for your passion in Politics that is shining through every lesson!



Student Rewards March 2026

Year 13

Biology

Well done to **Fariha S 13EV** - for really putting an effort into the lessons. Contributing to questions asked and wanting to learn more. Well done to Fatma O 13EV - for always checking up on knowledge and trying to get clarification on exam questions that she can't answer. Both keep this up and you'll do amazing in Biology

Business studies

Zara O 13EV - being excellent in every lesson, going above and beyond to do really well in lessons and outside of the classroom. Well done and good luck with your exams.

Chemistry

I would like to recognise all Year 13 chemists who have engaged with interventions this year and worked hard too.

Computer science

Nada B 13EV - for her resilience on her computing coursework and for her excellent performance in her computing mocks

Geography

Emily S 13CTW - for working consistently diligently throughout her A level; and supporting her peers

Physics

Nada B 13EV - For taking time out of her busy schedule to meet with a Year 11 student to talk about what studying physics at KS5 is like, and for being an excellent role model

Spanish

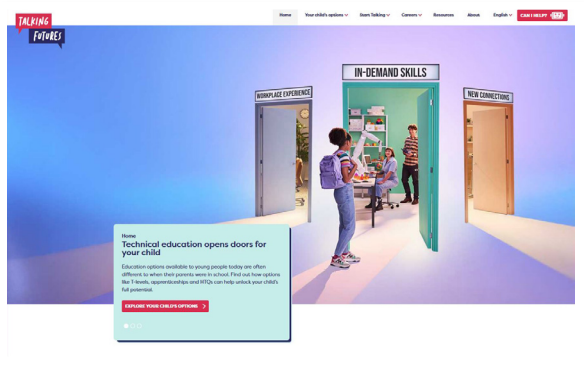
Mateo DB External - for an excellent research project on Guatemalan Activism for the Speaking exam

Politics

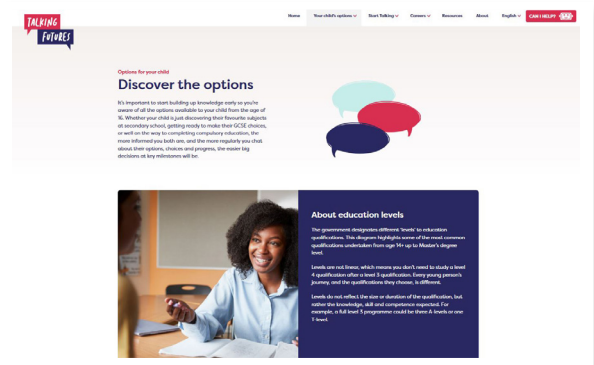
Jasmin S 13CTW - for working incredibly hard this year and evident progress in Politics



Careers information and advice for students and parents



www.talkingfutures.org.uk/



www.talkingfutures.org.uk/your-childs-options/

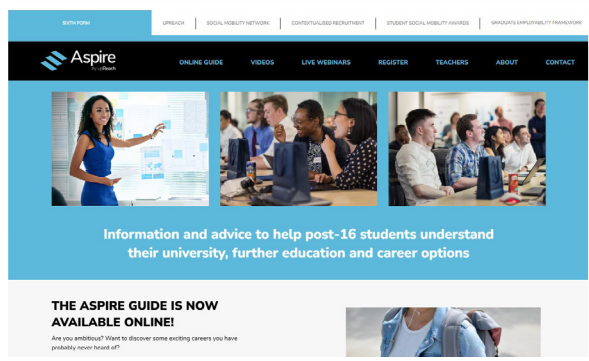
Further and Higher Education Career Tips for Parents - Talking Futures

A Parents Guide to careers, education and employment options, with information on options at 16 and 18.

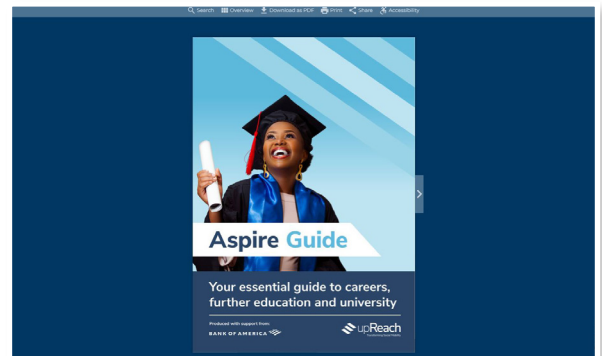
Talking Futures is a resource designed to help parents and carers engage in meaningful conversations about their children's education and career options. It provides:

- Activities and practical guidance to support parents to have constructive conversations about careers and education

- Information and strategies to equip parents with confidence in discussing career options with their children
- Information on educational pathways giving parents the information they need to support their child to make informed decisions.



<https://aspire.upreach.org.uk/>



[Aspire Guide](#)

Aspire Guide to Post-18 Options

Are you ambitious? Do you want to discover some exciting careers you have probably never heard of?

Planning to go to university? Find out how your choice of university and course can have a big impact on what career options are open to you, and your future earnings.

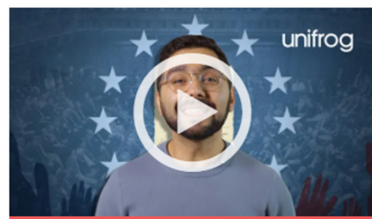
While an average graduate earns £24,500-£26,000, find out how some earn over £50,000 in their first year after university!

University not for you? What about a further education college, or if you're keen to start earning, there are an increasing number of school leaver programmes

and apprenticeships that provide training that lay the foundations for a great career. Or why not consider a degree apprenticeship to combine the best of both worlds?

This 62-page Aspire Guide and Career Video Library showcases the wide range of career options that are available to you.

With in-depth advice on choosing the path that would suit you, choosing a university, student finance, employment sectors, apprenticeships and application advice, Aspire was designed to give you the tools and knowledge you need to succeed in your future career.



How to change a law in the UK

SAV London

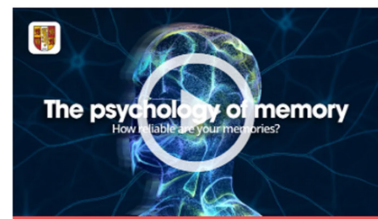
Starter



Eat the rich: how to make the world more fair

Unifrog

Advanced



The psychology behind memory: can images make yours better?

Bangor University

Intermediate



Careers in medicine: becoming a doctor (modern work experience)



Virtual work experience with Get Into Teaching

Get into Teaching

Starter



Virtual work experience with the NHS

NHS

Starter

Unifrog: The Complete Destinations Platform

To continue to provide students with **outstanding careers guidance** and tailored support when choosing their next step in school, post16 and post18, we are using Unifrog: an award-winning, online destinations platform. All students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 have access to this platform.

What is Unifrog?

Unifrog is designed to support learners in **making informed decisions about their futures**, with a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account that provides a range of information related to their interests and aspirations.

Key features of the platform for students include:

- Psychometric testing quizzes
- Career and subject exploration
- Webinars and interactive short courses
- Self-reflection and portfolio building tools
- Search tools for live apprenticeship and employer opportunities, and university courses
- Application and essay-building tools

Students at Unifrog schools can log in from any

computer, tablet, or smartphone. We encourage you to use the platform with your child so you can support them through the process of deciding on their next steps.

You can create your own parent account where you'll be able to see what your child is doing on Unifrog, including any interactions tagged against their name and any upcoming events we've logged for them. You'll also be able to use all the same tools your child can to support them on their Unifrog journey.

To set up your account, go to unifrog.org/parent and enter your email address. You can also sign in using your Microsoft or Google email account.

Talent Pool

- Students can receive personalised opportunities from employers and universities
- Last year, messages received read rates of up to 90%
- Now available: Talent pool for Y11!

For more information on careers please go to our website at

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk/curriculum/careers/

Information and advice for students and parents

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:

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

Supportive Websites:

Online Safety: www.nspcc.org.uk

How to recognise the signs of bullying and sexual exploitation: www.harrowlscb.co.uk

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)

Mental Health: www.youngminds.org and

[Mental Health Support Services in Harrow](http://www.mentalhealthsupportservicesinharrow.org)

Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Useful contacts:

NSPCC Report Abuse Line: **0808 800 5000**

Harrow's Golden Number **0208 901 2690**

Harrow's Out of Hours Emergency Team: **0208 424 0999**

Emergency Services: **999**

Children's Services and Harrow Local Safeguarding Board

www.harrowlscb.co.uk

To report a non-emergency crime to the police call **101**.

*In an emergency you must always call **999**.*



HPV vaccine for Year 8 pupils

The HPV vaccine is routinely offered to all Year 8 pupils and protects against the human papillomavirus (HPV), which causes over 99% of cervical cancers and many anal, genital, mouth, and throat cancers. The vaccine is very safe and effective, with only mild, short-term side effects.

The Harrow Immunisation Team will visit the school on April 15th to administer this vaccination. Please scan the QR code to respond YES or NO to the vaccination. For more information about the HPV vaccine, you can watch the team’s FAQs and myth-busting webinar on Youtube through the QR code.

Kind Regards

Ms s Belcher
Senior Welfare Officer



HPV CONSENT FORM



HPV FAQs WEBINAR

Enrichment Clubs

Please view the latest timetable of student lunchtime and after school clubs on our website. Students have a rich variety of different clubs to choose from including Science, Criminology, Garden Club and Poetry.

<https://www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk/information/enrichment/>

Enrichment Timetable				
Before School 7.30am – 8.15am Lunchtime 12.40pm – 2.20pm (Wednesday 12.20pm – 1.50pm)				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ethics Cup 12.40 – 1.20pm Mr Nussbaum & Ms Crosbie Room: tbc	Colouring Club Year group(s): Year 7 Miss Ashfaq Week A only 12.40pm – 1.20pm Room: V9	Music Club Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes 12.30pm – 1.00pm Room: tbc	Maths Puzzles & Games Year 7-9 12.40pm – 1.20pm Room: W12	Badminton Club Year group: 6th Form only Mrs Johnson 7.45am – 8.30am Room: Sports Hall
Sociology and Criminology club Year 7 and Year 8 Ms Bramble 12.50pm – 1.25pm Room: U2 (in sixth form)	Poetry Club Year group(s): Year 7 – 9 Miss Mohan 12.50pm – 1.25pm Room: V8	Music Club Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes 1.15pm – 1.45pm Room: tbc	Maths Catch up Club Year 7 & 8 12.40pm – 1.20pm Room: tbc	Chess Club (KS3 & KS5) Year group(s): 7-9, 12-13 Mr P Shah 12.50pm – 1.20pm Room: V11
Spanish GCSE Catch-up Club Year group(s): Y10-11 Miss Codrnan/Week A 1.30pm – 2.20pm Room: 204	Junior Orchestra 12.50pm – 1.20pm Mrs Bancroft Room: tbc	Year 9 Choir Mrs Bancroft/Mrs Parkes 1.15pm – 1.45pm Room: tbc	Anthropology Society Year 12 & 13 Mr Maric 12.40pm – 1.15pm Room: U2	NHS CADETS CLUB Year 12 Miss Naqvi/Ms Bhurani 12.40pm – 1.30pm Room: W8
UKMT Maths Challenge Club Year 10 & 11 Miss Chelaghma 1.30pm – 2.20pm Room: V12	Guitar Club 12.50pm – 1.20pm Room: tbc	String Group 12.30pm 1.00pm Room: tbc	History Club Year 7 – 9 Mr Young (Week A only) 12.45pm – 1.15pm Room: 214	Netball & Basketball Skills Club Year 10 – 11 Mrs Johnson 12.45 – 1.20pm Room: Sports Hall/Courts



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





Children's cycle training over the Easter holiday

Be part of a fun, active community of children making the most of their holiday! Courses available for all skill levels, from complete beginners to on-road training. For children aged 5 +.

Date: Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April
Location: Alexandra Park, Alexandra Avenue, Harrow, HA2 8PZ

To find out more and sign up, go to:

www.cycleconfident.com/harrow

or call 020 303 16730

**CYCLE
CONFIDENT**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF
HARROW**

Limited bikes
available to
borrow!

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Keeping safe on our school site

A focus on your child's safety and safeguarding - please read with your child

Not on the road!

Uniform expectations

Stay visible and follow signage

Next term - student Check List

- Is your child wearing correct uniform to and from school?
- Does your child have a lanyard and are they wearing it always?
- Is your child staying off the roads and following walking routes?
- Is your child following all instructions on school signage and staying visible?

KEEPING SAFE ON OUR SCHOOL SITE

**A FOCUS ON YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY AND
SAFEGUARDING - PLEASE READ WITH YOUR CHILD**

NOT ON THE ROAD!

Students need to walk in and out of the school gates following the student walking routes only. If going to Clump Hill students must walk round past the Tennis Courts - not walk up the road.

WHY? Our school site is busy with cars - in the photo'd area there is no path to keep students away from cars.



UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

Exceptional uniform is expected any time your child is wearing our uniform. This includes before and after school. Students should always have a lanyard on.

WHY? Lanyards identify our students and the Year Group they are in. It ensures visitors are clearly identified.

STAY VISABLE and FOLLOW SIGNAGE

Students should stay visible to duty staff and follow the instructions on any signs they see.

WHY? Our school site is big, our duty staff want to check everyone is safe. The signs support our school community, e.g. keeping students away from building work or keeping quiet near exam areas.

Next term - student Check List

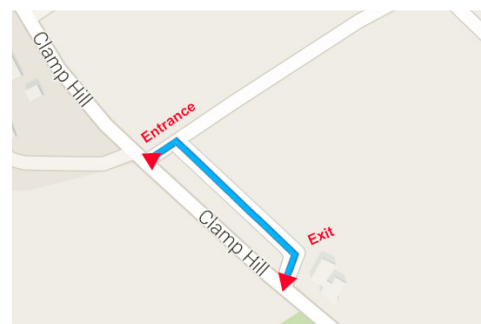
- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Is your child wearing correct uniform to and from school? | ☒ Is your child staying off the roads and following walking routes? |
| ☒ Does your child have a lanyard and are they wearing it always? | ☒ Is your child following all instructions on school signage and staying visible? |

Dropping off and collecting your daughter from school

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

We wish for all parents/carers to use the Clamp Hill entrance and the designated safe road/drop off point. Please note if the drop off point is full, parents should drive through the drop off area and park on Clamp Hill Road, on the left hand side facing Brockhurst Corner/Uxbridge Road. For any parents who are unsure where the drop off is, please use postcode HA7 3JW. Details can also be found on the school website under the 'Contact Us' section.

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



Dates for your Diary 2026

27th March 2026

27th March to 3rd April 2026

28th March to 12th April 2026

13th April 2026

15th April 2026

16th April 2026

20th April to 30th April 2026

21st April 2026

30th April 2026

5th May to 19th June 2026

13th May to 15th May 2026

14th May to 15th May 2026

25th May to 29th May 2026

1st June 2026

1st June to 22nd June 2026

1st June to 17th June 2026

End of Term, Early finish 12:50/13:00

Ski Trip

Easter Holidays

Return to school, 08:40 usual registration

HPV Vaccinations (in school), All day – consented students only

Y11 High Attainers Evening, 17:00 – 18:00 – invite only

GCSE MFL Oral Examinations

Y7 Parents Evening, Early finish 13:25 / 13:00

Y12 Parents Evening, 16:00 – 18:00

External Examinations

Y12 Geography Residential

Y10 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Half Term

Return to school, 08:40 usual registration

End of Year Examinations – Y10

UCAS Examinations – Y12

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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk