

Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter July 2026

Bentley Wood
High School for Girls

Student achievement celebrated at our annual Awards Ceremony

We were delighted to host our Annual Awards Evenings on the 29th and 30th of June to celebrate the achievements of students and staff over the 2025/26 academic year. Awards Evenings are a wonderful way to celebrate the end of another successful academic year. The events recognised the hard work, commitment and achievements of students and staff across a wide range of subjects and activities, while also celebrating the values, resilience and determination they have demonstrated throughout the year.

The evening of 29th June was dedicated to our Key Stage 4 and 5 students as we took time to reflect on a year of students' personal milestones and accolades in academic, sporting and musical fields. Prizes were awarded by our esteemed Guest Speaker Jenny Afia, a distinguished lawyer and partner at Schillings law firm.

Following a warm welcome to attending students, their family members and staff from Headteacher Ms Akbar, Jenny Afia delivered a moving speech on the importance of providing an educational experience which inspires future generations to strive for excellence in all spheres of life.













Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community,

I hope this final newsletter of the academic year finds you well and that you are enjoying the first few days of your summer holidays.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of our school, formerly known as Heriots Wood Grammar School. To celebrate, we brought together students and staff, both past and present. I had the privilege of speaking to alumni from the very first Heriots Wood cohort in September 1956, as well as the first Bentley Wood cohort from September 1976, as they shared fond memories of old friends, teachers and magical school moments.

To give our guests a flavour of school life today, we hosted a special assembly in the hall, enjoyed an entertaining performance by the Glee Club, reminisced over old photographs, and toured the school grounds. It was deeply comforting to realise that the strong sense of community we feel today has always been at the heart of this school. The fact that we have had only five headteachers over these 70 years is a true testament to that enduring stability and care.

I have experienced many proud moments this year, and throughout my 19 years at Bentley Wood. However, I have never been prouder than when our community came together to remember the two students we so tragically lost earlier this year. Their memory remains with us.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of this newsletter. Have a wonderful, restful summer break, and I look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Kindest regards,

Naseema Akbar
Headteacher



Headteachers Tea









Congratulations to our KS4 Winners

Congratulations to our KS3 Winners

Bentley Wood Awards Evenings: celebrating another successful year

On Tuesday 30th June, our evening honoured the success of our students in Key Stage 3. Students were recognised not just for their contributions to school life in terms of academic or sporting excellence but also for their valued commitment to charity and personal qualities of respect, kindness and empathy which benefit the whole school community.

Musical interludes in the form of Key Stage 3 performances added to the sense of joy of the occasion, making it a memorable experience for all those who attended.

Congratulations to all of our award recipients, and thank you to our families, staff and guests for joining us to mark this special occasion.

We wish all of our students a restful summer break and look forward to another exciting year ahead.



Congratulations to our Staff Winners

Celebration at Proms this Summer









Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Prom, held on Friday 26th June, was a wonderful celebration of the end of GCSEs and the beginning of an exciting new chapter. It was a fantastic evening, and our students should be incredibly proud of all the hard work, resilience and determination they have shown throughout the year.

We wish everyone a relaxing and well-deserved summer and look forward to seeing many familiar faces return to Bentley Wood Sixth Form in September as they begin their next steps.

The Year 11 Pastoral Team

Year 13 Prom

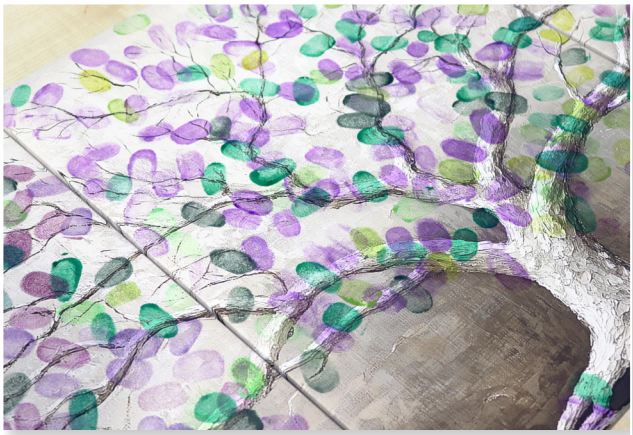
The annual Year 13 Prom was once again a memorable highlight of the school year.

Held at Stanmore Golf Club on Thursday 25th June, our Year 13 students dressed to impress and marked the end of their A-level examinations with an evening of celebration and dancing. They enjoyed sunset on the grounds and took advantage of the fun Photobooth.

The Sixth Form team and A-level staff were delighted to join them in recognising the close of two formative years. We are immensely proud of all that our students have accomplished and look forward to celebrating their successes even further on Results Day.

Ms Mouskis







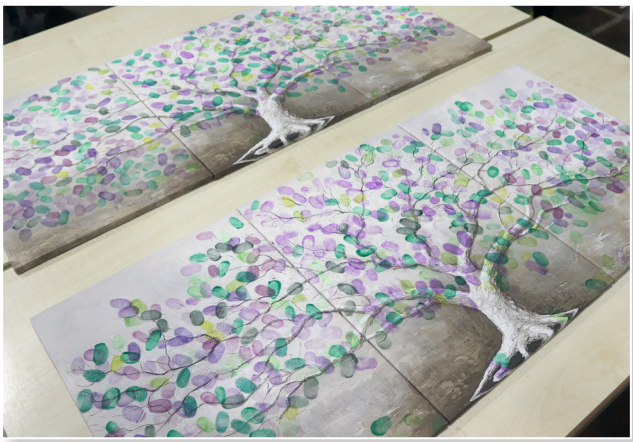




The school came together for a Memorial Event

Earlier this year, we sadly lost two of our students. In their memory, our students and staff came together to show their respect, love and support for them, their families and their friends.

To honour their memory, we held a community wellbeing walk and created a beautiful fingerprint art installation.



Together, we also focused our efforts on raising money for two very special causes: providing comfort blankets for children at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) when they need them most, and supporting a children's mental health charity that encourages young people to be physically active as a way of improving their mental wellbeing.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. To date, we have raised over £700. If you would still like to make a donation, contributions will be gratefully accepted via ParentPay until the end of August.

Mrs Akbar Headteacher



Artistic inspiration and creativity



Year 9 Art and Graphics students get inspiration from Kew Gardens



On Tuesday the 9th of June, Year 9 classes of Art, Graphics and Textiles went on an extremely fun but essential trip to Kew Gardens. This was a very useful trip as it allowed many opportunities to take photos to use for coursework over the next few years, leading up to GCSEs, and for us to practice some skills we had been developing in lessons, on live flowers, plants and animals. The current exhibition about Henry Moore gave us a real insight into his work and it was cool to see some of his work in real life.



Apart from his well-known statues, the exhibition also included his sketchbooks, his drawings and plans for his sculptures which really demonstrated how diverse as an artist he was; working on paper, on wood and on stone. However, this was not only time we got to see the work of Henry Moore as his statues are littered around the gardens, and we saw many on our way around.

In addition to this, we also had a sketching session with members of the Kew Gardens team. They introduced us to some of the history of Botanical art in Kew Gardens as well as the link between Botanical artists and Botanical Scientists and how they can work together.

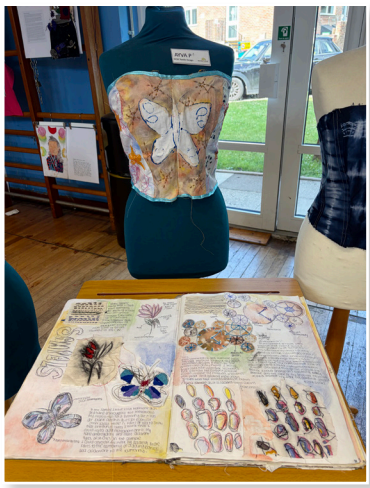


After this introduction, we headed to the Temperate House and started an exercise to practise different ways of capturing the seeds we were given. This included tonal, continuous line, straight lines and graphite and it really helped us think about different techniques to use when drawing the botanical scenes in front of us. We then got some time to explore the Temperate House and produce some drawings using some of the skills we had practiced.

Overall, this trip was extremely insightful showing how art is influenced by nature and places like Kew Gardens are a fantastic opportunity to take good photos which will hopefully lead to amazing GCSE grades.

Zofia O 9MCO






Bentley Wood High School celebrates creativity at the Annual Summer Art Exhibition

Bentley Wood High School proudly opened its doors to students, families, staff, governors for its much-anticipated Annual Summer Art Exhibition, a celebration of the outstanding creativity, imagination, and dedication of our talented young artists.

The exhibition showcased an inspiring collection of work from students across all year groups, highlighting a wide range of artistic disciplines including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, photography, textiles, and mixed media. Every piece reflected not only technical skill but also the individuality and personal expression of each student.

Visitors were welcomed into a vibrant gallery space where the school's corridors and exhibition areas were transformed into a professional display of artwork. The exhibition celebrated the artistic journey of our students, from their first explorations of materials and techniques in Key Stage 3 through to the exceptional GCSE and A Level portfolios that demonstrated creativity, resilience, and ambition.

A particular highlight of the evening was the outstanding work produced by our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Their final examination pieces and coursework reflected months of research, experimentation, and refinement, leaving visitors inspired by the exceptional standard achieved. These impressive collections stand as a testament to the hard work of both our students and the dedicated Art Department, whose passion and encouragement continue to nurture artistic excellence.

The Summer Art Exhibition also provided an opportunity for students to celebrate one another's achievements, gain confidence by sharing their work with a wider audience, and appreciate the diverse talents within our school community. The positive feedback from visitors reinforced the importance of creativity in education and the value of providing opportunities for students to express themselves through the arts.

Bentley Wood High School extends its sincere thanks to everyone who attended the exhibition and helped make the evening such a success. We are especially grateful to our Art Department for their commitment in curating a truly inspiring exhibition, and to our students, whose enthusiasm, perseverance, and creativity continue to make us immensely proud.

We look forward to seeing our young artists continue to flourish and cannot wait to celebrate another year of artistic achievement at next year's Summer Art Exhibition.

Miss March, Head of Art, Design & Technology

Geography competitions: including sustainability and the environment





Students win competition to promote sustainable and active transport

Earlier this term, Bentley Wood's travel ambassadors attended an event at Harrow Civic Hub - the culmination of their work on developing a scheme to promote sustainable and active transport.

They presented their ideas to a panel of experts from Harrow Council who were impressed by the confidence of the girls and their creative idea of a 'Bus Buddies' scheme to guide people on how to use the bus safely. I was so proud of the girls, especially as they won the school over £500 to spend on their scheme.

Mr Ferris

Over the past couple months, Bentley Wood's Travel Ambassadors have been developing a project called "Bus Buddy", which aims to make journeys to and from school safer, easier and more enjoyable for students. Through regular meetings, we worked together to develop our ideas and create a proposal that included a student bus buddy scheme, a safety awareness video and school-wide engagement activities.

Recently, we presented our project at a Dragon's Den-style event alongside several other schools. We confidently pitched our ideas to a panel of judges and transport professionals, receiving extremely positive feedback for both our project and our presentation skills.

We were particularly proud of how well we answered the judges' questions, responding clearly and confidently as a team. Throughout the day, we also took part in activities with students from other schools and had the opportunity to share and discuss our ideas.

We were delighted to be awarded the full £500 grant to help bring our project to life, with additional support offered towards the production of our proposed safety video. It was an exciting and rewarding experience that helped us develop our confidence, teamwork and communication skills while making a positive contribution to our school community.

Zara A 10ABR

We, the Travel Ambassadors, had a wonderful trip to Harrow Council; this has been a once in a lifetime opportunity. We delivered our presentation about how to take the bus, taking public transport, and more!

We have all been preparing for this occasion since March, and it was such a breath-taking moment for us all! Thankfully, we won the £500 that we will use to create a film on how to take the bus as well as other forms of public transport.

Salwa AN 7NGA

Year 8 students enter Young Geographer of the Year Competition

Many Year 8 students recently entered the Royal Geographical Society's Young Geographer of the Year Competition, an annual national competition that recognises the outstanding work of the next generation of geographers, with prizes awarded across different key stages.

This year's theme, "From Source to Sea," challenged students to explore the importance of rivers and their impact on both people and the environment.

Through their entries, students investigated how rivers sustain communities and wildlife, shape landscapes through erosion and deposition, and provide opportunities for transport, trade and recreation.

They also considered important geographical issues such as flooding, water management, and conflicts over shared river resources.

The Geography Department was delighted by the enthusiasm and high-quality work produced, and we congratulate all students who took part in this exciting competition.

The winners from our school are:

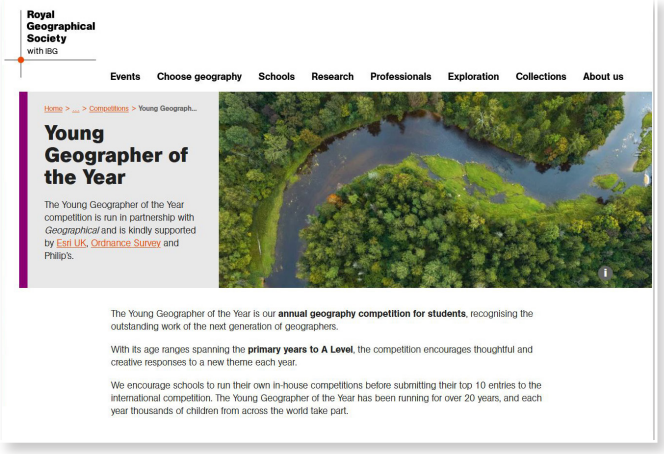
3rd Place: Sophia S 8CMI - £5

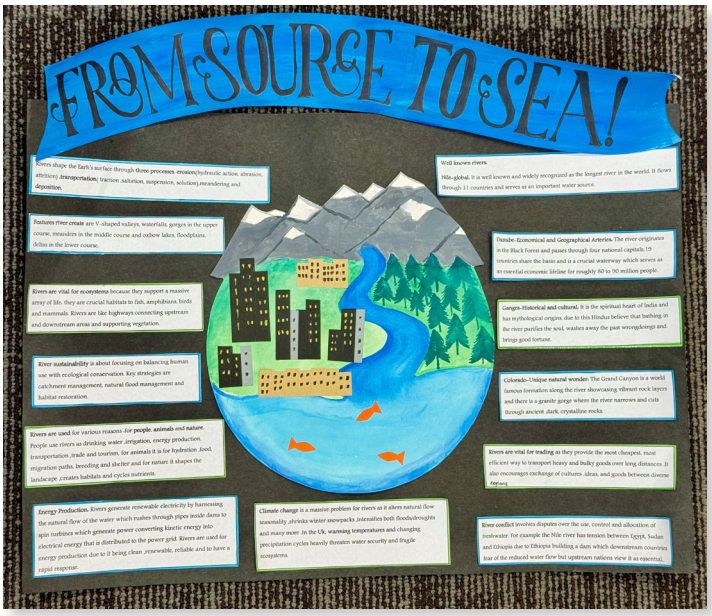
2nd Place: Anchuka R 8CMI - £5

1st Place: Prisha H 8MAK - £10

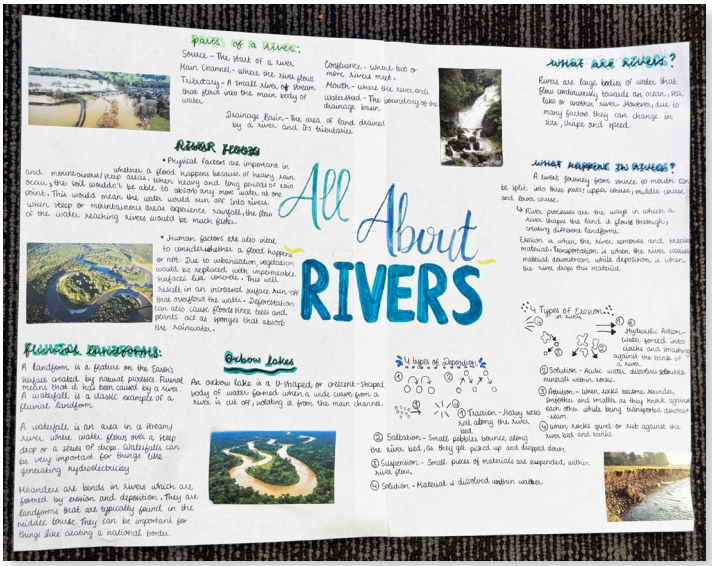
Thank you to Mr Pace for organising the competition.

Ms Gardee

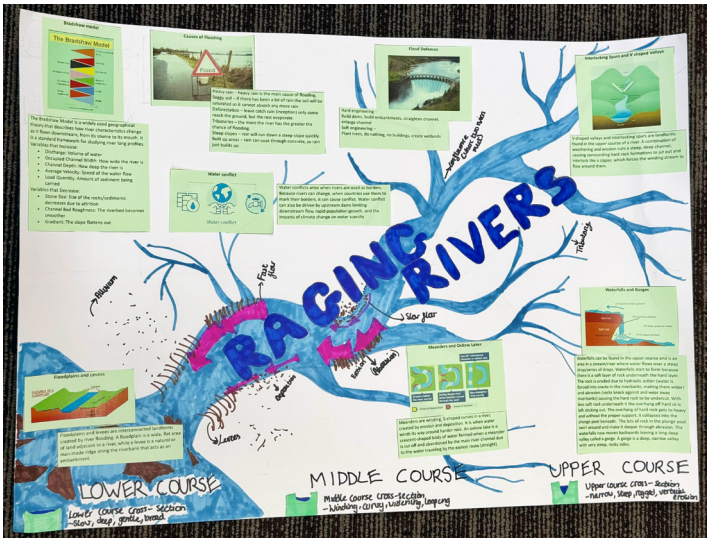




1st Place: Prisha H 8MAK she recieved £10



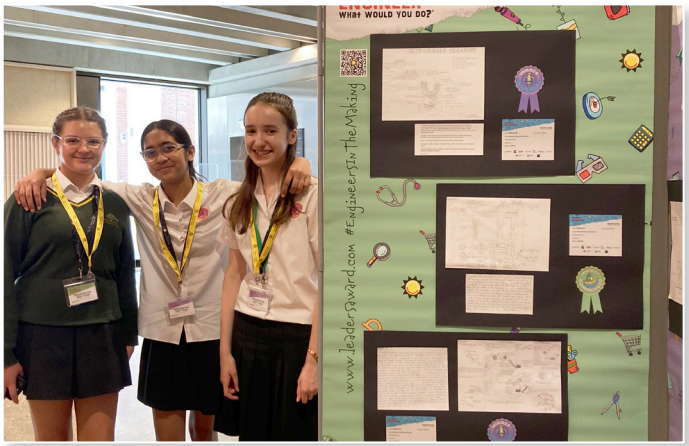
2nd Place: Anchuka R 8CMI she recieved £5



3rd Place: Sophia S 8CMI she recieved £5

STEM, history and innovation





Year 8 Engineering Competition

Our year 8 students took part in the national engineering competition: 'If You Were an Engineer, What Would You Do?'. More than 70,000 students from 25 regions across the UK participated in this year's competition. In each region, two entries from each year group were selected as winners, with a further two being highly commended. I am delighted to share that two of our year 8 students, Sienna G (8ZHA) and Gayatri K (8ZHA) were London region winners, while Milena G (8SGU) was highly commended. To celebrate this wonderful achievement, the winning and highly commended students were invited, along with up to two family members, their teacher and their headteacher, to attend an exhibition and awards event at Kingston University. Below you can read more about their experiences and achievements:

On 25 June 2026, I had the exciting opportunity to attend the London Awards Ceremony and Exhibition at Kingston University. It was a fantastic celebration of creativity, innovation, and brilliant engineering ideas from young inventors across London. I was delighted to discover that my invention, the UltraBubble Cleaning Device, had been selected as one of the winners.

This innovative toothbrush cleans all of your teeth at once using ultrasonic vibrations, making brushing quicker and more effective. It also includes a self-cleaning function and several smart features, such as a pressure sensor, AI plaque detection, and a companion phone App. The judges were particularly impressed by how the device could help people with limited physical ability, as well as those who simply find brushing their teeth difficult or unpleasant. It was incredibly rewarding to hear such positive feedback about an idea I had worked so hard to develop.

The exhibition featured many other inspiring inventions, including a prosthetic leg that grows with a child, tunnels beneath speed bumps to help hedgehogs and other small woodland animals' cross roads safely, shoes that collect carbon dioxide from the air, a "Dream Catcher" device that records and saves dreams, and a necklace fitted with technology that can detect early stage cancer.

The event reminded me that engineering is not just about building new products—it is about improving people's lives and protecting our planet. It has inspired me to look into a STEM career in the future. I am proud to have represented my school and thrilled that my design won a prize. My sincere thanks to Miss Tritto for submitting our entries and to Miss Hussaini for joining us on the trip and supporting us throughout.

Sienna G 8ZHA

My invention was a machine that automatically detects pests on plants; it will show pests in a red colour and harmless insects in green. When it sees a pest, it will turn on an ultrasonic buzzer, releasing a sound only pests can hear, irritating them. If that doesn't work, a sprayer will release neem oil, removing the pests from the plants. I made this design after hearing my neighbour talking about nature, this PLANTED the initial thought of my design in my head (see what I did there?). I found the exhibition really intriguing as there were many creative designs that left me in awe and the brownies in the refreshments area were a big bonus! One of the judges, who was an engineer herself, expressed how difficult it was for the judges to select the winning designs. This experience taught me the importance of being observant and creative.

Gayatri K 8ZHA

My invention was a machine that scans or weighs food and generates recipes and if you don't have an ingredient, the machine prompts your phone to order the missing ingredient from the nearest supermarket. When we went to the exhibition and the awards ceremony, I found it very fun and it was overall a great experience. I spoke to an engineer who gave me feedback on my design and it was quite helpful because it gave me insight into what went well and what could have been improved. I think the competition was an experience I won't ever forget and if I had the chance to, I would do it again.

Milena G 8SGU

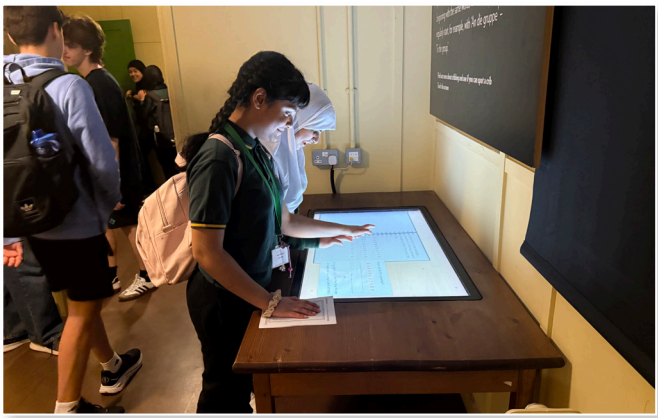


Alan Turing's Office



Students outside Cottage 3, where Alan Turing came up with his first breaks to the Enigma code in early 1940





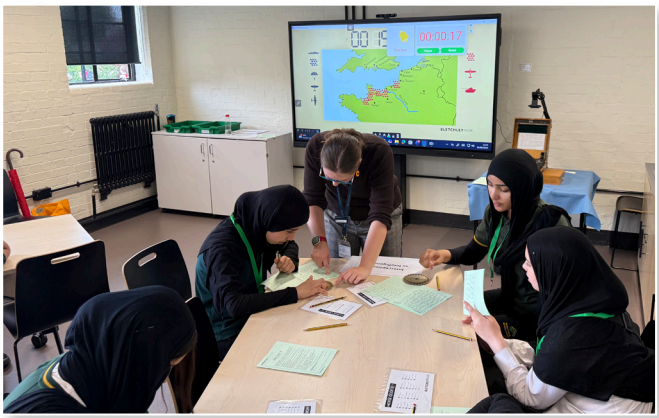
A fascinating visit to Bletchley Park

As part of our history curriculum in Year 8, we recently visited Bletchley Park, one of the most significant sites of World War II. The trip was designed to deepen our understanding of wartime intelligence, cryptography, and the origins of modern computing.

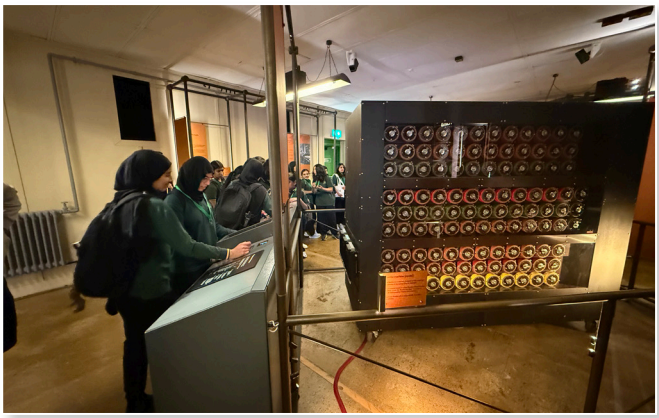
Bletchley Park served as the headquarters for Britain's codebreakers during the war. Their secret work helped decipher enemy communications and is widely believed to have shortened the conflict by several years. During our visit, we explored the faithfully restored wartime offices and intelligence huts, including Hut 4 and Hut 6, where brilliant minds such as Alan Turing worked to crack complex codes.

Our tour guide was exceptionally knowledgeable and shared fascinating stories about the people who worked at Bletchley Park. His enthusiasm and expertise made the experience both educational and memorable. Overall, the visit was an inspiring and informative experience. It provided us with a greater appreciation of the role that intelligence and innovation played during World War II and helped us understand the lasting impact of Bletchley Park on the development of modern technology.

Sienna G 8ZHA



Student de-coding messages in Morse Code



Students go on rewarding trips this Summer







Year 9 Sociology Takes on Hamilton!

Our Year 9 Sociology class recently had the incredible opportunity to watch Hamilton in the theatre. It was an unforgettable experience that brought many of the topics we have been learning about in class to life in a creative and inspiring way.

As we watched the performance, we explored important themes including inequality, racism, power and politics. The musical showed how people's backgrounds and opportunities can shape their lives, while also encouraging us to think about justice, equality and whose voices are heard in history. Seeing these issues performed on stage helped us understand them in a much deeper way than simply reading about them.

After the show, we reflected on how the themes linked to our Sociology lessons and shared our thoughts as a class. Many of us agreed that Hamilton made us think differently about society and the challenges people face. One student said, "It made Sociology come alive and helped me understand inequality in a completely different way." Overall, it was a fantastic trip that was both educational and entertaining, and we are very grateful for the opportunity.

Ms Bramble



Geography residential to Italy



Last week, a group of 40 students Year 9-13 attended a fantastic residential to Italy, specifically the Bay of Naples. Overcoming obstacles like a very early start on the first day and some very persistent mosquitoes, a great time was had by all! We were able to explore loads of exciting locations, such as Capri, Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii and Herculaneum.

They also had the opportunity to make their own pizzas at a farm, which was a delicious lunch before trekking up Vesuvius! The girls were amazing and were a credit to the school - they helped make the Geography department's first ever overseas residential a massive success! We will hopefully be able to run a similar trip in the near future



Mr Ferris

"Italy was an amazing experience. It was my first time travelling without my parents and suffering and unbelievable amount of mosquito bites, but the whole journey was astonishing. Trekking up Mount Vesuvius, making pizza, looking at the ruins of Pompeii (and the great amount of lemons) made the whole trip a trip of a lifetime."

Prery T 10FTR









Classics & Latin Department

Winners, stories and art

Earlier in the year, the Classics & Latin Department ran their yearly 'Classics Week' event. Bentley Wood students and staff were inspired by the classical world – its stories and ideas - once more and there were many inspiring competitions and events created by Ms Hussain.

Below you will find:

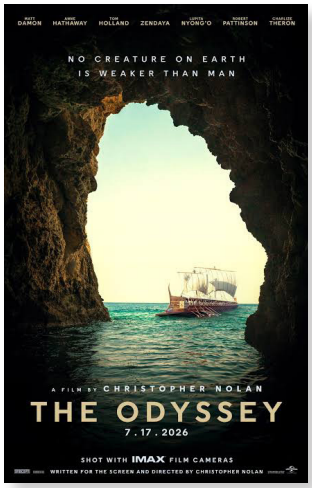
- the winner of our **Classics Myth Writing competition**
- the winner of our C**lassics Myth Art competition**
- the winning and runner-up entries in our **Classics Book Review competition**

On behalf of the Classics & Latin Department, we hope you enjoy these wonderful cultural artefacts, and that you have a summer filled with the joys, stories, and passions of the ancient (but always modern and exciting too) Classical World. We also want to congratulate Mia V and Rachel R Year 9 who won the Classics Scavenger Hunt competition.

We hope to see many of you Year 8s in Latin classes next year, and many Year 11s in Classics lessons next September for A-levels.

P.S. Enjoy Christopher Nolans' 'The Odyssey' at the cinema this summer (...and watch out for the Cyclops.)

Mr O'Sullivan,
Temp acting HOD of Classics



Classics Myth Creative Writing Competition

Classics Department Myth Creative Writing Competition Winner – Sarah AA 7ESO

The Secret Buried Beneath the Earth

Long ago, when the Earth was young, fresh and eager, a promise of care was made. Humanity promised to keep the Earth a wonderful place to live, to treat it like a blessing, to never take it for granted. They promised to love it and care for it, together.

So yes, indeed humanity kept its promise, they began to clean the Earth, to love the world, to thank there God for there blessings. Humanity not only cared for Earth, but for themselves, for each other, for who they wanted to be.

This doesn't mean there was no pain in the world, there was, but people saw it differently, they were more positive, helped the poor, they tried.

However, the world started to become different; over time, people were tired of constantly having to put so much effort all the time. They became greedy as the world became a darker place, with death and wars and so much more. They took more than they needed, broke the forests and nature, dug the ground too deep. The promise they had once made started to fade away, so did their love...

As a result of this, Earth started to rot, it changed, as humans did, it became harder to take care of, it was forgotten and alone...

When humanity finally woke up again and realised what they had done, they tried desperately to fix it, to go back to how things were, to having a fond connection with the earth they lived on. However, things had already changed, it was too late. The scar humanity carved into the world was too deep and big to fill. Humans regret their selfishness and disloyalty everyday, to this point.

Now, every moment where Earth feels abandoned, where the Earth is mistreated again, where Earth becomes unloved, for only for a second, it begins to shake and tremble in despair. Not in anger or as a warning, but as a reminder of the past, and an improvement for the future.

So thus, this is how Earth's quakes came to be, as a gesture of reminder, as a moment where Earth grieves the past, where humanity knows to feel blessed, and knows to love and care for the Earth, for every second it breaks and cracks and trembles...

Sarah AA 7ESO
(Each winner won a £20 Amazon voucher)

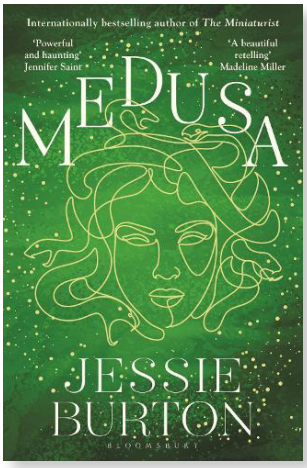
Art Competition

Classics Myth Creative Art Competition Winner – Nuha A 9EBD



Book Review competition winners:

First Prize: Monisha K 10KRO Second Prize: Presha P 11THA
(1st Prize £25 Amazon voucher, 2nd Prize £10 voucher)



Classics Department Book Review Competition Winner: Monisha K 10KRO

My Book Review: Medusa – Jessie Burton

When I first picked up Jessie Burton's Medusa, I wasn't sure how much I would enjoy it because I'd always thought of Medusa as just a scary monster from Greek myths. But almost immediately, I was drawn by her character voice. Burton tells the story entirely from Medusa's perspective and I found that approach really powerful. It made me empathise with a character I had previously thought of as a cliché for evil. I genuinely felt for her and that changed the way I thought about the myth completely.

One of the things I liked most about this book was how it explored trauma. Medusa's transformation into a Gorgon is shown as a result of abuse and injustice, not just a random punishment from the gods. I found this incredibly compelling because it made her experiences feel realistic and heart-wrenching. It also made me reflect on how often women's stories are told by others rather than themselves. I also appreciated that Burton didn't shy away from the darker moments, but she balanced them with Medusa's cleverness, reflections and occasional dark humour, which kept the story engaging rather than depressing.

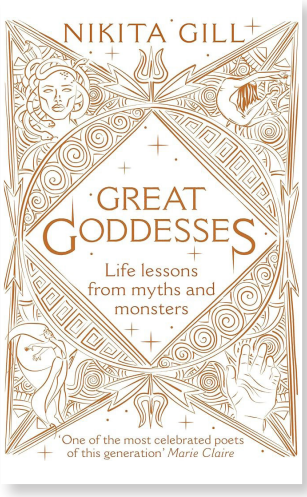
I also loved Burton's writing style. Her descriptions are vivid and sometimes poetic, and I could really picture Medusa's lonely island and her snake-filled hair in my mind. There were moments where I felt both awe and horror, but not in a way that was overwhelming; it made the story itself feel alive. The first-person narrative made it feel like Medusa was personally confiding in me, which made me care about her and her story a lot more than I otherwise would've. I would even say the writing style is one of the core reasons I admire this book so much.

That said, the book isn't just about mood or atmosphere; it's also clever in how it explores identity and perception. Medusa is acutely aware the world has painted her as a villain, and reading her reflections made me question how myths, stories and history often misinterpret people, particularly women. I found this concept of identity quite thought-provoking and one of the main reasons I think Burton's version of the story is more meaningful than the original myth. It feels like a story that isn't just entertaining, but also asks readers to think and reflect.

The parts with Perseus were my favourite because they added tension and drama. I was invested in what would happen and found myself torn between wanting Medusa to be safe and curious about the outcome. Those moments of conflict gave the story a living energy and made me immerse into her perspective.

Overall, I think Medusa is brilliant. Jessie Burton has taken a familiar myth and turned it into something fresh, emotional and thought-provoking. I loved how the story made me sympathise with Medusa and see her as a real person rather than a monster. It made me reflect on identity, resilience and the way that stories can distort truth. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who enjoys mythology, character-driven stories or books that challenge traditional narratives. Honestly, it's one of the few books I've read that makes me feel both intellectually and emotionally engaged.

RATING: 5 / 5



Classics Book Review Competition Runner-Up: Presha P 11THA

My Book Review: Great Goddesses Nikita Gill. Genre: Poetry / Mythology

Great Goddesses is a book consisting of a collection of poems that portray Goddesses differently from what they are stereotypically viewed as. Instead of characterising them as perfect figures,

Gill presents these Goddesses as beings who are able to experience pain, strength, anger, love and resilience. This book focuses on reclaiming stories that have often been told from a male perspective and reshaped to highlight female power and identity.

A personal favourite of mine from the collection is the poem called 'Athena to Medusa', which if you couldn't guess is based on the myth of Medusa. In this poem, Gill challenges the traditional portrayal of Medusa as a monster and instead paints her as a victim who was unfairly punished.

This particular poem stood out to me because it made me rethink a myth that I'm really familiar with and changed my views to feel sympathy for a character who is usually feared. I feel that the poem strongly highlights how easily women's pain is misunderstood or ignored.

I would recommend this book to readers who enjoy poetry and mythology, as it encourages readers to question traditional stories and find the true meaning behind them.

RATING: 4 / 5

Great music performances by students, staff and guests





Summer Concert

The school community came together for an unforgettable evening of music and celebration at this year's Summer Concert held on the 2nd of July in the School Hall. Showcasing the talent, dedication and hard work of students across a wide range of ensembles and solo performances, the concert featured an exciting and varied programme that delighted the audience. From the opening notes to the final applause, it was a fitting celebration of another successful year of music-making at Bentley Wood.

The programme for the evening included both instrumental and vocal solo as well as group performances covering a wide range of genre from classical to contemporary. Junior and Senior choir also took to the stage with uplifting renditions of Rule the World and Warrior respectively. Our fantastic Glee Club shone on stage with a performance of Wait for Me while a group of Year 10 students delighted the audience with a series of Bollywood dance performances.

A big shout out to the fantastic team of students who worked tirelessly behind the scenes on sound, lighting and backstage to deliver such a memorable event. The success of the Summer Concert is testament to the unwavering dedication of Mrs Bancroft and the Music Department, whose months of planning, rehearsing and organisation brought the evening to life. Their passion, expertise and commitment to harnessing students' musical abilities were evident in every performance, making the concert a memorable celebration of talent and achievement.

Here is a student account of the evening:

On Thursday 2nd July the school held its summer concert. The stage was brought to life by many performances such as our very own orchestra and instrument groups, dances, solo performances, our three choirs and our Glee group. Being part of this concert and the music community has really improved my skills such as problem solving (especially when there are technical problems)! I think being in the school concert is an amazing opportunity for everybody and I think everyone should be in it at least once in their Bentley Wood journey.

Sohini M 9AV

Choir trip to Alyward Primary School

Choir went to a trip to Alyward Primary School, and we had an amazing time performing to all year groups.

We really enjoyed singing with the Alywards choir. It was a fun and fantastic opportunity to develop stage skills and to get out of your comfort zone.

This has been a great trip, and it is now something I will always remember. Thank you to Ms Bancroft and Ms Parks for organising this trip for us, we all appreciate your hard work.

Emily C 8ZHA

Music students visit Alexandra School

Going to Alexandra School was a fulfilling and amazing experience that brought me some of the most fun and joy I've had this year! Everyone was so incredibly kind and caring and really brightened up my week.

We were able to spend the afternoon with these children, enjoying our shared passion and love for music. It was refreshing to be able to just have fun doing what we love and sharing our joy with them. I am so thankful to have been able to go and spend a day with a bunch of amazing people!

Victoria G 9SCH

A Piano trio perform at Bentley Wood

In December students were treated to a spellbinding concert by a professional piano trio which featured instrumental versions of popular songs. The performance was led by a talented pianist accompanied by a skilled violinist and cellist, whose beautiful melodies blended together in perfect harmony. Together they presented a varied programme showcasing uplifting arrangements of contemporary music which delighted the student audience. Here is what some of our students had to say about the experience:

The concert included instrumental versions of popular songs such as Taylor Swift's Wildest Dreams, Ariana Grande's Thank U, Next, Rihanna's Diamonds etc. Many of us joined in, singing along with some of our favourite songs.

Pia B 7ESO

From the very first note, the musicians captivated the audience with their skill, harmony, and passion. Their ability to blend violin, piano, and cello created a rich soundscape that filled the hall with energy and emotion. A huge thank you to Mrs Bancroft for organising this amazing concert.

Maghfirah P 8SGU

It sounded truly magical and enchanting. Just a violin, cello, and piano, but it was so good. The gentle sounds made me feel super relaxed, like I was totally ready to take on another school day.

Dhyani P 8MAK

The most energetic person was the woman playing the cello; she had a lot of movement when playing and seemed to enjoy performing! I didn't even notice there was a pianist at first but on the second song I noticed him and he was appeared energized after each note/key he played. Out of 10 I rate it a 9.9!

Summer K 7NGA





Piano Trio performance

Opera performance

Miss Pintaudi kicked off this year'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 Dorman 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 live 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. It made us realise the numerous years of experience, practice and dedication 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

Showcasing musical talent: school production and competitions

Students reach finals of the Jack Petchey Glee Club Challenge

Being a part of Glee and performing in the Jack Petchey Glee Club Challenge has been a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Having the chance to perform at the Shaftesbury Theatre has been an extraordinary opportunity which I would've never thought to be possible.

I have been able to meet so many industry professionals and amazing people along the way who have helped me improve in all aspects of performing. I am so proud of all of us for making it happen.

Victoria G 9SCH

We started the day with a long and well-awaited journey to the Shaftsbury Theatre. I was so excited to see how the day would turn out, after months of hard work and determination from the entire Glee Club. We worked tirelessly through rehearsals, blood pumping with anticipation until the end.

Being on stage was surreal; it was extraordinary to finally experience what we'd all been awaiting, while showing our true potential and courage to the judges and supporters.

It was a moment where we had all come alive, and you just had to be there to see it. I am so proud of how hard Glee has worked to get into the Grand National Finals, and I feel that this will be a very memorable experience for me. It was truly unforgettable.

Ephtihia M 11CCH









JACK PETCHEY GLEE CLUB CHALLENGE

The Addams Family

Bentley Wood's highly anticipated annual production of The Addams Family was a wickedly entertaining showcase of student talent, creativity, and collaboration.

The event was the culmination of months of rehearsal and planning, with the Music and Drama departments working closely with Art and Textiles to bring the musical to life through a series of stunning performances enjoyed by families and students from local schools.

The cast impressed audiences with their comedic timing and vocal virtuosity, while the set design and make-up team transported us into the quirky world of the Addams Family, and the technical team worked their magic with expertly crafted lighting and sound. Congratulations to the entire cast, crew and staff for an outstanding production that will be remembered for years to come.



My time doing the productions at Bentley Wood has been amazing! Although this is probably my last one, throughout all 4 years of the production I have enjoyed all the stressful moments, from rehearsing every Tuesday and Thursday, to stressful costume changes and even crazy mic checks, the whole thing has been a blast!

The Addams Family this year was quite a journey. Being Wednesday, there have been lots of challenges and some hard moments but we all know that it's worth it in the end when the production comes together and looks brilliant! I am so grateful that BWHS has given me these amazing opportunities to find my personality through performing arts!



Danya BF 8MAK

During my rehearsal I had so much fun, it was very enjoyable. I was the dancer and my character was the aunt sister. I am so excited for next week to perform in front of the audience. At first, I felt very nervous however as I kept on attending my rehearsals I gained my confidence and started to love it.



Kareena J 8HAS

This year's musical was so fun: it was actually my first! I made a ton of new friends, made some great memories at rehearsals and overall just an amazing experience as Morticia. Such a core memory for me and I'm quite honestly super distraught about it being over. Everyone did amazing: I'll miss my stage family!

Ellie A 9MEM

Performing in this year's production of The Addams Family the Musical has been amazing. I thoroughly enjoyed performing as Uncle Fester, the loveable eccentric of the family. I've never played such an odd character before, but the challenges were definitely worth it.



I had the opportunity to dabble with techniques like improvisation, which has helped me improve as an actress. Overall, the experience has been sensational, and I will miss it greatly.

Khushi D 10MD

Challenges and Awards showcase student achievement

Year 9 present at First Give School Final

It was an intense evening in the hall as we stood up to share everything we'd learnt about Compass Elevation and their specialist work with youth addiction.

It was also particularly nerve-wracking to go up and present the poem I'd written for the final as it was a new experience for me! It felt great to get our message across to the judges and the audience, and securing the £1,000 grant for them was a brilliant way to top off all the hard work we've put in over the last few months.

Our form is so glad that the money is going towards such a vital cause for our community, and being able to go up and present to everyone who was there was an exciting opportunity and a learning curve as we had never done this before! It was such an amazing experience and I'm so glad I was able to take part.

Sara S 9SZ

For me, the First Give Final was an amazing opportunity to help encourage me to become more confident and learn to do public speaking effectively whilst being engaging with the audience. At first, I was nervous, my hands were sweaty, my heart was racing, but when I went on stage, I realised it wasn't so bad as I initially thought it to be.

Learning more about our chosen charity (Ignite Youth) made me really realise how raising awareness could help support our charity in many ways. I think it was a worthwhile experience that really helps you to understand how this could shape young people's lives.

Although our group got a Judges Commendation, I still feel like a winner at heart for all the time and effort put into First Give.

Tamsyn S 9MEM







Congratulations to 9SZ - Sara S, Vyana V, Nadia B, Faryal O. The First Give final winners for their charity Compass Elevation



First Give

Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge 2026





Bentley Wood had the privilege of hosting the regional final of the prestigious Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge on the 11th of March, featuring 22 talented Year 10 speakers from 11 Harrow schools.

Reigning champion, Shadia I from Year 11 was the MC for the evening, and Bentley Wood contributed three speakers to the event. Sarah A was the very first speaker of the night with an inventively original speech 'Let the Cat in' on the importance of coping with disorder.

Monisha K delivered a heartfelt speech 'Silence has a Price', urging the importance of using your voice in the face of injustice. Our final speaker, Christina K, captured the audience with her speech 'Decide Like Nobody's Watching', about the habits which form character.

The judging panel comprised local experts from various fields and the Deputy Mayor of Harrow presented the awards. Our thanks to the attending staff and Year 10 students for supporting and to Mr Nussbaum for coaching the students as they prepared for their final speeches. The Speak Out Challenge celebrates effective communication skills, and empowers young individuals to become confident and influential leaders of tomorrow. Congratulations to the victorious Whitefriars school who will host the tournament for next year's Year 10 cohort.

Mr Nussbaum

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.

An incredible 12 students from Years 7–13 received awards, alongside two of our dedicated staff members, Mr Young and Ms Tweed. Seeing so many students celebrated for their contributions to their schools and communities was both inspiring and heart-warming.

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

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

Summer reads

The Heirs by Faridah Abike-Iyimide

Infamous billionaire Leontes Button has adopted and trained five genius children under the "Button Method" who are heirs to his fortune. When he is murdered during the tenth annual Prodigy Ball, long-buried secrets come to light and one thing is clear: everyone at the ball had reason to want him dead. Not a surprise given how good he was at making enemies...

Young World by Soman Chainani

When 17 year old Benton Young's viral video gets him elected US President, it ignites a global revolution and soon eight of the world's most powerful nations are led by teenagers. Their mission: to set a bold new course for the future. But, on the eve of their first global summit, one of the leaders is murdered in cold blood . . . and Benton is the only suspect. Now the world's future – and his own – is on the line . . .

Feather Vane by Beth O'Brien

In the village of Greeth-Under-Edge, magical creatures are causing chaos. Creirwy and Morfran, trainee sorcerers, have been sent to banish the creatures by brewing an almost impossible potion. As the twins embark on a journey in search of ingredients, they find that the most powerful magic is not always where you'd expect ...

Right as Rain by Tashie Bhuiyan

After being struck by lightning just as she's about to start a prestigious summer internship, Megh Rashid wakes up to a storm cloud that follows her everywhere, seemingly attuned to her every emotion.

With the help of fellow intern Lev Osman, a boy whose warmth makes her feel less alone, Megh has to find a way to control her feelings and stop the cloud playing up. Not easy when her emotions run high and the stakes are high, too.

A Million Tiny Pieces All at Once by Lucas Maxwell

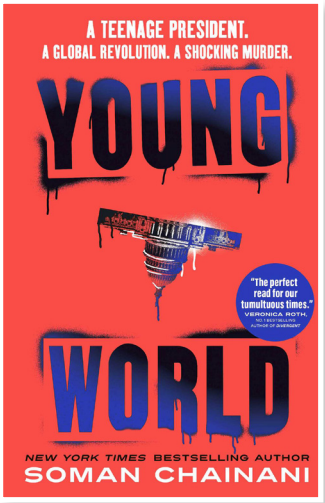
Elias's brain is a swamp of fears and bad things. His once-loving brother Bo has become a stranger, and his parents are at breaking point. When Bo falls in with dangerous people, Elias decides he's the only one who can bring his family back together. But what begins as a simple pizza-night plan quickly spirals into chaos. Can Elias find a way to reach the people he loves the most before it's too late?

A Scar Like a River by Lisa Graff

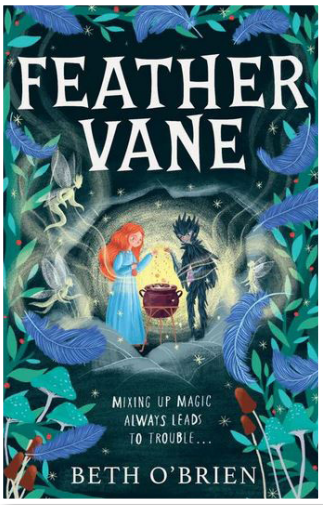
There are things thirteen-year-old Fallon Little prefers to keep secret – such as how she got that scar on her face. She would rather focus on the school play and her friendship with Trent and Darcy. Then her Uncle Geebie dies and an aunt comes to stay while her mother is overcome with grief. In the midst of the chaos, Fallon must bravely confront the past so that she can face the present.



The Heirs by Faridah Abike-Iyimide



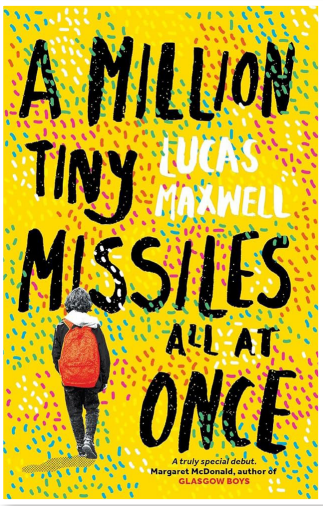
Young World by Soman Chainani



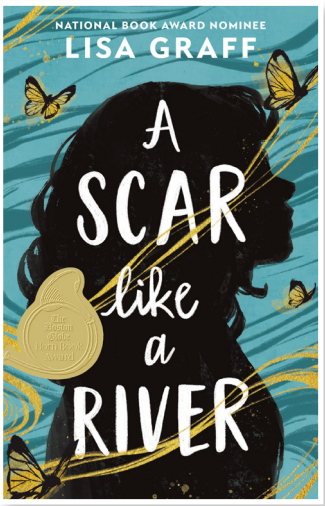
Feather Vane by Beth O'Brien



Right as Rain by Tashie Bhuiyan



A Million Tiny Pieces All at Once by Lucas Maxwell



A Scar Like a River by Lisa Graff

The Escape Game by Marissa Meyer & Tamara Moss

Six months ago, season four of The Escape Game ended in horror when contestant Alicia Angelos was found murdered on set. The new contestants in season five include her sister Sierra, who many believe got away with Alicia's murder. But Sierra is out for justice and the stakes in the game are higher than she imagined. It's not just a matter of win or lose – it's live or die.

The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away by Sophie Anderson

All Marinka's life, she has lived in her house with chicken legs, sharing a deep bond with it and running across the world on magical adventures together.

But the house seems unhappy and one day it pulls itself apart and runs away, leaving Marinka to chase after it. Her friends Benjamin and Jack the jackdaw follow her on a heart-warming adventure of discovery and hope.

Like a Brother by Nathanael Lessore

Owais lives a chill life as the popular guy until his loud and unpredictable cousin Abass crashes into his laid back world like a hurricane.

But as the boys get to know each other and their bond deepens, Owais starts to see there's more to Abass than the chaos - and more to himself than just being the cool guy who coasts through life.

Six Weeks by Matt Goodfellow

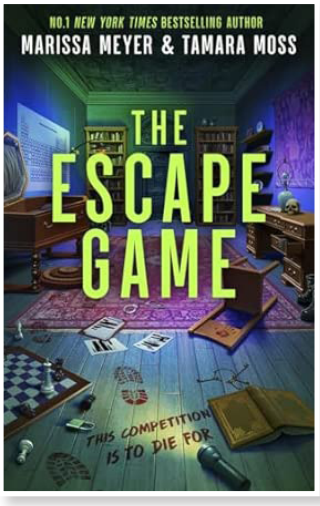
Alfie Piper has six weeks of summer - and nothing left to lose. Since his mum died, Alfie's world has unravelled. The silence between him and his stepdad roars louder than ever. So he does the only thing that makes sense: grabs his bike, and rides. In these long summer days, can Alfie rebuild what was broken?

The Overthinkers' Club: Happy List by Nat Luurtsema

Birdie is an overthinker, and she has a lot to overthink. Her BFF Chloe wants new friends, she will be a teenager in one year, yet owns ZERO bras, and a boy at school maybe has a crush on her. So Birdie has made a Happy List to tackle all the awkward and emotional challenges of being a tween. THEN she will stop being an anxious ball of stress and be happy! That's the plan anyway...

Big Words by Luke Palmer

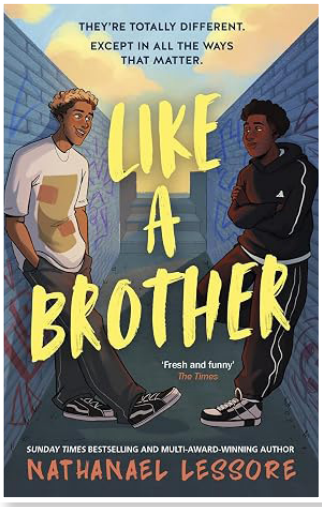
Biggest goes first – always. That's one of the unspoken rules of Kiln, the forbidden wasteland where Sam and his mates hang out, making up games to pass the time. When a daring game goes disastrously wrong, Sam is forced to reflect on his actions in the aftermath of the accident. Can he overcome his need to prove himself before he loses the friends who matter most?



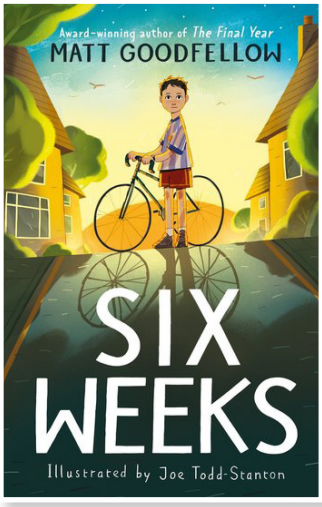
The Escape Game by Marissa Meyer & Tamara Moss



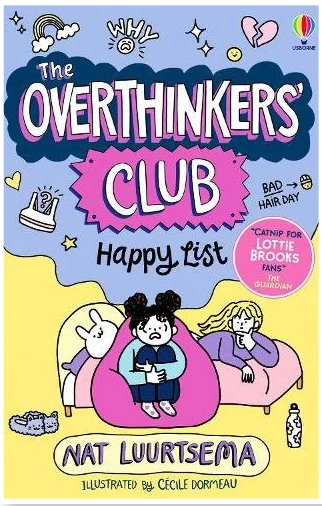
The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away by Sophie Anderson



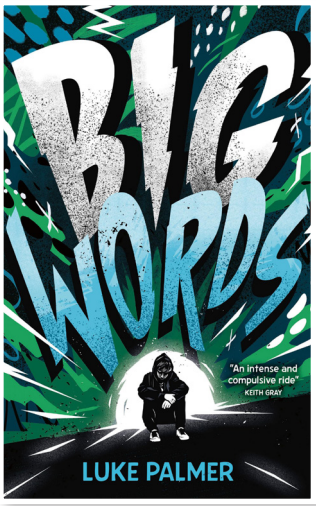
Like a Brother by Nathanael Lessore



Six Weeks by Matt Goodfellow



The Overthinkers' Club: Happy List by Nat Luurtsema



Big Words by Luke Palmer

A fantastic year in the library

Events, competitions, and reading initiatives helping to inspire a love of books

It has been another exciting year for our school library, with a wide range of events, competitions, and reading initiatives helping to inspire a love of books and learning across the school community.

We were delighted to welcome award-winning author Ross Welford to BWHS in October, giving students the opportunity to hear first-hand about the creative writing process and the journey from idea to publication. Ross delighted students and staff with a series of magic tricks woven into an engaging and memorable presentation, combining magical illusions with storytelling.

One of the most exciting additions to the library this year was our book vending machine. Introduced as part of our rewards programme, it allows students to earn book tokens for attainment, achievement, excellent effort, and positive contributions to school life. Nominated by their form tutors, students can exchange their tokens for a brand-new book of their choice.

Students engaged in a spot of retail therapy during two book fairs hosted in the library. Our annual Book Fair returned in November with an excellent selection of the latest fiction, non-fiction and stationery.

In May, we hosted our ever-popular Half Price Book Fair, giving students another opportunity to build their personal libraries at fantastic value.

World Book Day on 5th March brought magic to the library with our Harry Potter-themed Boot Camp Challenge involving quizzes and a table top Quidditch game. Years 7 and 8 dressed up as characters from their favourite books, and the teachers joined in with their own creative costumes.

At the end of the school day, 24 winners of the best costume challenge were invited to a party in the library to celebrate arguably the most important date in the calendar for book lovers of all ages.

We celebrated Black History Month in October and Women's History Month in March with themed book displays, recommended reading lists, and promotional activities showcasing influential writers, historical figures, and inspiring stories from diverse backgrounds.

October also saw the launch of our Horror Short Story Writing Competition where students were challenged to produce original tales full of suspense, mystery, and imagination.

As part of the National Year of Reading 2026, the library has continued to champion reading for pleasure through a range of engaging events, competitions, and initiatives.

As the academic year draws to a close we are pleased to launch VLeBooks, providing students with access to a wide range of eBooks for uninterrupted reading in the summer.

We plan to expand the collection over the coming months, further strengthening the culture of reading that is a defining feature of our school across all departments and year groups.

Ms Khan Librarian





Vending Machine



Scholastic Book Fair









Author Ross Welford Visit









World Book Day

Student Rewards July 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

Aaliyah G 7JYO - exceptional progress throughout the year,

Computer Science

Saara M 7NGA, Leenah MS 7SEO, Fayha A 7NGA, Anabia R 7SEO - for their amazing results in the end of year assessment. Well done all of you!

Drama

Anabella AS 7ABU - For being a brilliant team player and giving 100% for every task.

English

Natalia LH 7JYO - for putting clear effort into her classwork and homework this term;

Hazel B 7SDO - for her progress in English

French

Pranshi T 7NGA - for dedication, hard work, enthusiasm and participating to the MFL Movie Club

Geography

Zainab H 7JYO - for amazing academic growth this year. You have gone from strength to strength with your consistency and fantastic results this year - I'm very excited for your future in this subject

Graphics

Afnan A 7SHA - for her enthusiasm and effort in lesson as well as homework"

History

Faith D 7SHA - for being a passionate Historian! You are consistent in your enthusiasm, class discussions and asking insightful questions.

Maths

Saffiya A 7JYO - A great example for following classroom expectations. Active participation and good focus during lessons. She has had a great first year in Maths. Well done, Saffiya!!

Leyla M 7SDO - For demonstrating outstanding effort, an active voice in maths lessons, and a brilliant growth mindset. Your refusal to give up when faced with tough challenges truly inspires those around you!

PE

Hadia W 7NGA - for continuous effort in lessons and commitment to sport outside of school (Taekwondo) - she has double graded from a white to a green belt

Spanish

Erum K 7JYO - for great commitment to Spanish, always giving her best effort in class and learning from home too! Her progress has been really noticeable since she joined the class

Textiles

Kashvi P 7JYO - for embracing her learning in Textiles and becoming confident in her work.



Student Rewards July 2026

Year 8



Art

Keya P 8ZHA & Sienna P 8SGU - for exceptional progress quietly getting on with work without a fuss.

Computer Science

Amnah H 8CMI, Anchuka R 8CMI, Zainab H 8MAK, Maysoon K 8MAK, Zara N 8ZHA, Rumaysaa N 8HJG - for their amazing results in the end of year assessment. Well done all of you!

Drama

Leila M 8SGU - For consistently giving 100% in every rehearsal and performance.

English

Sophia S 8CMI - for the passion and dedication shown towards English studies and also reading; Renata P 8ZHA for her effort and improvement in the subject

Food

Thaaneesha B 8ZHA - for her engagement and enthusiasm in Year 8 Food.

French

Amaya A 8SGU - for your fantastic enthusiasm and consistent hard work in French this year. Well done!

Geography

Selina M 8CMI - For the great effort she has put in this year which has resulted in her exceeding her target.

Graphics

Renata P 8ZHA - For her dedication to Y8 steam! Your creativity has been really inspiring to see and I hope you keep that up next year

History

Alayna R 8HAS - for compete commitment and dedication to her history studies throughout Year 8

Maths

Fathima L 8ZHA - Hardworking, great focus and determination to get through class tasks. Not only that, does well attempting and completing HW by due dates and largely follows classroom expectations. Well done, Fathima!!

PE

Emily C 8ZHA - for excellent effort in lessons and commitment to sport outside of school (Taekwondo)

Philosophy

Zhila M 8ZHA - for being keen to do well and enthusiastic

Spanish

Leila M 8SGU - for being a great addition to our class and for consistent progress. MCO

Textiles

Pravaha Y 8HJG - for her engagement in Year 8 Textiles.

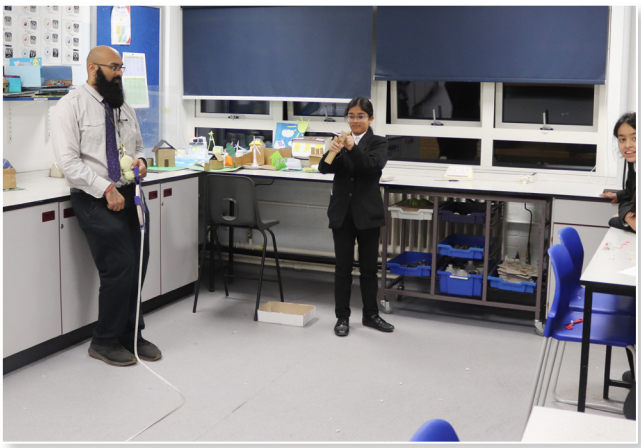


A year of Science Club highlights









Electric Fruit : Making Fruit Batteries

Making and Launching rockets with gunpowder

October - Making Fruit Batteries

I am thrilled to join the Science Club at Bentley Wood High School, which meets every week on Thursday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in Room 302. It's the perfect opportunity to get hands-on experience beyond the usual classwork. Here we do dissection, retrieving energy from fruits, chemical reactions and so much more. This is just a taster of the incredible problems and projects we enjoy wrestling with as I spark my curiosity and have a blast with my fellow science enthusiasts. I hope to see you there!

Khadija A 7ABU

Science Club

December - Making Gunpowder Rockets

Being part of the school Science Club as a 11-year-old was a weekly dive into a world far more exciting than any textbook. The club was a place where experiments weren't just demonstrations; they were hands-on explorations, often messy, loud, and brilliant.

The moment I walked through the door I felt the familiar sense of excitement and curiosity about what I was about to learn. I was thrilled to find out we would be making rockets. We first had to take a party popper and cut all around it making sure not to cut the friction activated charge connected to a string which fuels the rocket. Once that was done, we rolled the charge in some paper shaping it like a cone and then used felt tips to decorate it.

Lastly it was time to test it out, we had to put the string through a block of wood labelled "Rocket Launcher" then pull the string with full force. I was pretty proud of myself to find out my paper rocket flew 4.07 meters! Overall a wonderful experience!

Inaya RM 7SHA

Science Club

March - Making rockets to launch with compressed air

In March we 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 session began with students designing and building paper rockets, applying simple ideas about aerodynamics to their creations. Once their rockets were complete, they headed outside to test them using rocket launchers.

The rockets were launched using a burst of compressed air generated by stomping on the launcher pad. They soared high into the sky, providing an exciting demonstration of Newton's Laws of Motion, thrust, gravity and air resistance. The windy conditions added an extra challenge, making the activity even more exciting 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.





Launching rockets with with compressed air

May - A steam propulsion experiment

During a Science Club session in May, students explored Newton's Third Law of Motion with a Coke can and Bunsen burner experiment. Students pierced holes in the cans, added a small amount of water, and suspended them above a Bunsen burner.

As the water heated, steam escaped through the holes, causing the cans to spin in the opposite direction. This demonstrated Newton's Third Law of Motion. The same principle was first explored by Hero of Alexandria in the first century AD.

Hiba U from 7ESO reflected: "It was a cool experiment even though my can got burnt! It was still fun and I recommend going to Science Club - it always has fun experiments to do!"





A steam propulsion experiment with Year 7

A variety of enrichment clubs

BSL Club

BSL Club was a great chance for me to learn British Sign Language, which I had wanted to learn for some time. Farah, our teacher, is so understanding and kind, and not only teaches us BSL, but also about the Deaf community and their customs. We do lots of practice on different signs through group activities, games, and even school concerts. I always look forward to the club after a long Wednesday and have made lots of friends here.

During Deaf Awareness Week, held from 4th to 10th May, our school celebrated the importance of communication and inclusion by learning about the history of sign language and the challenges faced by the Deaf community. The theme for this year's Deaf Awareness Week was "Right to Understand – Together, We Break Barriers", advocating for adequate access in all areas of society for the hearing-impaired.

Students took part in a range of exciting activities throughout the week, including an art competition where they were invited to create posters to spread awareness about Deaf culture and to celebrate the community. Miss Culloty organised a fun and educational quiz, allowing students to test their knowledge about Deaf culture and sign language. BSL (British Sign Language) taster sessions were held during lunchtime, giving students the opportunity to learn basic signs and improve their communication skills. The week was a great success and encouraged everyone to appreciate the value of inclusivity and respect for all.





Students at BSL (British Sign Language) Club

Chess Club

The school's Chess Club has enjoyed another successful year, with enthusiastic participation from students across a wide range of year groups. Running every Friday lunchtime, the club provides a welcoming and focused environment for players of all abilities to develop their strategic thinking, sharpen their skills, and enjoy friendly competition.

Turnout from Years 7 to 9 has been particularly impressive. Many younger students have embraced the opportunity to learn new tactics and challenge their peers. Their enthusiasm has brought great energy to the sessions, and several have shown significant improvement in a short amount of time.

Equally noteworthy is the strong attendance from Year 13. Despite the pressures of A-Level studies, senior students continue to make time for the club, sometimes acting as mentors to younger players. Their presence has helped foster a positive, collaborative atmosphere where students can learn from each other and build their confidence.

The club's growing popularity highlights the enduring appeal of chess as both a competitive pursuit and a tool for developing concentration, resilience, and creative problem-solving. With such strong engagement each week, the Chess Club looks set to remain a valued part of school life.

Mr Shah





Students from all year groups at Chess Club









Digging In: How Our Gardening Club Is Growing More Than Just Vegetables

Every week, a group of enthusiastic students trade the classroom for the school garden, swapping textbooks for trowels and worksheets for watering cans. What started as a small after-school activity has blossomed and it's easy to see why. At the heart of the club is a science teacher whose enthusiasm for growing things is infectious. With patience, knowledge and a readiness to get his hands dirty alongside the students, Mr Kerai has turned a modest patch of school ground into a thriving vegetable and herb garden. His approach is simple: let students learn by doing. Rather than just describing how a seed becomes a plant, the students plant it, water it, watch it struggle through a cold snap, and eventually harvest it themselves. That philosophy has shaped a club where curiosity comes first and mistakes are just as valuable as successes.

The club's plot is a small but mighty patchwork of herbs, vegetables, and fruit, including:

- **Mint and lemon balm** – fast-growing herbs that teach students about containment and using fresh herbs in cooking and teas
- **Potatoes** – a favourite for the sheer surprise of harvest day, when students dig through the soil to "discover" their crop
- **Onions and garlic** – slower-growing crops that teach patience, plus valuable lessons about bulbs and root development
- **Salad leaves** – quick to grow and satisfying for beginners
- **Thyme and chives** – hardy perennial herbs that survive year-round
- **Blueberries and strawberries** – fruit that requires more long-term care, teaching students about soil pH, pollination, and patience
- **Courgettes** – known for their rapid growth which never fails to amaze first-time growers
- **Beans and peas** – allowing students to observe germination up close and learn about nitrogen-fixing plants

Members of the club regularly explore plant biology in action while they also cultivate an appreciation for soil and ecosystems. This hands-on approach to learning fosters patience and responsibility as they sometimes wait for months before seeing the fruits (quite literally) of their labour. Problem-solving skills are also developed in the process of considering pests, poor weather, and unexpected plant diseases. Students learn to identify problems, research solutions, and adapt their approach.

Students also learn where food comes from and for many, pulling a potato out of the ground or picking a strawberry they've grown themselves is a genuine revelation. Teamwork and community are strengthened as students work in groups to manage different sections of the garden, share tools, and celebrate each other's harvests. Some students have started asking for their own herbs and plants for home while others have become more willing to eat vegetables they've grown themselves. It is a joy to behold the growing confidence of our young gardeners with every passing term while the small garden flourishes with every passing season.

Fostering a passion for medicine and health care

NHS Cadets

The NHS cadets programme is run by St. John Ambulance in partnership with the NHS trust. At Bentley Wood it is co-delivered by Ms Bhurani and Mrs Naqvi. The programme is split into two pathways; Foundation pathway is delivered to Year 10 and Advanced pathway is delivered to Year 12 students. Both pathways deliver sessions on key skills, leadership and career skills, understanding care and clinical skills. Both pathways are oversubscribed.

This term students have focused on understanding the care values of NHS and how these values match their own. They have also developed an understanding of branding and logos and the importance of representing themselves. All students created a logo which represented their values and presented it to the rest of the group. Students were confident and developed presentation skills.

Year 10 have also focused on safeguarding - learning the importance of how to spot the signs of neglect and abuse as a care practitioner whilst Year 12 have focused on the history of medication. They are currently researching ways in which AI can help improve medical advances.

Mrs Naqvi, Head of Social Sciences





Below are some of the logos designed by Year 10 and Year 12 students.



Jannat B 10MD



Fatema R 12AM



Jasmine G 10LSB











Medical Society: Students simulated surgical procedure by suturing fruit

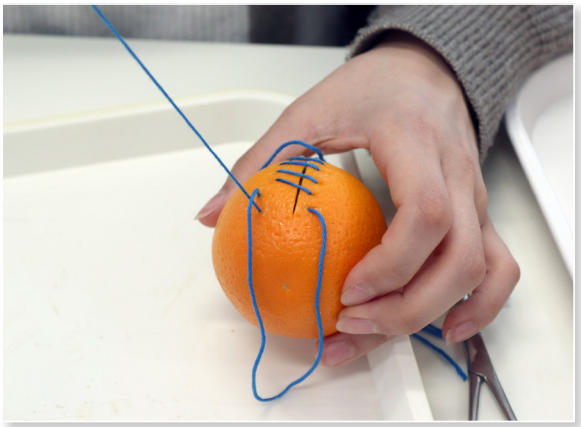
Sixth formers who aspire to careers in medicine, dentistry or other health-related fields are invited to join the Bentley Wood Medical Society. The society meets regularly and offers a broad range of experiences — from debating topical issues in medicine to university interview preparation.

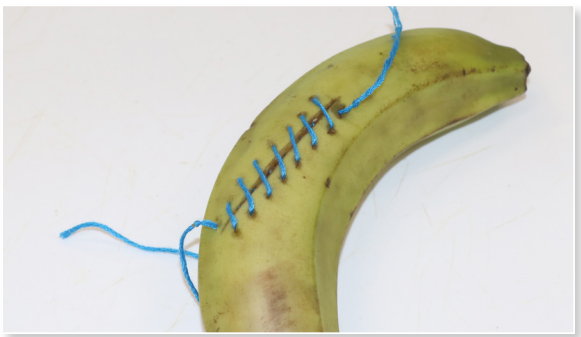
This half term, Medical Society took part in a more hands-on activity in which students simulated a surgical procedure by suturing an orange. Under the watchful gaze of Mrs Patel, they began by making an incision in the orange peel using a scalpel, taking care not to cut too deeply into the pulp.

They then undertook the challenge of suturing the "wound" neatly using a needle and thread. Our surgeons-in-training had to ensure they did not apply too much pressure and cause the orange to release its juice.

The Year 12 students relished the task, focusing intently as they operated on the oranges. The activity gave them an appreciation for the fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination required to perform surgery.

They also learned the importance of tension control, the correct angle for both scalpel and needle, and how to secure the knot properly to achieve a neat finish. A huge thank you to Mrs Patel for running the Medical Society, a very popular club that provides such invaluable opportunities and insight into careers in healthcare.





Maths enrichment: competitions and projects this year

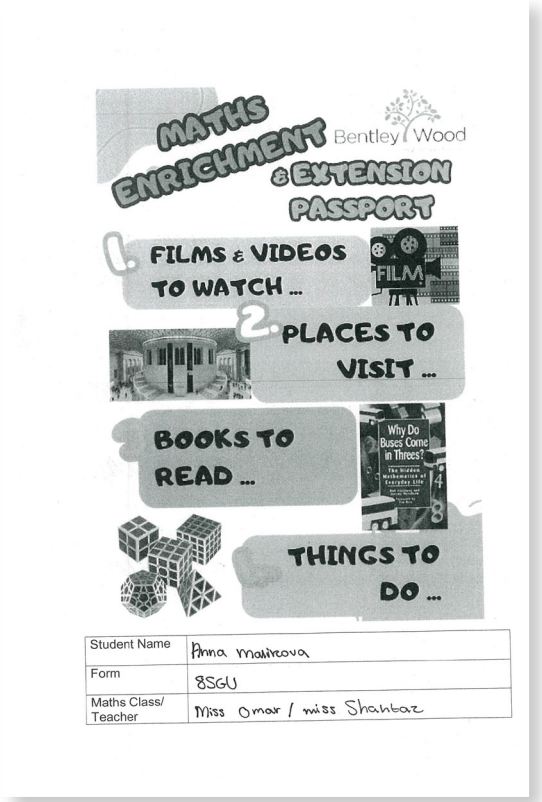
Exploring the world of Maths: Your Numeracy Passport Adventure

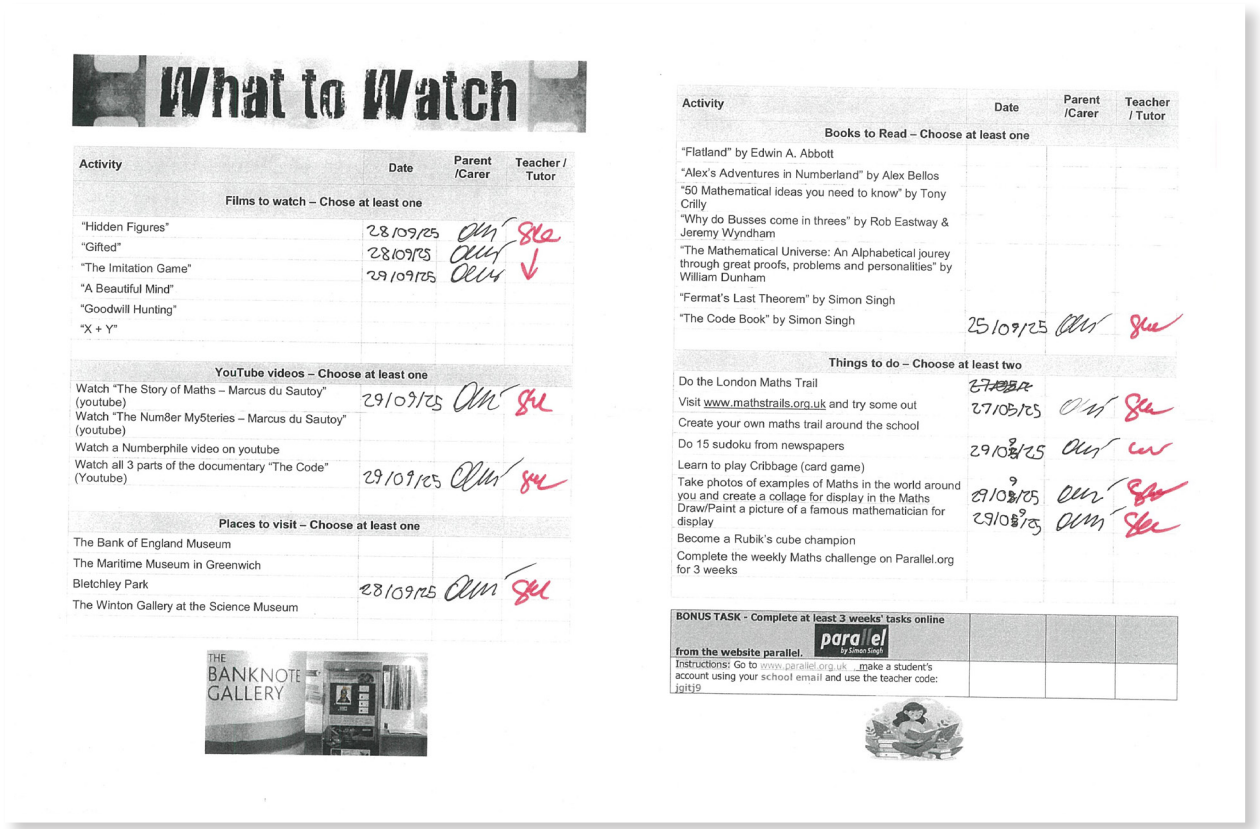
Maths is all around us — in nature, art, music, architecture, technology, and even storytelling! That's why enrichment tasks are a key part of the Numeracy Passport. These optional activities encourage pupils to explore maths beyond the classroom and develop a deeper appreciation for its value and beauty.

At Bentley Wood, we know that maths is more than just numbers on a page — it's a powerful tool for understanding the world. That's why we're excited to introduce the Maths Numeracy Passport, a unique programme designed to help children master key maths skills and explore the many exciting ways maths appears in everyday life.

The Numeracy Passport encourages students to complete a series of challenges, earning Achievement Points as they consolidate their knowledge of key mathematical topics. The passport charts their learning, boosting their confidence as they engage with the tasks and activities. Well done to those who undertook the challenge of the Numeracy Passport with special congratulations to:

Tahirah 7SHA, Monisha 10KPO, Rayhannah 7ABU Lara 7NG, Alqra 8HJG, Kawsar 7SHA, Nienna 7SHA Emaan 7JSH, Zara 8ZHA





What to Watch

Activity	Date	Parent /Carer	Teacher / Tutor
Films to watch – Chose at least one			
"Hidden Figures"	28/09/25		
"Gifted"	28/09/25		
"The Imitation Game"	29/09/25		
"A Beautiful Mind"			
"Goodwill Hunting"			
"X + Y"			
YouTube videos – Chose at least one			
Watch "The Story of Maths – Marcus du Sautoy" (youtube) Watch "The Num8er My5teries – Marcus du Sautoy" (youtube)	29/09/25		
Watch a Numberphile video on youtube			
Watch all 3 parts of the documentary "The Code" (Youtube)	29/09/25		
Places to visit – Chose at least one			
The Bank of England Museum			
The Maritime Museum in Greenwich			
Bletchley Park	28/09/25		
The Winton Gallery at the Science Museum			

Activity	Date	Parent /Carer	Teacher / Tutor
Books to Read – Choose at least one			
"Flatland" by Edwin A. Abbott			
"Alex's Adventures in Numberland" by Alex Bellos			
"50 Mathematical ideas you need to know" by Tony Crilly			
"Why do Busses come in threes" by Rob Eastway & Jeremy Wyndham			
"The Mathematical Universe: An Alphabetical jourey through great proofs, problems and personalities" by William Dunham			
"Fermat's Last Theorem" by Simon Singh			
"The Code Book" by Simon Singh	25/09/25		
Things to do – Choose at least two			
Do the London Maths Trail			
Visit www.mathstrails.org.uk and try some out	27/09/25		
Create your own maths trail around the school			
Do 15 sudoku from newspapers	29/09/25		
Learn to play Cribbage (card game)			
Take photos of examples of Maths in the world around you and create a collage for display in the Maths	29/09/25		
Draw/Paint a picture of a famous mathematician for display	29/09/25		
Become a Rubik's cube champion			
Complete the weekly Maths challenge on Parallel.org for 3 weeks			
BONUS TASK - Complete at least 3 weeks' tasks online from the website parallel. Instructions: Go to www.parallel.org.uk make a student's account using your school email and use the teacher code: jgitj9			

National Numeracy Day 2026: Maths competitions

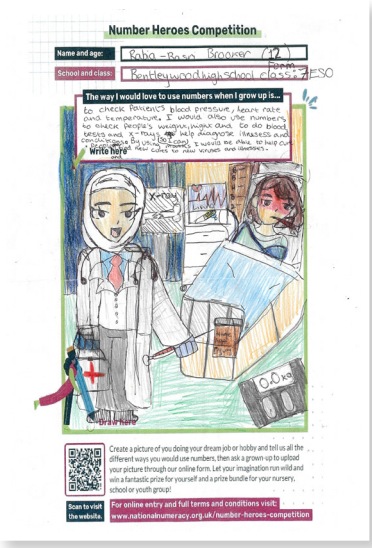
Our school proudly celebrates National Numeracy every year, recognising the importance of numeracy skills in everyday life and across all areas of learning. National Numeracy Day helps students build confidence with numbers, develop problem-solving abilities, and understand how mathematics is used in the real world. Over four weeks, we run a variety of fun and enriching activities designed to engage students and promote a love of mathematics. These include challenges, competitions, puzzles, teamwork activities, and interactive tasks that encourage logical thinking and creativity.

Each year, our students participate enthusiastically and achieve great success, showing excellent teamwork, determination, and creativity. Through celebrating National Numeracy, we continue to inspire students to develop confidence in mathematics and appreciate the value of numeracy in everyday life.

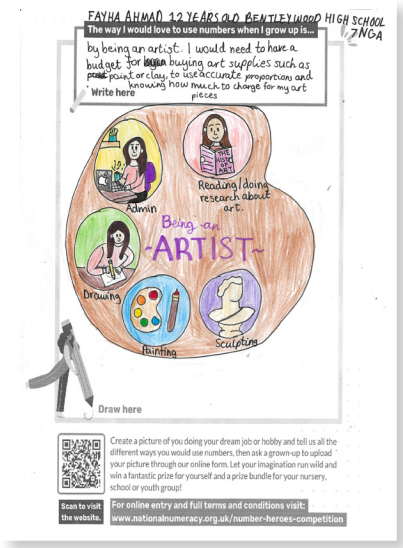
Numeracy Heroes competitions

Students were invited to create a picture of themselves doing their dream job or hobby. They were allowed to use any medium of their choice including drawing, painting or creating a collage.

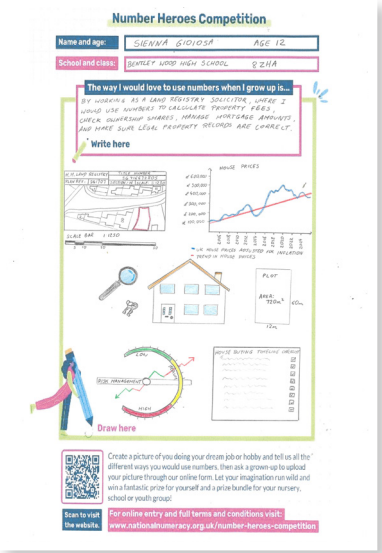
They were asked to describe how they would use numbers in their dream job or hobby.



Rabia B 7ESO



Fayha A 7NGA



Sienna G 8ZHA



Marwa F 9SCH

The Parallel Project with Simon Singh

Parallel by Dr Simon Singh MBE is a website offering engaging maths resources and programmes for students aged 10–16, while also serving as a valuable resource for teachers and parents. Designed to support Dr Singh's mission of increasing both the number and diversity of excellent mathematicians, Parallel enables students to track their progress and download badges and certificates as they reach key milestones.

Exploring the world of Mathematics with Parallelograms

The Parallel Project, founded by best-selling author Simon Singh, offers an engaging and challenging enrichment programme for young mathematicians. Through a series of weekly puzzles known as Parallelograms, students delve into the fascinating world of mathematics beyond the standard curriculum.

What Are Parallelograms? Parallelograms are weekly sets of maths challenges designed to stretch students' reasoning and problem-solving skills. Each puzzle is crafted to be interesting, fun, and challenging, covering a wide range of mathematical topics, including number theory, geometry, logic, and mathematical history. The aim is to help students become strong mathematicians by encouraging them to think critically and creatively.

Why Participate?

Develop Critical Thinking: Parallelograms encourage students to approach problems from different angles, fostering critical thinking and analytical skills.

Broaden Mathematical Horizons: The challenges introduce students to mathematical concepts and problems that go beyond the standard curriculum, broadening their understanding and appreciation of the subject.

Engage with a Community: By participating, students become part of a community of young mathematicians, sharing a passion for exploring the world of maths.

Parallel Maths Leaderboard with 3 or more tasks

Sienna G
Zahra S
Isabel H
Maryam A
Hawa H
Bella P
Saarah M
Selena C
Zahra S
Mariam M
Shanaia C
Sona H
Yashvi P
Nazifa R
Swara D

parallel by Simon Singh

Maths challenges and lectures



Ben Sparks | Matt Parker | Aylean 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 Aylean 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

Aylean 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.

Junior UK Mathematics Challenge (UKMT)

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our Year 7 and Year 8 students in the Junior UK Mathematics Challenge (UKMT). The competition is an excellent opportunity for students to develop problem-solving and logical thinking skills, while building confidence in mathematics.

This year, our students achieved outstanding results, with many earning Bronze, Silver, and Gold certificates. We are especially proud that several students have been invited to take part in the advanced Kangaroo rounds — a wonderful achievement that recognises their exceptional mathematical ability.

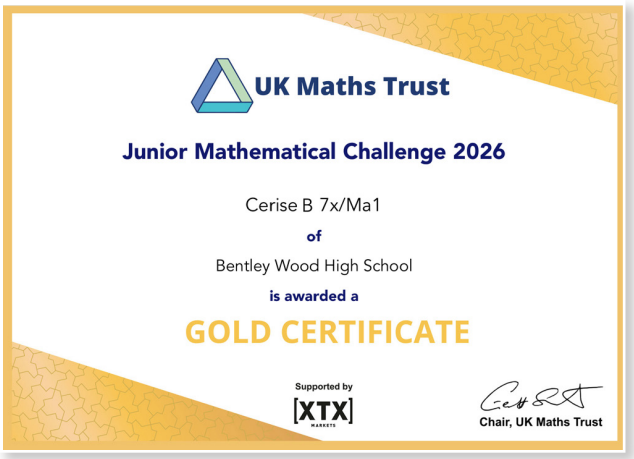
Congratulations to all participating students for their hard work and dedication. We look forward to seeing their continued success in future mathematics competitions.

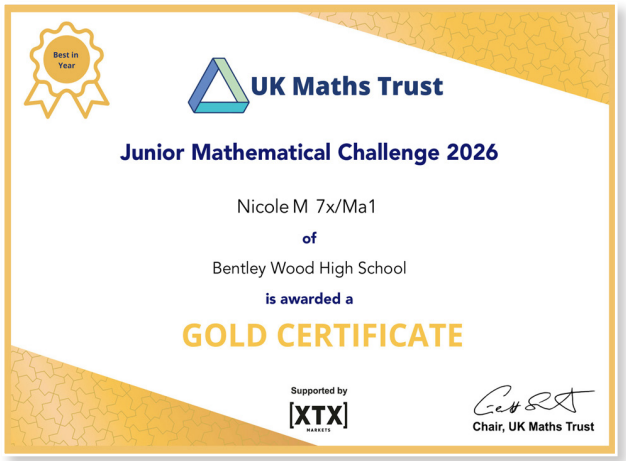
Grey and Pink Kangaroo Awards for Year 9s and Year 10s

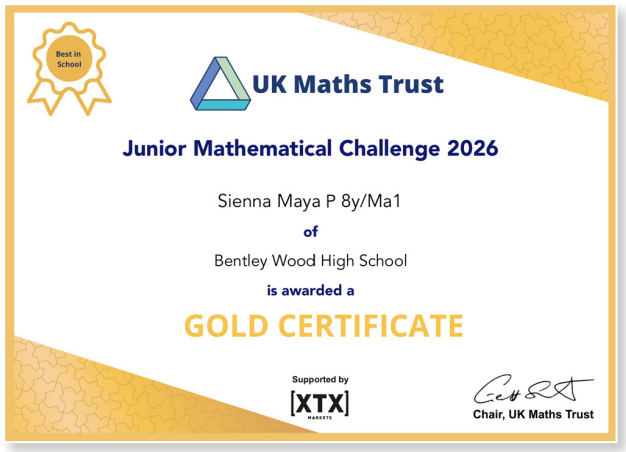
We are pleased to celebrate the excellent achievements of our Year 9 and Year 10 students in the Grey and Pink Kangaroo Mathematics Challenges. These advanced UKMT competitions encourage students to apply logical reasoning, creativity, and problem-solving skills to challenging mathematical questions.

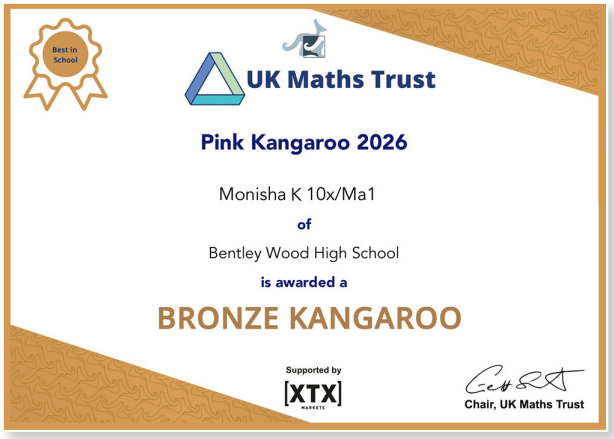
The Grey and Pink Kangaroo rounds are important because they provide students with the opportunity to stretch their mathematical thinking beyond the classroom and compete alongside some of the most talented young mathematicians in the country. Success in these competitions reflects determination, resilience, and a genuine passion for mathematics.

This year, our students performed exceptionally well, demonstrating outstanding dedication and enthusiasm. We congratulate all participants for their hard work and are delighted to celebrate the success of our Year 9 and Year 10 mathematicians. Their achievements are a wonderful reflection of their commitment and ambition, and we look forward to their continued success in future competitions.











Primary Days Summer 2026









Kenmore Park Junior School

Aylward Primary School

Students visit Bentley Wood for Science Primary School Days, Summer term 2026

Year 5 pupils from Kenmore Park Junior School and Aylward Primary School recently enjoyed Science Primary Days at Bentley Wood. The days centred around investigating the fascinating world of colour through a range of practical experiments.

The day began with an introduction to laboratory safety, where pupils learned about hazards, safe working practices and how to use a Bunsen burner responsibly. Students then successfully earned their Bunsen Burner Licence, showing they could safely light and use a Bunsen burner under supervision!

Their first investigation explored flame tests, where students discovered that different metals produce different coloured flames when heated. They learned that this scientific process is used to create the vibrant colours seen in fireworks and enjoyed identifying mystery metal samples from the colours they observed.

They then carried out a chromatography investigation, separating the hidden pigments in inks. The final activity introduced students to indicators and the pH scale, where they tested a variety of substances to determine whether they were acidic, neutral or alkaline by observing colourful chemical changes.

Throughout the day, all year 5 students demonstrated excellent curiosity, teamwork and enthusiasm. They embraced each challenge with confidence, developing practical skills and gaining a deeper understanding of the science behind colour. We hope to invite both schools back again in the next academic year!

A huge thank you to all staff and students from Bentley Wood who supported the day, it would not have been possible without you.

Particular thanks goes to Ms Gunduz, Ms Abdullahi Hussein, Ms Iman, Ms Tritto, Ms Varsani, Ms Hameed, Mr Koyejo and Ms Bhurani.

Ms Robson

MFL Primary Day

A fantastic language experience for our Year 5 visitors

The MFL Department was delighted to welcome around 40 Year 5 pupils from Weald Rise Primary School for an exciting morning of language learning and cultural activities.

During their visit, the pupils took part in both French and Spanish lessons, giving them the opportunity to experience learning languages in a secondary school environment. They enthusiastically joined in with speaking, listening and interactive activities, showing great curiosity and confidence throughout the sessions. Following their language lessons, the pupils enjoyed a series of creative cultural workshops inspired by France and Spanish speaking countries. They worked together to build impressive 3D Eiffel Towers, made tacos, designed colourful Mexican sombreros, and decorated vibrant Día de los Muertos-inspired skulls. The activities were a wonderful way to explore the traditions and cultures associated with the languages they had been learning.

It was fantastic to see the pupils' enthusiasm, creativity and willingness to take on new challenges. They were a credit to Weald Rise Primary School and fully embraced every activity with energy and excitement. The MFL Department thoroughly enjoyed hosting the visit and hopes it has inspired our young visitors to continue their language-learning journey. We look forward to welcoming them back to our school in the future!

Ms Codrean





Weald Rise Primary School

English Primary Day

Creative sparks and big smiles: Hujjat Primary visits BW

Excitement filled the air at Bentley Wood High School for Girls as we proudly welcomed 24 energetic students from Hujjat Primary School for an action-packed day of creativity, expression, and art. The day was packed with interactive workshops designed to get the students' creative juices flowing: Starting off with creative writing, the Hujjat students explored descriptive language by tuning into their senses, creating vivid and imaginative pieces of writing about their hometown London! Following on from that, students had a go at Performance Poetry. The girls practiced rhythm, expression (with lots of banging on the table) and stage presence, bringing poems to life with fantastic energy.

After break, the drama studio was full of laughter and teamwork as the students took part in role-play and physical theatre games, showcasing some serious acting potential. Lastly, to top off an already brilliant day, the visiting students took a tour of the incredible art exhibition hosted in the sports hall. Walking through the gallery, the Hujjat girls got a chance to view the stunning artwork created by our own Bentley Wood students. The vibrant displays sparked plenty of inspiration, with many of our young visitors pointing out their favourite pieces and chatting about their own love for drawing and painting.

The day was a massive success, leaving our guests inspired and our staff incredibly proud of how well everyone worked together. Thank you to Hujjat Primary for visiting us, and a huge well done to all the students and staff who helped make the day so special.

We hope to see you again soon!

Ms Pritchard





Hujjat Primary School

Fun and adventure at Teddy Bear's picnic

Health and Social Care students hosted Year 1 students for Teddy Bear's picnic

Year 12 Health and Social Care students hosted Year 1 students from Aylward Primary School for Teddy Bear's picnic on Thursday 3rd July at Bentley Wood High School.

The Year 12 students planned various physical and mental activities for the day which promoted reading, fine motor skills and teamwork. Such activities included, what's in the box, memory games and bear hunt reading 'We are going on Bear Hunt' by Micheal Rosen and Helen Oxenbury and a picnic. The day was a huge success with Year 1 engaging in stimulating activities with their peers. Certificates, trophies and other prizes were won through-out the day.

Year 12 demonstrated resilience, leadership, communication and organisational skills. The Social Sciences department played a vital role in the planning and seamless running of the day to ensure its success. We received excellent feedback from Aylward Primary School appreciating the girls hard work, leadership and engagement with the year 1 students.

Mrs Naqvi

Year 1 children from Aylward Primary School had a really fun afternoon in the woods this week for a Teddy Bear Picnic. They started off with a quick game of Hot Potato to burn off some energy, which had everyone laughing as they took turns mimicking different animals like bunnies and dogs whenever they got caught with the ball. After that, they sat down on the grass for a big card memory game, where the girls did a great job working together to win the first round of medals, followed by a fast game of "Pie in the Hole" where the winners got some colourful stickers.

The best part of the day was the walk through the trees, where the kids looked out for paper bear faces hidden up in the branches before sitting in a circle to listen to, We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

They finished up the afternoon with a loud game of Duck, Duck, Goose, and before heading home, every single child was given a medal to take with them. By the time it was over, the kids were tired but incredibly happy, chatting about their favourite parts of the day and proudly showing off their medals after a great afternoon of running around outside.

Planning and running this entire day also turned out to be a massive learning experience for me. Seeing how much the kids genuinely enjoyed the simple outdoor games and how captivated they were by the story showed me just how rewarding it is to design activities that keep young minds active and happy. Watching their excited reactions and feeling the pure positivity of the day completely sealed the idea for me that working with children is exactly what I want to do in the future.

Aliyah A 12AM

On the 3rd of July, my Health and Social Care class hosted an event called Teddy Bear Picnic for year 1's from Alyward Primary School. Throughout the day, we hosted a physical activity, mental activity and a bear hunt which we had to make it accessible for around 16 children, one of them being visibly impaired.

We started off with a mental activity which included guess the odd one out, guess the mystery animal and follow the leader, these make them think about which one does not go with the categorises. Then we had hints to an animal and they have to guess the animal with the hints that are given.

For the last mental activity, we had someone do so a certain action and then the following person would have to remember the previous person's action and add onto it. We had our bear hunt where bears were hung up in Bentley wood's forest and we went on a trail reading We Are Going On A Bear Hunt where my peers read out loud and encouraged the children to go and spot the bears placed in eyes view in the forest.

Then lastly we have our physical activity where a person in my group had dressed up as Pikachu and we played red light, green light, this game contained hoola hoops which were seen as the safe spaces and when Pikachu said green light they would have to run towards Pikachu but when Picachu said red light they need to be in a hoola hoop and if they didn't make it into a hoop then they would have to start from the beginning.

Then for the last physical activity we had a little obstacle course which make them build teamwork as they were split into two teams. This whole experience made me learn about responsibility and problem solving.

Amara S 12AM



















Student Rewards July 2026



Year 9

Art

Zofia O 9MCO and Yaalini B 9SG - for amazing effort and kindness in helping others in Art. Well done!!

Business studies

Bella P 9MEM - For demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning and excelling

Computer science

Isabelle C 9MEM, Mariam M 9SG - for your amazing results in your end of year assessment. Well done!

English

Siobhan K 9SG - for consistent hard work and improvement in English; Maira H 9EBD - for her excellent attitude and contributions to lessons

French

Hafsa A 9EBD - for your constant efforts and excellent results throughout the year.

Geography

Aaira R 9LNO - for all her hard work and effort this year and her excellent end of year results!

Graphics

Bella P 9MEM - for her hard work and dedication in graphics this year! keep it up!

Hinal P 9SZ + Rebecca M 9MEM - for showing resilience and dedication through many challenges in graphics this year. Well done for keeping an open mind and sticking it through.

H&S

Hiba M 9MEM - for her thoughtful contributions in lessons and excellent mock grade in her PSA

History

Aniyah HJ 9MCO - For really trying hard in lessons. I can see the effort, keep it up!

Maths

Yosshikaa B - 9LNO - Polite and hardworking member of the class. Great at following classroom expectations, active participant and amazing focus in lessons. An exemplar for her peers. Well done, Yosshikaa!!

Liliana E - 9SZ & Isabel LH 9LJO - Your determination to master new concepts is a testament to your endless potential.

Jasmin P 9SZ - She has been exceptional throughout the course in terms of both her behaviour and academic achievements. She achieved the highest score in the entire class. She is highly focused, engaged, and always willing to help her peers. “

PE

Mia V 9SG - for being the most dedicated GCSE PE student to extra-curricular clubs

Philosophy

Diana A 9SCH - for thinking hard in RS and offering interesting answers in class discussions.

Psychology

Hazel P 9SCH - for always engaging and asking great questions in class!

Spanish

Maryam A. 9SZ and Khadeeja S 9AV - for being so enthusiastic about learning Spanish every lesson. MCO

Elya C 9EBD - for making such an effort to learn Spanish from complete beginner as she joined BW recently and working so hard independently.

Textiles

Fathima MN 9EBD - for an excellent start to Year 9 Textiles.



Student Rewards July 2026



Year 10

Art

Ecrin 10BKO - for fantastic effort and outcomes in Art this year. Well done!!

Business studies

Ritika K 10FTR - For demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning and excelling

Computer science

Annabelle C 10FTR, Anniyah R 10MD, Mihika T 10LSB - for your excellent end of year assessment grades.

Summayah D 10KPO, Sara H 10JAZ, Summer N 10ABR - for trying really hard in class.

Drama

Sarah A 10GCP - For always having a positive attitude and consistently working hard to do her best.

English

Annabelle C 10FTR - for excellent performance in English Language; Abdia MI 10LSB - for excellent performance in English Literature

Food

Nandini M 10MD - for her engagement and enthusiasm in Food Preparation & Nutrition.

French

Annabelle C 10 FTR - for her consistent dedication, impeccable organisation and hard work throughout the year

Geography

Mihika T 10LSB and Monisha K 10KPO - two shining stars in GCSE Geography. Your attention to detail and incredible effort pay dividends and I am so proud of both of you.

Graphics

Sara K 10ABR + Nikita P 10JAZ + Giulietta L 10JAZ - for working incredibly hard this term! Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed. Well done and keep it up!

H&S

Abdia MI 10LSB and Hana V 10MD - Well done for all you hard work this entire year and achieving very highly in HSC.

History

Evie R 10BKO - for her high levels of enthusiasm and diligence in history.

Maths

Krishna S 10BKO - Taken it in her stride when she joined the class in the middle of the year. A polite and sweet girl, great at following classroom expectations and participating in lesson. Focused and determined to do well. Keep it up Krishna!!

PE

Naomi TO 10FTR - for continuously demonstrating excellent sportsmanship in PE practical lessons.

Philosophy

Adeena A 10LSB - for trying hard in RS lessons, engaging in class discussion and asking thoughtful questions.

Physics

Rumaisa A 10BKO - For her outstanding performance in the Junior Physics Challenge.

Spanish

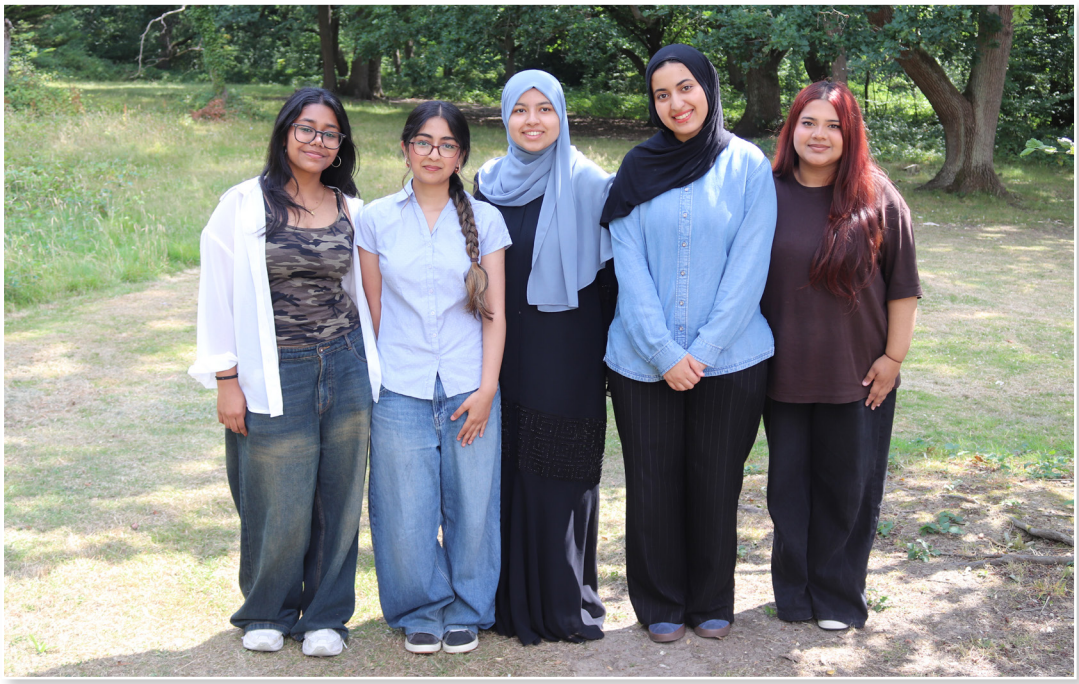
Greta C 10LSB - For not only being a positive sunshine in our Spanish lessons but working hard. Greta is always willing to step in and participate by reading aloud or answering questions. She is hardworking and dedicated to completing all tasks. Well done!

Textiles

Nishtha G 10JAZ - for her fantastic effort in Textiles.

Betool S 10GCP - for improved effort and creativity in Textiles.

A year of events and achievements in the Sixth Form 2025 - 2026



Head Students: Skandaja K and Aliya M as well as our
Deputy Head Students: Sarah B, Alyah IM Abeeha R

Head of Sixth Form reflects on the year 2025-2026

It has been another fantastic year in the Sixth Form. The brilliant, Ms Mouskis, welcomed everyone in September and stood in as Acting Head of Sixth Form, whilst I was on maternity leave. Over the year, all sixth formers have been busy with both their academic lessons and engaged with a variety of extra-curricular activities such as: Netball club, the Ethics Cup competition, the Bar Mock Trial competition, Anthropology Club, and the Medical Society to name a few.

All students took advantage of the supra-curricular activities advertised on Microsoft Teams: many students entered external essay competitions, Science Olympiads and attended lectures and open days at universities. We were delighted that three students were shortlisted for the John Locke Global Essay competition.

The Year 12s have gained a lot of guidance on what they can do beyond Bentley Wood: successful alumni visited during an assembly to speak to them about their careers, they listened to an apprenticeship talk, and many students attended the annual Collegiate Oxbridge and Medicine Information Day which is held at Bentley Wood and includes speakers from Oxford and Cambridge admissions as well as Imperial Medical School. All Year 12s gained work experience in their final week of term.

The Year 13s applied to universities and apprenticeship schemes. We were thrilled that students received offers to read Mathematics at Cambridge University, History at Oxford University, Psychology at Birmingham University and Economics at Manchester University. After receiving these offers, the Year 13s sat their A-levels in May and June; their motivation, drive and perseverance was evident. We look forward to celebrating with them on results day.

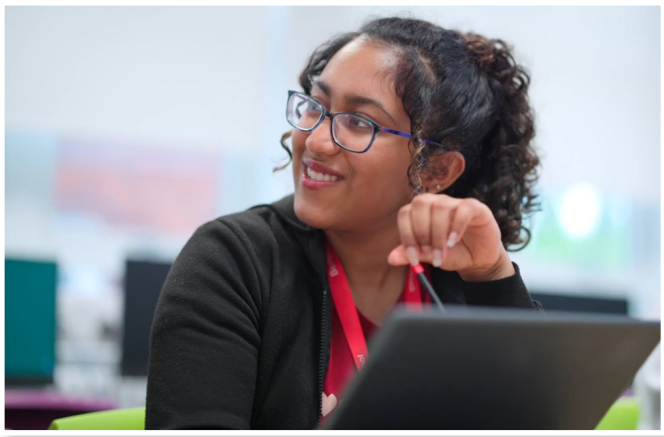
Both year groups have enjoyed fun activities that have helped them relive the stresses of academic demands: we ran our annual Thorpe Park Fright Night trip, there was a Traitors competition and a Squid Games competition.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new Head Student Team. We are proud to introduce as our Head Students: Skandaja K and Aliya M as well as our Deputy Head Students: Sarah B, Alyah IM, Abeeha R.

They have already begun their roles and are working to support the Sixth Form team with raising and maintaining the high standards of Bentley Wood Sixth Form.

In addition, we are delighted to also introduce Ms Osborne into the Sixth Form Team.

Alice Jones
Head of Sixth Form









Three Year 12 students shortlisted for prestigious John Locke Global Essay Prize

We are delighted to celebrate the outstanding achievement of three of our Year 12 students – Skandaja K, Haseena H and Kashvi K – who have been shortlisted for the 2026 John Locke Institute Global Essay Prize in the Public Policy category.

The John Locke Global Essay Prize is one of the world's most prestigious academic writing competitions for secondary school students. Organised by the John Locke Institute, the competition encourages students to engage with complex questions in subjects such as Politics, Economics, History, Law, Philosophy, Psychology and Public Policy. Essays are judged by senior academics from leading universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Princeton and Stanford.

This year's competition attracted an astonishing 100,227 entrants from 183 countries worldwide. Following a rigorous judging process, the shortlist was drawn from the top 17.5% of eligible entries, making this recognition an exceptional accomplishment.

In a message sent to the students, the John Locke Institute described being shortlisted as being "among the best of the best" and congratulated them on their remarkable achievement. The three students have now progressed to the final stage of judging, where senior faculty will determine commendations, high commendations, category winners and the overall Grand Prize winner.

As shortlisted candidates, Skandaja, Haseena and Kashvi have been invited to attend the prestigious John Locke Institute Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner at Grosvenor House Hotel in Mayfair, London, in October 2026. The event will bring together some of the most talented young thinkers and writers from around the globe to celebrate academic excellence and intellectual curiosity.

This achievement reflects not only the students' exceptional writing ability, but also their capacity for critical thinking, independent research and thoughtful engagement with important contemporary policy issues. To have three students from our school recognised on the international stage is a tremendous source of pride for our entire community.

We congratulate Skandaja, Haseena and Kashvi on this remarkable success and wish them every luck as they await the final results later this year. Their achievement serves as an inspiration to all students aspiring to challenge themselves beyond the classroom and pursue excellence in academic scholarship.

Congratulations, Skandaja, Haseena and Kashvi – we are immensely proud of you!

Ms Tweed

Sixth Form with Taster Days 2026

Year 11 students experience life in the Sixth Form with Taster Days

Bentley Wood Sixth Form welcomed Year 11 students to experience life in the Sixth Form with Taster Days on 22nd and 23rd June.

We are proud of the broad curriculum on offer as well as the wide range of enriching experiences enjoyed by students in the sixth form and this was an opportunity to showcase our many strengths to prospective students.

Students had the opportunity to sample lessons across all available A-Level subjects over a two-day programme and they were able to explore potential choices further by engaging with subject specialist staff.

Choosing A levels can be challenging, and taster days give students valuable insight to help them make informed decisions.

Many students were also able to look beyond their interests to explore subjects they originally hadn't considered. They also learned about other aspects of life in the sixth form such as EPQs. leadership opportunities, university preparation and enrichment programmes.

The taster days were attended by our Year 11s as well as external prospective students and there was positive feedback about the event from attendees. They reported feeling more empowered and better informed as they prepared for the transition to sixth form









Classics



Philosophy







Psychology



Business







Chemistry



Geography

Writing and journalism workshops

Investigative journalist inspires students to dig deeper







On Thursday 2 July, KS4 and KS5 students had the opportunity to hear from investigative journalist Barnaby Pace, who spoke about his career and the important role journalism plays in holding powerful organisations and governments to account.

Pace, who previously worked as an investigative journalist with Global Witness and now works as a researcher with the Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL), focuses on global issues including environmental scandals, corruption, and geopolitics.

During the session, students learned how he entered the profession, the research methods he uses, and how journalists evaluate sources to uncover the truth. One of the most fascinating parts of the talk was hearing about his involvement in exposing the international Malabu oil corruption scandal, a major investigation into alleged corruption surrounding a Nigerian oil deal.

Students were then challenged to think like investigative journalists themselves. Working in groups, we developed possible stories to investigate and presented our ideas to Barnaby. He even promised to carry out some initial research into the strongest ideas and continue investigating if there was a genuine story to be found.

Our group chose to explore whether the growing use of facial verification technology is completely safe, and whether governments should rely on third-party companies to store biometric and personal data. It was exciting to discuss a real-world issue and consider the questions journalists must ask when investigating complex topics.

The talk was particularly relevant for Geography, Politics and English Literature students, demonstrating how investigative journalism combines research, critical thinking and storytelling.



It was inspiring to see how a career that seems so specialised can have a significant impact on the world and help uncover issues that might otherwise remain hidden.

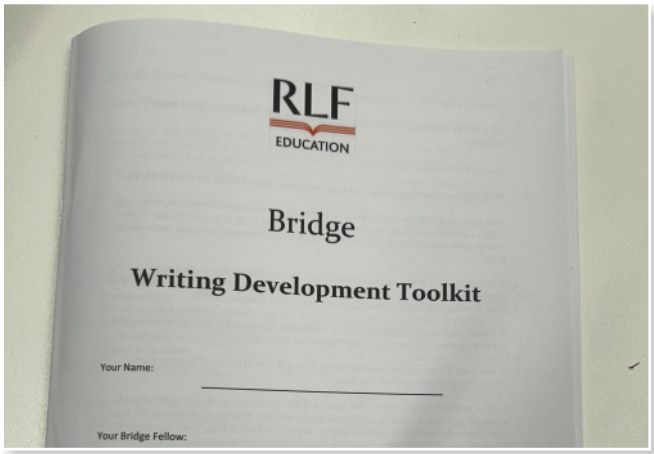
Maisie S 12JPR

www.petrochemicalsconference.com,

bsky.app









A Level Writing Workshop

Our visit to the British Library for the A Level Writing Workshop was a really valuable and engaging experience that helped us build a stronger understanding of academic writing. From the start, we were introduced to our workshop leader, the writer James Friel, who led us through a range of interesting and interactive activities designed to boost both our confidence and our skills in essay writing.

One of the most useful parts of the day was learning how to approach essay questions more effectively. We gained a clearer idea of how questions are structured and how to break them down so we can respond more accurately. This has made essay writing feel much less daunting, as we now have a better sense of what is actually being asked.

Throughout the workshop, we completed a variety of tasks that encouraged us to think more carefully about how we write. We looked at how to break down and plan paragraphs, improve sentence structure, and even experiment with punctuation to change meaning. These activities helped us become more aware of how we build arguments and express ideas in a more academic way.

We also received helpful individual feedback on our writing. Simple tips such as reading work aloud, cutting out unnecessary words, and adding precise detail, gave us practical ways to make our writing clearer and more sophisticated.

The workshop had a supportive and collaborative atmosphere, which made it easy to share ideas and learn from each other. Working in pairs and groups allowed us to discuss different perspectives and develop our own analytical skills. By the end of the day, we felt more confident in structuring arguments and expressing our ideas clearly.

As part of the visit, we were also given a short tour of the British Library, where we learned about its history and importance. This made the experience even more interesting and memorable.

Overall, the workshop was both enjoyable and extremely useful. It not only improved our academic writing skills but also gave us practical techniques that we can apply across all essay-based subjects. We would highly recommend it to any student looking to improve their writing and engage more confidently with their studies.

A Level English Literature Class

Scientific insights at Imperial









Year 12 Science students visit Imperial College London for a STEM afternoon

In May, some of our Year 12 Science students visited Imperial College London for an outreach STEM afternoon. The visit began with a presentation about academic life at Imperial and an overview of the university's admissions process, giving students a valuable insight into applying to one of the UK's leading institutions.

Students listened to a talk by Dr Mark Boyd, whose research focuses on planetary science and meteoritics. The presentation provided a fascinating insight into this exciting field of scientific research and showcased the breadth of opportunities available within the sciences.

Following the talk, students had the opportunity to take part in a Q&A session with current Imperial undergraduates, who shared their experiences of university life, studying science and the university application process, offering valuable advice and first-hand perspectives.

The day concluded with a guided tour of the campus, allowing students to experience the university environment first-hand and gain a greater appreciation of academic life at Imperial College London.

Ms Robson



An engaging talk by Dr Ravi Singh from Imperial College London

On 2nd June, Dr Ravi Singh, Senior Teaching Fellow in the Department of Chemistry at Imperial College London, delivered a series of engaging presentations to Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12 students. His talks provided valuable insight into university life, exploring what it is like to study chemistry at higher education level, and highlighted the wide range of academic and career opportunities the subject can offer.

Dr Singh also introduced students to innovative research taking place across a variety of chemistry fields, inspiring them with the exciting developments shaping the field today.

Here is an account of the experience from one of our students, Sara H:

When we were told that Dr Ravi Singh, an admissions tutor and chemistry lecturer from Imperial College London, was coming to Bentley Wood for our talk, I expected a standard lecture about university life. Instead, it turned out to be one of the most eye-opening and reassuring presentations I have ever heard.

The biggest shock for me was finding out that Dr Singh didn't actually start out wanting to be a scientist. He openly admitted that his original plan was to study Spanish at the University of Cambridge. Hearing that from someone who is now an award-winning organic chemist was a massive relief.

Right now, in Year 10, there is so much pressure on us to decide our futures. Knowing that he completely shifted from languages to chemistry made me realise that our choices right now don't rigidly lock us into one path forever.

Another thing that really interested me was how he broke down the stereotypes surrounding science careers and undergraduate life at Imperial. Before his talk, I genuinely thought a chemistry degree just meant working in a lab coat.

Dr Singh showed us how versatile the subject is, explaining that the problem-solving skills you learn are highly valued in completely unexpected fields, like high-level finance and data analysis.

Finally, getting an insider look at the UCAS process from an actual Imperial admissions tutor felt incredibly valuable. He gave us a realistic idea of what top universities look for, focusing on real curiosity and resilience. Ultimately, Dr Singh's return visit left me feeling far more motivated and a lot less stressed about the future, reminding me that the path to success isn't always a straight line

Sara H 10JAZ









Sixth Form talks, workshops and presentations

Year 12 Students Explore Science at the Royal Institution

On 30th June and 1st July, a group of Year 12 students enjoyed two exciting days at the Royal Institution's Young Scientists Centre, taking part in Chemistry and Biology workshops delivered in partnership with L'Oréal Laboratories.

The first day focused on the fascinating science of colour. Students investigated how chemistry creates colour by making both natural and synthetic dyes before using colorimetry to analyse an unknown dye sample, just like scientists working in industry. The highlight of the day was a spectacular fire demonstration, where brightly coloured flames revealed how different metal salts produce distinctive colours in flame tests.

Students also had the chance to explore the Royal Institution's museum, including Michael Faraday's original laboratory and a collection of historic scientific artefacts.

On the second day, students became forensic scientists for the day. Students used restriction enzymes to cut fragments of DNA, which were then separated by gel electrophoresis, to allow different DNA samples to be compared. The activity involved a DNA sample from a crime scene, which was compared with samples from suspects, to try and identify who was present at the scene of the crime.

The two-day visit was an inspiring experience, giving students the opportunity to work like real scientists while discovering how chemistry and biology shape industries ranging from healthcare and cosmetics to environmental science and biotechnology.









Ms Sabir

Brunel University Anthropology talk for Year 12 Sociology

Year 12 Sociology students recently enjoyed a fascinating talk from Dr James Staples from Brunel University. He spoke about anthropology, his own research and fieldwork, and what it is like to study anthropology at university.

The session helped students make links between Sociology and Anthropology, particularly around culture, identity, research methods and understanding different societies. Dr Staples also introduced students to the Anthropology Department at Brunel and explained the benefits of studying the subject beyond school. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and think about future university pathways in the social sciences. We would like to thank Dr Staples for giving his time and sharing his expertise with our students.











Sixth formers share Philosophy with the Community

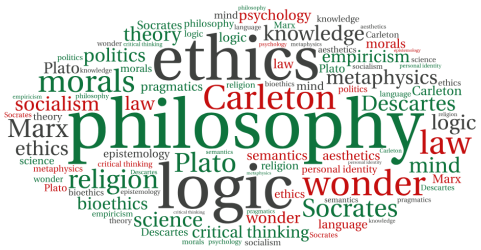
Year 12 Philosophy students recently had the exciting opportunity to present their ideas to the Pinner Philosophy Group, an independent community organisation that brings together people of all ages who are interested in exploring philosophical questions in a friendly and open environment.

Drawing on topics studied as part of their A Level course, students delivered engaging presentations on a range of thought-provoking themes, including Morality and Religion, Law and Morality, Personal Identity, The Myth of Rationality, Death, Is It Worse to Bullshit or to Lie?, and Philosophical Zombies.

The event provided students with a valuable opportunity to share their learning beyond the classroom, develop their public speaking skills, and engage in meaningful discussion with an enthusiastic audience. Members of the Pinner Philosophy Group were impressed by the depth of knowledge, confidence and critical thinking demonstrated by our students.

We are incredibly proud of everyone involved and grateful to the Pinner Philosophy Group for welcoming our students and giving them the chance to contribute to philosophical debate within the wider community. The experience was both challenging and rewarding, and a wonderful example of learning in action.

Ms Tweed and Ms Burridge



Volunteering and fun run for charity

Year 10 students support Aylward Primary School Sports Day

A group of our Year 10 students had the fantastic opportunity to support Aylward Primary School's Sports Day after being selected to represent Bentley Wood School. They earned this opportunity through the outstanding leadership, responsibility, and enthusiasm they consistently demonstrate during their PE lessons.

Throughout the day, our students took charge of a wide range of events, ensuring each activity was organised, safe, and enjoyable for the primary pupils. They confidently led and officiated events including 100m sprint races, javelin, shot put, tug of war, and archery, explaining the rules, demonstrating techniques, recording scores, and encouraging every participant to do their best.

Their ability to motivate the younger children and create a positive, inclusive atmosphere helped make the day a great success. Their maturity and professionalism were recognised by the staff at Aylward Primary, who commented on how approachable, encouraging, and responsible our students were.

To round off an enjoyable day, several of our Year 10 students also took part in a friendly 100m race against one another, much to the excitement of the primary pupils, who enthusiastically cheered them on from the sidelines.

Students involved: Anaiya S, Catherine M, Saymath U, Yazmina A, Amira H, Kania M, Jesmira M, Ariana B, Sondus A, Maryam S, Sana M, Holly H, Leeah T, Ruby C, Shiloh N, Nuha D, Hana M, Anjali R, Sapphire M, Zoya B, Sienna S

Miss Wardlaw & Miss Chandler



Year 9 form organise fun run for Young Carers charity

As a continuation of the hard work put in earlier this year during First Give, our form 9SG organised a sponsored run to raise both money and awareness for young carers, to take place after school on the 3rd of July.

We were pleasantly surprised to find out we had participants from years 8 to 10 as well as many teachers who ran in total, over 100km, and managed to raise £200+ to go towards our charity Harrow Carers, which was far beyond what we had even imagined!

It was incredibly awarding to do something for such a noble cause, and we are all incredibly proud to have been part of such an amazing experience!

We look forward to organising similar events in the future, possibly next year on Young Carers Action Day on the 11th of March 2027!

A big well done and thank you to everyone who showed up, whether it was to support or participate - your efforts are truly valued!

Mariam M 9SG













Inspirational talk by European champion gymnast

On Tuesday 9th June, we had a European gymnast Emily Burke come into our school and deliver inspirational stories to all students in Year 7-10.

Emily shared her life experiences with the students. She shared the difficulties that she has had to overcome. For example, moving back to the UK in year 11 and having to learn all the knowledge to sit her GCSE's, whilst competing at the same time and attending GB trials.

This showed the students that hardships will happen, but they need to be resilient to manage and cope with them. Emily also went on to share the failures that she experienced when studying for her master's degree and competing for GB at the same time - winning the European championships in 2026 for the first time ever.

The girls asked fantastic questions afterwards, showing how engaged they were with the talk. A small number of students were then invited to attend a practical session with Emily, which was fun and involved a range of different games.

Ms Collen





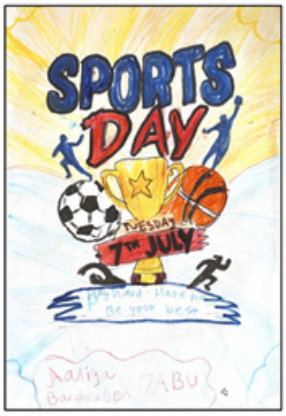
Sports Days 2026

Annual Sports Days

On Tuesday 7th July, Harrow Boys School welcomed enthusiastic Bentley Wood students to its grounds for the second time, setting the stage for our much-anticipated annual Sports Day. The event was a true celebration of school spirit, with colourful house banners waving proudly and lively cheering echoing around the field as students represented and competed for their houses.

The day's programme was packed with exciting events, including track races, discus, javelin, shot put, long jump, tug-of-war, and a range of fun novelty competitions. Each form tutor and supporting staff received a printed programme featuring the front cover of a winning entry from the 2026 Sports Day Poster Competition – won by Aaliya B 7ABU.

After a day filled with energy, determination, and teamwork, students were reminded to stay hydrated and head home safely. But, the fun didn't stop there, many students and staff kept the celebrations going featuring the unforgettable DJ Mrs Burridge who played upbeat music the whole day!



In true Bentley Wood fashion, additional CARE value points were awarded for the loudest house cheers and the tidiest team areas, reinforcing the spirit of respect, effort, and teamwork.

Final Results:

1st Place – **Fire House** with an impressive **963 points**
2nd Place – **Air House** close behind with **946 points**
3rd Place – **Earth House** with **831 points**
4th Place – **Water House** with **762 points**

Congratulations to all houses for their remarkable efforts! A special thank you to the P.E. department and additional staff helpers on the day for their outstanding organisation, energy, and commitment, which made the day a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

Ms Halai







Year 10 Sports Day at Bentley Wood











































Activity Days 2026

Activity Days provide unforgettable experiences for students

Students across Bentley Wood High School enjoyed a fantastic range of experiences during this year's Activity Days, creating lasting memories while developing new skills and friendships.

Year 7 students demonstrated excellent teamwork and problem-solving during an exciting Murder Mystery challenge before enjoying a fascinating visit to Windsor Castle, where they explored its rich history and impressive surroundings.

Year 8 students embraced discovery through an engaging STEM Day, taking part in a variety of hands-on activities, followed by an enjoyable trip to Whipsnade Zoo where they learned more about wildlife and conservation.

Year 9 students participated in a range of Duke of Edinburgh-inspired activities, building resilience, leadership and teamwork skills that will support them both in and beyond school.

Year 10 students took part in a varied Activity Carousel, giving them opportunities to try new experiences and challenge themselves in different ways.

A particular highlight was the hugely successful trip to see Hercules in London's West End, enjoyed by both Year 9 and Year 10 students. The spectacular performance captivated audiences and provided a wonderful cultural experience to round off a memorable week.

Mr Robinson











Year 8 STEM Day







Year 8 trip to Whipsnade Zoo













Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh inspired activities













Year 7 Murder Mystery Challenge







Year 10 Activity with Triniboi Joocie, Soca Artist



Student Rewards July 2026

Year 12

Biology

Iman A 12SNU - for having impressive laser focus on her studies in Biology. An excellent role model!

Liana E 12JPR - for her not giving up, she realised her passion in biology and worked so hard to improve and she did it! well done! “

Computer science

Kulsum H 12SN - for your hard work in class this past term. Well done!

English

Asiya U 12SNU - for her excellent set of mocks in English Literature, keep it up!

Geography

Sarah AW 12SNU - for consistently contributing throughout the year with such passion and enthusiasm. You have worked very hard this year and it shows!

H&S

Zainab Z 12SN, Monaza F 12PBL, Naima U 12SNU - for all your hard work this entire year in HSC and for the high grades you have achieved.

Student Rewards July 2026

Year 12

History

Suvathika T 12SNU - for going above and beyond the classroom to show her passion for history, participating in a week-long scheme with the University of Nottingham.

Philosophy

Marwa A 12JPR - for her excellent contributions to class discussions in Ethics.

Physics

Fadeela S 12SNU - For always asking excellent questions during her physics lessons.

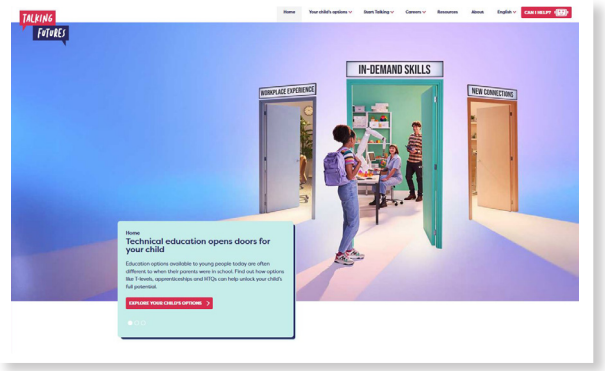
Psychology

Aneya S 12AM - For her continual engagement and effort in Psychology.

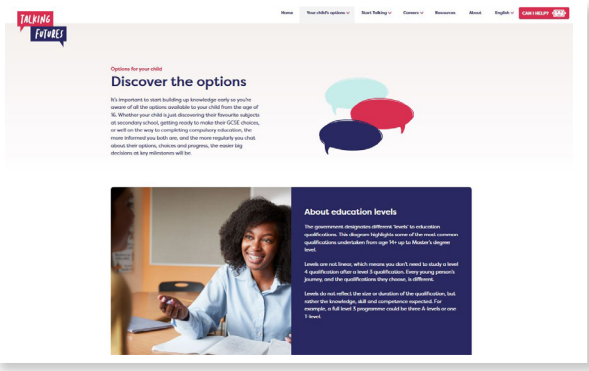
Spanish

Enoh N External - for amazing participation in Spanish. MCO

Careers information and advice for students and parents



www.talkingfutures.org.uk/



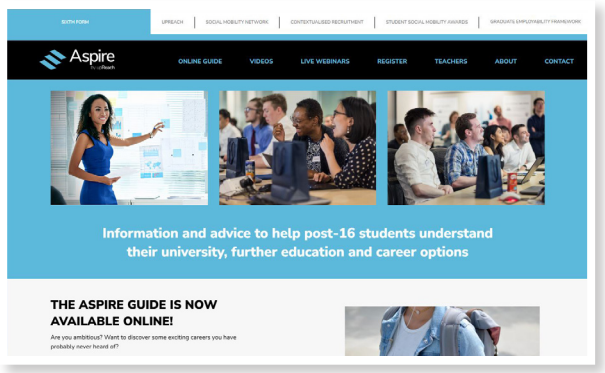
www.talkingfutures.org.uk/your-childs-options/

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.

Volunteers for Careers Events

Dear Parents/Guardians, Do you want to inspire Bentley Wood students about the industry that you work in and the job that you do?

Are you keen to open young minds and to inspire them to consider different job paths than the traditional roles? Does your employer give you time off for volunteering? Do you know any professional who would be interested in supporting the school with career events? If your answer is yes to these questions then we would like to invite you to the following events:

Careers Fair Tuesday 13th October 2026

Year 8 Careers Morning Tuesday 2nd February 2027

Year 10 Interview Day 20th April 2027

Year 12 Careers/Apprenticeships/UCAS talks w/c 12/7/2027

If you would like to participate then email the Careers Leader Mrs Ortega at **jortega@bentleywood.harrow.sch. uk** with your name, the industry or business area that you can represent. We are looking for varied and interesting occupations to open our students' minds.



Year 10 Interview day



Whole school Careers Fair

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

https://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
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 Servces 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.**



BENTLEY WOOD HIGH SCHOOL

CARE

Be kind
Be respectful
Be safe

KEEPING SAFE over the SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Stay safe. Look out for others. Ask for help.

Summer is a time to relax, have fun and make memories.
Make good choices so you can enjoy your holidays and stay safe.

PERSONAL SAFETY

- Tell a trusted adult where you're going.
- Plan how you'll get there and back.
- Stay in well-lit, busy places.
- Trust your instincts.
- If something feels wrong, leave. It's OK to say no.

ONLINE SAFETY

- Think before you post.
- Keep your accounts private.
- Don't share personal information, photos or your location.
- Block and report anything that makes you uncomfortable.
- Talk to a trusted adult if you're worried.

STAYING SAFE WITH FRIENDS

- Look out for each other.
- Agree to stay together and get home safely.
- Never leave someone behind.
- If a friend is upset or in danger, get help from an adult.

TRAVEL SAFELY

- Plan your journey.
- Be mindful on public transport.
- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Stay aware of your surroundings.
- Tell someone where you are and when you'll be home.

SUN & HEAT SAFETY

- Wear SPF 30+
- Wear a hat and sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Stay in the shade during the hottest part of the day.
- Look out for signs of heat exhaustion.

SPF 30+

WATER SAFETY

- Don't swim in rivers, lakes, canals or reservoirs.
- Swim in lifeguarded areas.
- Never jump into unknown water.
- If someone is in trouble in the water, call 999 – don't go in after them.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Healthy relationships should make you feel:

- ✓ Safe
- ✓ Respected
- ✓ Listened to
- ✓ Comfortable

- Consent means freely saying yes.
- You can change your mind at any time.
- No one has the right to pressure you.

LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING

- It's OK not to be OK.
- Keep a routine.
- Get enough sleep, eat well and stay active.
- Spend time with people who make you feel good.
- Talk to someone you trust.

ALCOHOL, VAPING & DRUGS

- You never have to do something because everyone else is.
- Alcohol and drugs affect your judgement and can put you at risk.
- Never leave drinks unattended.
- If you feel unsafe, leave and call someone you trust.

GET HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

Talk to a trusted adult:

- Parents or carers
- Family member
- Friend

There is always someone who will listen.

IF YOU NEED HELP OR ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF OR A FRIEND, CONTACT:

999
Emergency
In an emergency always call 999

101
Police (non-emergency)
To report something that isn't an emergency

111
NHS
Urgent medical help or health advice 24/7

0800 1111
Childline
Free, confidential advice and support 24/7
childline.org.uk

116 123
Samaritans
Free, confidential support 24/7
samaritans.org

Useful Apps
Childline
Hub of Hope
Calm Harm
Stay Alive

Have a safe, happy and amazing summer!

Information and advice for students and parents

Keeping safe on our school site

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

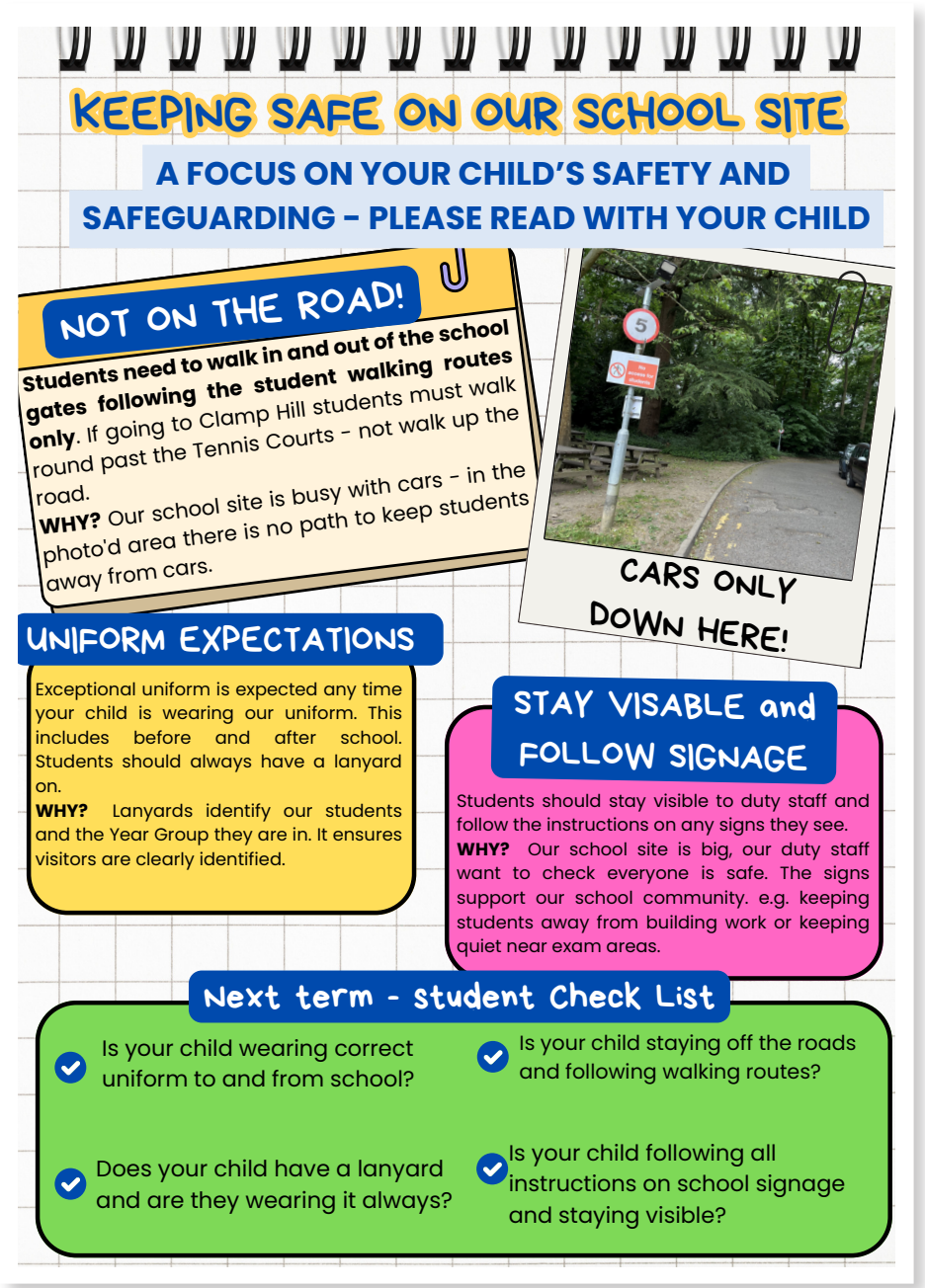
Not on the road!

Uniform expectations

Stay visable 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?



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.



Free School Meals eligibility





Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Where can I get more information?

If you need any further information, please speak to a member of school staff in the School Office or the local authority. You can also visit the free school meal website:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

To apply for Free School Meals please use the link below:

https://fsm.lgfl.net/app/school/13874

Managing your daughters' medication or health condition

In today's educational environment, ensuring that your daughters' medication or health condition is managed is extremely important.

From the moment a student is diagnosed with a medial condition that requires medication, parents should inform the school and provide the necessary medication along with any supporting documentation.

When a student's medication or condition changes, parents must notify the school promptly this will ensure that they are given the right support including any adjustments to health care plans.

The welfare team will send reminders when your daughters' medication is due to expire so there is sufficient time to replace. We must have valid medications to respond effectively in case of an emergency.

Stay at Home — 48 Hour Rule

If your child experiences vomiting or diarrhoea, **they should not return to school until at least 48 hours (two full days) after their last episode.** This helps prevent the spread of infections to other children and staff.

This "48 hour exclusion" is also in line with Public Health / school illness guidance.

Non-Prescribed Medications.

Students are not permitted to carry non-prescribed medications, such as paracetamol, ibuprofen, or over-the-counter remedies. These will be confiscated by school staff to ensure the safety and well-being of all students.

Exceptions: Asthma Inhalers and Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

Students are permitted to carry asthma inhalers and adrenaline auto-injectors (such as EpiPen, Jext) on their person. This allowance is based on the critical need for immediate access to these medications in emergencies.



Welfare Team

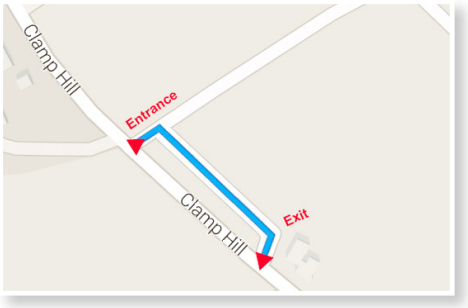
Bentley Wood High School

School News

Information and advice for parents and students

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 - 2027

2nd and 3rd September 2026	CPD – staff training. No students on-site
4th September 2026	Y7 and Y12 in school. Induction day
7th September 2026	All students in school 08:40 – 15:10
10th September 2026	Open Evening. Early finish for students at 13:25 / 13:30
11th September 2026	Late start for students 10:20am
17th September 2026	Y7 Engagement Evening 16:00 – 18:00
8th October 2026	Y11 Engagement Evening 17:30 – 20:00
29th September 2026	School Photos. Y7 and Y12 only
13th October 2026	Careers Fair
21st October 2026	Y10 Parents Evening. Early finish for students at 13:25 / 13:30
22nd October 2026	CPD - staff training. No students on-site
23rd October 2026	School closed for everyone
26th October - 30th October 2026 Half Term	
2nd November 2026	CPD - staff training. No students on-site
3rd November 2026	Start of Term. Usual registration at 08:40
12th November 2026	6th Form Open Evening. 16:00 – 18:00
2nd December 2026	Y9 Parents Evening. Early finish for students at 13:25 / 13:30
16th December 2026	Winter Concert 18:00 – 20:00
18th December 2026	End of Term. Early finish for students at 13:25 / 13:30
19th December - 3rd January 2027 Christmas Holidays	
4th January 2027	CPD – staff training. No students on-site
5th January 2027	Start of Term, Usual registration at 08:40

Don't forget to check our website for regular news updates:
www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk