

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

NEWS, HIGHLIGHTS AND UPDATES FOR PARENTS/CARERS



COMMUNITY IFTAR 2024



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2024



YEAR 7 WORLD BOOK DAY 2024



YEAR 11 BEAR GRYLLS TRIP



YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING 2024

Working in Partnership with Parents

MRS D WILDIG

Year 9 Options

On Monday 26th of February 2024, we welcomed parents and pupils into school for our Year 9 Option Evening. The evening is an exciting time in a pupil's education as it is their first real opportunity to select subjects they will study for the next two years. It also marks the start of planning for their future beyond post-16 education. The event was well attended, with parents and pupils having had the opportunity to visit subject stalls and discuss all the options on offer with teachers.

It was lovely to see so many parents, pupils and teachers engaged in meaningful and focused conversations about their academic options on offer. We were impressed with the maturity that Year 9 have shown and all pupils managed to get their option choices in by the deadline.



Message from the Headteacher

MRS S ADU

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

As we reach the Easter break, we look forward to time away from our usual routines and to spend time with our loved ones. For many in our school community, it is the month of Ramadan, a time for reflection in the lead up to Eid. Others will be celebrating the festival of Easter.

It has been a short, but very busy Spring term. As you can see in this newsletter there is much to celebrate. We are rightly proud of our achievements and this newsletter showcases some of the amazing things that are happening in our school.

There have been so many workshops, trips, activities, and new experiences for our pupils to be involved in. We have enjoyed welcoming visitors and parent/carers into school this term. Our very first Community Iftar event was a huge success, and we are thankful to everyone who supported us to make this happen. Each of our events has been well attended and we thank you for your support and kind words.

We have ended the term celebrating the many pupil achievements, with pupils in each year group being rewarded for their hard work and positive attendance. The final Easter bunny competition was a popular and fun way to end the term with pupils in all year groups eager to take part.

I want to take this opportunity to wish the whole of the Hodge Hill Girls' School community a restful and peaceful break. The summer term will commence on Monday 8th April at the usual time.

Mrs S Adu
Headteacher

Attendance and Punctuality

MISS S NAWAZ/MISS A ISHTIAQ

As the Spring term comes to an end, it's essential to reflect on the achievements and values that shape our school community. Among these, attendance and punctuality stand as pillars of success, creating a culture of commitment and responsibility for all of our pupils.

Throughout the academic year, we have embarked on several initiatives to promote attendance and recognise the dedication of our pupils. Under these initiatives, pupils who achieved 100% attendance were entered into a random draw for a chance to win a £30 Aldi voucher. In the Autumn term, we introduced the '12 Days of Christmas' initiative, encouraging pupils to attend school consistently for a period of 12 days in the run-up to the Christmas break. Similarly, during the Spring term, our 'Ramadan Rewards' initiative has sought to celebrate those who maintained regular attendance during this significant time. Winners from our 'Ramadan Rewards' are yet to be decided when pupils return from the Easter break.

We are thrilled to congratulate Form Group 7Y for their outstanding dedication to attendance, earning them the title of the form group with the highest attendance this term. Furthermore, we extend our congratulations to Year 7 for achieving the highest attendance rate among all year groups.

In addition to our internal initiatives, we are delighted to announce that our school has been honoured with a FFT National Attendance Award for 2023/2024. This prestigious accolade reflects our collective efforts in promoting a culture of attendance excellence and highlights our commitment to nurturing every pupils' potential.

We encourage parents and carers to continue supporting their children in prioritising attendance and punctuality. Your partnership is invaluable in reinforcing these essential values and ensuring the development of our pupils.



FFT National
Attendance Award
2023/24



Working in Partnership with Parents

MRS D WILDIG

Year 9 Parents Evening

Year 9 parents/carers were invited to Year 9 Parents Evening on Monday 4th March 2024. Parents Evening is an important opportunity for parents/carers to speak to teachers about their child's progress and how to best support them. As a school, we believe Parents Evenings are an important part of helping to build a positive, open and strong relationship between parents/carers and teacher.

We are very grateful as a school to have a supportive parent community.

Year 11 Mocks

The Spring term has been a busy one for Year 11 pupils who recently received their February mock examination results. Year 11 pupils should be commended for their mature attitude while conducting their mock exams. We are extremely grateful to all Year 11 parents/carers who are supporting pupils to reach their potential. The Summer term will be a crucial time for pupils who have practical exams starting in April, with the first GCSE exam beginning on Tuesday 7th May 2024. We are convinced that all the hard work and dedication of pupils, staff and parents/carers will pay off with academic success in the summer on GCSE Results Day 2024.

Learning Performance Workshops

DOCTOR N MALIK

Pupils in Years 7-10 have participated in Learning Performance workshops this term which covered a range of topics centred around organisation, revision and memory techniques, personal goal setting, self-regulation, bucket lists, and developing a growth mindset for a successful future.

Learning Performance workshops aim to empower pupils with essential skills crucial for their academic success and personal development. The workshops provide pupils with a holistic approach to learning and self-improvement.

Organisation skills are fundamental for effective studying and time management. Pupils have learnt strategies to manage their classwork, homework, deadlines and timetables. Revision and memory techniques help pupils enhance their retention and recall abilities, allowing them to better embed and apply knowledge.

Personal goal setting instils purpose and direction in pupils' academic and personal lives. By learning how to set realistic and achievable goals, pupils develop a sense of motivation and commitment to their aspirations. Self-regulation skills enable pupils to monitor and adjust their behaviours, emotions, and thoughts to achieve desired outcomes.

Bucket lists encourage pupils to dream big and set ambitious yet attainable goals for themselves. By creating a list of experiences and achievements they aspire to accomplish, pupils create fulfilment in their lives.

A growth mindset instils the belief in pupils that intelligence and abilities can be developed through dedication and effort.

Learning Performance workshops continue to provide pupils with the tools, strategies, and attitudes necessary to thrive academically and personally, preparing them for success in their future endeavours.



DLP Project

MRS D LODGE

What is DLP? A quick reminder...

Developing Local Provision (DLP) is a key part of the SEND improvement programme in Birmingham. It is a two-year project which aims to support and improve progress and outcomes for children and young people with additional needs or Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in schools across the city.

As part of the project, we are working with a number of external school support partners specialising in the following areas; increasing children's self-esteem, confidence and managing emotions, building positive behaviour and relationships, social, emotional and wellbeing strategies, how to cope with stress and anxiety and developing skills to enhance concentration to positively impact on learning and achievement.

The project has been going very well so far with pupils taking part in one-to-one sessions with COBS and TT Training Academy. It has been fantastic to see our pupils growing in confidence from the specialist guidance which supports the on-going work we do in school. After the Easter break, we will be looking to expand this provision to deliver group sessions and workshops with our external partners.

At the beginning of the academic year, pupils completed a Learning Performance survey which has given pupils an invaluable insight into how to improve their learning outcomes, motivational and resilience levels. This has enabled the school to tailor support for individual learners. Year 10 pupils have also attended workshops with Learning Performance designed to build confidence, motivation and develop revision strategies and skills to support GCSE revision and preparation.

We are looking forward to working with our DLP project partners again next term. A focus for the summer term will also be the training of 15 pupils to become an additional cohort of wellbeing ambassadors. The aim of the training is to enable pupils to support peers with confidence and resilience to impact positively on progress, attendance and punctuality. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to develop invaluable skills and experience while contributing to the positive work taking place in school.



Community Iftar 2024

MISS S NAWAZ

We are thrilled to share the resounding success of our recent Community Iftar event, held on Thursday, 14th March 2024. The evening was a beautiful celebration of unity and togetherness, showcasing the spirit of our Hodge Hill Girls' school community.

As guests arrived, they were greeted by staff, finding their seats amidst a transformed atmosphere in the school canteen. Our Chillax area, complete with Arts & Crafts and henna designs, provided a space for children to explore, unwind, and get creative.

The evening unfolded with a warm welcome to all guests from headteacher Mrs Adu, shortly followed by an Urdu translation from our Head of Languages, Mrs Malik.

The pupil segment of the event featured Quran recitations by Aizah (Y9) and Aleezah (Y9), a soulful nasheed performance by Aroosh (Y9), and poem recitations by Krystiana (Y7) and Tasnim (Y7).

Our very own Miss Ishtiaq delivered a thought-provoking speech on the significance of Ramadan and the power of community, setting the tone for a night of camaraderie and connection.

The adhan, performed by a member of our esteemed school staff, marked the call to prayer, with segregated facilities arranged to accommodate both men and women in our assembly hall.



Community Iftar 2024

MISS S NAWAZ

Following the spiritual nourishment, guests were treated to a three-course dinner menu, prepared by our generous sponsors. The feast extended to an extensive self-serve dessert table where guests indulged in sweet delights.

The highlight of the evening was our prize draw, bringing joy to Aroosh (Y9) , who won a stunning calligraphy frame donated by gift shop Amsons, and Tasnim (Y7), who received an Arabic alphabet book.

As the event drew to a close, each family was gifted a bag filled with treats as a token of our appreciation for their presence and participation.



Community Iftar 2024

MISS S NAWAZ

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our generous sponsors who made this event possible through their contributions:

Food Sponsors:

- MKB Catering
- Mr. Frost
- Jojos Pizza
- Muncheeze
- U.K. Fried Chicken

Drinks Sponsor:

- Elegance Suite
- Chai Green

Dessert Sponsors:

- Picassos
- Bakeville
- Bismillah Bakery
- Roti and Curry Junction
- Kundun
- Tandaks

Event Decor Sponsors:

- Beaufort Florist
- Card Factory

We'd also like to extend our gratitude to all members of the school community, including staff members and the Governing Body who generously donated monetary contributions, or volunteered their time towards the success of our event. The support of all involved helped create an unforgettable experience for our community, and we are immensely grateful for their kindness and generosity.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special occasion. In the spirit of unity and gratitude, we look forward to continued collaborations and cherished moments with our Hodge Hill Girls' School community.



Bear Grylls Trip

MISS S WALKER

As part of the BTEC Sport course, a group of Year 11 pupils were selected to participate in the Bear Grylls experience where they took part in a range of physical activities throughout the course of the day.

As part of the planned activities, pupils took part in an escape room to put their mental, physical and emotional skills to the test to problem solve as a team. One of our Year 11 teams completed the escape room missions in record time for the venue in 20 minutes which was an amazing achievement and a credit to their team work and communication skills.

Pupils also went head to head in some healthy competition against one another on the army assault course.

The day at Bear Grylls finished with pupils showing some finesse in learning Archery skills.

The group of pupils were a credit to Hodge Hill Girls School and all involved had the opportunity to experience something new.

This was a fantastic day out! Pupils had a chance to challenge personal limits, develop resilience and build on friendships and teamworking skills.



P.E Department

MISS S WALKER

The Biggest Ever Football Session

During the Spring Term, pupils took part in the "biggest ever football session" where many schools across the nation play football on the same day. This sport session is linked with #letgirlsplay which is a campaign promoting girls taking part in football.

We are very lucky at Hodge Hill Girls' School where our pupils can play football every lunchtime, have it as part of their PE curriculum, and have an after-school football club with opportunities to play friendly game against other schools.

Well done to all the pupils that took part!

After-school Cricket Club

The P.E department has been running the Cricket club after school hours, under the guidance of our esteemed Warwickshire cricket coach, on a weekly basis.

During these sessions, our enthusiastic pupils are not only honing their cricketing prowess but also forging new friendships and social interactions. This enriching experience is set to persist into the forthcoming summer term, alongside the introduction of rounders, football, and netball sessions.



AWA Dance Leadership Workshop

MISS S WALKER

Hodge Hill Girls' School were very lucky to win a dance workshop through Birmingham Arts School (BAS) delivered by AWA dance focusing on empowerment and leadership. The company stands for Advancing Women's Aspirations with Dance.

We selected 25 pupils across Year 7-10 had the opportunity to participate in this one off amazing event. Pupils worked with Avatâra Ayuso to look at what makes a good leader and how to empower oneself using dance movements and mindfulness.

Feedback from our pupils who attended:

Aisha - "It was fun I will maybe try meditating! I felt relaxed and energised"

Liyana - "This was very fun! thank you for this experience"

Falihah - "I absolutely loved it, the teacher was very nice and talented!"



Globe Theatre Trip

MRS J MILES

On Thursday 7th March 2024, a group of Year 10 pupils were taken on a trip to the Globe Theatre, London.

Pupils watched a production of the play 'Romeo and Juliet' to support and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of this text ready to sit their GCSE English Literature examination this summer.

The Globe is a replica of Shakespeare's original theatre and the trip offered pupils a fantastic opportunity to experience what the theatre would have been like during his lifetime. The production was modern, vibrant and relatable and pupils had the benefit of seeing the text brought to life in a fun way.

We travelled to London via coach and pupils really enjoyed seeing the various sites London had to offer on the way. The theatre sits on the banks of the River Thames, a beautiful setting, as can be seen in the photographs above.

A thoroughly fantastic day was had by all!



Science Fair

MS N EGEH

Our Science Department at Hodge Hill Girls' School recently organised a successful Science Fair, highlighting the impressive achievements of Year 7 pupils. The event, which included innovative projects and enthusiastic participation, was a testament to the pupils' dedication and creativity.

Under the guidance of Mr. Sayed, the Science Fair provided a platform for pupils to explore scientific concepts and showcase their inventive ideas. The fair featured a diverse range of projects, each demonstrating the students' curiosity and ingenuity. From captivating experiments to practical inventions, the exhibits offered a glimpse into the depth of talent within the school's science community.

As the Science Department prepares to distribute prizes, the judging panel faces the challenging task of recognising the outstanding contributions of all pupils.

Overall, the Science Fair was a success, thanks to the collective efforts of both pupils and the Science faculty.

Congratulations to all involved in making the event a memorable and inspiring experience!

World Book Day 2024

MS L KERR

World Book Day has been a great success at Hodge Hill Girls school this year. Each year we celebrate this enriching activity promoting the ideology of reading and its benefits. This year Ms Kerr arranged for a selection of Year 7 pupils to be our World Book Day ambassadors, dressing up as characters from their favourite book and carrying out a choreographed dance. Ms Kerr and Head of Year 7, Ms Aslam, dressed up too!

All Year 7 pupils were able to dress up this year. It was great to see the effort and dedication pupils gave to their part in the dressing up and taking part in assemblies through the week of World Book Day participation.

Every year group was given a chance to engage in the activities for World Book Day, from assemblies to discussing how to gain a free book with their voucher. World book day really is a time to be celebrated as reading opens doors to the imagination. Including future goals and aspirations.



Litter Heroes - Community Litter Picking

MRS N RIAZ

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 have been actively engaged in the task of cleaning up the streets of Hodge Hill. Through their dedicated efforts in litter picking, these pupils have undertaken a simple yet impactful action that resonates positively with both the environment and the community at large.

Their commitment has resulted in tangible improvements in the cleanliness of our local area, creating a sense of pride and responsibility among local residents.

Moreover, this project has provided an opportunity for pupils to build new friendships with peers, further enriching their experiences of school life.

Congratulations to all involved for their commendable contributions and the positive difference they have made.

Well done!



“Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sparks of Excitement in Science

MISS J PITT

We are thrilled to share an electrifying experience that recently took place in our Year 7 Science class! Mrs. Adu, joined Year 7 pupils for a dynamic lesson on static electricity, turning an ordinary day into an extraordinary opportunity for hands-on learning.

The classroom buzzed with excitement as the pupils delved into the fascinating world of static electricity. Year 7 pupils explored the principles of positive and negative charges, discovering the science behind every day phenomena.



What made this lesson truly memorable was the special participation of Mrs. Adu as she fearlessly stepped up to the challenge and had a go on the Van der Graff generator! The room erupted with cheers and laughter as the pupils witnessed first-hand the electrifying effects of static electricity. It was a powerful moment that showcased not only the wonders of science but also the importance of curiosity and fearlessness in learning.

By bringing excitement and fun into the classroom, we hope to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. Our goal is to empower our pupils to explore their potential and consider rewarding careers in fields that have traditionally been underrepresented by women.

We encourage parents to engage in conversations with their child about the dynamic experiences happening in our classrooms and to continue forging a love for learning outside of school. Together, we can nurture a generation of confident, curious, and capable young women ready to take on the challenges of the future.

Thank you for your ongoing support in creating an enriching and empowering educational environment at Hodge Hill Girls' School.

Children's Mental Health Week

MRS S BARRON

In February 2024, we ran a whole school initiative to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week (CMHW).

We had a range of activities taking place in school which included lunch time charity events, form time activities, and lunchtime drop-in sessions with our school counsellor.

The week was a great opportunity to highlight to pupils all the support available to them through school and outside agencies. The initiative also aimed to give pupils the opportunity to create an open dialogue around the mental health and wellbeing of young people.

Parent Coffee Morning

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we also hosted our first Parent Wellbeing Coffee Morning which was a great success. We hope it highlighted to our parent community where they can access support from the school and outside agencies.

At HHGS, we care about the mental health and wellbeing of pupils, parents, and staff. By marking awareness weeks such as CMHW as part of a whole school initiative, it gives us the opportunity to celebrate the great work already happening in school, and highlights the importance of everyone looking after their individual mental health and wellbeing.



Year 10/11 Parliament Assembly

MRS S BARRON

As an essential part of our GCSE Citizenship curriculum, we dive deep into learning all about the U.K Parliament and how it shapes our society.

As we explore this topic, we were fortunate to have a guest from Parliament visit our school. The visitor's presentation shared the reality of life in Parliament, the different roles and their functions, and how our pupils could potentially forge a future in Parliament.

Pupils gained valuable insights by hearing first-hand stories about Parliament and how the House of Commons and House of Lords operates. It was an amazing opportunity for both Year 10 and Year 11 pupils to connect what they learn in the classroom to real-life situations.

This experience broadened their understanding and helped them see how civic principles apply in the real world, making their learning more meaningful.



House Leaders/ School Council Update

MRS S BARRON

Throughout this half term, our house leaders have been given a unique opportunity to make a significant impact on the food choices available in our school canteen. Beyond just filling out a catering survey that was distributed to all pupils, leaders have actively participated in meetings with the catering team. Their goal? To offer fresh ideas and represent the voices of their peers regarding what types of food they want to see on the breaktime and lunchtime menu.

In addition to contributing ideas, leaders have taken on the role of "secret shoppers." This means that pupils have visited the canteen anonymously and provide honest and constructive feedback about their experience. By doing so, House Leaders have ensured the catering company hears directly from pupils and can use that feedback ensure that the menu offerings align with what pupils expect and enjoy.

The ultimate aim of this initiative is to empower the house leaders to serve as the bridge between the pupil body and the catering company. They are the voice of their peers, advocating for changes that will enhance the overall experience for all Hodge Hill Girls' School pupils.



EAL Spring 2024

MRS N ARSHAD

We are excited to announce that newly arrived pupils have joined our school. These pupils are actively participating in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, delivered by our dedicated teaching assistant, Miss H Mullins.

In these ESOL classes, pupils are not only learning English but also developing essential language skills that will help them thrive in their academic journey and beyond.

Additionally, our pupils have been making great strides in their language acquisition journey through the use of the Flash Academy platform. We are excited to share the latest updates on our students' language learning journey:

Our top user for the week in the Spring 2024 term is Alae (Y11), followed by Malalai (Y11) and Moyosore (Y10). In the past seven days, our pupils have completed almost 42 lessons in total. This demonstrates their eagerness to engage with the learning material and their determination to make progress.

Pupils have successfully learned up to 212 new words during the week.

We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication and look forward to seeing their continued progress in the coming weeks and months.



The Speakers Trust

MISS H MULLINS

On Monday 18th March 2024, a visitor came in to school to represent The Speakers Trust.

The aim of the visit to coach a selection of Year 10 pupils on essential skills to successfully taking part in public speaking and building confidence to talk aloud in an array of social situations.

Pupils spent the first portion of the day working collaboratively on a series of team building activities and speech building. Efforts were then rewarded in the afternoon when pupils worked towards the delivery of their own personal responses to a topic they feel strongly about.

It was fantastic to see all pupils bloom throughout the day, engaging in exciting activities and building new working relationships with peers.

Haani - "This session was very interactive and as a result I now know how to engage with an audience."

Zenab - "Speaking is one topic I am not confident with however this session has opened me up to see how I can improve my own speaking."



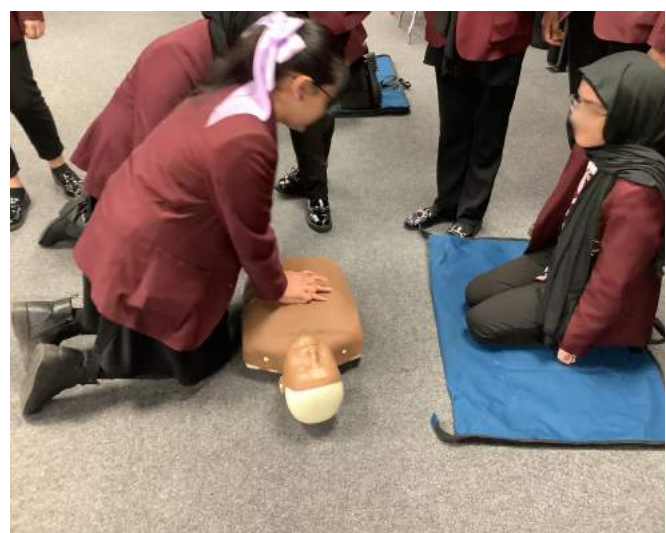
First Aid Training

MRS S BARRON

During this term, KS3 pupils had the exciting opportunity to learn the crucial significance of fundamental first aid skills. By utilising specialised modules provided by the St. John Ambulance service, we aim to equip our pupils with a foundational comprehension of how to respond in emergency first-aid situations.

Pupils were given hands-on experience in assuming the recovery position and performing CPR techniques using one of our simulation dummies referred to as "Annie."

This experience served as an invaluable opportunity for pupils to hone their skills, preparing them for unforeseen emergencies. The enthusiasm displayed by pupils towards acquiring new knowledge and building confidence in handling such scenarios was remarkable. Additionally, the St. John Ambulance website serves as an excellent platform for parents, caregivers, and pupils alike to delve deeper into first aid education and resources.



Pioneer Leadership Group

MRS S BARRON

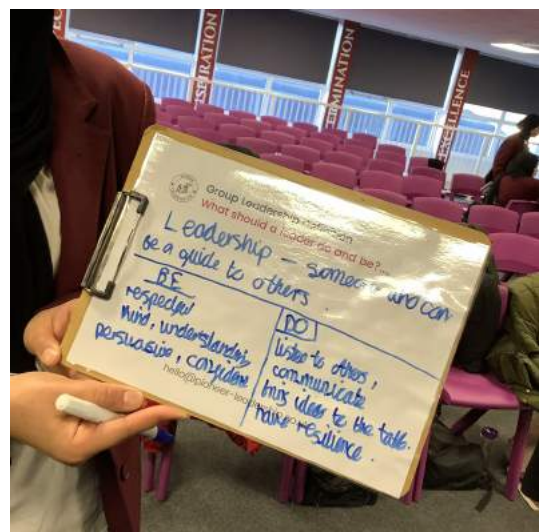
During this term, we had the privilege of welcoming the Pioneer Leadership Group to conduct a leadership workshop tailored specifically for our House Leaders.

The Pioneer group guided our House Leaders through the intricacies of effective leadership, imparting invaluable insights and strategies to cultivate their leadership prowess. Through a series of engaging team-building exercises created by the Pioneer team, our pupils were given the opportunity to apply their newfound knowledge in a practical setting.

It was inspiring to witness the House Leaders embrace the teachings of the workshop, demonstrating a keen attentiveness and a genuine eagerness to learn.

The workshop served as a pivotal moment for our pupils, providing them with a platform to not only expand their understanding of leadership principles but also to showcase their existing talents and capabilities.

Encouraged to reflect on their individual strengths and areas for growth, the pupils emerged from the workshop with a renewed sense of purpose and determination to become exemplary leaders of tomorrow.



Careers and Work Related Learning

MS N NAZISH

This half term has been a busy for careers and work-related learning.

National Apprenticeship Week 2024

It was also National Apprenticeship week this term. There were a number of virtual workshops which pupils had the option to take part in. They had opportunities to listen to different employers and apprentices. Pupils were sent regular emails for opportunities for them to take part and be involved, outside of school hours.

National Careers Week 2024

We have also had National Careers week this term, during the week pupils took part in a range of activities. During form time, pupils had the option to visit virtual workplace environments to get a better understanding of what to expect from the workplace. They also looked at jobs of the future/green jobs and learnt the importance of these jobs. There were many virtual sessions during the week including, women in sport, NHS insight day, exploring apprenticeships, STEM careers, and behind the scenes in TV and film. Some pupils also had the opportunity to meet employers such as an Architect and workers from Lendlease. They listened to an inspiring talk and we had many questions for the employers after the session.

Learn to Work

Learn to Work have been in to do an assembly to encourage pupils and give them advice on how to find placements.



Careers and Work Related Learning

MS N NAZISH

Year 11 Interviews

Year 11 pupils have been having one to one interviews with our careers adviser, pupils have reported positive feedback from the interviews, stating they have a better understanding of the options available to them post 16.

JC and Park Hall Sixth form have both been into school to conduct one to one interviews with our year 11 pupils. Allowing pupils to stay in school and not miss time off school to leave and go for post 16 interviews. Feedback from the providers has been very good, praising our pupils interview techniques and manner.

Some pupils have taken part in virtual work experience placements and received certificates as part of these placements, giving them valuable insight into medical careers.





The Big Legal Lesson

MRS S BARRON

The Big Legal Lesson is a project set up from Young Citizens charity. Young Citizens believe that every young person should have the opportunity to learn about the legal justice system and how it affects their lives whilst at school.

Form tutors worked through a range of activities over the week to help pupils explore these ideas.

Pupils had the opportunity to look at scenarios based around other young people their age and discuss how the law can impact their them moving forward and in the future.

It was a great opportunity for pupils to get involved and discuss how the law can impact our day to day lives!



National Citizen Service - Year 11 Assembly

MRS S BARRON

On Wednesday 13th March 2024 we had National Citizen Service (NCS) come into school to speak to our Year 11 students about the amazing summer opportunities that they can provide.

NCS is a government-backed programme, for all teens aged 15-17, typically running in the school holidays. Managed and supported by NCS Trust and delivered by more than 100 local businesses, youth centres, sports clubs and grassroots initiatives, the programme exists to:

- engage, unite and empower young people
- cultivate stronger, more integrated communities
- build essential skills for work and life
- engage young people in their communities; and
- create more understanding about their responsibilities as a citizen

Pupils had the opportunity to talk to NCS visitors during break time where they had a pop up stand to provide all interested pupils with more detailed information. NCS is an amazing opportunity for pupils to try something new and be involved in an active citizen group.

We hope some of our Year 11 pupils take up the valuable opportunity this summer.





**Vision for Volunteering
Champions**



**Vision for Volunteering
Champions**



**Vision for Volunteering
Champions**

Volunteer Champion Talk

MRS S BARRON

As part of National Careers Week 2024, we had the opportunity to be involved in an exciting project with Volunteer Champion.

Volunteer Champion visited the school to speak to our Year 9 pupils all about the importance of volunteering and how it can benefit them in the future.

The Volunteer Champion discussed the skills and qualities you can learn from becoming a volunteer and how it can make you stand out for future job opportunities. It was a great opportunity for pupils to learn something new, and to think about how they can use the information moving forward.

We are hoping to have more Volunteer Champions visit the school soon to talk to other year groups!



Onatti - French Play

MISS L BALLARD

In January 2024 we were very fortunate to have the theatre group Onatti return to our school to perform their French play, 'Le Cours d'Art' for our Year 8, 9 and 10 pupils who study French.

The play was a comedy about a group of students who end up locked in an art classroom on the fourth floor. It was a good opportunity for our learners of French to hear the language being used in context, with actors speaking slowly and clearly, and utilising props and gestures to help them understand.

Feedback from pupils:

Sawera - "It was a really fun experience, definitely a funny one and hope there's one next year."

Halimah - "My experience of the play was excellent. It was very fun to watch and I enjoyed how the characters asked questions to their audience."

Anaya - "Amazing play, even though I'm in year 8 and haven't learnt that much I could still tell what was going on. It was on for a good amount of time and was enjoyable!"