



Bentley Wood High School

Newsletter July 2024



Achievement celebrated at Awards Evening 2024

The Awards Evening is a very special event at Bentley Wood, held annually to celebrate the achievements and successes of the academic year. This year's ceremony took place on Monday, the 1st of July, and recognised the outstanding efforts of both students and staff. Awards were presented by Headteacher Ms Akbar, along with the Heads of Year: Mrs Manzi for KS3, Mrs Burrige for KS4, and Mrs Jones for KS5/Sixth Form.

As Head Girl I had the honour of being on stage with two other members of our Head Student team to interview our guest speaker, Priyan Shah, about his work and life experiences. Mr Shah is the principal of DVS Foundation, a charitable organisation that funds many programmes designed to help students in and around the borough of Harrow. His speech was inspiring as he shared valuable lessons learned, challenges overcome, and offered precious advice for young people.

The evening also featured fun and light-hearted commentary by presenters Sara A and Nia A, adding to the joyful atmosphere. Additionally, there were talented musical performances by Lena S, Arthika P, and Sayuri S.

Congratulations to everyone who won an award this evening!

Neha P 13JT



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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Bentley Wood Community,

As we come to the end of another school year, it is my pleasure to send you the school newsletter. It is a celebration of this half term and a few reminders of some events over the past school year. Whilst reading this, we can take a moment to acknowledge the hard work and dedication our students and staff have shown throughout the year.

I hope our students will reflect on this school year as being full of engaging lessons, inspiring achievements and memorable moments. I enjoyed meeting a wonderful group of Year 7, 8, 9 and 12 students for an afternoon tea to celebrate just this. I hope to catch up with some equally worthy Year 10 students as they start Year 11 next half-term.

Election fever got us talking and thinking in early July as our Year 12 Politics students were invited to a political hustling at The North London Collegiate School and then conducted their own election in school. Each Year 10 tutor group presented their own BWHS manifesto and voted for their Year Group Prime Minister. This was so impressive; their manifestos aligned so well with the school's CARE values and illustrated very well what wonderful young people they have grown into.

Year 10 and Year 12 have completed a variety of work experience placements, gaining valuable insights into various careers. I am sure they appreciate the wonderful experiences these are for them, taking them right out of their comfort zones of school and home and plunging them into the unknown.

Ending the year with Sports Day and activity day trips to Windsor, Central London and West Wittering reminds us how close a community we are, embracing old and new experiences together.

I hope our Year 11, 12 and 13 students are enjoying a restful break and will be ready for results days on the 15th and 22nd of August. A final reminder that school starts for staff on 2nd September, for Year 7 and 12 on 4th September and the remaining year groups on 5th September.

As we all transition into a very well-deserved summer holiday, I encourage you to take an opportunity to unwind, reflect, and enjoy quality time together, whether that means embarking on family adventures, pursuing new hobbies or simply relaxing at home.

We look forward to seeing you next term, ready to start new journeys and challenges. Until then, I wish you all a restful summer holiday break.

Best wishes and the very kindest regards,

Naseema Akbar
Headteacher





Teddy Bear's Picnic: Year 1 students from Aylward Primary School visit Bentley Wood

Year 12 Health and Social Care students hosted 90 Year 1 students from Aylward Primary School for a Teddy Bear's picnic on Thursday, 11th 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 relay racing, Just Dance, making a bear, bear hunt and reading 'We are going on Bear Hunt' by Micheal Rosen and Helen Oxenbury. The day was a huge success with Year 1 engaging in stimulating activities with their peers. Certificates, trophies and other prizes were won throughout the day. The 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. Thank you to Miss Al-Sadiq and Miss Yusuf for their help on the day too.

I was in charge of reading the book and leading my group. Throughout the planning and execution of the activities I developed my leadership, understanding and teamwork skills. I also learnt to adapt my language so the Year 1's could understand me. This day was a great opportunity for me to develop transferrable skills which I will be able to use in my higher education and career. I really enjoyed the day!

Sama 12NS

Our group prepared multiple activities: the first was a bear hunt, where the year 1 students had to find the hidden bears. Another activity was the traffic lights, where we used the traffic lights to give different instructions to the students to act out. During the planning process I developed my confidence to share my ideas with the group and work as a team. I demonstrated patience during the activities and adapted my language so the Year 1's could understand the instructions.

Israa 12SNU

This day was an excellent opportunity for me as it provided experience working with an age group I want to work with in the future. I was in charge of the physical activities; Duck Duck Goose, nursery rhymes and Just Dance. For the mental activity I led on making a bear crown and colouring. We awarded certificates, trophies and medals for participation. I developed the skills of patience, communication, time management and adapting activities. It was a fun day and I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the year 1's.

Ilakshiya 12PBL

Students get involved with reading events and literary competitions



Carnegie Awards Shadowing Scheme

This term, eight selected students representing each form group from Year 7 have been participating in the Yoto Carnegie Awards Shadowing Scheme. This tracks the process of the judging panel for the prestigious award for the best piece of writing for children of the year.

While the real-life expert judges are considering their verdict, the students rotate copies of the eight shortlisted books, review and rank them, and complete additional creative challenges set by the authors.

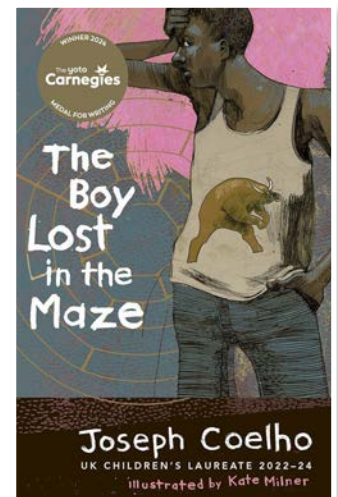
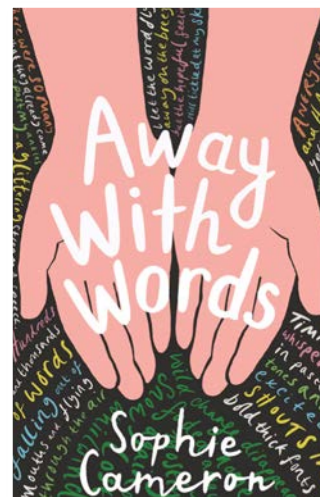
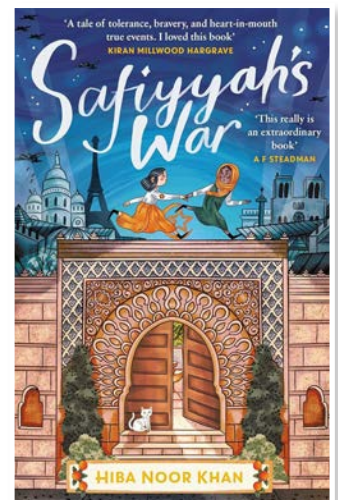
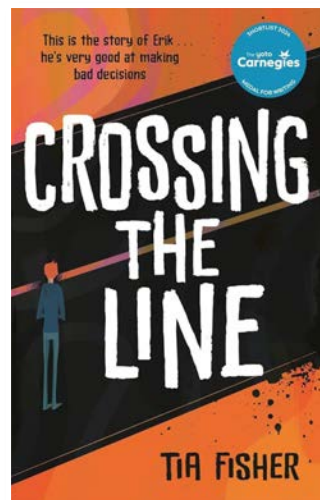
Zofia in 7MCO, Sara S in 7SZ, Mia V in 7NME, Marwa F in 7SCH, Aliyah S in 7MEM, Amber M in 7LJO, Isobel E in 7NMO, and Emaan S in 7EBD considered their verdict and in the end opted for **Safiyyah's War** by Hiba Noor Khan as their winner, with **Crossing the Line** by Tia Fisher as runner-up and **Away With Words** by Sophie Cameron in third place.

Across the country, similar groups were participating from schools, reading clubs and other organisations.

Overall, they awarded **Crossing the Line** (our runner-up) the award, while the official Carnegie Medal from the judges was awarded to **The Boy Lost in the Maze** by Joseph Coelho.

Thanks to all the students who participated, and I hope this has given a flavour of all the excellent new writing for young people that is out there!

Mr Nussbaum, English



Scholastic Book Fair: Students enjoy browsing new books

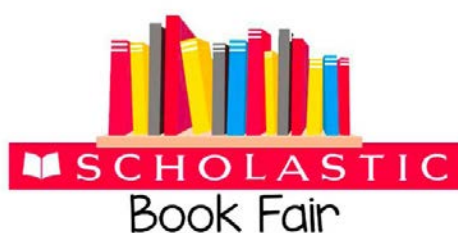
Bentley Wood proudly hosts two Scholastic book fairs every year as part of its drive to foster a love of reading and to bring the whole school community together in a celebration of books. The Scholastic Book Fair first visited Bentley Wood in November with a fantastic selection of books and stationery for sale. For a whole week the library was a hub of anticipation and excitement, with long queues of students eagerly awaiting their turn to browse and to buy the books on offer.

As usual, there were some exciting new titles as well as current favourites from authors such as Karen M. McManus, Jennifer Lynn Barnes, David Walliams and Adam Silvera. It was lovely to see the girls browse through the selection with their friends whilst having animated conversations about their favourite authors and books.

Scholastic returned to Bentley Wood in May with a half price book fair. The library hosted the fair during lunchtime from Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd of May. Once again there was a great deal of excitement as students gathered in the library for their chance to browse the selection of half price books on offer. Featured authors included Alice Oseman, Jennifer Lynn Barnes, Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé, Laura Wood and Kathryn Foxfield to name just a few.

Book fairs are not only a great way to promote an interest in reading they also allow students to keep up-to-date with the latest trends in fiction for teens and young adults. The advent of social media has revolutionised most aspects of human life and books are no exception. The world of publishing, particularly the teenage and YA market, has seen a surge in the popularity of fantasy, romance and crime books made famous by TikTok. Scholastic offer the very best of these trending titles in combination with literary classics and non-fiction books.

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



Blind Date with a Book and reading to raise money for charity



Blind Date with a Book

Blind Date with a Book has become a natural part of reading culture at Bentley Wood. Ask any reading worm and they will tell you where and when to queue in order to secure some new reading materials. What seems to drive the youth to reading more is the wrapping paper obscuring the covers of novels, poetry collections and non-fiction offers carefully curated each week for relevant key stages. A lot of thought and work goes into each week's packing ordeal. It is, however, greatly appreciated as the books fly off the shelves faster than students leaving school for the weekend.

The initiative was launched on 17 November 2023 by the Erasmus+ School Improvement Group and so far, it's been a very pleasant way to finish off the week. This academic year, we have given away 493 books for both students and staff. Impressive, isn't it? Reading should be everyone's cup of tea. If you don't like reading, you haven't come across the right book yet. That is the core belief of *Blind Date with a Book*. We are also convinced curiosity helps with generating interest, joy, even passion for reading. Therefore, the initiative should continue next year. But... will it?

If you would like to become a part of our whole school initiative, go through your bookshelves and see if there is anything that you loved and would like to pass on to others. It helps when the donated books look the part, too. If you are a student and would like to get involved, come to V2 every Thursday after school. Many things need to happen before all the donations are attractive enough to be displayed on the shelf. If you are a teacher and would like to learn more about the art of wrapping, join us, too. There is plenty to manage whilst making sure the books are ready for display each Friday.

A big thank you to our fantastic sixth form students - Abigail, Zara, Hafsa - and to Mya in Year 10 for enduring

the challenging, practical tasks linked to presentation of the books. Another big thank you to the students from 7SZ - Sade, Kavini and Sara in particular, for helping with the last tweaks before the books are due. And finally, a massive thank you to all who donated and keep on donating the books. Without them, let's just face it, Fridays would be deprived of the magic of finding that perfect match.

Summer seems like a perfect time to get things in order. If you are going to find some books that you loved and would like to pass on, please bring them to V2 at the beginning of September. We will make sure they bring happiness to our voracious readers!

Mr Zabielski





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

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

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

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

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

Key Stage 3

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

Key Stage 4

Leila B 9LBM read 16 books and raised £40.52

Sixth Form

Maryam A 13JG read 3 books and raised £70.00

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

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

Sam Taylor's message underscores the importance of community support and the tangible difference it makes in the lives of those in need. We are immensely proud of our students' engagement and enthusiasm for this cause. This initiative was led by Mr Naseebullah Khan, Associate Assistant Headteacher, and Maryam A, the Head Student, who conceived the idea as a creative way to engage students in supporting a worthy cause.



I hereby certify that

Bentley Wood High School
has raised a total of

£1406.60

This will be spent providing
emergency medical aid to vulnerable
people around the world.

With grateful thanks,

Natalie Roberts

Natalie Roberts
Executive Director, MSF UK

Médecins Sans Frontières is a registered charity: 1026588
www.msf.org.uk

Well known author visits and classic play productions

Helen Dennis: thriller and mystery writer visits Bentley Wood

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

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

Author visits are an amazing opportunity for our students to gain insight into the life of authors and to appreciate the inspiration and hard work that shapes a career in writing fiction.

They were genuinely interested in Helen Dennis' personal story as much as the subject of the presentation, which was evident from their questions about her childhood and wider experiences. The visit was a huge success and we look forward to welcoming Helen back to Bentley Wood in the not too distant future.

Ms Khan, Librarian



Sixth Form Mini Saga Competition

This term year 12 students were tasked with the challenge to write and perform a thrilling script in just 50-100 words; they could pick any genre. Well done to all who participated but there can only be one winner!

Ms Azad



The winning entry is from 12RGR

On the grounds of Bentley Wood, the annual pie contest took a sinister turn. Marwa, known for her snarky pranks, spiked her entry with ghost pepper. Little did she know it summoned a ghost!

"Who or WHAT are you?" She cried frantically.

"No questions, fool. For I have come here for your ingredients." The ghost replied.

As the ghost of Hafsa Rehman haunted the kitchen, demanding baking supplies, students scrambled. Marwa, desperate to appease, accidentally trapped the ghost in a giant meringue. Bentley Wood celebrated their first haunted dessert and Hafsa became a local legend, anticipating a future return...

Runners up 12PBL

In the stillness of midnight, a single gunshot pierced the air of Baker Street. Detective Smith arrived to find a man slumped over his desk, blood pooling beneath.

A handwritten note lay nearby: "Secrets must remain buried." The only witness, a trembling cat, stared wide-eyed from a corner.

Smith glanced at the victim's computer, its screen showing a draft document entitled "Confession." As the silence grew heavier, Smith knew this wasn't just a murder - it was a cover-up for something far more sinister.



The Globe Players

The Globe Players returned to Bentley Wood on 9th July. The company, with its four actors and actresses, performed the two core GCSE English Literature drama texts, Macbeth by William Shakespeare and An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley, to Year 10 to support them in their preparation for the upcoming exams.

As usual, the company lived up to its reputation of fostering love and enthusiasm for the texts through a variety of interactive performances accompanied with insightful commentary. The students were enthralled throughout the performance and the performances were very well-received.

The Macbeth production examined major themes of Shakespeare's darkest play through the enactment of key scenes and followed Macbeth's tragic journey from a war hero to a tyrant. In An Inspector Calls there was particular appreciation for the lead actor who played all 3 male roles within the Birling family simultaneously!



An Inspector Calls



Macbeth

Summer reads

Olivetti by Allie Millington

Olivetti the typewriter has been with the Brindle family for many years and lately he feels ignored and forgotten by them as they all lead such busy lives. When Olivetti learns Mum has mysteriously gone missing, he believes he can help find her. He breaks the only rule of his 'kind' and types back to 12-year-old Ernest, who must face what he and his family have been running from.

The Queen's Rising by Rebecca Ross

Brienna is an arden, a student of the five passions – art, music, wit, dramatics and knowledge. She hopes to become mistress of the passion – one who has mastered her area of study. But her ambitions are thwarted and she is forced to accept the patronage of a disgraced lord whose intentions are not clear. With a coup afoot in the rival kingdom of Maevana, Brienna finds herself caught up in a treacherous world of revenge, loyalty, and, ultimately, self-discovery.

The Secret Language of Birds by Lynne Kelly

Nina is used to feeling like an outsider, both at school and in her large family. While at summer camp, she discovers two majestic birds have built a nest in the marsh behind an abandoned infirmary. With the help of some fellow campers, Nina sets out to discover the truth about the birds and to possibly find a flock of her own.

Every Exquisite Thing by Laura Steven

Penny Paxton is ready to join the elite Dorian Drama School and follow in the footsteps of her celebrity icon mother.

Penny's new mentor offers her the very special opportunity to have her portrait painted by a mysterious artist who can grant immortal beauty to all his subjects. But when her trusted mentor is found murdered, Penny realises she's in grave danger – a sinister someone is using the uncanny portraits to kill off the subjects one by one and she might be next.

Iris Green, Unseen by Louise Finch

When Iris Green discovers that her boyfriend is cheating on her with one of her best friends, she doesn't just feel invisible – she actually becomes invisible. And the less she can be seen herself, the more she sees about the people around her, discovering uncomfortable truths about them ... and herself.

Can she find her way back to being fully present in her own life, before it's too late and she disappears altogether?

Lies We Sing to the Sea by Sarah Underwood

In the cursed kingdom of Ithaca, each spring brings the hanging of twelve maidens, a gift to the vengeful Poseidon. But when Leto awakens from her death on the shore of a long-forgotten island, its enigmatic keeper Melantho tells her that there's only one way the curse can be broken. Leto must kill the last prince of Ithaca . . .



Olivetti by
Allie Millington



The Queen's Rising
by Rebecca Ross



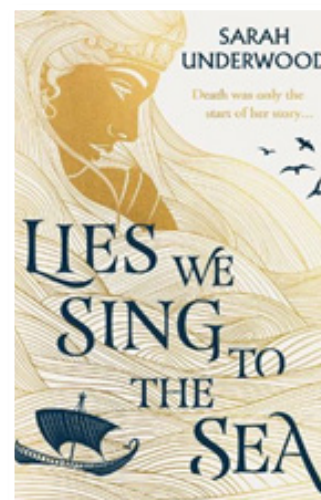
The Secret
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The Isles of the Gods by Amie Kaufman

Seafaring is in Selly's veins and she sets off on an adventure against her father's wishes. Things don't quite go according to plans when her ship is commandeered by the handsome and rather spoilt Prince Leander of Alinor who needs to cross the Crescent Sea without detection so he can complete a ritual on the sacred Isles of the Gods.

The Night War by Kimberley Brubaker Bradley

In 1942, much of France is occupied by the Nazis. Twelve-year-old Miri is Jewish, so she is not safe. Separated from her parents, she rescues her neighbours' two-year-old daughter Nora and escapes to a village, where she is given a new name and pretends to be Catholic to escape Nazi capture.

One night she is asked to undertake a terrifying task that could allow her to escape. Some of the risks she must take could help save the lives of many more.

Ferris by Kate DiCamillo

Ferris Wilkey is having a summer of sheer pandemonium with most of her relatives suddenly doing whimsical and chaotic things. To top it all, Ferris's grandmother Charisse, who is unwell, has started seeing a ghost in the doorway to her room. But the ghost is not there to usher Charisse to the Great Beyond. Rather, she has other plans - wild, impractical, illuminating plans...

How to Die Famous by Benjamin Dean

Abel is an undercover journalist posing as a teen actor in Hollywood. His mission is to uncover the role of the entertainment industry in the death of his older brother.

As Abel steps into the spotlight he discovers the dark underbelly of a world of secrecy, scandal and murder. Nobody is who they seem when the cameras are off, and everybody has something to hide. But who's next in line to die famous?

Crane Among Wolves by June Hur

King Yeonsan reigns mercilessly over a kingdom where books are burned, land is stolen and the abuse of women and girls is a rampant crime.

When seventeen-year-old Iseul's older sister falls prey to the king she reluctantly joins forces with his half-brother Daehyun in a dangerous bid to overthrow the cruel ruler and to rescue her sister.

Powerful by Lauren Roberts

Adena and Paedyn have always been inseparable and when Paedyn - an Ordinary - is selected for The Purging Trials, it spells almost certain death for him.

Alone and having to fend for herself, Adena teams up with the mysterious Mak on a quest that tests their loyalty, their love and their lives...



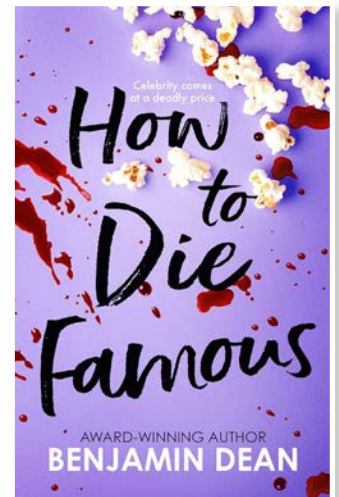
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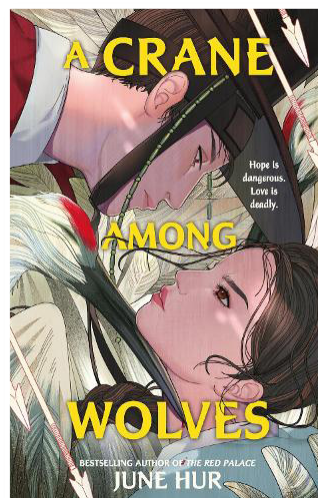
The Night War
by Kimberley Brubaker
Bradley



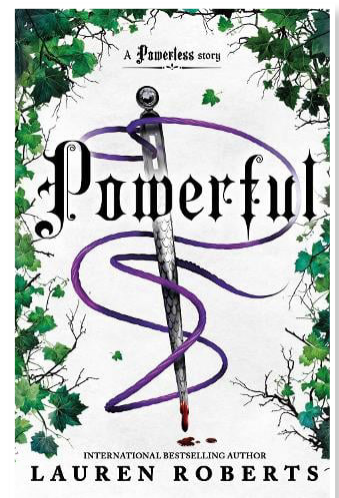
Ferris
by Kate DiCamillo



How to Die Famous
by Benjamin Dean



Crane Among Wolves
by June Hur



Powerful
by Lauren Roberts

Student Rewards July 2024

Year 7

Students work really hard at Bentley Wood - we are really delighted at how well our students have achieved this half term and we want to celebrate some of their successes.



Art

Zofia O 7MCO - attends both KS3 and KS4 ART Clubs.
Minahil F 7SCH - for planning and delivering her own lesson on Carnival based costume designs, which focused on inclusive body types.

Computer science

Isobel E 7LNO, Tianna-Mae W 7EBD, Sana S 7SCH, Sara S 7SZ - for your excellent progress and enthusiasm in lessons.

Drama

Victoria G 7SCH - for fantastic performances all year and consistent effort and teamwork.

English

Jasmin K 7MEM - consistently producing excellent work

French

Isobel E 7LNO - for your excellent progress and enthusiasm in lessons

Geography

Yasmin Z 7MEM - for her consistent positivity and passions around all geographical topics. She also displays great confidence and continually contributes in class discussions.

History

Sara S 7SZ - For one of the best Year 7 end of year exams ever seen in the History department. A stunning effort and incredible achievement.

Maths

Bella P 7MEM - for outstanding achievement in Year 7 Maths, her dedication, hard work, and exceptional performance have led her to achieve the highest marks in Year 7 Maths. Her commitment to excellence and her passion for learning are truly commendable. She also demonstrates an outstanding behaviour for learning every day.

Music

Sohini M 7LJO, Shanaia C 7MEM, Isabelle C 7MEM, Isabel M 7MCO Jayni H 7EBD, Anna W 7MCO Victoria G 7SCH - for their commitment to Glee

PE

Hiba M 7MEM - for being outstanding in all PE lessons this year. She has developed her practical skills in a range of different sports and is not afraid to answer lots of questions.

Philosophy

Imaan M7LNO - tries hard, engages in the lesson and lovely student!

Science

Fatima B 7MCO - For her consistent hard work and perseverance throughout this entire academic year

Faryal O & Sara S 7SZ - for incredible enthusiasm in every science lesson

Jasmin K 7MEM - for excelling in every aspect of science. Her reading beyond the curriculum is phenomenal and her ability to apply these concepts to everyday settings is amazing. Her home works are exceptional.

Spanish

Faryal O and Sara S 7SZ - For their excellent effort in every Spanish lesson during the year. Always going above and beyond!



Student Rewards July 2024

Year 8



Art

Asal H 8KPO - Showing great enthusiasm in class.

Computer science

Barbora F 8GHO - is a hardworking student who always goes above and beyond to help other students in the class. **Annabelle C 8ROR, Zara A 8ABR, Abigail C 8AHU, and Evie R 8AHU** - demonstrate excellent organisational skills and a strong work ethic, consistently achieving excellent grades in their tests.

Drama

Yashvi P 8ROR - for producing brilliant work during the year and always working hard in preparation and during rehearsals.

English

Sarah A 8LCU - for her excellent achievement and progress in English.

French

Saanvii B 8LSB - for your excellent progress this year in French and your active participation

Geography

Mihika T 8LSB - for always striving for excellence in geography, with superb grades and amazing class contributions throughout the year.

Graphics

Sondus A 8AHU - enthusiastic in STEAM lessons and helping others. **Avneet 8ROR** - enthusiastic in STEAM lessons and helping others.

History

Alexa K 8LCU - for incredible effort, resilience and achievement in History this year. Your curiosity is unmatched.

Maths

Sara K 8ABR - For improved concentration and effort shown in class. You have improved drastically from the start of the year and your results are evidence of your hard work! Keep this up!

Zara A 8ABR - Such a superstar in Maths! She is always super enthusiastic about every topic and every activity, takes a proactive role in the lesson by contributing lots and always asks for extension work without being prompted!

Music

Connie P 8ABR - for all her help in the concerts this year

PE

Evie R 8AHU - brilliant commitment and attitude towards all of her PE lessons as well as being selected for a number of school teams. Keep it up!

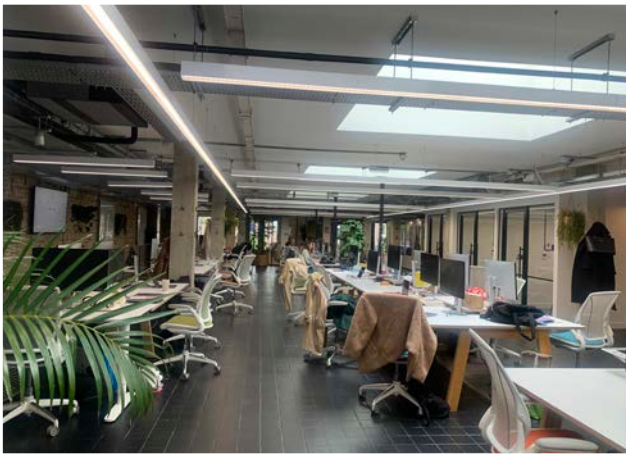
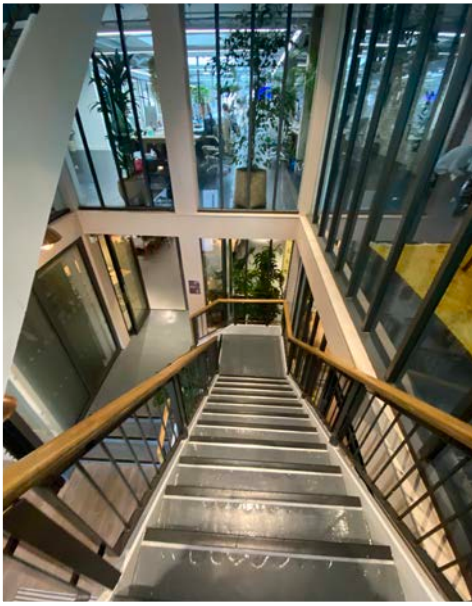
Philosophy

Juhi S 8ABR - a wonderful student full of enthusiasm.

Spanish

Hana M 8KPO - For her outstanding effort and commitment to Spanish throughout the whole year.

Creativity and artistic talent



Canva: An insight into the creative industry

My fellow students and I recently had the opportunity to attend Canva's first Career Sparks Day in Hoxton. Canva is a graphic design company so the event was aimed at students interested in pursuing design related careers.

It was a full day event which kickstarted with a tour of the office space, followed by a career panel where we met the "Canvanauts" for a Q&A session before receiving a tutorial on how to use the AI settings on Canva Magic to create and refine our own cover letters! I was initially dubious to find there was a lot of time delegated for the office tour though this became one of my biggest takeaways from the event as it helped shatter my previous black and white perception of what office spaces were like. Prior to this day, I was under the assumption that everyone would be squeezed onto tiny desks with all their things sprawled across them. Instead, there were multiple different workspaces in order to cater for the different environments each worker may be most productive with. Alongside the soundproof desk rooms were spacious desks surrounded by plants, lots and lots of

snacks and comfortable places to sit.

I also really enjoyed meeting Canva's employees who each explained their different routes which led them to working at Canva. It was eye opening hearing how they used the transferable skills they gained from previous backgrounds of work to excel at Canva. I also think my peers would agree that the Q&A session helped relieve some of our worries about choosing a degree in the field.

As we approach Year 13, the momentous decisions that come hand in hand with post-18 options creates a long list of worries for many of us. Especially those like myself, who are still trying to finalise what their next steps are.

The Canva Career Sparks Day taught me that with passion and dedication, our efforts will not go to waste and that the workplace can also double as a space filled with innovation, collaboration, and creativity.

Nasra F 12 KW



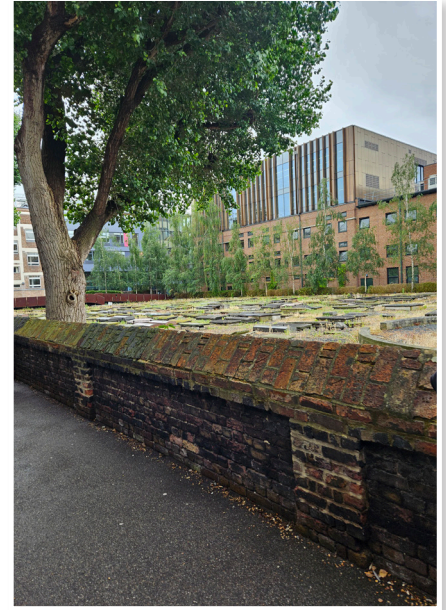
Bentley Wood Art Exhibition 2024

This year almost 140 students displayed their work for our annual Summer Exhibition. Every year group including our prospective Year 7's excitedly visited the exhibition. The work on display was from GCSE Fine Art, Graphics and Textiles. In addition to Year 12 and 13 Fine Art. The work on this page is from our current Year 12 students.

Ms Mistry



Performance and study. Students have their language skills enhanced



Capital L Languages Summer School 2024

This month four Year 10 linguists were selected to take part in a five-day Languages Summer School, organised by SOAS university. They had an amazing time and took part in taster sessions in various languages. Here is an account from one of the students of their exciting week:

The Capital L Summer School is an organisation of different universities such as SOAS, UCL, King's College London, Queen Mary and the Open University. Once I was offered the chance to take part in this fantastic programme, I could never turn it down. The programme provides students with an immersive language learning experience through taster sessions, allowing them to explore and engage with various languages in a fun and interactive way or even in a "university style."

On each day during the week, we were introduced to different languages and cultures. On the first day, I was overly excited to learn about the Arabic and Korean culture at SOAS university, which was led by professional lecturers in linguistics who made the experience entertaining and informative.

We also had the opportunity to take part in other taster sessions at the other universities such as: Icelandic, Danish, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, Catalan, Spanish and German. In addition, on one of the days we went on a trip to the British Museum where we explored the history of language and culture and how it may have changed throughout the passing of time.

We also got the chance each day to go on campus tours of each university, have Q and A sessions where we could question current students about the university lifestyle and receive different merchandise and tote bags from

the universities, which made the experience even more exciting. I also got the chance to meet new people there, which helped to boost my confidence when taking part in collaborative sessions.

Overall, I am undoubtedly grateful to have been given this opportunity because the programme helped me develop my skills further, such as my confidence in speaking new languages. This process has also made me have a more positive view on taking language for further education and informed me about the benefits of doing so. For example, it is useful for job applications.

One key thing that I was able to take away from this experience was to always try out new things and take part in enrichment activities as they could benefit your future and even make you have a more positive outlook on life by taking languages further.

Aleena A 10ALN



French play Le Cours d'Art

On Monday 8th July 240 students of French from Year 7 up to Year 10 went to the Hall to watch a French play performed by native French actors. The play enabled students to reinforce their language knowledge in a humorous and funny manner. Also, it was a great opportunity for them to hear native French actors using vocabulary they have learnt in the classroom in a different context. Some of the students took part in the performance, because all the additional characters in this play were performed by randomly selected pupils from the audience....and this made it very entertaining!

This is what some pupils wrote about the performance.

On Monday, Year 7s to year 10s got a wonderful opportunity to watch a French play. The play was about 5 students who were in an art lesson. When the teacher gives them an assignment, she leaves the room, and they realise that they are trapped. The characters are played by only two actors. It was very comical, and a joy to watch. I liked the fact that they used lots of emotion so the audience could understand how they were feeling. The play allowed us to extend our knowledge of French further.

Alexa Year 8

The French play was very entertaining. It was amusing and interactive and the characters were funny and creative. The story was easy to follow and understand despite some of the words being unfamiliar. I enjoyed the play a lot.

Saira Year 9

The French play, in my opinion, was a wonderful opportunity for people studying French to engage in deepening their knowledge about simple topics such as numbers, colours, animals, and personalities which were present throughout the play. The actors used a lot of body language as well which also helped us to understand what they were trying

to communicate to the audience. It was a great play and I would definitely recommend it to other young students looking to study French. Au revoir!

Anvi Year 10

On Monday, year 7s to year 10s got a wonderful opportunity to watch a French play. The play was about 5 students who were in an art lesson. When the teacher gives them an assignment, she leaves the room, and they realise that they are trapped.

The characters are played by only two people. It was very comical, and a joy to watch. I liked the fact that they used lots of emotion so the audience could understand how they are feeling. This helps us understand what they are trying to say, therefore extending our French skills further.

Alexa K 8LCU



French Play Le Cours d'Art

Spanish Flamenco Festival

On the 13th June, the A level Spanish students had the opportunity to attend a Spanish Flamenco festival featuring the National Spanish Ballet Company at Sadler's Wells theatre in Islington. It was a wonderful experience where we got to see a whole range of dazzling performances, from dramatic solo acts to group performances with the dancers wearing vibrant and exquisite dresses. The dancing performed by the professional dancers was mesmerising and blew us all away.

In the second half, we were surprised by a live band accompanying the dances which brought life to the stage, playing traditional songs and creating such a unique experience. It was truly such a captivating performance and we were entranced by this aspect of Spanish culture which we have learnt about, but had never experienced in real life. A big thank you to Ms Graham and Ms Ortega who organised this trip and provided us with this exciting and once in a lifetime opportunity.

Abigail C 12SNU



Students from all year groups get involved with politics



Politics Students Attend Harrow East Hustings Event at North London Collegiate School

Our politics students had an opportunity to attend a Harrow East hustings event attended by representatives from Labour (Primesh Patel), Conservative (Bob Blackman) and Liberal Democrat (Reetendra Banerjee) parties. In attendance was also an Independent candidate (Sabira Lakha) allowing our students to explore a wide range of political views. Our students enjoyed the opportunity to ask questions and apply their knowledge on elections in the build up to our General Elections.

Mrs Nye

Watching the debate first hand was an invaluable experience and it was fascinating learning about how candidates interact with not only the youth, but each other as well. It helped us to engage with them directly, which is a rare opportunity given that many sixth formers are unable to vote and as a result political ideas and policies aren't typically directed at the youth.

However, this experience allowed us to understand their proposed future policies which are designed to help us and future generations. From areas of education to the current cost of living crisis, we were able to explore many areas of improvement and learn about the parties and their plans. We were also able to appreciate a fresh perspective from a candidate not affiliated with a party. Overall, the debate was a great way of getting involved in the political world and was extremely enriching.

Misbah A 12PBL

The trip to North London Collegiate School was very informative, especially because most of us will be able to vote next year.

The debate covered issues that affect us, as well as the rest of the country, such as the handling of the NHS and support for households during the cost of living crisis. We gained a lot of up to date crucial political knowledge and insight. It was great to meet the MP's and candidates we are going to be voting for in the future.

Kelsy M 12RGR

Attending a political debate featuring different candidates representing my constituency was an excellent opportunity to engage with the democratic process and make an informed voting decision. I got the opportunity to ask my questions of the panel from Conservative, Labour, and Independent candidates. This allowed me to consolidate my understanding of politics and the promises they made for Harrow East.

I especially enjoyed listening to Independent candidate, Sabira Lakha, who had clear and discerning views about the NHS and the local community. The other A level politics students and I are all appreciative of Mrs Nye for taking the time out to take us to this event!

Hosai Y 12KW

Bentley Wood Mock Election 2024

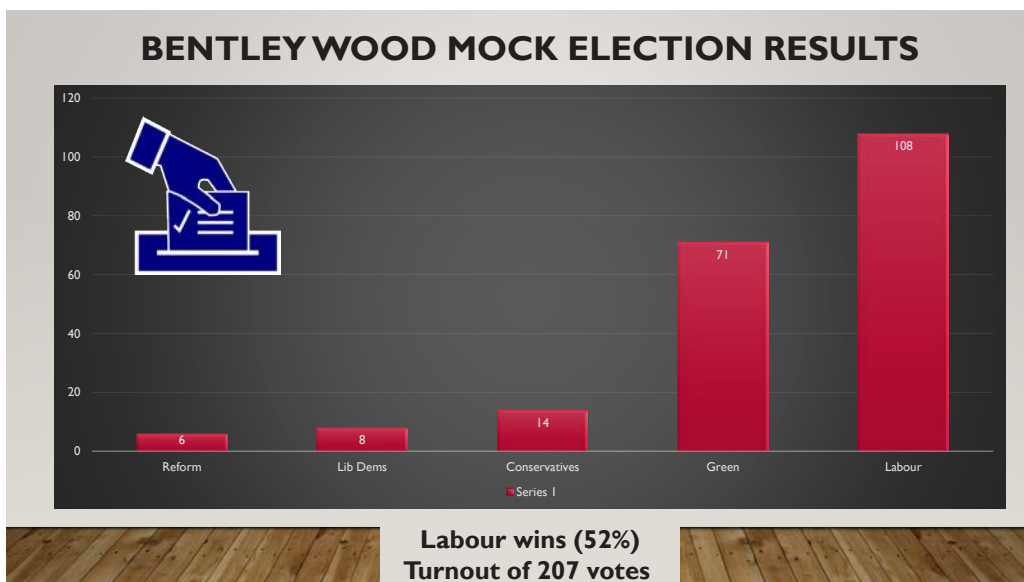
In line with the UK General Elections, Bentley Wood High School held its' own Mock Election on the 4th of July! Students across the whole school were keen to learn about the candidates, party manifestos and the process of voting.

Our Year 12 Politics students, Tina F (12SNU) and Eshaal K (12PBL), did a great job in hosting the vote and spreading their excellent knowledge and enthusiasm during the event.

Our students not only enjoyed the process of voting, but also the process of counting the votes.

Our wonderful Year 8 students, Tisha S (8LSB), Saanvi B (8LSB) and Mihika T (8LSB) persevered to count up our votes and announce our Bentley Wood mock election winner.

Mrs Nye



Students get involved in STEM activities this term



Year 8 Science students were part of the winning team at Science and Technology challenge

Year 8 Science students recently took part in the North West London Science and Technology Challenge Day held at Barnet and Southgate College on the 9th of July. The students were immersed in a wide array of engaging challenges. From robotics and diagnostics to creating e-fit profiles, CPR, and even solving crimes, these challenges were a true test of their skills and knowledge. The event was a big success for our students, with standout performances from Sarah A 8LCU and Zara A 8ABR, who were part of the winning team and secured a top spot in the finals in January.

Additionally, Saanvii B 8LSB shone by being part of the winning team in the robotics challenge. A round of applause to all students who participated; your enthusiasm and hard work made the day! It's wonderful to see young minds embracing science and technology in such a creative and competitive environment. The event was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore various aspects of science and technology in a hands-on and interactive way.

Ms O'Gorman





Year 12 physics students visit the Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition

On Friday 5th July A level physics students went to visit the Summer Science Exhibition, where many aspects of science were on display, being presented by universities, leaders in their fields and school students. The topics covered ranged from food science to brain science to space and beyond. The students were able to interact with science through discussions, stands, demonstrations and talks, with many opportunities to learn and ask questions.

“Something I learnt from the exhibition is how sugar can rotate light. When light passes through certain sugars, like glucose, it can rotate the direction of polarisation. When polarised white light passes through a sugar solution each colour’s direction of polarization changes by a different amount, this colour shift depending on the depth of the solution and when the polarising filter is being rotated.”

Yashvi Vekaria

“I learnt SO much during this trip. My head exploded with all the cool things I had learnt. Particularly, there was a stand about dark matter where we learnt about the different types of dark matter particles and how you would actually attempt to detect them.

The professors in their fields debated with us the possibilities regarding the cause, existence and theory of dark matter and I had to try my best to keep my cool and not freak out at the opportunity to present my own arguments with people who actually knew as much as you could about the topic.”

The Royal Society is based in a wonderful building where you are able to stand in a place where so many incredible scientists once stood, discussing the biggest discoveries in history, from electrons to quantum physics by scientist just as Newton, Lord Kelvin and Thomson. It was a very humbling and inspiring trip.

Marjan A Year 12



UKMT Mathematical Challenge

Bentley Wood High School's maths department has consistently demonstrated its commitment to excellence by enrolling students in the UKMT maths challenge. This year our Year 11 further maths students along with Year 12 and 13 A level maths students participated in the prestigious UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge and their results were outstanding. Our senior mathematicians achieved 1 silver BiS, 6 silver and 17 bronze certificates.

Later in the academic year 138 students from Years 9 and 10 took part in this year's UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. We are pleased to announce that our students achieved an impressive 2 gold, 9 silver and 50 bronze awards. Last but not least, on Thursday, the 25th of April our Year 7 and 8 students joined over 300,000 participants from schools across the UK to take part in the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge. Our girls secured 3 gold, 33 silver and 52 bronze certificates; an outstanding achievement which is a source of inspiration for students and a testament to the strong foundation provided by the department.



Count On Us Maths Challenge

On the 1st May, five students from Bentley Wood were selected to take part in the Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge, an exciting pan-London programme that engages students with maths games designed to challenge and inspire. This is an initiative of the Jack Petchey Foundation, and the challenge is designed around five games based on the skills of algebra, probability, geometry, mental arithmetic and statistics.

Our students had a great time pitting themselves against their contemporaries from other schools and it gave them an opportunity to showcase their creativity and out-of-the-box thinking.



Maths Fest 2024 Inspires Year 11 and 12 students

On the 26th February a group of Year 12 maths students along with a couple of Year 11 students, attended the annual Maths Fest at The Royal Institution.

They were accompanied by Mr N Shah and Miss Vagi for an all-day maths extravaganza. A group of renowned mathematicians delivered fascinating talks about their personal favourite aspects of maths, and the event celebrated maths as an exciting, useful and rewarding subject. It was hosted by Matt Parker and speakers included Silvia Butti, Steve Mould and Jennifer Visser-Rogers.



A year of music at Bentley Wood

Summer Concert

The summer concert is one of the most enjoyable times of the academic school year.

It contained everything from string group, a performance of the song Ex-Wives by a group of our Year 9 students, our very own Glee Club and soloists from all year groups singing and playing a variety of instruments like the piano, violin and the clarinet.

We also had the chance to get to hear all of our school choirs sing True Colour by Justin Timberlake and we also heard Junior Choir sing Broken But Beautiful.

Skylar H 9EOG



Concert at Alyward Primary school

On Wednesday, 10th July, Junior Choir were kindly invited to sing at Alyward Primary School. We took the bus and once there, we got to rehearse and eat lunch with the primary students. The concert was of a very high standard and it was an incredible experience! We sang many of our favourite songs (including some with the primary school choir). Thank you so much to Mrs Bancroft, Mrs Parkes and Miss Leighton for helping us learn the songs and taking us to Alyward.

Emma A 8LSB



The fantastic school production of The Wizard of Oz

When I found out we were doing 'The Wizard Of Oz' as our school production, I was very excited and keen to audition! I loved attending all the rehearsals and seeing the show come together, as well as connecting with all of the cast members. I will be incredibly sad when the show finishes, but I will forever treasure the memories that we have made together as a family.

Overall, it was an amazing experience, but we couldn't have done it without all of the teachers and team supporting us every step of the way. Mr Rankin for his wise tips and dedication, Mrs Bancroft who helped us succeed in everything we wanted to achieve and for always keeping us on our toes, Mrs Parkes for helping backstage and giving us that extra push of confidence, Mrs Burrige for helping us take care of ourselves throughout the months leading up to the show and of course, Ms Bidder for all her tips and all of the sixth formers for taking time out of their studies and helping us be organised on and off stage! I am so grateful to all of them!

Emma A 8LSB.



Previous Bentley Wood student plays Indian classical music

We got an amazing opportunity to see one of our previous students, Arthika, come into school and play the veena which is a string instrument originally from India. The veena plays an important role as part of Hindustani classical music and she played it so well which is impressive as it is known to be a very difficult instrument to play. It was a great experience to see people play different instruments from around the world and means that us students learn about instruments and music from all over the world

Skye H 9EOG



Arthika plays an Indian instrument the veena

Jack Petchey Glee Club Competition

Bentley Wood Glee Club take part in the finals of the Jack Petchey Glee Club Competition

In Glee Club, we worked very hard for our competition. The competition was the Jack Petchey Glee Club competition and our club progressed to the final which was at the O2 Arena. We worked very hard on our two songs '7 Rings' and 'Requiem. Both my sisters have been in Glee (one is still here) and I find that it is a great opportunity to showcase my skills. I would like to thank Beth for starting Glee and pushing us to make sure that we succeed in all shows and competitions that we are a part of. I would also like to thank Mrs Bancroft, Mrs Parkes and Mr Rankin for coming to our shows and staying with us and cheering us on and supporting us throughout everything.

Isabel M 7MCO

In Glee we had the amazing opportunity to perform at the O2 Indigo for the Jack Petchey Glee Club Finals! We competed against other Glee Clubs and learned so much from the process including teamwork and stamina. We also improved our singing, dancing and acting skills that we are so excited to use for next year's competition. Overall, it was a fantastic experience and we had so much fun!

Elisha K 9EOG



Glee Club

Humanities department: Students enjoy different trips and events



Year 12 students at West Wittering

Geography field trips to West Wittering

Year 10 trip

We left school at 9 a.m. and boarded our coaches in our assigned groups. When we got to the beach, we took several measurements of the beach, including length from the shore, gradient, sediment size, and sediment roundness. To do this, we used a variety of tools such as quadrats, clinometers, measuring tapes, ranging poles and callipers. This allowed us to investigate the longshore drift on the beach.

During lunch break, we had the opportunity to explore the beach more and enjoy refreshing ice lollies. Following lunch, we walked around the spit and were able to view the salt marsh. We then had time to produce a field sketch of the view at the end of the spit and swiftly returned to our coaches as the trip came to an end.

Overall, it was a wonderful experience that helped us to fully understand our studies better.

Kulsum H 10SG

Year 12 trip

During our physical geography field trip to West Wittering Beach, we explored the dynamic coastal environment characterised by its expansive sandy shorelines and intricate dune systems. The trip provided an invaluable opportunity to observe first-hand, the processes of coastal erosion and deposition, as well as the formation and migration of dunes shaped by wind and wave action.

We conducted various fieldwork activities as part of our independent NEA projects, including measuring beach profiles, analysing sediment samples, and assessing the impact of human activities on this delicate ecosystem.

Furthermore, some of us had a look at how sustainable the coastal engineering strategies were, by carrying out different tests like the groyne drop survey. This hands-on experience deepened our understanding of coastal geomorphology and the environmental challenges faced by coastal communities.

Mahi P 12PBL

Year 8 trip to Bentley Priory Museum

In the summer term, we had the opportunity to visit Bentley Priory Museum which is located a short walk from our school. RAF Bentley Priory played a pivotal role during the Battle of Britain as Headquarters Fighter Command during the Second World War. The tour of the museum is run by the volunteers who make it compelling due to their wealth of knowledge and a way of expressing themselves. As part of this interactive visit, we worked as a team to identify, map and calculate threatened attacks on Britain.

We also learnt about the important work of the RAF Bentley Priory and the contribution of the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force). It was amazing to have such a hand on practice to understand the importance of technology, mathematics, and historical factors in the Battle of Britain.

Jasmine 8LSB

A play about an inspirational suffragette

On the 4th of July I gathered with the whole of Year 9 in the school hall to watch a captivating play about Sophia Duleep Singh, a British Indian princess who lived at Hampton Court Palace. She was a suffragette who fought for women's rights and gender equality and was all in all a truly inspirational woman.

There were three actors: one playing Sophia herself and the other two played Sophia's grandmother and her housekeeper. The whole performance was a timeline of Sophia's life, told by her grandmother and housekeeper, zooming in on key moments during her lifetime, such as Black Friday in 1910 when more than 300 suffragettes marched from Caxton Hall to Parliament Square and demanded to see the Prime Minister. The women bravely fought back against the brutality of the police for over six hours, not wavering in their cause.

Despite Sophia having a rough childhood she persevered and came to be an icon of her time. Although she despised public speaking, she rose up when needed in court and delivered a truly amazing speech on women's rights, standing up for the suffragette cause: 'No taxation without representation!'.

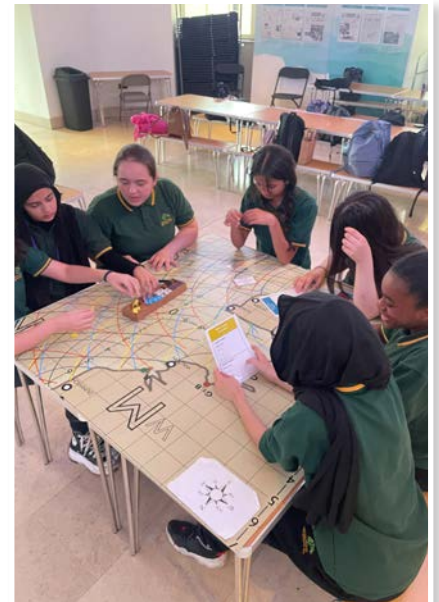
Overall, the play was enthralling and awe-inspiring. The actors' talent and portrayal of their characters was astounding, and the interactive style made it very engaging. It was a riveting experience which made us appreciate how Sophia Duleep Singh sparked the flame for a better, more equal future. If she could make a change, then why can't we?

Zahra S 9SAL

Geography field trip to Bentley Priory

This half term, each Year 8 class has visited the stream in Bentley Priory to conduct fieldwork relating to their Rushing Rivers unit. After demonstrations from teachers, they worked in groups to collect data about the width, depth, velocity and sediment size which they were able to apply to their theoretical knowledge in a follow-up lesson. Students enjoyed being able to get out of the classroom and also into the stream (despite the mud) and showed a high level of skill in collecting the data.

Mr Ferris



Student Rewards July 2024



Year 9

Art

Alina M 9THA - Showing real commitment in Art lessons.

Biology

So many excellent biologists in this class this year! **Elisha K 9EOG** - for her conscientious and mature attitude to her learning in Biology, **Jazmine S 9SAL**- for growing in confidence this year and aiming high with her learning in Biology, **Selina Y 9EOG** - for consistently applying her learning through fantastic contributions in lessons.

Business studies

Zikra K 9SAL - for working hard in the subject and showing excellent progression. Keep up the good work.

Chemistry

So many excellent chemists in this class - well done for all your hard work this year! Particularly to: **Anniyah S 9NMO** - for her commitment to her learning and consistently contributing so well in lessons, **Maryam S 9TC** - for her dedication and proactive attitude to her learning and **Aliyah Z 9TC** - for the resilience and hard work she has demonstrated throughout the year.

Computer science

Iman O 9TC - is an individual with excellent organisational skills and a strong work ethic, consistently going above and beyond expectations.

Drama

Sayyidah K 9SSH - for fantastic group work and leadership during the summer term. In addition, you have been really creative and explored ideas well in rehearsals. Top work!

English

Maria B 9NMO - Active engagement and high-quality work

Food

Zikra K 9SAL - Well Done on an excellent end of year assessment grade.

French

Sofia S 9THA - for amazing skills in French speaking and for always contributing with a smile. Well done on an excellent end of year result.

Geography

Zeina H 9CJG - she has been diligent and hardworking throughout the year. She has always contributed to class discussions and worked hard on every task.

Graphics

Zahra S 9SAL - Showing great enthusiasm for learning in Graphics lesson.

H&S

Dhristi D 9EOG - for synthesising knowledge from different components and summarising it in a concise manner in end of year exam.

History

Sayyidah K 9SSH - Fantastic effort in History and the top exam grade in the year group. Keep up the hard work.

Latin

Khadjia R 9TC - for her resilience and effort in Latin.

Maths

Shadia M 9SSH - She has been doing extremely well in Maths, taking the time outside of the lessons to practice the higher curriculum. She was able to sit the higher paper and get a significant score! Super proud of what you have achieved Shadia!

Sayyidah K 9SSH - Sayyidah is such a positive influence to have in the classroom. She is always putting up her hand, and also is more than happy to help her peers out by explaining difficult concepts to them. Sayyidah is a super hard worker and is consistently reaching the extension work, which she asks for without prompting. She is eager to do well and has a real passion for the subject!

Music

Skye H 9EOG - for all her help in the concerts this year

Student Rewards July 2024



Year 9

PE

Salwa S 9CGJ - fantastic commitment and effort throughout her first year of studying GCSE PE. She has regularly approached all challenges with a positive attitude and shows brilliant resilience when she finds a task difficult.

Philosophy

Rahaf A 9LBM - is a brilliant thinker and philosopher.

Physics

Maria B 9NMO - High quality work, inquisitive nature and super engagement. Zahra S 9SAL and Zikra K 9SAL - Always aiming for the top, Diligent and meticulous in all their work

Psychology

Sayidda K - For her effort and excellent end of year score.

Science

Mariam H 9CJG - throughout the year she has approached her learning with a positive and ambitious attitude and always strives to do her very best in either classwork contributions or go further for homework.

Duaa A 9NMO - For always being the first to write down the date and title at the beginning of the lesson and for consistently producing outstanding classwork and homework in Physics"

Spanish

Sophie S 9THA - For keeping up her with her classwork and homework whilst filming and still achieving the most amazing end of year result in Spanish. Your hard work has paid off!

Textiles

Safa D 9 9THA - Outstanding work produced in Textiles.
Jovina C 9LMB - outstanding work produced in Textiles.

Year 10

Art

Sophie O 10ALN - Showing commitment to learning in Art lessons.

Biology

Iman A 10ALN - Consistently hard work throughout the year. Her scores and grades reflect her efforts no doubt.

Business studies

Yuktha N 10JP - for continued effort to improve your grading and gaining an excellent grade in your end of year assessment. Well done

Chemistry

Michelle M 10SEO - For making exceptional progress and gaining excellent grades in her end of year exams. Keep up the hard work!

Computer science

Anvi K 10SEO - for dedication and hard work to programming, production of exemplary coursework, going far beyond the requirements

Drama

Fatema R 10SG - for being so proactive and organised in your creative work. You have also shown great leadership throughout the year.

English

Anastasia C 10ALN - for her excellent achievement in English.

Food

Hila R 10JP - Well done on an excellent end of year assessment!



A year of enrichment 2023 - 2024

Slam Poetry Club

About the club: Throughout the year students have been writing poems in Slam Poetry Club – there are some dedicated members who write thoughtful and imaginative poems on different topics each week. Here is an example of a poem that two members have written. We look forward to continuing the club next year.

Ms Mohan

Poetry is awesome and cool,
it doesn't need any rules,
a perspective changing tool,
free like a pack of mules.

It can be your escape,
a place where you don't have to be fake.

Your imagination can go wild,
like on a slippery slope
it gives people hope

So please come to Poetry Club!
The ultimate imagination hub!

By Isobel and Balquis in 7LNO

Drawing by Balquis in 7LNO



Art Club

I enjoy doing my own thing and my own artwork and I can be expressive and free in this space. I always come to Art Club each week. My suggestion going forward is to have some KS3 students come and see what the GCSE students are getting up to!

One of the pieces of work I have discovered in Art Club is negative space, when you focus on the background of an image and the focal point is white. This could be a symbolic message to let negative contrast show how we need to be more positive! I did this by drawing a light outline of a plant, coloured background black. I was concentrating very hard and so this took my mind off other things. Overall the club is amazing!

Louisa M 8KPO

My work was made with oil pastels. It is a drawing of a shell that is filled with colour. I was good at the outline but struggled on what to do for the inside. I still haven't finished but I'm happy with the progress I've made with it so far. I would definitely use this method again as it's fun to work with different media and was nice to try to experiment with the oil pastels. I learnt to experiment with media even when I'm not confident with the media.

Zofia O 7MCO



Students enjoying Garden Club

The Garden Club is set up and run by Mr. Kerai, Ms Griffin and Mr Toolan each Wednesday afternoon. We made biodegradable plant pots and sowed some wildflowers recently. Students took these homes to nurture and bring back once sprouted, to sow in the beds. We planted these out in June in the glorious weather. We have also planted strawberries, peppers, peas, lemon balm and mint. A special thanks to Ms. Bromley and her form 8ABR who water the beds every morning for us

Ms Griffin



Science Club: A year of energising and stimulating activities

A lot of activities at Year 7 Science Club

It's been another amazing year for the Science Club. From dissecting a chicken wing to taking apart a whole eye (gross!) we really made sure to go out of our comfort zones.

We also explored the magic of making colour changing potions from acids and alkalis. It's been great seeing the club members having an absolute blast. If you don't want to miss out on all the fun, join us every Friday after school.

Marium I 13GCO

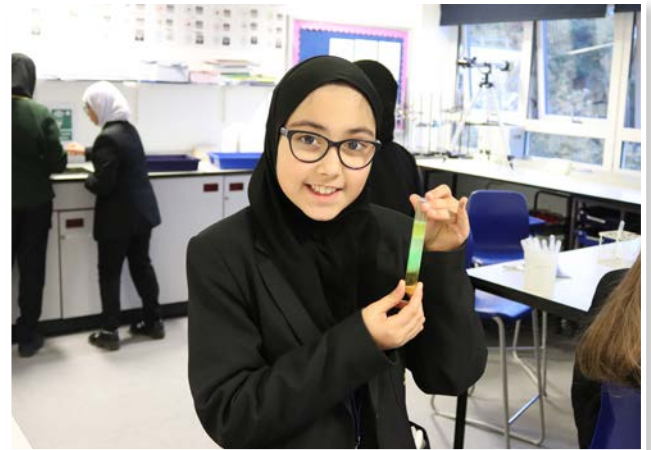
Making slime: A fun activity at Science Club

The science department at Bentley Wood runs a range of clubs and activities throughout the year to highlight the fun and often spectacular side of STEM subjects. Mr Koyejo shared the art of making slime with a very enthusiastic group of Year 7 students who were keen to master this skill.

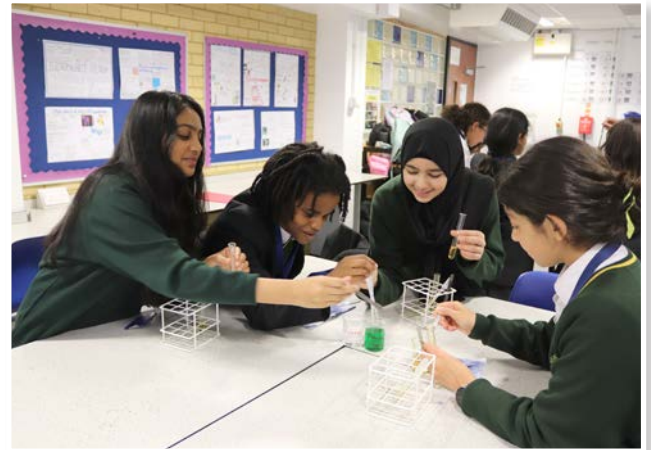
There was a great deal of excitement, with audible expressions of delight (and occasionally disgust) as the students turned their hand to making slime out of simple household ingredients.

They started by mixing baking soda in small quantities with PVA glue and later adding lens solution and food colouring of their choice. This mixture was then kneaded to the desired consistency, resulting in a slimy creation.

Enrichment activities are designed to extend learning outside the classroom and inspire students to explore subjects in entertaining ways beyond the curriculum. We hope mastering the art of making slime has given our Year 7s an appreciation for the fun side of science.



Colourful density layers



Making slime

RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch 2024

In order to prepare for the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch 2024, the science club and teachers created sustainable bird feeders to encourage as many birds as possible into our gardens for the big day. The Science Department would like to thank everyone in the school community for taking part in the Big Garden Bird Watch. We really hope you enjoyed taking part and collecting this valuable data for the RSPB.

Mr Barrett

A fun lesson about static electricity

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

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

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

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

Science Club is a popular feature of Bentley Wood's broad enrichment calendar and it aims to harness the creativity and nurture the curiosity of our budding scientists.



RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch



Creating static electricity



Thought-provoking enrichment

Criminology Club

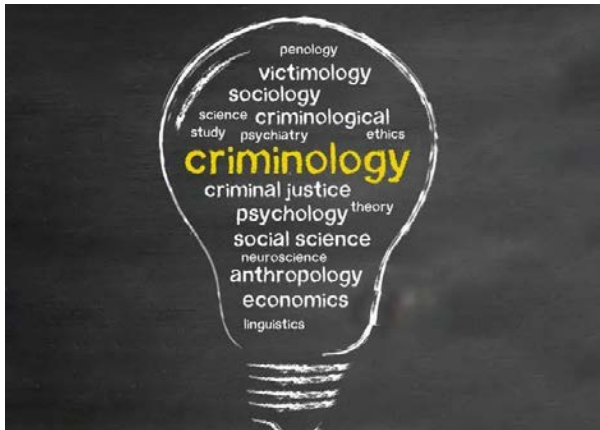
My experiences with criminology were great, interesting and fun. Before attending the club, I didn't know that criminology was really fun, but as we learnt so many interesting facts and tried to solve some engrossing crimes as a team and a community, I realised that Criminology Club was not just about investigating crimes, it was also about developing life skills and having fun.

If you have an interest for mysterious and some thrilling crimes to solve and have fun along with learning, this club is for you.

Saanvi B 8LSB

Some of our fantastic Year 13 students took ownership of Criminology Club this term. They helped our KS3 students pick up some amazing skills through verbal discussions, murder mystery style games and inquisitive thinking. Well done to all involved, Year 13's you will be missed!

Miss Howes,
Teacher of Psychology/Health and Social Care



Criminology club



The Anthropology Society

The Anthropology Society

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

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

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

Mr Maric





Bentley Wood students challenge their minds at Debate Club

Debate Club is an enjoyable after school enrichment club that happens every Wednesday for all years in W4. I first started going to Debate Club at the beginning of last year and it really helped me become a better speaker and listener.

This enrichment club is a safe and comfortable area to express your opinions and learn new things! Debate Club really helps me become aware with what's happening around the world and how other people see it and it also helps me lead a team and work well with one while critically thinking about new ideas! Finally, it's a great way of making new friends and stepping out of your comfort zone!

Zara A 8ABR

Every Wednesday at 3:30, we have the pleasure of meeting at W4 to participate in Debate Club. Debate Club is a safe, fun environment where we can share our opinions and challenge our minds by trying to create arguments for the opposing team. It starts off with a quick check on the

news, reading headlines trying to spot any debate worthy topics to debate about.

My favourite part is when we use the randomiser to generate random topics. These topics can either be political, ethical, or environmental.

One of the best topics that I personally loved to do was whether AI should be considered part of our everyday lives. Before debating we get around five minutes to split up into our teams (for and against) and come up with some notes which can help us later.

Thanks to Mr O'Sullivan, we have learnt many ways to start, end and challenge a point during a debate and I am a lot more confident in debating than when I started.

Debate Club is an incredible experience which Bentley Wood offers, and I am so glad to be a part of something really special.

Sarah A 8LCU

From politics to history: motivating enrichment

Politics Club

Politics Club is a great place to find out more about our government. Who are the politicians in Parliament? How are laws created? What does Parliament do? Not only do we learn the most fascinating ins and outs of Parliament, but we also engage in political debates, watch live events such as a Prime Minister's Question Time in Parliament and try to make sense of the world that we live in today.

Mrs Nye

Politics Club is for people who love politics, but don't know much about it. In Politics Club, we learn about Parliament through many ways. For example, through role play games, where we all loved acting out roles of different people in Parliament when passing legislation. Tisha kept order during the debate as the speaker! I, Saanvii, was a Member of Parliament and I enjoyed being one a lot because it was fun debating about whether uniforms should be banished from schools or not.

The videos and footages from Parliament that we often see are very interesting, fascinating and sometimes also very funny. One of the other things Politics Club offers is the opportunity to help out with Parliament Week!

This year we helped with organising a realistic voting booth area for our school-wide referendum in the gym. We helped to organise resources, directed people to their booths and counted the votes after, which we all found very exciting. Furthermore, having the opportunity to meet MPs really helped us (especially Saanvii, who has a special interest in politics) to understand things like what GCSEs we might wish to take thinking about a future in Politics.

If you like what you're reading, come and join us in Politics Club to have fun and fall in love with politics!

Tisha S. 8LSB and Saanvii B. 8LSB



History Club

What do we do?

At History Club, we do a lot of fun things. We learn about curses, queens, kings, leaders and even dictators. We discuss different topics like the curse of Tutankhamun, whether a snake caused the death of Cleopatra and the roles of Greek and Roman gods. We do this through comparing evidence, and ultimately disprove and prove theories. It is a student led club so we request different topics to cover and Miss Bharj puts them into a list so we can cover them in different sessions. A couple of days before Thursday Week B, the topic is posted on Teams so we can start thinking about what we might want to question.

How I find History Club?

I personally find History Club as a way to push myself and my learning. I enjoy learning new things and topics I will not cover in my lessons. Joining History Club has benefited me in many ways and I cannot thank Miss Bharj and the school enough for all that. I am extremely interested in learning about the past and Miss Bharj is the perfect teacher for History Club as she makes sure everyone is heard and all opinions are considered. I could not think of a better way for pupils to learn more about history and find out some shocking facts!

Why History Club is great?

History Club is easy for pupils to attend because its only on a Week B Thursday which means students can go to different clubs on Week A. You can also bring your lunch to History Club and eat there while learning. We feel comfortable asking questions and debating with other students in Year 8 and 9 and this is why History Club is a fantastic way for students who love history to connect.

**Anna W 7MCO, Sabeen F 7MCO, Rachel R 7NME
and Lucia M 7MCO**

Chess Tournament

As a member of Chess Club I competed in my first chess tournament at Pinner High School, and I was surprised to find that chess was clearly a sport to other contestants due to its competitive nature. The experience of sitting across the board from an ambitious & ruthless opponent as your clock ticks and the game becomes more complex; it can feel very tense.

For me chess is unique as it increases my self-awareness and boosts my planning skills. I have been playing this timeless game for over one year now; I enjoy spotting the pattern, finding new opportunities, and of course attacking the opponents. Even though I didn't perform well, I am glad that I was given the opportunity to take part and broaden my knowledge,

Thank you to Mr. N Shah & Mr. P Shah for organising and supporting everyone throughout the evening.

Jasmine 8LSB



Student Rewards July 2024



Year 10

French

Imana B 10SJ - for your participation and hard work during the French lessons. Keep it up. Bravo.!

Geography

Swara C 10JP - for being awesome and diligent in the classroom. She has demonstrated consistency throughout the year, has always contributed to class discussions and independently seeks to further her understanding.

Graphics

Michelle M 10SEO - Showing commitment to learning in Graphics lessons.

H&S

Iman A 10ALN - for consistent great effort in class and contributions, working outside of the lesson equally as diligently. **Fay D 10SG** - for helping to bring the subject alive in our classroom, with her great contributions of linking what we are learning, to the outside world. **Sadaf S 10ABI** - for her mature approach to her studies and her aim to always do her personal best

History

Rebecca U 10ALN - you never fail to put in consistently 100% effort in every lesson. You are polite, engaged and a great role model for your peers.

Latin

Ambarin A 10SEO - for her improved attainment and achieving success in her end of year exam.

Maths

Imana B 10SJ - Imana is an absolute star! She is such a hard worker and shows great resilience when it comes to Maths. She never gives up even when she finds a topic difficult and will keep trying, and keep asking questions until she understands. Her homework is always early and her work is beautiful!

Zina B & Ciara R 10ABI - for their commitment & determination to learning in all their Maths lessons. Their perseverance even when facing a challenge is commendable. Keep up the good work ladies!

Music

Anna C 10JP and Asla S 10JP - for being the most committed students ever

PE

Sarah B 10SG - for incredible commitment to her GCSE PE throughout the year. She has a fantastic attitude and always asks questions on what she can do to improve her work/ performance which helped her get an outstanding result in her end of year exam.

Philosophy

Skandaja K 10ABI - outstanding achievement in the end of year exam.

Physics

Tahmina U 10SJ - for her continued hard work in physics

Psychology

Maryam U 10SG - for her effort and progression across the year and her evident enjoyment of psychology

Science

Malika B 10JP - For all her hard work this academic year and her outstanding result in her end of year exam.

Abiha J 10JP - has worked really hard this year and given a 100% every lesson. She excelled in the end of year exams by making exceptional progress."

Spanish

Anna C 10JP - For always going the extra mile in Spanish and putting in maximum effort into her class and homework, which got her an outstanding end of year exam result.

Textiles

Hila R 10JP - Outstanding progress in Food assessments.



Student Rewards July 2024

Year 11



<p>Art</p> <p>Hila A 11MTM - Showing excellent progression in Art.</p> <p>Biology</p> <p>Sara A 11MAK - For continued hard work throughout the year, and showing excellent progress!</p> <p>Niva Thakrar 11HJG - for continued hard work throughout GCSE Biology and being a lovely student to teach.</p> <p>Kabissa U 11PS - for continued hard work throughout GCSE Biology and being a lovely student to teach.</p> <p>Chemistry</p> <p>Hirah S 11MTM - for the progress she has made from Year 9 to Year 11 and becoming the excellent chemist she is today through hard work, dedication and perseverance.</p> <p>Classical Civilisation</p> <p>Kareen M 11CCH - for her improvement in this extra GCSE and her commitment to the subject.</p> <p>Computer science</p> <p>Jaziba M 11NMA - for working so hard throughout the year and for demonstrating real resilience inside and outside lessons in the run up to exams.</p> <p>Drama</p> <p>Sainthavi S 11CCH - for working so hard throughout the year and actively seeking feedback to always make progress. I am sure you are going to be rewarded for all your effort!</p> <p>English</p> <p>Mithra R 11MTM - for her outstanding attainment in English Literature. Meena A 11PS - for her outstanding attainment in English Language.</p> <p>Food</p> <p>Moska N 11CCH - Showing excellent progression in Food assessments.</p> <p>French</p> <p>Khadeeja R 11EAW - for your hard work and effort in the French lessons.</p>	<p>Graphics</p> <p>Kezia M 11BME - dedication to Graphics lessons.</p> <p>H&S</p> <p>Sanna B 11CCH and Memlah G 11MAK - for excellent engagement through the year.</p> <p>History</p> <p>Shaymaa Z 11BME and Omrya Q 11BME - for working so hard both in class and at home. And both so determined to understand German grammar!</p> <p>Latin</p> <p>Parisa M 11HJG - for her outstanding attainment all year.</p> <p>Maths</p> <p>Sophie M 11NMA - for her commitment & determination to always improve in Maths. Her perseverance and hard work will definitely pay off!</p> <p>Diya P 11MTM - for having such a positive influence to the people around her. She is not just working hard for herself but always supporting the students around her. Keep up the good work Diya!</p> <p>Physics</p> <p>Arthika P 11MTM - for her continued enthusiasm and hard work in physics</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Kawsar H 11BME - for effort, engagement and joy for psychology</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Huda M 11EAW - For outstanding progress and effort throughout the year!</p> <p>Spanish</p> <p>Sainthavi S 11CCH - For always putting in maximum effort into her speaking and writing. You have always worked so hard in Spanish, you deserve this reward. Keep up your Spanish!</p> <p>Textiles</p> <p>Moska N 11CCH - outstanding progress in Food assessments. Pratima G 11CCH - excellent behaviour and focus in Textiles lessons.</p>
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Primary schools visit BW for engaging enrichment lessons

Primary Maths Day

The Maths department held an enrichment day for the Primary students visit. This day has been designed to help students see maths from a different perspective. The Maths workshops have been carefully designed to both put into context and actively promote the three keystones of the National Curriculum: fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Tapping into pupils' own creativity, our unashamedly fun workshops engage, motivate and, crucially, challenge the children and young people we work with.

Students explored the mathematical magic of the Fibonacci numbers applied from number sequences to algebraic ones.

The Fibonacci sequence, often referred to as a "magic series" in popular culture due to its intriguing properties and appearances in nature, art, and mathematics, is a series of numbers where each number is the sum of the two preceding ones, usually starting with 0 and 1. That is, the sequence begins 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, and so forth.



They also worked on the maths behind the barcodes. Barcodes are not as straightforward and simple as we would assume. Even though they are a small thing we do not acknowledge the true value of barcodes.



Also, they experienced the learning through use of mini white boards working as a whole class team or in group problem solving tasks.

Finally, they left our campus with the beautiful models of the Platonic solids they made during their sessions. Our Primary visitors learnt some history behind these solids, too. The solids are named for the ancient Greek philosopher Plato, who hypothesized in one of his dialogues, the Timaeus, that the classical elements were made of these regular solids

Here is some feedback:

"Students and staff alike really enjoyed the workshops you provided, finding them engaging and stimulating – as well as 'challenging' and 'not that easy!'"

Mrs Vagi



D & T Primary Day

The D&T department welcomed a group of Year 2 pupils from four local primary schools on the 28th of June. Students from Stanburn, Avanti House, Kenmore Park and St John's C of E Primary School all engaged in a Design & Technology lesson which involved constructing a deck chair inspired by the theme 'London on the beach'.

The deck chairs were constructed using wooden craft sticks and these were then layered with fabric to showcase the inspiration for the chosen theme. The activity sparked conversations about iconic London landmarks and there was also time at the end of the session for students to evaluate their creations and appreciate the efforts of their peers. We certainly enjoyed delivering the lesson and the primary pupils along with their teachers left Bentley Wood feeling inspired and challenged.

Engaging students in design and technology at an early age has numerous benefits. It fosters creativity, builds confidence and allows them to explore the subject in accessible ways by looking at everyday objects. Moreover, it introduces them to potential career paths in design, engineering, and technology. Visits from local primary schools to take part in workshops, taster days and fun experiences are a proud Bentley Wood tradition which creates a thriving and supportive educational community, benefitting young people, their families and teachers.

Ms March

Primary Science Day

We were delighted to invite 50 students from Aylward Primary School to attend our Year 5 Science Day on 1st July. This was packed with engaging practical activities, designed to spark curiosity and foster a passion for practical learning and exploration in science.

The day began with an introduction to Safety in the Laboratory, fundamental to any practical work! Students then had the opportunity to independently set up their own Bunsen burners and individually achieved their Bunsen burner licenses as a result. The next session focused on how different metal compounds can be used to make colourful fireworks! Using their recent Bunsen burner skills, Year 5 students saw the colours produced by compounds containing metals such as potassium, copper and lithium. They then explored how the power of indicators can be used to make rainbows from a variety of acids and alkalis.

The day concluded with an experiment to measure the energy content in food by burning different food items such as crisps, crackers and biscuits, linking science with everyday nutrition.

We hope that the Year 5 students enjoyed the opportunity to gain an insight into practical work at Bentley Wood and took away some key skills and knowledge from the day. A huge thank you as well to the Bentley Wood Year 10 and Sixth Form student helpers who supported throughout the day. Their assistance was invaluable, and their guidance helped ensure a smooth and enriching experience for our Year 5 students.

Ms Robson and Ms O'Gorman



Classic themed trips and events

Classic Day: Students create engaging performances

Classics and Drama took a break from the ancient festival this year and instead, planned an engaging and interactive Classics Day with some Year 7 and 8 students.

We had the excellent company, 'Actors of Dionysus' work with our students for the day both onsite and within our beautiful school grounds.

'Actors of Dionysus' are a well-established bold and exciting theatre group who breathe new life into old tales of comedy and tragedy.

Mark and Tamsin from the company worked with groups of Year 7 and Year 8 students to eventually help them put together and then perform choral odes from well-known Greek tragedies. They established a good understanding of the theatre space with them, emboldened them with activities that helped to increase their confidence and then got them to understand how to work together as a chorus.

The students performed their choral odes to some of their peers in Year 7 and 8 in the afternoon. The Year 7s wowed the audience with a heartfelt performance of Eurpidies' Trojan Women and had them laughing with a choral scene from Lysistrata. The Year 8s explored themes of fate, rebellion and family and engaged their audience with choral scenes from Oedipus and Antigone.

Thank you to Mark and Tamsin and to Mr Rankin our Head of Drama for enriching the students in all things mythology and Drama!

'We must all do theatre to find out who we are and to discover who we can become' - Augusto Baol

Ms Hussain
Head of Classics



Year 12 trip to the British Museum

The Classics Department took Year 12 Classical Civilisation A level students for the annual British Museum trip, where they discussed the ethics of the artefacts in the museum, marvelled at the Parthenon marbles and viewed important artefacts that they have studied this past year.

Highlights included seeing a bust of emperor Augustus and Homer, some evocative vases depicting the Trojan war and of course, seeing the Cheiron and Birds vase which are on their Greek theatre specification. Safe to say, by the end of the trip, though their feet were tired, the students were intellectually enriched by material culture and inspired by the artistic talent of the Greco Roman world.

Ms Anisah Hussain
Head of Classics.

BW went Downtown to Hadestown!

The Classics and Drama departments took some of our year 9, 10 and 12 students to see the new hit west end musical, 'Hadestown' at the Lyric theatre in Piccadilly Circus. Before the show began, our students enjoyed the buskers around the statue of Eros and it was such a pleasure seeing them enjoy central London in the sunshine.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the music from the show and understood why it won a Grammy award for best musical theatre album. They were in awe of the staging and special effects and also moved by the tragic love story of Orpheus and Eurydice. The show explored themes of doubt, love, poverty and endeavor and showed how powerful the art of storytelling can be. A big thank you to Mr Iain Rankin, Head of Drama and Ms Alice Jones, Head of Sixth form for helping out on the day.

*"Some flowers bloom where the green grass grows
Our praise is not for them
But the ones who bloom in the bitter snow
We raise our cups to them"* - *We raise our cups, Hadestown*

Ms Anisah Hussain
Head of Classics.



'Hadestown' at the Lyric theatre



Year 12 at the British Museum

A year of events and achievements in the Sixth Form 2023 - 2024



Head of Sixth Form reflects on the year 2023-2024

It has been another wonderful year, full of successes and exciting opportunities for both Year 12 and Year 13 students. We are delighted at the academic success of the students. Year 13 students have received offers from a variety of Russell Group universities, including Oxford University, UCL, and Nottingham. Several students this year have opted to choose a degree apprenticeship and have gained places at some of the UK's top companies. We are also delighted at the Year 13 Health and Social Care cohort who secured places on excellent vocational degree courses. The Sixth Form team and I are looking forward to results day when their places will be confirmed.

Year 12 students have already made significant progress academically. Life After Sixth Form Week was bigger than ever with two talks on apprenticeships and Bentley Wood High School's first Oxbridge Day. Students from across the collegiate- Whitmore High School, Park High School, Canons High School, Hatch End High School, Whitefriars High School, Nower Hill High School, and Avanti High School came to Bentley Wood to take part in a series of lectures, seminars and talks. Representatives from both Oxford and Cambridge Universities demystified the institutions in a talk, and a question and answer session. Subject specialist seminars were delivered by former Oxford and Cambridge students who teach within the collegiate. The day was completed by recent alumni from the collegiate schools speaking frankly about what Oxford and Cambridge are really like. It was a fantastic day and many students left inspired to work hard over the summer to make their applications as competitive as possible.

It is not all work in the 6th form, however; students have enjoyed a baby photo competition, a Disney Day, a treasure hunt, and weekly quizzes. This year was the first year Year 12s were officially invited to Sports Day- taking part as both competitors and organisers. In addition, we are so proud of

the students for flourishing beyond the classroom; all students are strongly encouraged to regularly volunteer for either the school or local community. Our links with Harrow Community Kitchen and local pharmacies were strengthened this year with many students going weekly during the winter and spring terms.

Annual clubs such as the Ethics Cup returned this year; the team won the London heat (beating off Woodhouse and Eton!) and reached the national finals at St Andrew's University in Scotland. The team were astounding. The students representing Bentley Wood in both competitions made the school proud. The debating skills the students have honed by taking part are highly prized by employers and universities. Furthermore, film club, photography club and various sports clubs continued to be enjoyed by many students this academic year.

With the AS level and A level examinations now over for this academic year, I am once again impressed with the resilience and perseverance of the students. The school has decided to align ourselves with the majority of schools across the country and get rid of AS levels for next year. They will be replaced by an equally rigorous set of internal examinations.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new Head Student Team. We are proud to have two Head Students this year: Abigail Caniparu and Baveena Selvanendam. Working closely with them are the Deputy Head Students: Hosai Yusefzai, Mahi Patel and the rest of the Head Student Team: Nermyn Saiegl, Jiya Gudhka, Fatima Iftikhar, and Britannia Nguessan. They have already begun their roles raising and maintaining the high standards of the Bentley Wood Sixth Form.

Ms. A Jones, Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Form Head Girl Team 2024

Hi everyone! We are delighted to introduce our Head Student team for this academic year: Abigail, Baveena, Mahi, Hosai, Fatima I, Jiya, Nermyn and Britannia. We are so excited to be working with you this academic year, working collaboratively to make your voices heard. It is such an honour to represent the school and the division of leadership roles has been made in order to ensure that the most efficient and enriching running can take place.

We have co-Head Students Abigail and Baveena, followed by two deputies, Mahi and Hosai. We then have the four Heads of Houses: Jiya, Fatima I, Britannia and Nermyn. We are also looking to further broadening our team with leadership roles being put in place for the upcoming Year 12 and Year 11 prefects. Together, we will be working to cover several aspects of school life such as Teaching, Reading, Careers and Learning, Student Council, Student Mentoring, Volunteering and Mental Health, Houses and Charity, Year 7 Induction, Prom and Enrichment teams.

As the Head Student team, our mission is to empower our students to make a difference, fostering the same sense of belonging and support that we feel here at Bentley Wood. Our Head Student team values integrity, inclusivity, and

innovation, believing that these principles are essential for a flourishing school community.

We are committed to encouraging an environment where every student feels respected and heard, promoting diverse perspectives. By working together, we aim to create a supportive and dynamic learning atmosphere for everyone. We strive to connect students with opportunities both within and outside the school (such as community service projects and extracurricular activities) that enrich their educational experience. Through these initiatives, we aim to build a cohesive, motivated, and compassionate student body, united in our shared commitment to excellence and mutual support.

Overall, we are proud to be students at Bentley Wood and take pride in our student leadership roles, aspiring to make an array of positive changes to the school in the upcoming year. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful summer break, we look forward to seeing you all ready for another fantastic year ahead!

Abigail C and Baveena S

Year 13 Prom

The annual Year 13 Prom was a wonderful occasion again this year. Held at the Stanmore Golf Club on Thursday 27th June, Year 13 students dressed up and celebrated the end of their A-level examinations by dancing the night away!

The sixth form team and A-level staff joined the students to celebrate the end of two formative years. We are so proud of everything the students have achieved and we can't wait to celebrate their successes further on results day

Ms. A Jones, Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Form Taster Week

Year 11 engagement in Sixth Form Taster Week

The annual sixth form taster week was held from Monday 24th June to Thursday 27th June; the week was rounded off with the hugely successful Year 11 Prom.

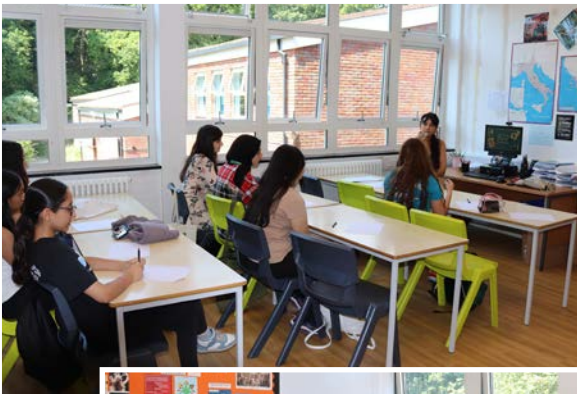
All Year 11 students were invited to 'taste' 6th form lessons and life. Students were encouraged to try subjects they have not studied before at GCSE such as Sociology, Classics and Government and Politics. In addition, students were asked to think carefully about what subjects they are good at and what subjects they enjoy (not what subjects their friends are doing nor what subjects their parents want them to study). The move from GCSE to post-16 education is a huge jump and students must ensure they have made the right choices for them.

In addition, the Sixth Form team were proud to showcase our enrichment offer. Students found out more about: The Ethics Cup, Bar Mock Trial, the Extended Project Qualification and the variety of sports available in the sixth form. We are so excited about welcoming the new Year 12s this September.

Ms Alice Jones
Head of Sixth Form



Mathematics



Classics



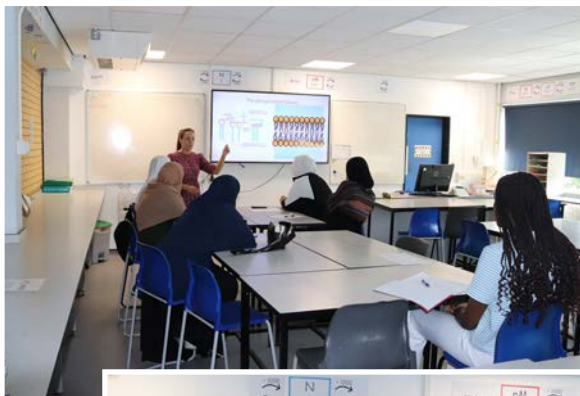
Geography



English



Physics



Biology



Chemistry

UN simulations and university visits



University of East Anglia,



Oxford University

Year 12 experience a residential stay at University of East Anglia

We had the privilege to visit the University of East Anglia in Norwich. It was such a valuable and unique experience; we had a real insight into what it's like to be a university student living in student accommodation. The student ambassadors of the university provided us with talks about their experiences and what student life was like for them. Furthermore, we also had mini talks on sixth form life, and picking the correct university courses for undergraduate level.

We learnt about the different courses available, an integrated course, a course with a year abroad and much more! Our teacher Mr Ferris also provided us with a detailed session on personal statements with his top tips for writing the perfect personal statement.

Above all, the most adventurous part of this residential trip was when we were given the opportunity to visit the city centre of Norwich. We had the chance to explore the city centre and learn some of the interesting history behind Norwich. We found out that Norwich used to be the capital city of the UK before London. I would like to thank Mr Ferris for planning this residential trip for us and hopefully we get the opportunity to go on more insightful and adventurous trips like this one!

Nermyn S 12PBL

- I found the UEA overnight trip experience really enjoyable. The student ambassadors were really kind and shared their experience about student life which made it sound a lot less daunting. It is everyone's first time away from home so "it's okay to make mistakes as you learn from it". The accommodation was really nice and clean with lots of green spaces around, allowing maximum natural light into our spacious rooms and a really peaceful and nice place to have a walk around. We attended personal statement workshops and a taster session on global development with really interesting discussions and used our problem-solving skills for the given case study for global demand of minerals and mining. We also talked about materials and where they come from as the University of East Anglia is mainly concrete. Moreover, we had a chance to experience the student life by walking into the city of Norwich.

It felt really safe and the people around were very humble and polite. I got to admire the beautiful Georgian architecture, with its medieval streets, numerous churches and art-deco influences as well as conduct a photoshoot for art as well. Overall, it was a really informative and fun trip with lots of independent time giving us a snapshot to our lives next year.

Kavya J 12NS

Sixth formers visit St John's College, Oxford

Recently, the 6th form students embarked on an enriching and educational trip to St John's College, Oxford. The outreach opportunity was meticulously planned to offer students a glimpse into the prestigious academic environment and history afforded by the renowned university.

Students had a guided tour of St John's College through the picturesque courtyards and stunning libraries. Our university guide provided insights into the college's rich heritage and the academic traditions that have been upheld for centuries.

The students were then challenged with a chemistry workshop which provided hands-on experience with various experiments, and promoted problem solving and critical thinking skills. One of the highlights of the day, was a question and answer session with a current St John's College undergraduate student. Our students had the opportunity to interact with someone currently immersed in the Oxford experience, gaining valuable insights into student life, academic challenges, and the unique opportunities that the university offers.

Ms Sabir

Hosai in Year 12 chairs the Model UN

Model UN simulations engage hundreds of thousands of students each year, helping them to learn more about the principles of the UN and how it functions. Many of today's leaders in law, government, business and the arts – including at the UN itself – participated in Model UN as students.

Here Hosai recounts her experience in her own words:

Attending the 3-day conference (15th to 17th March) at the London School of Economics and Political Science was a wonderful experience. It offered unique opportunities such as chairing delegates who delved into discussions and debates, mirroring the roles of diplomats representing various countries, and formulating resolutions addressing challenges on the agenda which discussed the digital gender divide and its impact on girls and women in less economically-developed countries (LEDCs).

Whilst hosting and chairing the UN Women Committee, I developed strategies for promoting sustainable solutions to issues concerning the complexities surrounding gender inequality.

The conference helped me foster diplomatic skills, empowering delegates to become advocates for positive change in their communities and beyond and most importantly, I made lasting friendships!

I look forward to continuing representing Bentley Wood High School as a passionate sixth former.

Hosai Y Year 12

Student wins second place for Peace Essay Competition

The United Nations Association Coventry Branch International Young People's Peace Essay gives young people aged 15 - 24 a chance to tell the world what they think needs to be done to promote peace and reduce conflict.

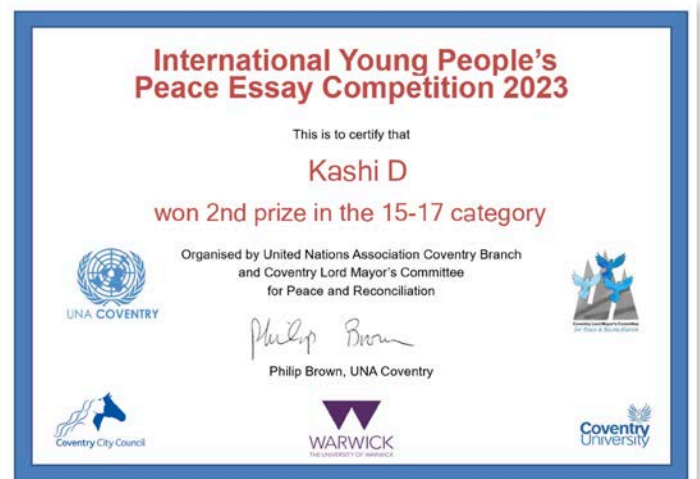
All entrants to the competition receive a certificate of participation and stand a chance to win a monetary prize.

It is a tool for exploring young people's opinions on peace agendas and for harnessing their enthusiasm for contributing to the improvement of peace in the world.

The collection of written essays could serve as a resource for various sectors. For example, a source of ideas for leaders, items for analysis by social scientists and law scholars, a motivational tool for use by teachers to encourage their students to write essays and a revelation for politicians about the issues that preoccupy the minds of young people.

Our sixth form student Kashi D has won second place with her essay.

Mr Maric



Sixth Formers and Social Science

A truly mind-bending talk for Psychology students

The Bentley Wood Psychology Department were delighted to welcome Professor Peter Ayton, who delivered an engaging and interesting talk on 'The Psychology of Illusions' and Q&A to 80 AS and A Level Psychology students. Professor Ayton solved some mysteries of the mind, by revealing the cognitive elements to how and why illusions can trick our brains, including the famous 'Bristol Café Wall Illusion' and 'Never Ending Staircase'.

Professor Ayton is both a lecturer and active researcher at the University of Leeds and City University, offering advice to our aspiring psychologists as to career paths and employability following A Levels.

The psychology students expressed how excited this talk made them feel for attending university, and how refreshing psychology can be when studied outside of the classroom as well. The students felt extremely lucky that Professor Ayton took the time out of his day to deliver his talk, and the students are looking forward to Professor Ayton's return!

Miss Bloom, Leader of Psychology

Quotes from students:

"The talk was extremely insightful because we learnt a lot about psychology not seen in the A Level specification, which was very eye opening."

Lubnah M Year 13

"The Q&A career information was very enriching and it gave me more information and context to consider when looking at psychology as a career path. The talk was also interesting on the theories of pattern recognition as a facet of psychology."

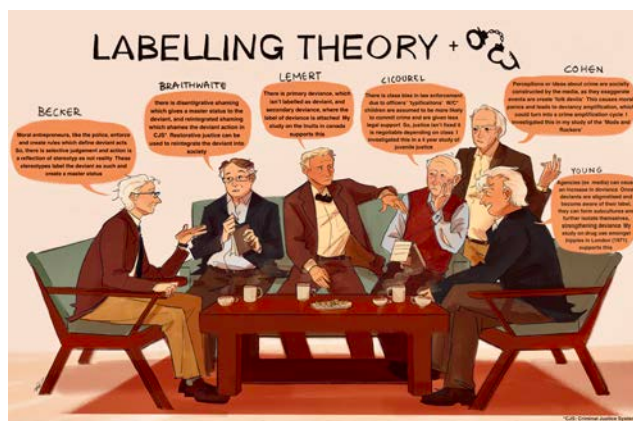
Julia C Year 13

Year 13 student creates amazing sociology poster

Preesha S in 13JT has combined her love for both animation and sociology and produced an amazing poster for Labelling Theory in crime and deviance.

This just shows how our students can combine their amazing skills to apply in different fields of their learning. Preesha has applied to study animation at university next year.

Mr Maric





Sociology students visit Roehampton University Sociology department

Sociology students had a chance to explore life at university. We visited the Sociology Department at the University of Roehampton.

Students attended a series of workshops and mini lectures such as Walk in a Researcher's Shoes - an interactive, applied research workshop, criminologists and their roles - Why Criminology is more than just crime and what can you do if you study sociology and criminology.

It was an opportunity to experience and apply what students learnt in sociology so far.

Mr Maric

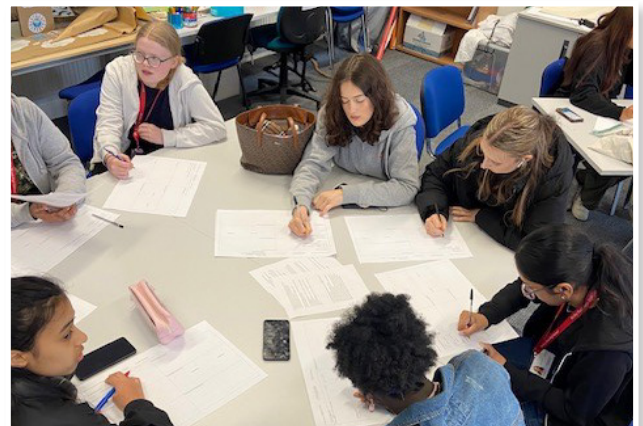
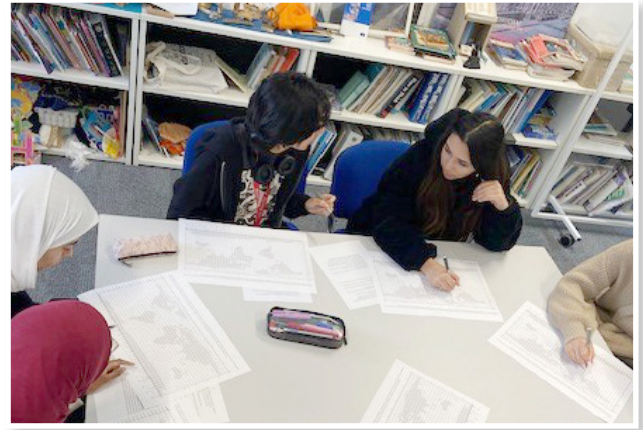
Dr Ebony Reid lecture on Trap Life

Dr Ebony Reid is a Criminologist and Ethnographer specialising in research on street crime/violence in inner city London. Dr Reid has an active interest in developing new psychosocial understandings of urban criminality and street culture.

Her recent article, published in the British Journal of Criminology, explores how traumatic childhood events alongside socioeconomic and cultural dynamics shape the psychology of urban drug dealers as they respond to existential suffering. She shared her findings and experiences of studying drug culture in North London with our Year 13 sociology students.

It is a great opportunity for sociology students to gain in depth understanding of sociological work in relation to topics that they study for their examinations.

Mr Marris



Roehampton University



Criminologist Dr Ebony Reid

Ethical debates and societies



Students reach final of the Ethics Cup

Attending the Ethics Cup Final at The University Of St Andrews with my team was a truly enlightening experience. Engaging in debates about complex societal issues pushed us to think critically and creatively. We explored ethical solutions to problems like paid surrogacy, state of exception and the dog meat festival honing our ability to articulate and defend our viewpoints.

The competition not only sharpened our public speaking and argumentation skills but also deepened our understanding of the diverse perspectives that shape our world. It was inspiring to see so many passionate young minds come together, demonstrating that thoughtful dialogue and ethical reasoning are vital in addressing today's challenges.

During the start competition on stage, I used the fact that a peacock was seen in Bentley Wood fields as a fun fact about our school. The whole experience was wonderful, and exploring the St Andrews beach was a highlight for myself.

Overall, the event was a fantastic opportunity for growth

and learning, reinforcing the importance of respectful debate and collaborative problem-solving in our society. As sixth formers we will continue to strive and represent Bentley Wood as always!"

Hosai Y 12 KW



Sociology Year 12 class visits Church of Scientology

Our sociology students visited the Headquarters of The Church Of Scientology at Saint Hill Manor near East Grinstead. Scientology is a set of beliefs and practices invented by the American author L. Ron Hubbard, and an associated movement. It is defined as a new religious movement.

In Year 13 sociology students are learning about beliefs in society and this trip was an opportunity to learn more about non-mainstream religious organisations.

This visit inspired our students to become more confident in understanding religious organisations and be able to apply sociological concepts to real life case studies.

Mr Maric



Student careers advice and support



Student engagement at annual Careers Fair

Thirty-eight organisations attended Bentley Wood High School for its annual careers fair. Organisations came from healthcare, banking and finance, uniformed services, hospitality & catering, construction, IT, the civil service and higher education universities and further education colleges.

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

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

Mr Tapper, Careers Advisor



Year 10 Employability Workshop

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

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

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

Interviewees

My interview experience:

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

My first impressions:

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

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

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

Bakhtawar W 10EV

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

What I loved the most was how my interviewer related some of the questions back to the profession I was looking at for my future and he was kind enough to also give me some tips during my interview.

It felt like talking to a friend. After the interview I was relieved as he told me that he enjoyed the conversation and that I was the best interview he had so far. He honestly made my day.

Mina S 10SG

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

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

Interviewers

Nasrin Lewis, Resourcer at Maximus

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

Michael Smith, Building Surveyor at Academy estate Consultants

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

Farrah Quintyne, Social Worker



International Women in Engineering Day: A seminar on engineering

Inspiring, Aspirational. Motivating- Women in STEM seminar

On Wednesday the 19th of June a Women in STEM seminar took place. The seminar immediately piqued my interest in STEM and made me enthusiastic to find out more. The seminar was held by David, a tunnel engineer who engaged everyone's interest in STEM

There are two main approaches to becoming an engineer; university which is a more formal route or an apprenticeship, where you gain experience working at the job, alongside going to university. Which is a terrific opportunity as you are getting paid for experience and learning. However, they are equally as great as each other and come with their own experiences.

Working as an engineer comes with many benefits such as; getting opportunities to travel the world and free dental care, sometimes a company car and health insurance, and a high starting salary starting at £30,000.

An intriguing question was asked, and it was: What was the biggest mistake you've made? The answer shocked the room when David said that there was an error in his calculations that caused a tunnel to collapse. However he was able to take from that and develop his knowledge to improve on his work. David also mentioned how rewarding working in STEM and being an engineer is, as he said, it involved helping the community. That is vital because you can change the world.

David mentioned that the most interesting project he has done was in Iceland. This is due to Iceland's geographical characteristics such as its active volcanoes, that produce geothermal energy from its heat. One challenge was when he was working on a project in Scotland, where he was living in a cabin away from his family for two weeks on and off, as David was away from them. On the other hand, David and his family also moved to Doha, Qatar for 10 months, and he mentioned that it was a nice experience of diversity.

One inspiring woman's story who stood out to me was Bhavika. When Bhavika was younger, she was aspiring to be an engineer. However coming from a strict household, she was forced to an agreement where she was only allowed to go to university and pursue her dreams on the condition that she married the man chosen by her parents.

Though that was a hindrance to her, the love for STEM took over and she pursued her passion and became a successful manager. Fortunately, the man she married was also an engineer and they are happy.

This story stood out to me because as women, we are faced with obstructions in our life especially career wise and Bhavika is a true role model and shows us women that we can achieve our dreams and be whom we wish to be with hard work and dedication.

STEM is only a male-dominated field as women were given the right to go to university only in the last 150 years. However, we are proving to be great contributors to the world of science with 29% (and rising) of STEM workers being women. We, as women, have the capability to pursue studies in STEM fields without perpetuating a male-dominated environment. We have the potential to surpass our male counterparts, uncover new discoveries, and significantly further the realms of science and engineering.

One woman in the history of STEM whose story has stuck with me for years is Rosalind Franklin. Franklin was a scientist that always faced ignorance and disrespect in her workplace purely based on her gender. She discovered the double helix structure of DNA; however, her coworkers stole her discoveries and displayed it as theirs, then won a Nobel Prize. Franklin's story highlights the sexist disrespect that women face daily in the workplace especially in fields such as STEM. Fortunately, Rosalind Franklin now gets recognition for her hard work. We women cannot let this go on any longer and we will overcome patriarchal beliefs and make a difference because we are an intelligent sex.

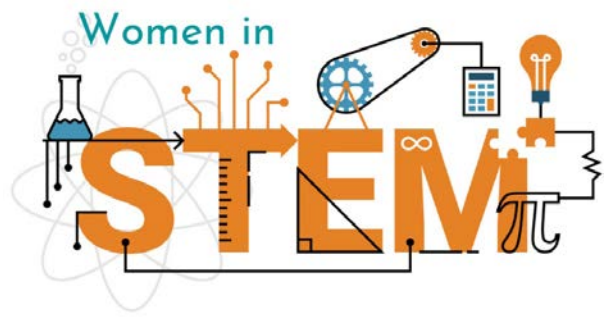
Mariam S 9TC

Students are inspired by engineering workshop seminar

On the 19th of June 2024 I and lots of other Year 8s and Year 9s got the chance to participate in an Engineering Workshop. The duration was 1 hour. We sat down in our seats and the engineer introduced himself as David. As a starter, he asked us what we think an engineer does. There were a variety of answers, such as solving problems, building tunnels, and building automobiles. He then started talking about the inspirational women that he works with daily.

On the following slides of the PowerPoint, we saw their quotes. In particular, this one engineer stood out. She talked about how she was expected to marry and become a homemaker and how she persevered and fulfilled her dream of becoming an engineer. This really inspired me as I was moved by her story, and I felt that she (along with other female engineers) was changing how the world views women in STEAM. I also was glad that there are women that are working in engineering as this profession is mostly dominated by men.

Overall, I think that this workshop is good for girls to go to as this can help develop and expand their ideas on what they aspire to become.



Student Rewards July 2024

Year 12

Art

Fatema H 12RGR - shown a really positive attitude to learning in Art lessons.

Biology

Rauva J 12SNU - and **Soha O 12SNU** - for consistent hard work in Biology.

Business studies

Yashvi V 12NS - Well done for continued excellent achievement in the subject and for completing a wonderful essay entry for the King's College Cambridge competition. Good luck.

Chemistry

Marwa Albadri 12RGR, Hoden Cisman 12NS and Safa Amani 12KW - these girls have made exceptional progress this year and it has been a pleasure to see all three of them grow in confidence as chemists. Keep up the hard work!

Classical Civilisation

Hiba Kola 12PBL - for really trying to produce essays that show intellectual autonomy and her dedication to the subject.

Computer science

Sarah O 12NS - for encouragement of other students, ever present extra-curricular involvement and very hard work

English

Mahnoor A 12KW - for her continued commitment to English.

Geography

Hosai Y 12KW - she has been outstanding in her approach to Year 12 Geography, she has been an enthusiastic member of the class and consistently read and developed her own understanding of the subject.

H&S

Zainab A 12NS and Sana H 12PBL - for consistently producing high quality work.

Maths

Yashvi V 12NS - for her resilience & commitment to her Further Maths studies. Keep up the good work!

Philosophy

Khadija N 12SNU - For her excellent effort in the last few months and a wonderful presentation on the Philosophy of Mind.

Baveena S 12RGR and Britannia N 12SNU - great enthusiasm, very high scholarly standards, and great presentation to the Pinner Philosophy Society representing our school brilliantly."

Physics

Sarah O 12NS - For her perseverance throughout this year and her vastly improved performance over the past few months

Psychology

Lima S 12SNU - has really been engaging well and positive attitude

Sociology

Ferhaddiba A 12KW - For always doing her best in Sociology

Spanish

Sarah M 12SNU - For her hard work and determination in Spanish this year and showing her passion for the language.

Politics

Tina F 12SNU and Eshaal K 12PBL - for organising our school-wide mock election!



Student Rewards July 2024

Year 13

Art

Aziza E 13JT - dedicated to working hard in Art lessons.

Biology

Madina M 13GCO - for the progress she has made in Biology. She has sought help and has grown in confidence in her understanding. Well done.

Chemistry

Madina M 13GCO - for the progress she has made particularly this year with her Chemistry and demonstrating such resilience and hard work. Well done!

Classical Civilisation

Nikita M 13AP - for her commitment to the Classics and independent study beyond the curriculum.

English

Maryam A 13JG - for her thorough preparation for the exams and excellent achievement.

H&S

Manahill R 13AP and Sana K 13AP - For consistently working hard throughout the year.

Maths

Neha P 12JT and Sara V 13JG - For their hard work & determination throughout the year & their contribution to their Maths lessons. All the very best ladies!

Philosophy

Lubnah M 13JT - scholastic excellence and endless enthusiasm for the subject, and great presentation to the Pinner Philosophy Society representing our school brilliantly.

Physics

Nabeela S 13AP - for her success in physics this year

Psychology

Hafsa A 13AP - for her brilliant effort and progression between her assessment, and approaching every lesson with a smile

Sociology

Preesha S 13JT - for consistently working hard throughout the year.

Spanish

Hafsa R 12RGR - For outstanding effort and independent work in her A Level Spanish course.

Politics

Ghezal S 13SBA - for your commitment to your studies in Politics!



A Summer of sport

National School Sports Week

National School Sports Week is an annual event that aims to inspire children to participate in sport and physical activities and here at Bentley Wood we marked the event with a special programme of clubs and activities that catered to all interests and skill levels. The week kicked off on Monday the 17th of June with a discussion about the importance of Sports Week during form time in our weekly Wise Thoughts and there was even a quiz to test the students' knowledge of sport.

From Monday to Thursday the activities on offer included basketball, Kung Fu, diamond cricket, and trampolining to name just a few. Students were also introduced to the Indian team sport Kho Kho which involves the skill of running, diving and dodging. There were even sessions for students to take part in tasters of self-defence, table tennis and dance step fitness. In addition, external coaches were invited to lead activity sessions for years 7 to 9 during their P.E. lessons.

Our annual Sports Day on the 21st of June wrapped up in grand style our whole school celebration of sport. Sports Week showcases the school's commitment to fostering a love for sports and healthy living and we are fortunate to have a talented and dedicated P.E. department who delivered such a diverse and engaging programme for our students. National School Sports Week is more than just a series of events; it's a celebration of the values that sports instil in our students—discipline, teamwork, perseverance, and respect.



Martial Arts Workshop



Table Tennis





Step Workout

Year 8 netball team

On Tuesday 18th June the Year 8 netball team had their final match of the season, which was the semi-final against Pinner High School. The team have regularly been attending before school training sessions on a Tuesday as well as afterschool on a Tuesday. Their hard work and commitment has been very impressive and this was demonstrated throughout the game. The match was very close throughout - it was 3-3 after the first quarter, 4-6 (to Pinner at half time) then 8-8 after the 3rd quarter, but unfortunately it finished 11-9 to Pinner. The girls played with a lot of passion and demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship throughout the game. Congratulations to Evie R who was their players player.

If your daughter would like to get involved please encourage her to come to the clubs that we will be running in the new school year. We are already starting to get ready for the Year 9 competitions.

Ms Collen

Aylward Sports Day 2024

On Thursday 27th June, Year 10 Sports Leaders went to Aylward Primary school to help run their KS2 sports day. Throughout the day the Year 10's led different sporting activities for the primary school children to compete in. Some of these events included tug of war, egg and spoon race and the sack race. All of the staff at Aylward were so impressed with the Sports Leaders and were so thankful that they came to help with the day. You are all a huge credit to Bentley Wood!

Miss Chandler and Miss Wardlaw



The annual Bentley Wood Sports Day 2024

Thrilling Sports Day at Bannister Sports Centre

On a sunny and glorious Friday morning, Bannister Sports Centre buzzed with excitement as students, teachers, and families gathered for the much-anticipated Bentley Wood School Sports Day.

This annual event, held on the 21st of June, was a culmination of a week-long celebration of sport where students had the opportunity to take part in fun events that emphasized teamwork, perseverance, and personal achievement. There was plenty of team spirit on display with colourful banners and spirited cheering from the crowds in support of athletes representing their house.

The programme for the day featured track, discus, javelin, shot put, long jump, tug-of-war and a series of novelty

events. After an action-packed and fast-paced day of sporting fun and endeavour, students gathered on the field as results were announced. In keeping with the spirit of the school's CARE values, additional points were awarded for the most enthusiastic cheering and for the tidiest kept house areas.

Earth house came first this year with a magnificent total of 1248 points with Fire house a close second with 1229 points. Well done to Air and Water who also did remarkably well with scores of 1138 and 1107 points respectively. A huge thank you to Ms Collen and the P.E. department for their hard work and dedication that made it such a memorable and enjoyable day for all!





Students enjoy activity days 2024

Students have fun taking part in this years activity days

Students took part in the annual Activity Days this year going on an amazing varied selection of events. Year 7 went to Windsor for a historic and enjoyable trip looking at the role of knights in the Middle Ages.

Year 8 went to the picturesque coastal town of Walton on the Naze. Year 9 and 10 had a cultural experience at the National Gallery and the British Museum.

At School we had a Year 7 taking part in a Murder Mystery event and Year 8 taking on STEM challenges with engineering-based marble runs made from cardboard and Duke of Edinburgh activities.

These activities are enjoyed by the whole school and staff and are a great way to finish off the school year.

Thank you to all staff who took the time to support our students in these enriching activities.



Walton on the Naze



Science STEM activity



DofE activity



Windsor Castle



Murder Mystery

The National Gallery

Student wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing Updates from the Bentley Woods

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

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

Supporting Teenagers' Mental Health: Tips for Parents

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

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

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

www.annafreud.org

Mental Health Awareness Week

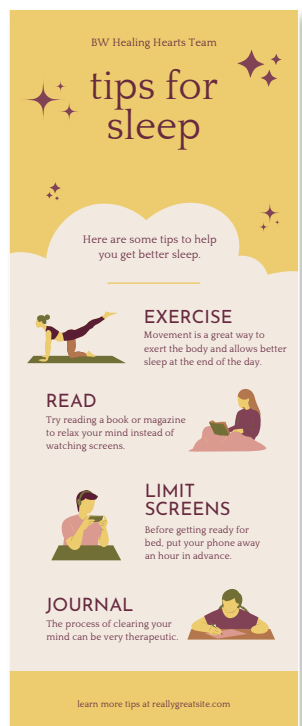
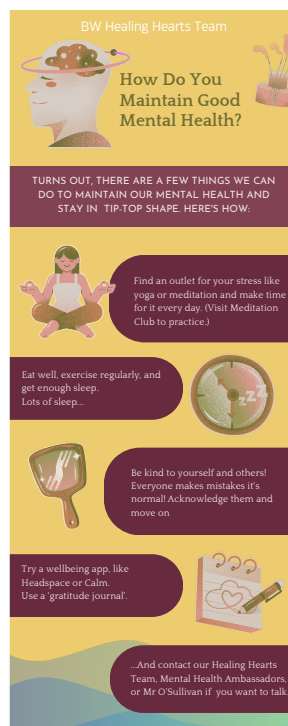
We recently celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week (May 13th) focusing on movement, exercise and developing resilience. As we always say to you, exercise - going for a walk, cycling, etc. is so helpful for your daughter's wellbeing. In this spirit, **Ms Bannon** (Associate Assistant Headteacher) organised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

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

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

Infographics.

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



Resource for Older Teenagers

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

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

New Book on Smartphones and Mental Health:

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

You can read more about it here:

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

Mental Health Hub for Teenagers and Parents - Harrow:

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

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

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

<https://youngharrowfoundation.org/parents>

Digital Wellbeing Platform - Govox:

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

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

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

Stay Connected: Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Teams Channel

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

Select Mental Health & Wellbeing Support at Bentley Wood

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

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

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

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

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

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

Useful Apps and Websites:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wishing a very happy half-term.

Mr O'Sullivan

Assistant Headteacher

Senior Mental Health Lead

Information and advice for students and parents

Parent Ambassadors

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

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

Our role consists of helping with induction and admission of new students and to help fill out forms. We support by helping parents and carers understand parent consultations, meetings and assemblies.

We translate at meetings, act as interpreters and translate English into parent/carers native language. We like to involve parents in their daughter's education by inviting parents to coffee mornings, end of term meetings and parties.

Ms Halpin speaker of Arabic and French
Ms Usman speaker of Urdu
(We can arrange translation for Pashto speakers)

Please contact us:

Email: SchoolOffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk

Phone: 0208 954 3623



The Parent Ambassadors host an end of year party

We have had a wonderful year meeting so many parents during our English Parent Classes and coffee mornings. Most recently, we had an end of year party for Bentley Wood mums who are progressing beautifully in English language learning and gaining in fluency in speaking. We were delighted to have been joined by Mrs Nye (Head of EAL), Ms Scarle (our Governor), Mrs Khan (our librarian) and Mrs Akbar (our headteacher).

Our Parent Ambassadors Mrs Halpin, Mrs Usman and Teaching Assistant Mrs Morrison were also present enjoying the feast prepared by Parents of our students. Mums had prepared speeches about their countries which was very enlightening and showed how impressive their skills are. If you would like to join our parent classes or coffee mornings next year, more information will be sent your way in September! We hope to see you there.

Mrs Nye, Head of EAL



Staying Safe over the Summer

We wish you a safe summer break. If you have any safeguarding concerns or worries, the School's reception will be open over the Summer from 9am-4pm.

Important back to school dates:

Start of term:

Monday 2nd September – Friday 25th October
 Wednesday 4th September – Year 7 and Year 12 only
 Thursday 5th September – Whole school

Advice for Students:

- Talk to a trusted adult if anyone says or does anything that worries or frightens you. A **trusted adult** might be a family member or please contact the school – someone will be there to support you.
- **Always** tell a trusted adult where you are going and what time you will return.
- Don't lend your mobile phone to anyone unless it is an emergency
- Don't let anyone online trick you into doing something or sending pictures against your wishes.
- **Don't share** any passwords/login information – keep them private and use complex passwords, too.
- Never give personal information to any person you don't know.

Safety and your mobile phone:

- Speak to a parent/trusted adult about who you are connecting with and not to purchase anything online without gaining an adult's permission first.
- Age Ratings on Apps are **there to keep you safe**.
- **Only** connect online with friends and family you know in the physical world and not to accept 'friend play request' from strangers.
- Don't put up with abusive texts, photos or video. Show them to an adult and report them.
- You should **always** speak to a trusted adult if you see or hear anything online that makes you feel **scared** or **uncomfortable** and to **never** arrange to meet someone who they have met online.
- When sharing images: **you need consent** to take and share images/videos of others. People also need your **consent to take and share** your image.
- If an image shows the private parts of a person who is under 18; it IS an indecent image: It is an **offence** if you: save it, share it, keep it, print it, forward it, show it.

Safety and Social Media

With social media you can send messages, share pictures, videos and chat with people all over the world. ... **but who are you connecting with?**

Anyone can use the Internet. Not everyone is who they say they are and some people are not nice.

Most social media platforms require users to be of a minimum age to use their services:

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

Additional Support:

- Online Safety: www.nspcc.org.uk
- Staying safe online in the summer holidays – advice for parents and carers: www.saferinternet.org.uk
- How to recognise the signs of bullying and sexual exploitation: www.harrowlscb.co.uk
- Mental Health: www.youngminds.org and Mental Health Support Services in Harrow

Supportive Websites:

- Childline: 0800 1111
- NSPCC:
- Samaritans: Call 116 123 (24 hours 7 days a week)
- [Campaign Against Living Miserably \(CALM\)](http://Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)) : Call 0800 58 58 58 – 5pm to midnight every day
- Papyrus: Call 0800 068 41 41 – 9am to midnight every day Text 07860 039967
- Childline: Call 0800 1111 (24 hours 7 days a week)
- The Mix: Call 0808 808 4994 (3pm to 12am)

Useful contacts:

NSPCC report abuse line: 0808 800 5000
 Harrow's Golden Number: 020 8901 2690
 Harrow's Out of Hours Emergency Team: 020 8424 0999
 Emergency Services: 999

Other Useful Contacts:

Harrow Children's Services and Harrow Local Safeguarding Board www.harrowlscb.co.uk

In an emergency you must always call 999.

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



Information and advice for students and parents

Free School Meals eligibility

- Children are entitled to receive free school meals if they or their parents or guardians receive any of the benefits below.
- Universal Credit, provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

I don't currently claim free school meals - what does this mean for me?

If you think you might be eligible for free school meals, please see instructions here on how to check and apply.

I am currently claiming free school meals - what does this mean for me? Most people won't be affected by the new criteria. If you're currently claiming free school meals, but do not meet the new criteria, your child will continue to receive free school meals until the end of the Universal Credit rollout period.

This will apply even if your earnings rise above the new threshold or if you stop being entitled to Universal Credit. The Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2025. Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, your

child will keep their free school meal until the end of their current phase of education, i.e. primary or secondary.

Where can I get more information?

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

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



Your information

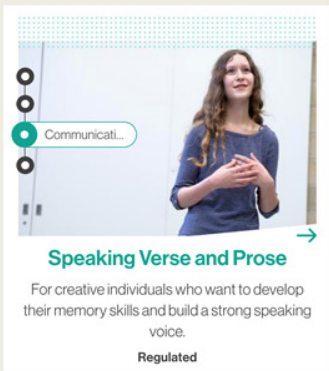
It is vital to check that we hold your most current and accurate data.

Please ensure that you inform the School Office/Data Office of any changes such as **student name/address/contact details/mobile number & email address.**

These must be kept up to date otherwise you may not be able to receive important information. When informing us of an address change, please provide proof of address such as Council Tax or Tenancy Agreement.

Ms Ramsay, Data Manager

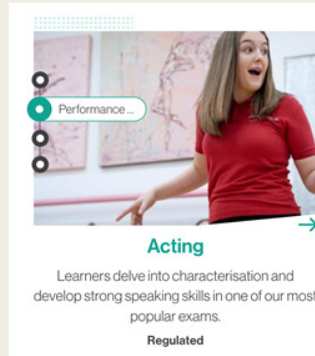




Speaking Verse and Prose

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

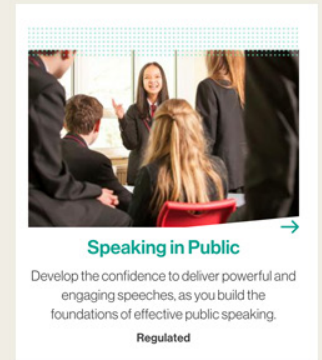
Regulated



Acting

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

Regulated



Speaking in Public

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

Regulated

What is LAMDA? London Academy of Dramatic Art is a well-known establishment in qualifications in Speech of Verse & Prose, Acting, Musical Theatre and Public Speaking. It is well respected and recognised on a person's CV and offers UCAS points for Grade 6,7 & 8.

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

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

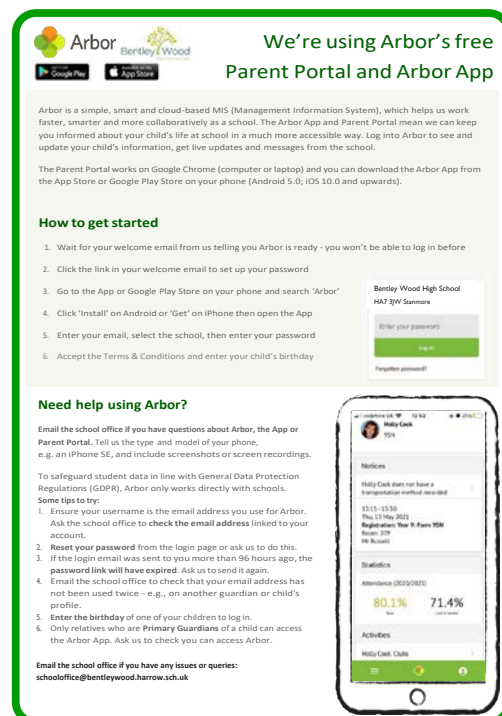
LAMDA



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

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

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



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How to get started

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

Need help using Arbor?

Email the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask the school office to check the email address linked to your account.
2. Reset your password from the login page or ask us to do this. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. Ask us to send it again.
3. Email the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g., on another guardian or child's profile.
4. Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
5. Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.

Email the school office if you have any issues or queries: schooloffice@bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk

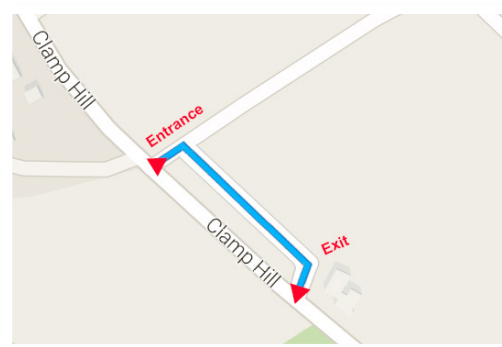
Information and advice for parents and students

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 2024

Thursday 15th August - AS and A-level Results Day. Y12 to enrol back into Y13
Thursday 22nd August - GCSE Results Day
Thursday 22nd - Friday 23rd August - Sixth Form Enrolment
Monday 2nd September - CPD Staff Training Days. No students on site
Tuesday 3rd September - CPD Staff Training Days. No students on site
Wednesday 4th September - Y7 and Y12 Induction Day 08:40 - 14:30
Thursday 5th September - **Whole school returns. Registration 08:40**
Thursday 12th September - School Open Evening. Early finish 12:30/12:40
Friday 13th September - Late start for students. Registration 10:20
Monday 16th - Friday 20th September - School Open Week 9:00 - 12:00
Wednesday 18th September - Y13 Parents Evening 16:00 - 18:00
Thursday 19th September - UCAS predicated grade deadline
Saturday 21st & 28th September - School Open Saturday 10:30 - 12:45
Tuesday 1st October - School Photos
Thursday 10th October - Careers Fair
Thursday 17th October - Sixth Form Open Evening 17:30 - 19:30
Friday 25th October - CPD Teacher Training Day. No students on site
Monday 28th - Friday 1st November - **Half Term**
Wednesday 13th November - Y10 Parents Evening. Early finish 13:30
Thursday 5th December - Y8 Parents Evening. Early finish 13:30
Wednesday 18th December - Winter Concert
Friday 20th December - **End of Term.** Early finish 12:50/13:00
Monday 23rd - Friday 3rd January 2025 - **Christmas Holiday**

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

www.bentleywood.harrow.sch.uk