Gamp Hill Girls' Chronicle

End of Summer Term 2023



Educational excellence for our City

Letter from Ms Stevens

Dear Parents and Carers

It feels quite unbelievable that I'm writing to you in the last week of this academic year. I really am not sure where the time has gone! What I am very clear about however, is that everyone (me included) seems to be more than looking forward to well-earned rest from the pressures of time, and a slightly steadier pace of life for a few weeks! As the year draws to a close, I would like to say a personal thank you for the part you play in the success of our school. I know that there is a huge amount of unseen work, discussion, debate, support and encouragement that happens to ensure that your children come to us each day ready and willing to give their all, and achieve their best.

The opportunity to congratulate all of our students at our Summer Celebration Prize Giving event on Friday the 14th of July, was a fantastic way to end 2022/23. Regardless of whether students received an award, they are all successful in their own right and each one deserves congratulations on their achievements this year. As I said during my welcome speech last week, we are all so incredibly proud of our student body: they have yet again had to dig deep and show great resilience in the face of yet more disruption over recent months. I am sure we all agree that ensuring the future of our education system is vital and a priority, not just now but for the next generation. We remain hopeful that discussions with the Government will lead to a more secure and positive future for education and our young people.

Our annual Alumni event on Saturday 8th July saw more than 50 ex-students and staff return to tour the school, enjoy afternoon tea and reminisce over stories about their school years. It was a wonderful afternoon (despite being graced by the typical British weather). Thank you to Sarah Harnett, our Alumni and Fundraising Officer for her hard work in organising the event. If you know of any Alumni, or are indeed yourself an ex-member of staff or student of Camp Hill Girls, please do sign up to receive information about future events and ways in which you might be able to get involved with the life of the school. Further information is available on the Former Students and Friends section on our website.

At the end of this academic year we say farewell to Mr. Cox, Subject Leader for History and Politics, who leaves us to become Head of faculty at KES after teaching at Camp Hill Girls for the last 17 years; Mr Johnson, Head of Year 12 and Teacher of Drama leaves us to take up a Head of Drama post at Yardleys School, after teaching at Camp Hill for the last 7 years, and Mrs Tyler Biggs, leaves us after 4 years to join KEHS to teach Chemistry. Miss Al-Nemrat and Miss Blythe have completed their one-year internships as Pupil Enabler and Office Support, respectively. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank all of our departing staff for their dedication to the school, and wish them well in the future lives and careers.

There have been so many events, activities and highlights over the last half term. I know how much both students and staff always look forward to a little bit more fun, laughter and a celebration of all we have achieved at the school community over the last academic year. Enrichment week never fails to provide some much needed respite from the daily grind of lessons, and, as always, there really was a vast range of trips and activities for all year groups to get involved with. I hope you enjoy reading the content within what seems to be an ever-growing half-termly chronicle. Thank you to all staff and students who have contributed to this edition, and special thanks go to Ms Hayes and Mrs Royall for overseeing the publication over the last year.

I would like to wish you and your families a restful summer break, and to thank you for your kindness, support and generosity over the last academic year. We look forward to seeing all students back in school on Tuesday 5th September (*please see the separate start of term arrangement letter sent out on Friday 14th July for full details*).

With very best wishes Karen Stevens Headteacher



Active Travel Success

by Mr Cox

As the year comes to a close, so does a project that has been running all year. The Active Travel Ambassadors scheme involving nine students from Years 7 to 10 has been a definite success.

The purpose of the programme has been to promote the benefits of active travel to students, staff and our wider community. Run in conjunction with the Modeshift STARS, the scheme has seen the students conduct their own research, survey the school site, write and deliver a pitch to potential funders and design their own promotional material.

In a bid to promote the benefits of more active travel (that is using more active methods of getting to and from school) the students decided to write and share a quiz testing the school's knowledge of travel methods. Having looked through hundreds of entries, six winners were chosen who had achieved top scores in the quiz.

The winners of the prize quiz received a Fitbit Ace 3 activity tracking watch, a Chilly's water bottle or a chocolate prize box. The winners were: Malak Ahmed (Year 8), Jaish Soni (Year 8), Farishta Dosanjh (Year 7), Laya Chalasani (Year 8), Beulah Thavasekaran (Year 9) and Bhumika Talwar (Year 10).

The last part of the students' project was to evaluate the impact of their efforts on the school's attitude towards active travel. In form time, students were asked to undertake the same survey as earlier in the year, asking what method of travel they used, and what their preferred, ideal mode of transport to and from school would be.

The result was clear: that over the course of the year many more students had chosen to walk at least part of the way to school, and even more would like to 'park and stride' if possible. This has clearly demonstrated the positive impact of the students' campaign and the underlying desire of students to travel more actively, with all the benefits that brings to themselves, the local area and the environment more generally.

Pictured below is the image the students chose to put on a banner, which is to be hung on the railings outside school. It shows the park and stride map - ably designed by the Geography department's Mr Lang! The red line indicates a walking-distance of 5 minutes from the two student entrances to school. For those families who currently drive their child to school, why not take a moment to find a location beyond the red line where you could safely drop your child in the morning and allow them a few minutes of valuable exercise in the morning and help alleviate the traffic issues outside school at drop-off and pick-up times?



Language Competition Success at Camp Hill Girls!

by Mme Price

Many of our students have already signed up to the Languages Competitions Google Classroom (class code mmo4yo5) in order to take part in competitions run by universities and agencies such as the British Council, GCHQ and l'Institut français.



Recently the following students have participated in the Anthea Bell Translation Competition which is run by Queens College, Oxford:

KS5

Iona Mandal and Ciara O'Dwyer (Year 12)

KS4

Nikita Nawghare (Year 10), Amal Zafar (Year 11) and Zaynab Hashmi (Year 10)

KS3

Emilie Flanagan, Vidhushaa Senthilkumar and Ameera Sultan (Year 8)

And we were delighted to find out that Ilya-Rose Hussain in Year 10 was awarded the regional winner's prize for best translation of Spanish. ¡Felicitaciones Ilya-Rose!



We have had further success in the Mother Tongue Other Tongue poetry competition run by Routes into Languages and Warwick University.

Mary Purugannan in Year 10 has won the Mother Tongue KS4 prize and Amina Hussain in Year 11 has won the Other Tongue Prize.

Many thanks also to Ciara O'Dwyer in 12S who entered both of the above mentioned competitions.



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Art Presentation Challenge

by Eesha Walji, Year 12

I am thrilled to bring you the highlights of Camp Hill's first Art Presentation Challenge, a remarkable project that has made its debut this year. This journey started as a result of my participation in the ARTiculation public speaking competition in 2022 - an experience which enabled me to share my passion for an artist whose work I admire. The competition, while originally daunting, was thoroughly rewarding and I wanted to bring a similar opportunity to younger students at Camp Hill so they could share their artistic inspirations and showcase their talent alongside fellow art enthusiasts.



Organised by myself and Rachel Satodia with the support of the Art department, the Art Presentation Challenge spanned several months, celebrating the creativity and talent of students in Key Stage 3 and 4. From February to June, several young artists explored their artistic abilities and produced artworks that were intelligently inspired by their chosen artists.



The core idea behind the challenge was to give students the freedom to express themselves through their artwork while establishing a connection to an artist of their choice. With an open brief, the students had complete control to independently delve into their chosen artistic paths. Throughout the project we organised drop-in sessions where students could work on their pieces and engage in conversations with us about their art. These sessions served as valuable opportunities for us to see the evolution of the artwork of these enthusiastic students.

The culmination of this journey was our exhibition held at the beginning of June. It was a fantastic occasion where we showcased the exceptional work produced during the Art Presentation Challenge, alongside pieces from the Royal Summer Show. The visitors who attended the exhibition were witness to the range of unique artwork and the level of skill demonstrated by these budding artists.





As part of the exhibition, we celebrated the outstanding contributions of several individuals. We extend our congratulations to the winner of the Art Presentation Challenge - Daviena Mariampillai - whose work stood out for its creativity and stunning techniques. In addition, we applaud the two runner-ups, Rosanna Paul and Mishthi Shah, for their remarkable artworks. Furthermore, we are delighted to acknowledge the recipient of the People's Choice Award - Keya Sharma - which was decided through votes submitted by exhibition attendees. We were also amazed by the passion and dedication of all the students who participated, so congratulations and thank you to all of you for making the project a resounding success!

We would also like to thank Miss Irving and the Art department for supporting the project, and last, but my no means least, our appreciation goes to all the visitors for their enthusiastic engagement with the exhibition. It was a wonderful way to bring such an inspiring, successful project to an end. If any current Year 11 / soon-to-be Year 12 students would like to head the Art Presentation Challenge next year and inspire the next generation of young artists, please reach out: we would love to keep it going!



Year 9 Enrichment Week Art Challenge

by Miss Irving

For enrichment week this year, we re-imagined our paper sculpture challenge for Year 9. Instead of making dresses, we chose headdresses as our focus. Students were given two hours to work in groups to create a spectacular headdress using only paper and sellotape, before showcasing their work in a 'catwalk' finale. The visual inspiration for students' ideas came from our world's diverse environments; salt water, forest, desert, jungle, fresh water, skies and architectural. I wonder if you can tell from the photos which was which?

We were really impressed with the enthusiasm, ideas and teamwork demonstrated by Year 9 and loved working with them. Well done everyone!











A Level Summer Art Exhibition

On Tuesday 4th July, the Art Department celebrated the work of their Year 13 leavers in the annual summer art exhibition. Year 13 wowed their audience with a range of work including textiles, film, and printmaking. Thank you to everyone who visited the exhibition and supported our Year 13 artists. Finally, a special thank you to the wonderful host, Miss Irving: none of this would be possible without you!





Year 10 Liverpool Biennial Trip

by Vera Liao, Year 10

On 6th June the Year 10 Art and Graphics students went on a trip to the Liverpool Biennial, a renowned festival of contemporary art held every two years and regarded as the largest in the UK. This year's edition was called "uMoya: The Sacred Return of Lost Things", and shone a light on the vast colonial histories, retracing the roots of all that was lost and taken, that have been woven into the fabric of Liverpool's eclectic culture today.



Splitting into different groups, we visited three art galleries in the area. At Bluecoat, we explored various installations and experiences embracing the impact and roots of suffering and loss. As we stepped inside the exhibition, we were immersed in Nicholas Galanin's work 'k'idein yei jeene' ('you're doing such a good job') which captured the untainted joy of a girl showered in praise in the indigenous Lingit language, one in which the speakers and culture have been long subjected to oppression by colonialism. From there we moved onto a series of installations by Raisa Kabir recounting the intricate history of textiles in the eyes of the Bengal Lascars - Indian sailors exploited by the British East India shipping company, many of whom resided in the docks of Liverpool where textile trade prospered. A feature of these galleries was the interactive nature of the artists' work, from sitting at the tables of the Bengal Lascars to admiring cultural artefacts in a temperature-controlled "Hot House", simulating the heat, humidity and climate these artefacts were originally made in. From this exhibition a particular favourite was artist Benoit Pieron's transfigurations of a previously drab, dispiriting hospital environment of IV drips, hospital beds and waiting room furniture into a playful and vibrant fantasyland for children. With stuffed animals, multi coloured bunting and a stash of cartoon books contrasting the use of discarded bed sheets and medical equipment, the artist seeks to portray alternate expressions of disease, and find joy and hope in a bleak situation.

Another museum we visited was Tate Liverpool, with this exhibition focusing on the journeys weaving tragedy to joy, and the acknowledgment of the ancestral knowledge and traumas of the past that leave their traces in the present day. Particular highlights included Guadalupe Maravilla's "Disease Thrower", towering sculptures that, constructed of various objects taken from pivotal moments in his life, reflect his own journey as a migrant escaping civil war in Salvador and a cancer survivor. Fatima Rodrigo Gonzales' "Holograms" series also struck me, with the hanging, bejewelled patterns of indigenous culture reclaiming the sacred nature of tradition, which the fashion photography industry has exploited and copied in ways that have eradicated their cultural meaning or significance. Aside from the Biennial galleries, the Tate housed many other fascinating works, all embodying the dismissal of the rigid standards of traditional art, and instead adopting a liberating approach where creativity runs wild.

Our third exhibition was the Open Eye Gallery, which focused on depicting the continuing impacts of colonialism, in particular the extraction and destruction of natural resources in African countries that still leave a scar to this day. Works included a replica of an oil-carrying boat, surrounded by photographic installations of people stripped of their dignity and identity as devastating consequences of the exploitative trade of resources, as well as an other worldly environment formed from video clips of the rural land in Laonga, Burkina Faso and an assortment of artefacts to weave a story with visuals, audio and movement rather than words. A poignant piece was a gown constructed from discarded plastics and cloth, called the "Samba Gown" by Sandra Suubi, which showcased plastic pollution as one of many major aftermaths of colonialism. As a performance, it was worn and photographed in various rubbish dumps in Kampala, Uganda, reenacting the contract between Uganda and its former colonisers as a binding wedding, signifying a relationship that still exists in the present.



All in all, the trip to the Liverpool Biennial was a memorable experience and a valuable opportunity to be inspired by other artists, expand on our sketching skills and gain unique ideas on media, composition and meaning that we could incorporate into our own art. It also allowed us to admire the strenuous journeys of those who were forced to leave their communities behind, travelling lengths much, much further than our two and a half hour coach journey from school. Through the stories the artists wove, we witnessed the magnitude of suffering and loss brought about by the exploitative practices of colonialism, and explored how people have striven to embrace the past and convey its impacts on our lives to others, helping us learn more about the world around us in interactive, innovating and inspiring ways.

Ovid in the West Midlands Mythology Competition Final

by Dr Kerr

Earlier this term, four Camp Hill Year 9 students headed to the Exchange Building on Centenary Square in the city centre, along with their families and Latin teachers, for the final of the Ovid in the West Midlands Mythology Competition. We were all very excited, as the prizes were being awarded by famous Birmingham novelist Lindsey Davis (writer of the Marcus Didius Falco detective series, set in Imperial Rome) and there was going to be a performance by award-winning storyteller Daniel Morden.

This competition, run by the Birmingham and Midlands Classical Association, along with the University of Birmingham and the charity Classics for All, is in its second year, and invites students in schools from across the West Midlands to come up with a creative response to one of the myths written about by the Roman poet Ovid.

This year, the myths were the story of Prometheus giving fire to humanity and receiving eternal punishment for it, the fall of Icarus who flew too close to the sun, and the tragic tale of Echo, Narcissus, and unrequited love. All of our Year 9 students worked on their creative responses to one of these myths each back in the Autumn term, and - after an agonising selection process as all the contributions were so good - the top three Camp Hill pieces were sent forward to the grand final, along with the top three entries from a number of other schools.





After a welcome buffet featuring an impressive range of tiny cakes, there was an introduction by Dr Elena Theodorakopoulos, Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Birmingham, who talked about the legacy of Ovid's stories.

Then Daniel Morden took the stage. He told the story of Odysseus and the Cyclops, setting the scene with the gentle hum of a resounding bell, and speaking very expressively - he certainly held our attention!



Then it was on to the awards! There were lots of students from many other schools present, but we are very excited to say that all of the Camp Hill students received awards!

Sophia Pringle-Luo and Ayla Beso received Certificates of Merit for their depiction of Narcissus. You can see their joint design pictured on the screen in the photo, as Hebe Barlow from Classics for All reads out the judges' praise for their entry.

We are delighted to say that both Claudia Melvin and Mishthi Shah each won their respective categories!

Claudia won first prize in the Best Literary Response category for her triplet of sonnets: one from an admirer, one from Echo, and one from Narcissus himself.

Mishthi won first prize in the Most Innovative category, for her 3D picture of Icarus falling.

Below: Claudia and Mishthi receive their prizes from Lindsey Davis.





Mathematics News

by Mr Bettison



Camp Hill Girls excelled themselves in the UKMT Junior Mathematics Challenge at the end of April: of the 290 students who sat the challenge, 213 were awarded either Gold, Silver or Bronze awards. In total, there were 46 Gold, 91 Silver and 76 Bronze – congratulations to all who took part! 28 students participated in the follow-on rounds after scoring very highly in the initial challenge. Of the 24 who did the Junior Kangaroo, 8 were awarded the top grade of Merit. The four entrants to the Junior Olympiad acquitted themselves admirably as well – Leyla Berriche, Fatima Syeda and Livanya Sharma were awarded Merits and Aimen Khan was awarded a Distinction and Silver Medal!

In other news, Camp Hill Girls entered two teams in the South Network Year 9 Team Mathematics Challenge. Mr Hamblett and Mr Taylor ran the event in school and I am pleased to announce that the Camp Hill Girls teams finished first and fourth – fantastic efforts by all!



by Mr Bettison

Industrial Cadets Gold Awards

Two teams of Sixth Form students have been participating throughout the year on Industrial Cadets Gold projects in conjunction with industry partner Collins Aerospace. These projects are designed to take nearly 100 hours to complete so they are no small undertaking – congratulations to both teams for graduating at the end of the process, a just reward for the time and effort put in.

Team Tomato worked with Izzy from Collins on a current sensing device using a busbar. The team comprised (L-R) Mona Yaramati, Ruth Rafeeq, Maryam Usman, Emilie Silk, Yana Aggarwal and Tanisha Rumana.



Team Potato worked with James from Collins on a sustainable energy storage solution. The team comprised (L-R) Safa Hussain, Eesha Walji, Sunnie Chen and Amelia Beckett.



At the celebration and presentation event at the University of Birmingham in June, the students also found out that Team Potato had been awarded the overall prize for Innovation, a fantastic achievement described by the judges as 'head and shoulders' above the other entrants!



Superbugs - Join the fight!

Harman Guraba in Year 8 entered a competition earlier in the year to design an advertisement on the subject of Superbugs. The competition was sponsored by Pfizer, one of the pharmaceutical companies that pioneered COVID vaccines. We were delighted to discover earlier this term that Harman had won FIRST PRIZE in this national competition: a fantastic achievement!

Harman's prize was a full day film-making workshop for her and five of her classmates. At the end of the workshop, Harman's idea had been transformed into a professional quality TV advert which looked absolutely fantastic.

The photo shows the 'crew' in action filming with workshop leader Tim.





Fluids Photo competition for Schools – the winners!

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PhD researchers Emily Butler and Yatin Darbar from the GDT in Fluid Dynamics invited school children of all ages around the country to capture the breadth and beauty of the fluid dynamics they see all around them for a chance to win some great prizes! This year students were asked to submit a photograph, a series of photographs, or a video related to the theme of "fluids in nature". This theme could be explored by capturing something from the natural world or even recreating a natural process with an at home experiment. An impressive range of topics that included, wind, water, rivers and beaches were submitted. All the submissions were judged, and prizes awarded to the top three entries.

The top entries were:

First Place: Wind by Zahra Asghar (Year 8) from King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls. (Series of photographs)

University of Leeds Fluid Dynamics Competition

Zahra Asghar in Year 8 entered the University of Leeds Photography Competition, this year on the theme of Fluid Dynamics.

We were notified only this Monday (17th July), that Zahra finished in first place with her entry entitled 'Wind' which showed the various effects of the wind on trees.

To the left is the University of Leeds blog post announcing Zahra's victory and some of the photographs that she submitted as part of the entry are shown below.





Well done to all the other entrants for submitting excellent entries, and congratulations to Zahra for her superb result!

German Oxford Olympiad

by Ms Smith

Each year, the University of Oxford runs the Oxford German Olympiad, where pupils across a range of ages are encouraged to enter an essay or video on a theme. This year, the theme focused on German Backkultur, or baking culture – think Brezeln, Brötchen and Bienenstich galore! On Thursday 22nd June, two of our Year 12 German students hopped on the train down to Oxford to be commended for their entry. As part of their project, Meena Manoj and Sree Somayajula held and judged a German Bake Off, with expert judging from Julia, our visiting German student, Ms Nguyen and Mrs Tyler Biggs.





Many Year 12 students turned their hand to the art of German baking, producing a dizzying array of Brezeln, Prinzregentorte, Zimtschnecken, Kokosmakronen and Lebkuchen. If you've never studied German before, try searching for them online and see if you'd like to try them for yourself! If you'd like to see the process of judging for yourself, watch Sree and Meena's bake off <u>here</u>.

At the event, Sree and Meena received certificates for being runners-up in the Oxford Olympiad 2023. They also received goody bags with badges and pins from the event's sponsor, the Goethe Institut, a tumbler and books on German language culture.

Two other Camp Hill students, Khyati Verma and Anviti Venkateshwaran, were highly commended for their work and received certificates for their participation.

If you'd like to take part next year, ask your German teacher for next year's theme from January 2024. The deadline is usually in March or April – we look forward to sending more Camp Hill students to the prize-giving in the future!

Viel Glück und viel Spaβ damit!



Catherine Johnson visit

by Isha Sadiq, Year 8

On Tuesday 11th July, Years 7 and 8 had the opportunity to hear Catherine Johnson speak instead of attending our normal last lesson of the day. Catherine, best known as the author of many bestselling historical-fiction books including Sawbones, shared with us her journey as a writer and how she draws inspiration from the world around her. During the session Catherine also mentioned how she struggled with history in school and how her own family's history of enslavement, along with her passion for people and geography pushed her to learn more about history and write about it too.

Towards the end of the session, Catherine took the time to answer our questions and sign books for us. She told us to persevere with our writing and encouraged us to write more about the things we enjoy, saying that our writing is a reflection of us and it's up to us to decide how our characters move on. Finally, she taught us that writing is a journey of self-discovery and growth. She emphasised the importance of being true to ourselves and our interests as that would shine through our writing.





A writing workshop with Catherine Johnson!

by Soliana Fitiwi, Year 7

A small group of students in Year 7 were also lucky enough to have a workshop separately during period 4. After we had settled down, we were given a warm welcome by Catherine and she told us about her heritage, her experience in school, and her journey to becoming a novelist.

After this, we did some writing exercises. Catherine would give us a noun phrase - for example, a talking mouse - and we had to think of the first name we could give it. The names we chose had to be either made up, exquisite, creative names or just any name that came to our minds. I called the old dog 'Benjamin'; the new planet discovered 'Gerico 567'; the new car 't-rex'; the creepy spider 'Scorpio'; the colour 'ombrioness'; and the talking mouse 'Janice'!

When we finished those exercises, we were given a few objects: an old diary, a passport, a detailed and expensive looking box, and a lock. We had five minutes to write about one of these objects in either first, second or third person. We were told to use these objects in a person's life and we weren't allowed to make life easy for our character. This activity was very fun as we had to try and create a story within a short amount of time. We then read them to everyone and Catherine gave us feedback on our work. We were also lucky to receive an autograph!

We are all grateful for this opportunity!







Lit in Colour Student Conference

by Iona Mandal, Year 12

On Wednesday 12th July, I had the privilege of being invited to speak at Pearson Edexcel's Lit in Colour Student Conference in Central London: an event attended by numerous schools and teachers, focussing on diversity and inclusion in the English Literature curriculum.

It was an honour to be sharing a platform with so many eminent and inspiring speakers, ranging from Wendy Lennon – a doctoral researcher on racism in Shakespeare's plays at the Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham, to Jeffrey Boakye – a writer, broadcaster and educator, and Yomi Sode – an award-winning Nigerian British writer whose work I have greatly enjoyed in the past. As the only student speaker, it felt surreal to be occupying a somewhat liminal space as both a young person and a member of the lineup, meaning I was able to connect with the many faces sitting in front of me in an entirely different way.

Pearson was gracious enough to give me the opportunity of both commencing and closing the event – first with my KS5 winning story Belonging for their My Twist on a Tale Writing Competition (which you can read here: <u>Twist on a Tale Winning Stories</u>) and then with a selection of my poetry. Often, it can be difficult to have a meaningful impact on the ideas of young people, but I was absolutely thrilled when a girl of my age came up to me in the toilet to tell me how much my story resonated with her!

Another highlight of the day was meeting Akiya Henry: a stage and screen actor in many Shakespeare plays including Macbeth and A Midsummer Night's Dream. I had watched her perform in a festive children's play The Nutcracker and the Mouse King at the Unicorn Theatre in London on a school trip when I was in Year 3 and distinctly remember her character standing out to me and even writing her a Christmas card in the school playground. Getting to speak to her backstage was incredibly heartwarming and felt like such a full-circle moment!

Overall, the day was utterly fulfilling (especially after we were each gifted a Lit in Colour tote bag full of goodies!) and it was wonderful to meet such an outstanding mix of speakers, as well as a number of proactive schools from all across the country!



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Year 12 English University Visit

by Holly Garside, Year 12

On 9th June, a group of five enthusiastic A Level English students, joined by Mrs Tromans, met in Grand Central... and quickly split up again to buy a packed lunch of Yo! Sushi. But after we'd got our essential provisions, it was time to board the train. Our destination: University of Warwick.

The aim of the trip was to experience life at university for a student reading English, as well as to get a general sense of what higher education entails. We began with a brief introduction to the University of Warwick specifically, particularly enjoying our visit to the new Faculty of Arts building and its onsite Cafe Nero before the day's events. We then had a discussion about the potential careers available to English graduates from Professor Emma Mason, Head of English and Comparative Literature. We were pleased to see that it's a myth that humanities graduates aren't as employable as their STEM peers! Warwick English graduates can be found in a range of interesting and exciting jobs in business and industry, the public sector and, of course, the arts.

This was followed by a sample lecture from Dr Rochelle Sibley about Renaissance love poetry. We were presented with some challenging material but, in true Camp Hill fashion, we rose to the challenge and had a very interesting discussion about the presentation of women in these poems. Lunch was enjoyed in one of the university's many outdoor areas (the trip to Yo! Sushi was certainly worth the trouble) while we chatted with some of the undergraduates about their day-to-day student experience. After a quick tour of the campus, we made our way back to the train station and headed home.

I think it's safe to say that we all thoroughly enjoyed the day, learning a lot about a degree in English as well as university life in general. I hope future year groups are able to experience similar days, so that more will consider the opportunities opened up by an English degree!



Year 10 RS and History Trip to Amsterdam

by Emily Sharma and Riya Mitra, Year 10

Amsterdam, a city known for its picturesque canals, rich history, bike-filled roads and vibrant culture, offers an endless array of experiences for travellers. On Monday 19th June, 40 Year 10 students were lucky enough to head off to the city for 3 days on a residential organised by the RS and History departments.

After the turmoil of travelling and secretly swapping seats on the aeroplane, we finally arrived in Amsterdam! The first place we visited was a concentration camp. Though tragic and heart-wrenching to see in person, the trip was extremely insightful and made us all feel more grateful for the circumstances we live in now. Our second stop was a modern art museum where we were free to roam to our hearts' content. Exhausted, we finally reached the hotel, only to find that the elevator had broken down and we had to climb seven flights of stairs. If that was not enough, we then soldiered through a three hour round trip journey on foot to get apple pie and ice cream - totally worth it!

As a new day began, our sore feet reminded us of the distance covered. However, with enthusiasm in our hearts, we embarked on a new day of exploration, hopping onto a tram to our first destination: the Van Gogh Museum. Admiring his brushstrokes and vibrant colours, we were transported into the artist's world, witnessing his passions and struggles. As the sun rose higher, and temperatures soared to a scorching 32 degrees Celsius, we sought refuge in a nearby park. Immersed in the vibrant atmosphere of the city, we indulged in local flavours, allowing our taste buds to savour the culinary delights of Amsterdam.

Our next stop took us to the Jewish Historical Museum, where we delved into the rich history and cultural heritage of Amsterdam's Jewish community. The museum's exhibits, artefacts, and personal stories shed light on a profound and often sombre chapter of Amsterdam's past. Continuing our journey, we arrived at the Portuguese synagogue, a place of worship steeped in tradition and history. The synagogue's awe-inspiring architecture and a tranquil ambience allowed us a moment of reflection and gratitude for the diverse heritage Amsterdam encompasses.

As evening drew near, nature had its plans too, as a sudden thunderstorm descended upon the city. Undeterred, we sought shelter and made our way to the renowned Hard Rock Cafe, where we celebrated two special birthdays. With delicious food, lively music and a joyful atmosphere, the heat and exhaustion of the day faded away, replaced by laughter and camaraderie. Unfortunately, the thunderstorm prevented us from embarking on a planned canal cruise. However, not discouraged by the change of plans, we took a leisurely walk back through the park, rain-soaked and carefree. The breathtaking scenery provided the perfect backdrop for capturing memorable photographs and cherishing the spontaneous moments that make travel so unforgettable.



Completely spent after two splendid days, our last day consisted of a visit to the Anne Frank House. The whole museum was entirely enthralling; while her story was devastating, it was placating to know that Anne Frank achieved her lifelong dream of becoming a writer. After a long coach ride where many of us repaid our sleep debt from staying up talking, we arrived at the airport and with aching legs and joyous memories as souvenirs, we returned home.

Finally, we would like to thank Ms Woodward, Mrs Kinnaird, Ms Lamb and Mr Cox for this unforgettable experience. Amsterdam, with its art, history, and unexpected twists, would have been impossible without their effort and enthusiasm, and we all greatly appreciate the time and work they put into it!

Year 10 Trip to Bath

by Mahnoor Saqlain, Aliyah Uddin, Ayesha Karim and Anvi Shendye

Last term, the Year 10 Latin students visited the Roman baths in the historically-rich city of Bath. Known to the Romans as Aquae Sulis, Bath is famous for the naturally hot spring water that comes out at a temperature of 46 degrees centigrade - which we were lucky enough to sample.



The Roman Baths were built in around 60-70 AD, and designed for public use for exercising and to get clean. The hot water naturally comes out of the ground at the site, so the Romans believed that it was a sacred place where they would be healed. They built a temple dedicated to the goddess Sulis Minerva as part of the public baths complex. The sacred spring and the temple meant that Aquae Sulis became a place of pilgrimage in Roman times, and people visited the site from all over the country to ask the goddess to heal them.

Going to the baths was an insightful part of our Latin GCSE as the Roman Baths are the setting of our book three textbook. The visit gave us context and an insight to the stories in the book and allowed us to see the artefacts from the book in real life.

During our visit, we had a lesson where we learned how to decode and translate the abbreviated Latin inscriptions on tombstones, such as this one in the Roman Baths' museum: it is dedicated to a little slave girl who died aged 1 year, 6 months and 12 days. This is a special artefact as it is rare to find tombstones dedicated to very young children from Roman times, especially those who were born enslaved.



We also had a handling session in the brand new Clore Learning Centre, where we could touch Roman objects and learn how they were used in the baths, and we found out more about the baths themselves and the Roman process of bathing.





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Carnegie Shadowing 2023

by Hooriyah Ali, Year 9

For many years at this school a group of Year 9 students have been 'shadowing' the Carnegie awards. This involves reading the complete list of each year's shortlisted books for this prestigious award between the announcements of the shortlist in March and the winners in June.

This year there were seven books to read: 'The Light in Everything' by Katya Balen; 'Needle' by Patrice Lawrence; 'Medusa' written by Jessie Burton and illustrated by Olivia Lomench Gill; 'When Shadows Fall' by Sita Brahmachari and illustrated by Natalie Sirett; 'The Eternal Return of Clara Hart' by Louise Finch; 'The Blue Book of Nebo' by Manon Steffan Ros; and 'I Must Betray You' by Ruta Sepetys. The final two on this list were the winners. 'I Must Betray You' - very popular amongst the group - won the vote of the shadowing groups such as us, and 'The Blue Book of Nebo'- another great read- won the vote of the judges and the actual Carnegie Medal.

As to whether you should read the books, I'd say all of them were worth reading. They all had certain aspects that we liked (and I guess some we didn't) and they all explored interesting themes. Some of them were nothing like what I had read before, and introduced me to interesting topics. Other books especially popular amongst the group were 'The Eternal Return of Clara Hart' and 'When Shadows Fall'.

Carnegie Shadowing introduced me to new brilliant books that I might not have read myself had I not joined the group. I enjoyed talking about the books as I find that's an important part of reading, finding out if others enjoyed it just as much as I did and talking about favourite characters as well as the downsides of books. We got rewarded for writing reviews on the books which you can read on the Carnegie website. Once everyone had read most of them we debated which ones were our favourites and which ones should win. We got to watch the awards ceremony and discuss whether we thought 'The Blue Book of Nebo' was the right choice.

Here are some quotes from other Year 9 Shadowers:

outside of my personal taste but I loved It was an opportunity to read *trying something new. This experience* I really enjoyed being books I'd never seen before and challenged me to understand other exposed to different I have learned a lot about the people's opinions. I look forward to types of books that I process of critiquing books as reading other books by the same authors would not usually read. well as about different cultures in the future and possibly discussing and history included in the them with my friends. books themselves. I had been meaning to get back into reading, and this was Most importantly I enjoyed I really liked reading books perfect! Having a group that being in a space of readers just I wouldn't normally and was also reading the same *like me, in a way I felt that not* being forced to read these books as me really motivated joining this group would have books got me out of my me. been a huge opportunity reading slump. missed and I have no regrets!

Overall the entire experience allowed all the members something to bond over, and provided some great books to read. I'd recommend the Carnegie Shadowing to anyone, even if you aren't overly keen on reading; it's a fun experience that Year 9 can be part of.

The wide range of books that I read was



Enrichment Week - Dovedale Field Trip

by Ameera Sultan, Year 8

During Enrichment Week - on Tuesday 27th June and Wednesday 28th June - Year 8 visited Dovedale, one of the valleys in the Peak District. One of the most popular National Parks in England, the Peak District is known for its impressively pure mineral water and valleys made of limestone.

Starting our route at Thorpe Road, we counted the number of vehicles in the car park, and then counted again when we returned, to observe the number of people visiting the National Park. As we walked through the National Park, we conducted research: we recorded how many people we saw and whether they were fishing, walking their dog, birdwatching or strolling. In the river valley, we evaluated our surroundings and what we could see, hear and smell.

For my group, Dr Dewes and Ms Ryan showed us the 'acid test', which is used to identify a rock based on whether it contains carbonate materials or not. Dominantly, limestone contains a strong amount of calcite and pouring hydrochloric acid on the rock will create effervescence and fizz due to releasing bubbles of carbon dioxide. They told us that the rock used to be so high that students couldn't see the top of it, but now it is half its size!



We crossed the River Dove on the famous stepping stones and did an Environmental Quality Survey as well as a field sketch. On the path to Lover's Leap, we saw fossils in the ground (shown above right). These formed more than 350 million years ago, when the Peak District was under water.

We learned a lot about the history of the Peak District, as well about natural landscapes and the science behind it from our visit to Dovedale. Thank you to the Geography Department for organising this trip and to all the teachers who offered their time to come with us!









by Deeksha Sharma and Shakthi Sreevats, Year 10

Recently, we volunteered at the Moseley in Bloom festival. On Sunday 25th June, 18 gardens across the Moseley area were open for members of the public to visit between 11am and 5pm.

We sold tickets to people who wanted to enjoy the beautiful garden we were volunteering at, and were offered tea, biscuits and samosas multiple times by the house owner. We had lots of fun socialising with other people who enjoyed nature! After tallying the number of people that entered the garden, we reached a grand total of 406!

We decided to take part in this amazing opportunity because we think it's very important to give something back to the local community, and we also had lots of fun! In addition, our organisation skills improved as we had many sheets and trackers to mark and keep count of. Teamwork was also an important aspect of this so we could carry out our tasks as efficiently as possible - we had to work quickly because many people would come in at a time! Overall, we had a fantastic time and recommend others to take part in this festival next year!

Embroidery Club

by Bethany Parsons and Maya Desai, Year 12

It has been another successful year for the Camp Hill stitchers at Embroidery Club. Over 30 students have continued to work on their projects, and we have some lovely examples below.

The Club is open to everyone - if you don't know how to embroider or cross stitch then we can teach you! All materials are provided and you get to keep your finished project.

Look out for notices in September to find out which lunch time Embroidery Club will be running next year!









Senior Citizens' Party 2023

by Gina Lee and Shakthti Shreevats, Year 10

During Enrichment week, Year 10 held their version of the Senior Citizens' party. Our theme was 'Enchanted Garden', and it is safe to say that we really did enchant the hall with our fantastic teamwork. Each House was designated a job by Mrs Strong and we began working roughly a month before the party. There were many tasks involved, such as making table decorations, organising entertainment, welcoming the guests, making hampers, menu planning, preparing food, serving drinks and refreshments and organising parking.

Warwick and Priory were in charge of decorations and began enhancing the hall with vines, fairy lights and much more, straight after registration. As soon as the Senior Citizens entered the school, they were warmly welcomed by Meriden and Priory. Stratford and Cartland worked together to put on an outstanding show, which not only captivated the Senior Citizens, but also the teachers and students watching behind the scenes. Lichfield's catering was incredibly professional and there were many people asking for seconds - and sometimes even thirds!

Warwick and Priory meticulously adorned the hall with a plethora of natural elements, bringing the enchanting garden theme to life. There were twinkling fairy lights, an archway created by intertwining vines plus Tinker Bell and Peter Pan gesturing towards the centre stage. These were all wonderful additions to the newly decorated hall. Some of these decorations can be seen in the display board in the CSG room where photos can be seen of everyone enjoying the day.

The enthusiastic service organised by all the hosts played a vital role in making the party an unforgettable one. Observing the swiftness of their feet as they danced around the hall for orders of drinks, entertaining guests, getting everything in place, I can't imagine how much their legs ached the next day! Thanks to these crucial members of the crew, the party flowed smoothly without many hitches.

The Lichfield students showcased their culinary skills by serving a diverse range of appetisers, main courses, and desserts. They prepared a buffet-style feast that left everyone craving for more. The tables were adorned with an array of delectable dishes, carefully crafted to suit various tastes and dietary preferences. As the guests savoured the delicious food, the Lichfield students were tirelessly working through their never-ending piles of dishes to be washed.

The Senior Citizens attending the Enchanted Garden-themed party were in for a delightful treat as they experienced a series of captivating performance of acts presented by talented students. The event showcased the remarkable skills of our Year 10 performers, leaving the senior citizens in awe and admiration. From the soothing singing presented by our talented vocalists to the mesmerising pieces performed by the Shrek quartet, the students took the stage with confidence and enthusiasm, effortlessly entertaining the audience. The senior citizens couldn't help but tap along, thoroughly enjoying the diverse range of talents on display.

As all good things must come to an end, the party reached its finale with a wonderful sense of unity filling the air. Everyone joined in to sing to the timeless classic, "Dancing Queen". Even some senior citizens, overcome by the infectious, happy energy danced along! To end the event, all of our guests left with a homemade gift bag, filled with edible goodies, flower seeds so they could recreate their own 'enchanted garden', a hand crocheted flower key ring, a bookmark and paper flowers.

The Enchanted Garden party became a cherished memory not only for the senior citizens but also for the teachers and students who worked tirelessly to make it a memorable experience. A special thanks to all the teachers who lent a hand during the preparation stage of the party and bringing our imaginations to life. Without their support, the Senior Citizens' Party could not have been the success it has been.



Sports this year

by Aliyah Uddin, Year 10

Sport this year has been varied and exciting from new clubs and tournaments to a brand new Sports Council. In September, a new football club was started by Adeena and Amelia in Year 12, supervised by Mr Hamblett. Teams were then formed from the club: both a Year 7 and 8 team and a Year 9 and 10 team. Other firsts this year included basketball club, cricket club and a bench ball tournament; these were all run by students, so I would like to give a massive thank you to them for all their commitment and hard work into ensuring the club is well run.

This year, we also saw the beginning of the Sports colours and commendations, awarded twice a year for both Key Stage 3 and 4. The awards recognise commitment, talent and passion in sports such as netball, swimming, trampolining as well as qualities such as leadership. Well done to all those who achieved an award!

I'm sure many of you will have attended a sports club this year, but if not, make it your goal for next year to get involved. Bring your friends with you and try something new. You never know, you might just love it.

And of course, a MASSIVE thank you to all the PE teachers and all the staff who give up their time for us because none of these opportunities would be possible without your dedication and generosity, so thank you. Have a great summer holiday, and remember to stay active and have fun!



Sports Colours and Commendations

by Birle Tenekeci, Shakthi Sreevats and Annika Sinha, Year 10

Colours and Commendations were introduced in the PE department in order to motivate students to try their very best when playing Sports. Colours and commendations are a public acknowledgement of outstanding ability and commitment in a sport, or several sports, at school. They allow us to recognise those who go above and beyond the standards set by teachers or their peers and go a step further to show their commitment to the sporting life of the school.

Sports Colours are small badges that can be worn on your blazer - only a few people will win this award from each year group as it shows the top participants in the year. Commendations are a certificate of recognition that you have contributed largely to the sports life of the school, however just fell short of achieving the Sports Colour.

Sports Colours and commendations will be awarded twice a year, just before the Easter holiday for the winter sports like netball and football and then again at the end of the Summer term for sports such as tennis and rounders.

This year 64 Colours have been awarded and 223 Commendations! We have also had 10 students complete their tennis leadership course,12 students complete the Whistlers Football referee course and 10 qualify as Your Time leaders.

As the School's Sports Council, we are incredibly proud of everyone who has participated in sports throughout the year, regardless of whether or not they have achieved an award. Well done to all of you!

National Rounders and the Gardener Cup

On Thursday 9th June, a group of Year 9s and 10s went to a Foundation rounders tournament at Handsworth. With a combination of Miss Chapman's expert coaching, and our own team strategies, we managed to win the tournament and acquire the Gardener cup! This was a major confidence booster for our team.



On Tuesday 4th July, Camp Hill hosted the Fry Cup on its 110 year anniversary. It was a day full of lots of tennis, doubles and fun!! There was a good standard across all the schools and it ended with KEHS taking the win and Camp Hill coming a close second; Five Ways and Handsworth followed behind.

After the tennis we went inside for some donuts and oreos and presented KEHS with the trophy. There was good healthy competition and don't worry - we will get the trophy back next year!!

A big thank you goes to Miss Chapman and Mrs O'Grady for organising the event and to Christina, Fatima and Aliyah in Year 10 for giving up their day to help run the tournament.



Football Success

by Marriam Javed, Year 9

Recently, I was selected to play in an international tournament in Qatar. It started with me in a normal U15 squad out of school (Solihull Moors). First, we qualified for regionals which we won and this automatically qualified us for nationals. We then miraculously went on to win nationals. Currently, the U15 squad qualified for internationals which was a huge achievement as none of us had participated in such a prestigious tournament like this before.

I was encouraged by my coach to try out for the U18 squad. Just like us (the U15 squad) the U18s qualified for internationals too, however, their international tournament was in Qatar and the U15s was in Sweden. I was ready to go to Sweden but then received shocking news - I was selected for the U18 squad and now I am the youngest player in the U18 at the age of 14. The "senior" (U18) tournament is taking place in August and the "junior" tournament is taking place towards the end of July. I never would have expected to get this far and I'm really looking forward to the summer. Wish me luck!!!





Sports Day by Miss Chapman

On Monday 26th June, the whole school took part in an exciting day of athletics. From the start of the day, we had glorious sunshine and this continued throughout the whole day. Sports Day commenced with the 800m, 1500m and the field events. The students captured the House spirit by coming to school in their PE kit and House coloured T-shirt. Each student represented their House in an event for sports day and achieved points for their Houses.

During the afternoon the whole school descended onto the field to either compete in the track events or cheer on their House. As a PE Dept, we were delighted with the performances from the students on the day. This year was the first year we introduced a staff relay race which had its own cheerleading group to get them in the spirit!

Sports Day was a real success and it produced a thoroughly enjoyable community atmosphere. We would like to thank all the staff and students who helped to contribute to the smooth organisation of the day.

A particular special mention should go to the Year 10 Sports Captains and leaders who excelled themselves in a variety of leadership roles. They worked well to organise their teams and helped the staff to officiate many of the events.

	House	Points
1st	Cartland	642
2nd	Stratford	633
3rd	Lichfield	616
4th	Priory	583
5th	Meriden	562
6th	Warwick	554

Sports Day Results





Commonwealth Legacy event

by Soliana Fitiwi, Year 7

On Thursday 22nd June, ten students from Years 7-9 were lucky enough to go to the Commonwealth Legacy event, hosted in the Alexander Stadium where many of the Commonwealth events were held. There were a lot of other schools there too.

After everyone had found their seats in the stadium and settled down, we were greeted with a warm welcome and an introduction by one of the hosts. We were also able to watch two dance performances: a primary school performed a dance routine which featured miming and Handsworth Girls performed an amazing dance routine. We were also lucky enough to meet an athlete who played in the Great Britain Paralympic wheelchair basketball team.

We were fortunate enough to take part in many sports and activities including: dodgeball, cricket, rugby, badminton, squash, DRUMBA, bhangra, cycling, boxing and wheelchair basketball. It was a really fun and enriching experience as we participated in a wide range of sports and activities and were able to make friends with people from different schools.

I would like to say a big thank you to Miss Chapman for supervising us and to Mrs O'Grady for organising the event.









Cricket Report

by Ingrid Dsouza, Year 8

Cricket is a well played sport within our school and as team captain, I am proud to say that everyone has achieved a lot this academic year, whether it is getting their first wicket in a match or being able to score runs.

On Wednesday 10th May, the Year 8 cricket team from Camp Hill played in a match against King Edwards High School. Both teams played very well and despite the rain everyone tried their best. It was a close match with Camp Hill taking the win by only three runs! A special well done goes to Ishani who was the bowler of the match, and to Jaish who was the batter of the match! It was great to win but we did just have a lot of fun playing cricket - which of course is the most important part.

On Thursday 25th May, ten people were chosen from KS3 to participate in a Cricket Festival that took place at Kings Heath Cricket Club. It was a wonderful opportunity to play against other schools in the area and we were able to play three matches in total. We got off to a shaky start, unfortunately losing our first match but we managed to pull together as a team and win the next two. Overall, we came second which everyone was very pleased with. We all enjoyed ourselves and made sure to thank the Warwickshire Cricket coaches who had made the day happen.

Sports Council

by Birle Tenekeci, Shakthi Sreevats, and Annika Sinha, Year 10

The Sports Council are a group of Year 10s and Year 8s, who have been allocated roles of leadership to lead new activities and encourage more of you to take part in sports clubs, teams and competitions around the school.

For 2023-2024, our Sports Council is:

KS4 Sports Captains:	Birle Tenekeci, Shakthi Sreevats, and Annika Sinha
KS4 Vice-Sports Captains:	Christina Mebrahtu, Aliyah Uddin, and Maansi Pagaria
KS3 Sports Captains:	Jaish Soni, and Grace Evans
KS3 Vice-Sports Captains:	Maia Spencer, and Zaynah Jamal
KS4 Active Minds Cantains:	Tara Hemmings and Eatima Usman

KS4 Active Minds Captains: KS4 Active Minds Vice-Captains: Tara Hemmings, and Fatima Usman Ojal Rao, Emma Bloxidge, and Jessica Tucker



Active in Mind

Active in Mind is a mentoring program led by five Year 10s who work with a group of Year 7 and 8s. We work to increase their knowledge on being physically healthy as well as support their mental wellbeing through promoting sports and physical activity.

To support us in this, Commonwealth judo athlete, Tom Davis, has come into school, both to mentor the leaders on how to best support the group but also to lead a few activities with everyone. He has been really helpful and led the way in giving us important skills when mentoring our group of students.



We would appreciate any new recommendations of sports clubs you would like us to run. As extremely approachable people, we want you all to feel comfortable to come and talk to us about how you find sports in school, or any ways in which we can develop the sports curriculum further.

Sports Clubs: 2023-2024

Next year is a new term for many of you to join more sports clubs and take part in more extracurricular activities. Whether you choose to represent your school in more competitive teams, or you would rather attend a fun lunchtime club for recreational sports with your friends, there are a variety of sports clubs fit for all of you.

In the new academic year we will begin the Winter term with:



Fun Netball Leagues (for all year groups) Benchball tournaments Netball team training sessions Swimming teams Basketball/Dodgeball tournaments Badminton teams



And of course as many of you may have already guessed... Fitness Club (A required lunchtime club for anyone in a sports team and a health-benefiting pastime for friends to join too!)

We look forward to hearing from you - whether by email (<u>19tenekeci499@kechg.org.uk</u>) <u>21soni315@kechg.org.uk</u>) or an in person chat - about new ideas for fun clubs that we can consider.



Sports Teams Trials: 2023-2024

Next year is a new term for many of you to join more sports clubs and take part in more extracurricular activities. Whether you choose to represent your school in more competitive teams, or you would rather attend a fun lunchtime club for recreational sports with your friends, there are a variety of sports clubs fit for all of you.

Date	Sport	Age Groups & Staff	Details
Wednesday 6th September	Netball	Year 11 - Miss C Chapman Year 10 - Mrs B O'Grady Years 12 & 13 - Mrs B O'Grady	After school until 5pm
Wednesday 6th September	Netball Year 8 - Mrs D Parker During double games P2&3		During double games P2&3
Monday 11th September	Netball	Year 7 - Miss C Chapman	After school until 5.30pm
Wednesday 13th September	Netball	Year 9 - Mrs K Keane	During double games P2&3
Wednesday 20th September Swimming		Year 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	After school until 5.30pm This is competitive swimming and you MUST be able to dive from the starting blocks and perform tumble turns etc.
Wednesday 6th October	Badminton	Year 8, 9, 10 & 11	After school until 5.30pm

Any problems please make sure you speak to the PE teacher responsible for your team.

Wings of Hope gave us Hope

by Sahana Pabathi and Nikita Nawghare, Year 10

WOHAA (Wings of Hope Achievement Award) is a competition in which students from Years 9 to 12 get into groups of up to six and fundraise for a charity (Wings of Hope) which funds free education in India and Malawi for less fortunate children. We started this project in January and since then, I'm sure all participants can agree it has been a whirlwind of bake sales, raffles and walkathons, but we have come out as completely different people.

On Thursday 22nd June, successful teams were chosen to participate in the semi-finals at the House of Commons, in which we presented our journey to an esteemed panel of judges, including the co-founders of the Wings of Hope, Dr Sri Ram and Mrs Rajni Sriram; Anakaren Olivo, the Fashion Category Manager at TikTok; Rupakshi Goel, the Head of Luxury at Google; and many more influential people.

Afterwards, four teams made their way to London Business School to participate in the WOHAA awards ceremony, following six months of hard work and commitment. This memorable event was presented by AJ King and featured some influential people who gave out prizes. All four teams were awarded prizes for being the best in their designated category, so well done to everyone! Team Charitable Champions won the 'Excellence in Sports' category, Team Phoenix won 'Most Funds Raised', Team WOHAAholics won 'Most Awareness Raised' and Team Goal Diggers won 'Most Entrepreneurial'.

This was a memorable evening, which consisted of snacks, performances and of course the awards. I (Sahana) got the wonderful opportunity to play a flute piece just after my team won a prize which was such a fantastic experience. Team WOHAAholics also performed their rap in front of everyone which really energised the room. Another highlight was when we were interviewed after receiving our awards. We talked about our experiences and our journey as a whole.

Overall, we would definitely recommend this to younger years. WOHAA has changed us, and we hope to see more people participating in future years. At our semi-final presentation, we decided to end with a quote (in true Camp Hill fashion) that I thought up:

We may be the youth of today, but we shouldn't have to wait until tomorrow to make a difference.



Some of us with famous presenter AJ King











Introducing the Prefect Team 2023/24

Charlotte - Head Prefect

17wood576@kechg.org.uk

Hi everyone! My name's Charlotte and I am the new Head Prefect for 2023/24.

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce the Senior Prefect Team for the next academic year, who are always on hand to help you however they can. We are always eager to talk with you and appreciate everything you have to say. My role as a Senior Prefect involves being an ambassador for the school as well as facilitating communication between staff and the student body, and I am so excited to begin to work with you all to enhance our thriving school community.



So, what do I get up to? Currently, I study Geography, Economics and French and I hope to study Geography at university. Additionally, I have always been involved in a wide range of school activities, including some of the school's numerous music groups and sports teams. In my spare time, I play rugby for Solihull Vixens and I play the clarinet in a jazz group, performing at local festivals and community events.

Being the Head Prefect is an honour, and I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to give back to the school that has offered so much to me. Sanaa, Alice, LucyAnna and Jude have been a fantastic team for the past year, and they have already passed on much of the wisdom they acquired along the way - I truly am fortunate to be learning from the best! I am really looking forward to working alongside the incredible girls who make up the prefect team, and I know we are all eager to play an active role in the school and engage directly with you all. Our weekly meetings with Ms Stevens, which I eagerly anticipate each week (no, not just for the coffee and biscuits, but they're a nice touch too!), provide an excellent opportunity to voice the opinions of the school community, and we would love to pass on anything you have to say!

I hope this has allowed you to learn a little bit more about me and I hope you all have a restful break after such a jam-packed summer term!

Arya - Deputy Head Prefect

17kozhippally503@kechg.org.uk

Hi everyone, I'm Arya and I do Biology, Chemistry and Maths A level and did an AS in French. I hope to do medicine in the future - shock, I know ;)

I love doing Bharatnatyam dance in my free time and I'm joining the Dance Show this year and encourage everyone to participate. I also enjoy a spot of painting or drawing to destress, reviving my GCSE Art days. I'm a fan of South Indian Movies, my favourite being 'Bangalore Days', which I will recommend to everyone and anyone. If anyone has any questions about anything at all, from what film to watch at the weekend to subject choices (I chose German, French, Art and Geography for GCSE), or just to have a chat, I'll be around school at lunchtimes with the prefects or you can send me an email. I'm really looking forward to being a prefect for you all this year!





Lara - Deputy Head Prefect 17rowela510@kechg.org.uk

Hello everyone! My name is Lara and I am one of the Deputy Head Prefects. I study Biology, Maths and French, and I also did an AS level in Further Maths. I'm hoping to do a Biology degree at university.

Apart from reading cool biology books, I love reading classics, like my favourite, 'Jane Eyre' - it's so much fun to get lost in an imaginary world. I'm also quite obsessed with the film 'Pride and Prejudice' that stars Keira Knightly and will very happily keep nattering about it! I love listening to music to relax as well, and having a mini karaoke is always a great stressreliever. Swimming is also something that I really enjoy doing, even if sometimes it's not the most relaxing thing when having to do sprint sets!

If you want to have a chat about anything, feel free to email me. Have a great summer and I'll see you all next year!



Ciara - Deputy Head Prefect

17odwyercia747@kechg.org.uk

Hello everyone! I'm Ciara, one of the Deputy Head Prefects for 2023/24. I study English, Spanish and French and love all things about languages. I'm looking to study French and Spanish at university so if you have any questions about languages please ask me! I joined Camp Hill in 2022 for the sixth form on results day and I was so nervous to start at a new school, but I soon realised it's such a lovely place to be and I'm looking forward to continuing the lovely friendly nature of Camp Hill next year. In my free time, I love to swim and I teach it to kids of all ages as well because it's a great way to have fun and exercise (even if swimming lessons at school don't seem like it). If you ever want to chat, have some questions or suggestions for the school, please email me! Enjoy your six weeks of summer bliss and I'll see you next year!



Iona - Deputy Head Prefect

17mandal531@kechg.org.uk

Hey everyone! I'm Iona, another one of your Deputy Head Prefects. I study English, RS, Politics and Geography and will be continuing the first three on to Year 13. I hope to study English Literature at university and absolutely love poetry, some of my favourite poets being Kamala Das, Imtiaz Dharker, Ocean Vuong and Sylvia Plath. In my spare time, I also love to write my own poetry and am the Birmingham Young Poet Laureate 2022-24 which means I get to instil young people with a love for the art form, through workshops at youth clubs and schools or even speaking on radio stations! Apart from creative writing, I enjoy spending my time doing speech and drama and recently finished my final LAMDA grade for Speaking Verse & Prose which I will dearly miss :(When I'm not doing either of those things, I'm probably playing with my two budgies, baking - or finishing a Politics essay! Please stop for a chat if you see me around school and don't hesitate to email me with any school-related queries, no matter how small. See you in September!

The 2023 Summer Reading Challenge

by Mrs Royall

Every year we set a Summer Reading Challenge for students - although staff and parents are very welcome to join in too! This year, we're encouraging you to meet amazing people whether that be characters in fiction or real people who feature in non-fiction books. You can choose what level of challenge you want to take on.

EASY: Read and respond to ONE book MEDIUM: Read and respond to THREE books HARD: Read and respond to SIX books



Students have been encouraged to join the Google classroom using the code w2nzo7b and this includes some suggestions for what you might read from staff and students. Can you guess which members of staff recommended these? Answers are on the reading lists!



Responses can be submitted on the Google classroom or handed in on paper in September and there will be a range of rewards for those who take part in the Autumn term!

Students can choose how to respond to the books they read. They might produce a brief book review, a profile of a favourite character in the book or some creative writing, such as a diary entry. The same or a variety of types of responses for different books are equally welcome.

We wish you a very happy summer of reading!

Introducing Edulink

by Mrs Neal

Good communication is one of our key priorities, and we are pleased to tell you that we have partnered with a company called Edulink to help us manage lots of aspects of school information more effectively.

Edulink is designed to be used by teachers, students and parents/carers. It keeps information in one place and can be accessed via a desktop, a laptop, or through the Edulink app on your phone.

Implementing a new system like Edulink is a significant undertaking and thus we are going to roll it out slowly. Soon after we return to school in September, you will receive an Edulink login. Parents and carers will also receive a helpful user guide. If you would like to take a look at Edulink before then, you can access a demo through this <u>link</u>. There are demos for parents/carers, and for students.

Teachers already have access to Edulink and have been gradually getting used to some of the functions such as taking registers, awarding house points and creating seating plans.

Parents and Carers:

As parents/carers, you will be able to see lots of information about your child in one place. In time you will be able to access your child's reports, their daily timetable, and their extracurricular club involvement. We plan to open up the House Points functionality so that you can see how many House Points your child is awarded. In fact, you will be able to choose to receive notifications so that if your child is awarded a House Point in, for example, Geography, it will come through directly to the app on your phone. We hope that Edulink will go some way to helping you feel more informed and more involved with your child's day.

Students:

We know you like to be organised! In September, after we launch Edulink officially with you, you will be able to use it to access the following:

- Your timetable
- Any homework which has been set via Google classroom
- Sign up to lunchtime and after-school clubs
- See House Points when they have been awarded.

More Edulink information will come your way in September but do have fun with the demo if you want to have a sense beforehand of how it will work!



Recycling in School and at Home

by Mrs Royall

We know we can do much more, but we are very keen to increase recycling in school. Every classroom now has a paper recycling bag and Mr Clements has recently introduced a writing instruments recycling scheme in Science. From September, all of the Labs will have pots where you can put all types of used pens. See the poster below for details of what can and can't be added to the pots. These will then be taken to local drop off points where they are firstly cleaned and separated by material type. Manufacturers then recycle the fibres and plastics and use them to make new products.





The Writing Instruments Recycling Programme



yes

- Ballpoint, gel and fountain pens
- / Mechanical pencils
- Refills and cartridges
- Correction instruments (bottles, tapes and pens)
- Highlighters
- Felt tips, whiteboard and permanent markers
 All brands accepted

no

- X Glue sticks
- × Rubbers
- × Rulers
- × Graphite and colouring pencils
- × Sharp objects

When in doubt, leave it out.



Learn more at terracycle.com/bic-uk or scan QR code

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We were somewhat dismayed to see the amount of plastic wrapping received when rewarding our guides at open evening with a juice carton! However, we did collect it all and take it to the school's local supermarket to be recycled. Did you know that most supermarkets have collection points for clean, soft plastics? You can use the <u>Recycle Now</u> website to find out where your nearest recycling points are.



Annual Fund update

by Sarah Harnett

We are so pleased to tell you that our parents and carers have donated over £11,000 to the school's annual fund this year. This means that you have supported the school in providing a whole range of activities from sport to music, performing arts to chemistry competitions, lunchtime clubs to language practise.

From all the students and staff at the school, we wanted to say a huge **THANK YOU**!

The extracurricular activities are what makes Camp Hill Girls the amazing school it is, and your donations mean we are able to plan to continue them into the future. Please click <u>here</u> to hear from some of our students how your donations have impacted their time at CHG.

We will be relaunching the annual fund next year with the facility to give via direct debit and also donate a regular amount, so watch this space! (The link is also still live on Parentpay for anyone who still wants to support the school via the annual fund).

Welcome Back to School Saturday 8th July

by Sarah Harnett

We were delighted to welcome back to school over fifty of our former students, young and old, who came to catch up with old friends and take a look around the school again.

We loved seeing them again and hearing all their news. We can't wait for next year! (Any former students, save the date: Saturday 6th July 2024!)



Pre-loved Uniform Appeal!

One job for everyone in the summer holiday is sorting out uniform ready for the new school year. If you have any items that you have grown out of or no longer need, please don't discard them. We are always glad to receive donated items which we can sell second hand at very reasonable prices!

Donations can be brought into school and handed in at Reception - just make sure they are washed! If you would like to buy any items second hand then please take a look at the price list and fill in the form you will find on the school website: <u>https://www.kechg.org.uk/parents-and-students/essential-info/school-uniform</u> and Mrs Woolaway will be in touch.



We always have a pre-loved uniform sale at the Year 6 Parents' Induction Evening which took place on the evening of 20th June. It ran like clockwork due to the amazing Y12 volunteers who helped and raised an amazing \pm 1,755.00! The money is used to fund extra-curricular clubs.



If you have school uniform for other schools, you can donate this to the Rubery Schools Community Swop Shop which provides free preloved school uniform to Birmingham and beyond! Details of their collection points can be found here: <u>https://www.ruberyswopshop.co.uk/collection-points</u>.



300,000 Tonnes of clothing are sent to landfill in the UK each year





As we draw to the end of another busy year, we all need some time to rest and recuperate. The break is also a good time to get out and explore the local area. Below is a list of free or affordable events and places to visit in the local area you may want to explore. Click on the hyperlinks to find out more details of each activity.

Don't forget your term plus bus pass will be valid until mid-August. Activities running in Wolverhampton and Coventry are also easily accessible by train.

Type of activity	Details
Art Galleries and Museums	<u>The Art Map</u> is designed to make it easy to discover, explore and enjoy the great art, ideas, culture and creativity made by Birmingham for Birmingham. There are lots of free events across the city if you download the Art Map pdf.
	The <u>Barber Institute</u> is based on the University of Birmingham campus. Alongside the exhibitions, there are regular special events running.
	The <u>Midland Arts Centre</u> in Cannon Hill Park has free exhibitions plus other fee paying activities.
	The <u>Herbert Art Gallery</u> and Museum in Coventry currently has <u>Dippy the dinosaur</u> in the main entrance hall and a selection of other exhibitions including Divided Selves: exploring ideas of community, belonging and collective identity.
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery
	The New Art Gallery Walsall
	Lapworth Geology Museum - free museum on the University of Birmingham Campus
	<u>Heritage trail walks</u> Self-guided walks focusing on the history of the city centre and its notable women

Type of activity	Details
	<u>Birmingham Festival 23</u> Free events to follow up the Commonwealth Games. 28th July - 6th August in Centenary Square
	<u>Birmingham Beach and Digbeth Funfair at Smithfield</u> Open every day in the 6 weeks holiday from 12pm and free entry
	The beach is also coming to Northfield and Kings Norton - one weekend only for each!
Events	A detailed list of upcoming music events can be filtered by free events.
	Jewellery Quarter Festival on Saturday 22nd July
	The Heath is a local bookshop in Kings Heath which holds lots of author events
	Join the <u>Big Butterfly Count</u> : 14th July - 6th August choose a place to spot butterflies and moths, watch for 15 mins and record which species you see.
Theatre	<u>Free open air theatre</u> at The Dell, the RSC's outdoor stage in Avonbank Gardens, Stratford-upon-Avon And while in Stratford also find <u>six willow sculptures</u> in the town centre and visit the <u>free exhibition</u> in the theatre about 100 years of playmaking.
	<u>Tennis on local courts</u> e.g Bournville or Cannon Hill. You need to register but it is free to play.
Sporting Activities	<u>Roller Jam</u> in Digbeth has some free roller skating sessions on Thursdays - you only have to pay for skate hire.
	Cricket: Free tickets for under 16s to see <u>Warwickshire CCC play at Edgbaston</u> 7-20th August. (All under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.) Or tickets for 6-15 year olds are £5 and Infants 5 and under free for <u>The Hundred at</u> <u>Edgbaston</u> .
Libraries	There are <u>events</u> at Birmingham's libraries, e.g. look out for CoderDojo. A free drop-in Coding Club for 7 - 17 year olds. Tuesdays; 5:30pm - 6:30pm. Level 3, Library of Birmingham.
	<u>Volunteer</u> to help with the Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge for younger students (15-24 year olds wanted).
Cinema	Cheap cinema tickets include: <u>Empire</u> <u>Cineworld</u> <u>Odeon</u>

Type of activity	Details
School events	The school Summer Reading Challenge: Join the Google classroom with code w2nzo7b for details
and challenges	Routes into Languages Summer Challenge - keep up your language skills over summer (even if you're not taking it for GCSE/A-Level). See the Languages Competitions Google classroom (code mmo4yo5) for further information.

You might also be interested in places where Kids Eat Free during the summer holidays. The image below was compiled by Money saving Central and up to date information can be found on their website.



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023 moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from Mon 24th July - Fri 1st September 2023

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:50am every day.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

Mas

Free Kid's Munch Meal when you spend £5+ on non-kids food or drink at M&S Cafés

TRAVELODGE

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday. 3 - 7pm. kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day. every day. FREE Crumpets also available

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

BILLS

2 kids eat FREE Monday - Friday from Monday 24th July - Friday 1st Sept 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for El with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITBREAD INHS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

YO! SUSH

From Mon 17th of July until Fri 11th of Aug kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

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Follow our social media to get latest updates @hallgreenfam

f M

SCHOOLS OUT FOR SUMMER!

BUT EARLY HELP IS STILL HERE!

Translation available

Hall Green Families Early Help Team are here to help over the Summer holidays. If you or a family you're working with need Early Help support, you can contact us between 9:30 - 4:30, Monday to Friday.

⊠ Email:

hallgreen.families@greensquareaccord.co.uk

© Call, Text, Whatsapp: 07570 953519



Useful Links from Hall Green Families

This is a 'where families can go for help' guide for Birmingham families to access information on various play and youth activities, free holiday clubs with meals and community events in Birmingham, during this year's Summer School Holiday period.

Birmingham Council's holiday club programme- BRING IT ON BRUM https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/

Bring it on Brum! is a programme funded by the Department for Education designed for families in Birmingham to help children, young people and their parents have fulfilling, active, fun-filled and healthy school holidays. Bring it on Brum! holiday clubs are designed for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Schools will issue a Bring it on Brum! code to each eligible child.

Birmingham Festival 23

https://www.birminghamfestival23.co.uk/

THE OFFICIAL FESTIVAL OF THE BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES - ORGANISED BY BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Across 10 days and 9 evenings, from 28th July 2023 to 6th August 2023, Birmingham Festival 23 will welcome 190,000 audiences, artists, local communities and volunteers, who reflect the diversity of the city, coming together to watch, listen, relax, dance and play in Centenary Square. For further information regarding the festival's timetable of activities please visit the website.



Information on free food support provision and other family activities in Birmingham via Food Justice Network & The Active Wellbeing Society.

Free online downloadable children activity packs











House Festival 20th July

by Ms Maginnis

The school was filled with excitement, noise and colour on the penultimate day of the academic year as we held our annual House Festival. The theme for 2023: Glamorous Hollywood!

The whole day was brilliantly organised by Year 12 who put on activities for Years 7-10 to work together and show their talents. Each Year group competed in four exciting activities: general knowledge was tested in the quiz; in the dance session students were taught choreography by Year 12 as well as adding to it with their own before performing; in craft, houses speedily made a costume, trophy and poster; and during singing, the judges were wowed with performances that both included all house members and gave individuals and pairs a chance to take to the stage.

Staff as well as students embraced the opportunity to dress up as you can see from the photos! Some really outstanding costumes from Year 12 include the House (from "Up"), Mr Potato Head and SlinkyDog (from "Toy Story") and an exuberant amount of Barbie!

The House competitions have been an immense success this academic year and the House Captains (current and old) have really put together some incredible activities. Well done to all Houses for taking part. Winners for this academic year are:

Sports Day:	Cartland
House Fair:	Cartland
House Points:	Meriden
House Festival:	Cartland
Overall House Winner:	Cartland

















Summer holidays - Parents guide to help keep children safe online



It's always best to be prepared

During the summer holidays, without the distraction of school, internet usage for many young people can increase all the way up to September. This guide is designed to help parents with a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please click on each image below for more information.





A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school if you would like to attend a parents internet safety workshop or have any concerns.

Schools please <u>contact us</u> if you would like a SKIPS Safety Net session delivered to your parent groups or staff.

Skips Educational

Web: www.skipssafetnet.org Email: info@skips.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941 142 Newton Road Great Barr Birmingham B43 6BT

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Keeping children safe online



Dates for Your Diary







Summer School (new Year 7s)



Results Day A & AS levels



Results Day GCSEs

Detailed information about the Post Results Services (Clerical re-check, Review of Marking, Copy of Scripts, Access to Scripts) and the associated costs and deadlines will be included in students' results envelopes and also available to access on the school website from A Level Results Day onwards.

https://www.kechg.org.uk/parents-and-students/examinations

Good luck!



