

Camp Hill Girls' Chronicle

End of Autumn First Half-Term
2022



Letter from Ms Stevens

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems quite unbelievable that we have already reached October half term. However, as I reflect on the events of the last seven weeks, it makes me feel incredibly proud of all that we have achieved as a school community. This is the first normal start to an Autumn term in three years, and we have certainly tried to pack as much into it as possible. Our new Year 7s are settling into secondary school life and getting used to new systems and routines. The corridors seem busier than ever (perhaps in contrast to the past two years when students were confined to their 'bubbles'), but it's fantastic that school is once again filled with students able to enjoy all of the opportunities on offer, both academically and outside of the classroom. I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our students for their support, warmth and humour. They remind me exactly why I'm doing the job I am.

I'd also like to thank our amazing staff who have found the time and energy to offer not only their academic expertise, but also their pastoral support, and time during lunchtimes, after school and even at weekends, to run extracurricular activities and trips. I won't pretend my first half term in Headship has been the easiest, but I do feel incredibly lucky to work with such supportive and capable colleagues, and I would like to thank them personally for all they do, for their support and for making our school as successful as it is.

Whilst there have been so many positives this term, as a school community we have also supported each other through some difficult times. Students and staff joined to reflect on the life and service of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth at the start of September. We also had some very sad news about an ex-member of staff who devoted 18 years of service to Camp Hill. Julie Staniland, sadly passed away at the end of September. Retiring in 2018, Julie was an outstanding teacher of Art and Design, who is remembered with great affection by the many staff who worked with her, and Sixth Form students who were taught by her and who were in her form group. As a mark of respect, and in recognition of her service to the school, Miss. Hawthorne and some of our Chamber Choir will sing at the Celebration of her Life, at the end of October.

I won't spoil the surprise by giving away too many details about the many events that have taken place already this term, but needless to say our students have been involved in a multitude of opportunities. Thank you for your support with our charity events, including the Macmillan Coffee Morning, 'Hello Yellow' Mental Health Awareness Day, and on Wednesday of this week, for the Pakistani Flood Appeal which saw students wearing green and white to raise awareness of the plight of millions of people in need of humanitarian aid.

Our resident school dog, Gwinnie, is also looking forward to a quieter few days at home. She really does love coming to school and has already supported many students and staff in her short time with us. She now spends most of her evenings curled up asleep, rather than being desperate to head out on a long, muddy walk! The students and staff have welcomed her into our school community, and I really believe she feels as much a part of Camp Hill as we all do.

I hope that you and your families enjoy half term next week. Please encourage your child to take a well-earned break, our students have worked extremely hard and really do need to enjoy spending time relaxing, and catching up with family and friends before returning to school.

With very best wishes,

Karen Stevens
Headteacher



Gwinnie's First Term at School

Hi, my name is Gwinnie, the therapy dog! I have absolutely loved my first term at Camp Hill. I have been going on fun adventures all around the school with Mrs Yale and I have loved meeting all of you. Thank you to everyone who welcomed and treated me so kindly. A special thanks to Freya Butler and Amani Kibria for the cuddles. I also had lots of fun on HelloYellow day making people smile with my yellow bow. Thank you for filling out the Google form. Mrs Yale will be in touch about organising some appointments to spend time with me. I can't wait to have lots more fun at Camp Hill!



What others have to say about Gwinnie:

"I have the perfect job being Gwinnie's work mum" *Mrs Yale*

"With the stress of sixth form life, it is really nice to have some time off walking Gwinnie" *LucyAnna (Deputy Head Prefect)*

"Gwin for the Win" *Ms Durham*

"I love Gwinnie" *Freya Butler 7V*

"Gwinnie is a breath of fresh air, she makes me feel happier" *A Yr13 Student*

"I see Gwinnie whenever she's in school, and she never fails to cheer me up! She's the cutest dog ever, and is always really calm and happy, so much so that she helped me overcome my fear of dogs."

Fera Adebayo 11M



Gwinnie

Gwinnie is our school therapy dog. She is a bright, bouncy, adorable cocker spaniel. I have never met any other dog who is as friendly as Gwinnie. She wags her tail whenever she is happy and when she really starts to wag her tail very fast, you know that she is extremely joyful!

Gwinnie visits the school on Mondays and Fridays to spend time with students. She goes on walks at 8am whenever she is in school and spends her time on more walks, having a rest, eating, sleeping or playing. She loves being stroked and sometimes rests her soft paws on your hands. Gwinnie makes teachers and students very happy.

I was in a photo shoot with three other children with Gwinnie at the start of term.
Amani Kibria, Year 7





#HelloYellow

by Sahana Jain, Year 13



On Monday 10th October, Camp Hill celebrated World Mental Health Day, supporting the charity Young Minds by participating in #HelloYellow. This initiative saw thousands of schools, offices and communities nationwide wearing yellow clothes and accessories to raise awareness for mental wellbeing. From neon yellow tights and floral jackets to muted yellow hair ties and socks, it was wonderful to see both the students' and staff's support for mental health. During form time, students were asked to share ideas on how to maintain their wellbeing, and were given thought-provoking questions as well as calming colouring in sheets.

We hope that students now have a better understanding on how to keep mentally healthy, and that they know where to go if they need support. We have two in school counsellors that students can self-refer themselves to, as well as a quiet CSG room at lunch time and Wellbeing Prefects that students can email about any concerns they have. Students have also been signposted to a wealth of online resources, such as Kooth and Young Minds, that they can utilise.

Although not mandatory, we still received many donations for this amazing charity, managing to raise over three hundred pounds for Young Minds! This money will go towards providing resources and tools to help young people with their mental health as well as advice for caregivers on how to support their child with mental health. Young Minds also provides a number to text and chat to someone if students need someone to anonymously talk to.

The Wellbeing Prefects would like to give a big thank you to everyone who donated, wore yellow or participated in the mental health activities provided, and we hope that students gained a lot from Hello Yellow Day.



UKMT Maths Summer School 2022

by Anika Mitra, Year 12

During the summer holidays, I was lucky enough to be invited to the UKMT maths summer school, where, for 5 days, I was surrounded by a myriad of new mathematical concepts, puzzles and questions. Taking place in a scenic school in Leeds, year 10 and 11 students from across the country gathered in anticipation for a week of maths, memories and new friendships.

With our days being split into lecture style lessons as well as group discussions, we were all able to share our thoughts and struggles, while making friends along the way. Undoubtedly, the staff there were amazing, as they came from a variety of mathematical fields, and all gave their insight into their favourite areas of maths, as well as sharing their experiences in pursuing their careers and helping to make the summer school enjoyable for everyone.

And of course, no camp is complete without free time! Spending hours and hours playing card games, as well as the classic werewolf, the downtime we had was definitely memorable and a great way to relax our minds after the complex maths we'd covered in lessons.

Looking back on it, those 5 days hold some of the best memories of my summer, and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who has the chance to go! (You get a free book too!!)



Benchball Festival

by Imaani Abdul-Karim, Year 8

Recently, we represented our school in a Benchball tournament in the King Edwards Foundation, hosted at our school. It was not a competitive tournament, just a festival to celebrate Benchball.

It was really fun, as we played different variations of Benchball against other King Edward schools. It was a good experience as most of us who were participating had not done extracurricular activities like this. Overall it was really fun and I think I would like to do something like this again!

ESSA Swimming Relays

by Sahana Jain and Lucia Zilles

On Friday 30th September, stuffed with cake and sweets from Macmillan Coffee Morning, 13 students from across the school escaped periods 2, 3 and 4 to be taken to Bromsgrove School for the ESSA swimming relays. Fresh from swim trials, we couldn't wait for our first school swimming gala this year - a new experience for many of the chosen swimmers.

As in previous years, we oohed and aahed at Bromsgrove's incredible expanse of grounds and brickwork, before sinking into the sofas in the cafeteria whilst we waited for warm up to start. For the relays, we had 3 teams: Juniors (Yr 7-8), Intermediates (Yr9-10) and Seniors (Yr 11-13). Each team competed for times in the 4x50m freestyle relay and medley relay, in which each swimmer swims 50m backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly or frontcrawl, in that order.

Whilst there were no sparkly trophies to be had, each team swam to their best ability, with cheers and high fives all round once the final swimmer had touched the wall. The competitive atmosphere was tangible, and we had fun encouraging our teammates to perform at their very best against highly competent swimmers from the other schools.

We relaxed in the cafeteria to have our lunch before piling into a minibus to return to school. Although we missed the leg room the coach had provided, the minibus was a delight for a last minute group revision session on chemistry for the swimmer who thought they wouldn't be back in time to sit the topic test... Overall it was a great effort from all of our swimmers, and we look forward to supporting them in the upcoming galas! Keep it up guys!

Well done to: Sahana Jain, Alice Hoggard, Lucia Zilles, Molly Egan, Melina Davoudzadeh, Nadia Sutcliffe, Mia Lowry, Clara Hilton-Widdows, Riya Mitra, Isobel Mountford, Risha Mitra, Askin Tenekeci and Yuan Yan, with special thanks to Mrs O'Grady for putting up with our constant rambling on the journeys!



Year 7 and 8 Football Tournament

by Inaaya Kassim and Grace Evans, Year 8

On the 6th October, our team of Year 7 and 8 footballers competed in a riveting football tournament at Swanshurst School.

Camp Hill were joined by King Edward VI High School for Girls, Swanshurst School and Bishop Challoner Catholic College in an exciting competition. We were filled with nerves on arrival but were ready to have fun and play as best as we could. Each team played four matches, rotating pitches and teams each time. This was a fun experience for all schools and everyone had a really good time. We hope that, as we continue playing matches we can improve whilst still having fun.

The football team is a great opportunity to learn a new sport, or maybe even to get better. So come to the Sports Hall on a Thursday lunchtime for half an hour and give it a go; you may love it!



Condovery 2022

by Bahar Kayani

On Friday 16th September, players in the Years 9, 10, and 11 netball teams (along with the current GCSE PE students) left for a weekend residential trip to Condovery. The two night and three-day visit was packed with an abundance of exciting activities from zip wires to campfires and of course.. netball!

The main building, where most of the indoor activities took place, was the bold and elegant Condovery Hall. Built in 1555, this three-storey Elizabethan sandstone building is described as the grandest manor house in Shropshire and is a Grade 1 listed building. After many changes in ownership (and after undergoing a multimillion-pound refurbishment program) Condovery Hall is now a well-equipped residential activity centre.



However, the history of the hall was not the only thing that took our breath away; we were mostly amazed by the wide range of activities that were on offer. In the evenings, we were allowed to explore in groups and had the opportunity to participate in activities such as the laser maze, grid of stones, silent disco and diving head first into the wondrous tastes and delicious flavours of the tuckshop - which consequently resulted in us having a sugar rush!

In the mornings, after we had all jumped out of bed and trudged along to the dining hall for breakfast, we were allowed to try the activities on offer. My group decided to do rock climbing. We weren't sure if that was the best thing to do on a Saturday morning but it ended up being a complete success. Then we moved on to archery and aerial trekking where I experienced the harrowing despair that one feels after losing a shoe whilst 30 metres up in the air - though I did get it back when I came down!



During the day we did, of course, participate in many high-standard netball matches with strict umpires and strategically organised matches to form a full tournament. These matches were against clubs and school teams from all around the country and gave me an insight into the competitive netball playing world; previously I had only ever played friendly matches at school.

Although we may not have won the overall competition, all the exciting activities and new experiences left us feeling very grateful to have been provided with this incredible opportunity (as well as extremely tired - we all slept soundly at home on Sunday night)!

Thank you to the school and the wonderful teachers and coaches for this fantastic trip.



Year 13 PE

by Alice Hoggard, Year 13

As Year 13 students, we have the option to return to timetabled PE lessons on a Wednesday afternoon, as a means of enrichment.

During the first session, we brainstormed ideas of sports we would like to try and the sports we wanted to return to playing. Many familiar sports were suggested, for example, football, badminton, rounders, cricket and netball, but what intrigued a lot of us was the prospect of playing a more novel sport: lacrosse.

For the majority, it was our first time ever holding a lacrosse stick, so needless to say, it took some getting used to. After many misdirected throws and accidental drops of the ball, we began easing into the sport and the stick that was once an unfamiliar contraption slowly started to become easier to use.

As they say, practice makes perfect, so we began the sessions by developing our throwing and catching skills, which then led into some informal games.

Overall, we have all thoroughly enjoyed trying out this sport and hope that other students will love it as much as we do in the future.



The National Schools Tennis Tournament

by Shavi Soni, Year 11

We started our journey near the end of last year when we took part in the Summer league in the Year 9/10 age category. Our team consisted of four members where everybody played singles, players 1 and 2 had a doubles match together and players 3 and 4 had a doubles match together. We had a successful league, in which we won all of the 6 matches (4 singles and 2 doubles) against Edgbaston High School for Girls.



This meant that we had qualified for the national knock-out stages. In the first round, we got a bye, meaning that we automatically moved onto round 2. We knew that if we won in this next round, we would move onto the regional finals, so we really wanted to win! In round 2, we played against Bromsgrove at Bromsgrove School and we were feeling very nervous at the start because we knew that they were a strong team. However, we went on court and played our best, resulting in an overall 6-0 win: everybody won their singles and doubles did a great job.

Now we have qualified for the regional finals which will take place in November at The Shrewsbury Club in Shropshire. We are very excited and will hopefully make it to the National Finals!

Well done to Annika Sinha, Tara Hemmings, Birle Tenekeci and Chizara Abraham-Igwe for their contribution. On behalf of the whole team, I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs O'Grady for organising all of our fixtures and taking us as well as being very motivational.

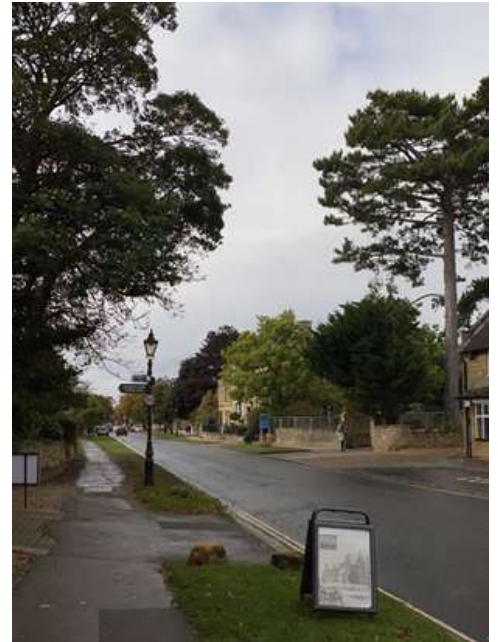
Year 11 Geography Trip

by Progati, Anya and Emily, Year 11

As part of our Geography GCSE Fieldwork, Year 11 embarked on a trip to Broadway and Willersey, two villages in the Cotswolds, in order to assess the rural deprivation and the quality of life in the area. Our aim was to discover how and why deprivation varied between the two villages. This will support our exam preparation.

During our visit to Willersey, which was the quieter of the two villages, we were taken aback by the sheer lack of people - a sharp contrast to the busyness of Birmingham. We explored the village to assess the different land uses within the area, while also admiring the scenic countryside and beautiful buildings in the village.

As part of our enquiry, we posed a series of questions to the local people, who were extremely helpful in giving us an insight into life in the area, as well as any challenges they encounter daily. Local residents were enthusiastic to answer our questions, which helped our investigation greatly. We also completed other tasks, like land use mapping, transport surveys and retail diversity reviews.



One of the interesting things we discovered was the community trend of turning unused phone boxes into libraries due to the lack of access to libraries in rural areas.

We really appreciate the return of field visits as many students unfortunately missed out on opportunities such as these during the pandemic.

Politics Trip to London

by Edie Crampton

On the 27th September the two A level Politics classes ventured to London on the train, ready for a day of political excitement and to see the places we had been learning about for the past year.

For the first part of the day we had a tour around the Supreme Court, the highest court of appeal for the UK. We were lucky to be able to sit in the actual court rooms and decide our own verdicts on particular cases which the Supreme Court had dealt with. What was interesting, was that in some cases what we as a class decided was not the decision that the Supreme Court had actually come to, and that sometimes a whole case came down to analysing the meaning of one word in a single clause in a piece of legislation. The guide told us that at present there is only one female Justice in the Supreme Court as opposed to eleven male Justices. This is a problem that needs to be addressed and it was reassuring to see that the Supreme Court had a wall dedicated to influential women who have impacted the progress of women in law. The last image was of an anonymous woman who represented the future of women in the legal profession - highlighting that while there was still progress to be made on equality, it was up to students like us to make the change in the future.



The next part of the trip was a tour around Parliament which consists of two chambers - the House of Lords and the House of Commons. It was fascinating to be in the chambers which we had seen on TV debates and get a better understanding of how it all works. In the House of Lords, our guide made us consider the issue of whether to abolish the House of Lords altogether, and what could replace it. There is no doubt that the House of Lords can be seen as a problematic institution, with the unelected and partially hereditary nature of the house raising the question of whether it is democratic and therefore whether it should have a role in making decisions on behalf of the people.

What interested me was seeing the difference between the House of Lords and the House of Commons in their design. The Lords was much fancier, more decorated and extravagant compared to the House of Commons, giving an air of prestige and elitism which is problematic. Overall, it was really eye-opening to see where our government makes the decisions that directly affect us as a population, and to learn about how the process works.

Our final activity of the day was doing a pressure group workshop. We were put into groups and spent time researching specific pressure groups and then deciding whether they were insider or outsider status (working with the government or separate) and also whether they were sectional or causal (representing a certain group in society or fighting for a particular cause that anyone can join). I really enjoyed this workshop, as it was fun to learn about a different way to influence politics, outside of government. We learnt about the Suffragettes as an example of a group successfully influencing society and politics through a variety of methods. We then went to the British Library and got to see one of the few remaining copies of the Magna Carta.

Finally it was back on the train, playing cards as a group, and finally dispersing into the evening, back at Birmingham New Street. Overall, it was a fun and interesting trip, and helped with our understanding of the institutions and ideas that we cover in our Politics A level.

Young Women into Leadership

by Amina Hussain, Year 11

I'm sure I speak on behalf of everyone when I say I feel extremely lucky to have taken part in this exciting programme for girls all around the world aged 14-16. The six day programme (Monday 25th July to Monday 1st August) allowed us to develop leadership skills, an increased sense of agency, resilience, presentation and public speaking skills, and team building skills by being exposed to strong female role models from a variety of sectors including Politics, Business, Sport, STEM and Media and Culture. Each day, we were invited to a two hour online session via Microsoft Teams with inspirational speakers who shared their extremely motivational life stories and gave us some brilliant advice about our own futures. Some of these women included Cllr Maureen Cornish, Lord Mayor of Birmingham; Paulette Hamilton MP, Labour Member of Parliament for Birmingham; and Jayne Torvill, Olympic Gold Medallist. We were also supported by mentors who we talked with regularly in our designated groups to help with our presentations to the US Embassy.

After all the eye opening speeches and inspiring insights on how to reach our full potential, it was time to put the advice we were given into action. We were all put into randomly assigned groups with incredibly unique and talented participants and given the task to research women in Business, Sport, Politics, STEM, and Media and Culture. Working as a united team and feeding off each other's unique and exceptional ideas proved itself to be a truly exhilarating and enlightening experience. I am sure I can speak on behalf of all the participants when I say that working as a team with other bright and gifted young minds truly felt like we all had a unified goal in mind: one of equality and reaching our full potential. This refreshing experience helped us acquire new skills as we assigned each other roles and responsibilities and each of us worked diligently to commit to them. And I must say the most satisfying and rewarding part of it all was not only seeing the fruits of our hard work and perseverance once our presentation was completed but also leaving the programme with so many more valuable skills than we ever had coming in.

After many days of research, rigorous planning and battles with tech, our presentation day came. We presented alongside all the other participating groups to the esteemed US Embassy representative, who gave us feedback afterwards and asked many questions to challenge and explore our ideas. For those speaking, the terrifying prospect of our mics not working was always on our mind. However, thankfully, the presentation went smoothly and we got to watch others elaborate on their ideas about women in STEM, Sport, Politics and Public Sector, Business, and Media and Culture. It was a truly exhilarating experience, with everyone contributing to their fullest and reaping the most from their hard work. We completed the You WIL Summit, horizons broadened and minds enriched, having acquired knowledge and skills we didn't have before.



Girls into STEM Day

by Aemaan Anjum, Year 9



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

On Wednesday 14th of September, Mr Bettison took 21 Year 9 students to the University of Birmingham for the "Girls into STEM" day. We started the trip with registration in the Engineering Lounge and, as simple as that seems, some of us got lost! But thankfully Mr Bettison realised and came back to get us. After this we had an introductory speech telling us about the power of STEM and how it is incorporated into everything around us. We then got sent off to test urine samples for prostate cancer (gruesome I know) but after a bit of gagging and bickering I started to realise how lucky we are to live in this day and age, with so many technological advancements and opportunities. It really did make me feel empowered to know that something as simple and painless as this could potentially save someone's life!

Next we made our way to see some robots; we met a very polite robot dog and Mr Bettison had a go at controlling it (the dog started dancing). We then headed over to "build" some remote control cars except the way to control them was with your mobile flashlight. I say "build" because the framework was pre-built; we just had to connect some wires in our teams. Next we timed how long it took each team to get their car around a track - let's just say that didn't go very well for our team and leave it at that!

Subsequently, we had lunch on campus before listening to a truly motivational speech by Dr Anita Ghag. In this she talked about how grades don't define you, but this doesn't mean you shouldn't try your hardest. She then explained the medical discoveries happening because of STEM and I was awestruck by the different aspects of analysis. To finish off the day we had a tour of the university campus.

In conclusion, I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Bettison on behalf of all the people that went on the trip. If I ever have the opportunity to, I would love to do something like this again.



The 2022 Summer Reading Challenge

by Mrs Royall

In September, it is always a delight to see how students responded to our Summer Reading Challenge and find out what everyone has been reading over the holidays. The reviews, character studies and book cover design ideas handed in this year were a pleasure to peruse! Reading goodie bags have been awarded to everyone who took part and the following students deserve a special mention for their excellent effort:

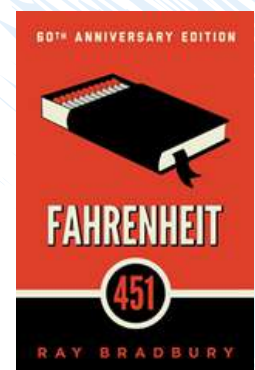
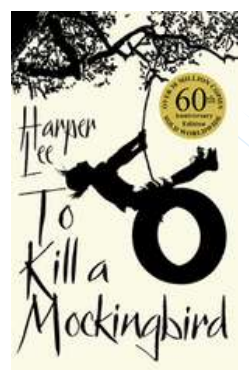
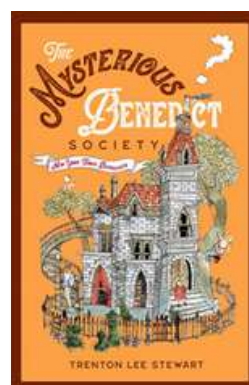
Year 7	
Esther Ebube-Awunor	Best of Year 7
Amelia Tomson	Highly Commended
Rahana Kuttuva	Highly Commended

Year 8	
Iman Qureshi	Best of Year 8
Aaminah Abbas	Highly Commended
Leyla Berriche	Highly Commended
Innaya Kassim	Highly Commended

Year 9	
Tasnuva Zinan	Best of Year 9
Haania Shah	Highly Commended

Key Stage 4	
Bahar Kayani	Best of Key Stage 4
Bushra Medani	Highly Commended

If you are wondering what to read next, you might want to consider these books which were chosen frequently by our keen readers as they challenged themselves to read books from throughout the late Queen Elizabeth's 70 year reign.



Celebrating poetry and student success!

by Mrs McDermott, Subject Leader for English

National Poetry Day at Camp Hill

We celebrated National Poetry Day on 6th October and its theme of 'The Environment' by asking teachers to share and enjoy poetry on nature and the environment in their classrooms. Mrs Tromans and I spoke in full school assemblies about how poetry might be used to appreciate our natural surroundings, or even fight for the preservation of them. Students are invited to enter Greenpeace's [Poems for the Planet](#) competition, closing date 1st December.

We are delighted to report the success of two of our students in national poetry competitions. Ruth Rafeeq, 12MP, was a poetry winner in the Litmus School Writing Paper 2022. You can read her haunting poem, 'The Writing on the Wall', [here](#). Congratulations to Ruth on this wonderful achievement.

Iona Mandal, 12W, has been appointed to the one of the most prestigious of all poetry roles: the Birmingham Young Poet Laureate 2022-24. Her selection was announced at the CBSO Centre during the Birmingham Literature Festival, and she was invited to travel to Shakespeare's Globe in London where she performed one of her poems. Iona will now be commissioned to write poetry for many important events in the city, and attend all sorts of writing and performance opportunities. An achievement like this cannot be overstated, and we look forward to reading and hearing many more of Iona's poems as she fulfils her new role.

This incredible and well-deserved recognition is not the only acknowledgement of Iona's talent as a poet. Recently she was published in the Litmus School Writing Paper 2022 and you can read her poem [here](#). Iona also won 3rd prize in The Canterbury Tales Writing Competition 2021/22: Prejudice and Difference which you can read about in the next article.



The Canterbury Tales Writing Competition - 2021/2022

By Iona Mandal, Year 12

The Chaucer Heritage Trust, founded in 1992 by actor, director and playwright Martin Starkie, aims to further interest, understanding and appreciation of the life, times, and influence of Geoffrey Chaucer. It hosts an annual Canterbury Tales Writing Competition for children and young people to be inspired by the works of Chaucer, considered by many as the father of the English language and England's greatest medieval poet. The theme of the 2022 competition was Prejudice and Difference. One could write a poem or story about prejudice or difference, or a description of an outcast (in 500 words).

My entry for the Senior category (15-18 years) won 3rd position for my description of an outcast. The deadline for entries being in February, I had almost forgotten about the competition until I received an email from school informing me about my winning entry for which I was to receive £100 and the school library an additional £250! I feel incredibly honoured to have been selected and you can read all the winning entries here: [The Canterbury Tales Writing Competition 2021/22: Prejudice and Difference – The Winners – The Chaucer Heritage Trust](#).

Latin Camp 2022

by Madeleine Kavanagh and Victoria Nechayeva, Year 13

This summer, we got the exciting opportunity to attend a Latin summer school at the Harrogate Ladies' College in Yorkshire, to help us to prepare for our Latin A Level.

Over the course of our two week stay, we read two original Latin texts - one by Ovid and one by Cicero. In the first week, we dived straight into our prose text, Cicero's 'Pro Milone', a rather melodramatic speech from Cicero, defending his friend Milo from murder charges. While the course of events - an ambush ending with the unexplained death of one of Milo's most powerful political rivals - were thrilling and full of intrigue, Cicero's dry, drawn out sentences really stretched his speech 'into infinity and beyond'!



The next week saw a refreshing change of pace from Cicero's exhausting sentence lengths. Studying our verse text, Ovid's 'Metamorphoses 11', we got the opportunity to explore the wide variety of myths that Ovid includes in this epic - from the well-known Midas to less retold myths, such as the story of Ceyx and Alcyone. Even if the myths were interesting, it perhaps took Ovid too many lines of verse to get to the point of the story!

We also visited Hadrian's Wall in the middle weekend. After a 5:30am start, we enjoyed a 2.5 hour hike along the wall itself, visiting several ruins of former guard towers and the famous tree from "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves". Following this we walked around the Roman Fort at Vindolanda, one of the largest archeological sites in Britain, led by tour guides dressed in Celtic attire. We both thoroughly enjoyed the day, even though the many steep hills and slippery steps were occasionally a bit precarious.



Later that week in York, after visiting the remains of a Roman bath beneath a pub, we were thrilled to meet Ollie, the Great Bavarian owl, and Bailey, the barn owl. We also visited Jorvik, the Viking Centre, where we went on the award winning ride through the recreated Viking village, at its original location of Coppergate. It was fascinating to see how a historical village operated, and even smelt!

The Hellenic Bookservice visited so, after Victoria stocked up on Latin-related books, we bought "Caecilius est in horto" pencils for our whole Latin A Level class!

The last night was the most fun of the whole camp. We had a fancy dress party, where we had to create our own costumes. Victoria dressed as Athena, the Goddess of wisdom and warfare, and Maddy dressed as Hera, the Queen of the Gods. After the extremely entertaining play performed by the tutors, we spent the night dancing and singing (more like belting "Pompeii" by Bastille), enjoying ourselves but sad that we were leaving the next day.

On our final day, we gave tearful farewells to our new friends, promising to keep in touch, and, with our certificates having been received, set off on our journey home. All in all it was a fabulous trip, and we would highly recommend it for anyone interested in the Classics, no matter your ability!



Défi accepté

by Bahar Kayani, Year 11

L'été. What a joyous holiday season, known for being packed with lots of fun activities: reading in your garden, travelling abroad to see extended family, going on a trip to the beach with friends, or even (in my case) completing a 19 task challenge on the language you are currently studying at school!

Over the summer, I (along with a group of fellow language learning enthusiasts) decided to take part in the annual West Midlands Language Immersion Challenge. This required us to choose one language that we were currently studying at school and expand our knowledge of it by completing as many of the 19 tasks given as we could. The following awards were on offer:

- Bronze Certificate = 4 challenges completed
- Silver Certificate = 8 challenges completed
- Gold Certificate = 12 or more challenges completed
- Platinum Certificate = Completed Gold Certificate + Advanced Challenges (for years 10 - 13 only)

Now, you may be thinking that we decided to spend our summer writing a variety of different essays in either French, Spanish, or German. You may be thinking that we had to answer some reading and listening questions. You may even be on the verge of suggesting that we had to do something as bold as finding a native speaker and trying to engage in a conversation. If so, then you are sorely mistaken.

On the contrary, we were given the opportunity to explore completely new and exciting ways of engaging with our Target Language (TL). For example, one of the challenges required you to listen to the radio in your TL and try to decipher some of the conversations that they were having, while another encouraged you to watch a film in your TL and rate it!

From finding ridiculous reels on social media all the way to not speaking a single word of English for the whole day, each new challenge provided us with a fresh perspective of our TL - mine being French - and gave us a new alternative to boosting language learning!

Unfortunately, however, it was not all sunshine and glitter for everyone. My personal downfall was challenge number 5 which instructed me to cook a traditional and much loved dish from a country where my TL is a native language. I do not have the resolve to go into the gory details but I can only muster up the courage to admit that my macarons... may have looked more like overcooked bread sticks than macarons. The next few gruelling hours were spent scouring the baking tray to free it from the persistent remains that were set on living the rest of their overcooked lives stuck to the metal.

Even though there were lows as well as highs, overall, participating in this engaging and inventive Challenge helped me broaden my linguistic horizons and encouraged me to reach beyond the usual school curriculum.

Merci beaucoup Madame Price for providing us with this fantastic opportunity!





Art News

by Miss Irving, Subject Leader for Art

October sees the arrival of 'Inktober', an initiative to encourage us all to draw a little every day with some fun prompts to spark the imagination. Well done to everyone who has emailed their drawings for inclusion in our daily showcase on social media. There is still time left to take part, even if for only one or two days.

Here are some examples from over the last couple of weeks.



Our new groups have got off to a great start this term. Welcome to our Year 10 GCSE artists and our Year 12 A level artists. To mark the new term and option choices, Year 13 held a 'Tea **pARTy**' for Year 12 at lunchtime. This was an opportunity for Year 12 to have a look at the work Year 13 have done so far, and to ask questions and get advice and tips on issues such as developing original ideas and managing deadlines. There was also CAKE of course!



A huge thank you to our Year 13 students who gave up their time to make this possible, and well done to Year 12 for taking advantage of this opportunity.

Key Stage 3 Art Club

Jess, Anjali and Caitlyn in Year 12 have taken responsibility for planning and running Key Stage 3 Art Club this term. They have had an excellent response to their theme of dioramas, with students making fantasy worlds from woodlands, to under the sea and desert islands. The club get together every Friday lunchtime.

See Miss Irving if you would like to be added to our register.



We asked a couple of Year 10 students to share their experiences of GCSE Art so far. We have been busy with workshops and new practical experiences to aid student confidence as they start to work on more challenging tasks. Thank you to Ronan and Emily for putting these reflections together for the Chronicle.

"I chose GCSE Art because it is a creative subject where the lessons are more relaxed. It's also a different teaching style; having Art after a gruelling, more academic lesson can be very cathartic. Art is a subject where you can have some choice on what you do, as the syllabus is not rigid. My only reservation was the amount of coursework there is. But, I love art so I don't mind spending extra time on it. So far, we have done workshops on pencil drawing, photoshop, acrylic, and oil painting. My favourite workshop has to be on acrylic paints. We loosely followed a tutorial on painting a boat; it was interesting looking at the different ways you can use paint. The transition to KS4 Art was definitely a switch since we get more freedom on what we do as we develop our own art style. Over a month into GCSE Art, and I absolutely love it. It is easily my favourite subject."



"I first chose art GCSE because I liked both graphics and art, and I was a bit unsure about my choice at first. However, after completing more research I realised that Art GCSE offered both digital art opportunities and art. At first, I was stressed about the workload as I have taken Music, Art and Drama but I can say that so far it has not been a problem at all. We are currently working on an oil paint/photoshop workshop. In this workshop, we Photoshopped some primary and secondary pictures, and then we will paint them using oil paints. So far I have enjoyed GCSE art greatly and am very excited for what is left of the course for me to enjoy. I will recommend anyone interested in art to take it."

ARTiculation prize

We have registered Camp Hill Girls for this year's ARTiculation public speaking competition. It is a National competition for students aged 16-19 to speak for up to 10 minutes about a work of art, artefact or architecture. Those interested are invited to participate in an internal heat in school, following which the winner is taken to present at the regional final around February 2023 (TBC). We have a strong track record in the competition and look forward to supporting students again this year. We already have a small list of interested students, but **there is still time to let Miss Irving know if you are 16+ and interested in having a go.**



Eesha - prize winner at regional finals in Coventry 2021



Careers @ Camp Hill Girls

by Dr Rose, Assistant Headteacher (Careers Lead)

Our careers education provision continues to flourish with a wide range of opportunities being promoted to the students; indeed only this week we have at least two students who have signed up for a fabulous opportunity with GSK (Glaxo Smith Kine), a large multinational pharmaceutical company, during half term, and another student who hopes to undertake an opportunity with Vision Express.



Investin

We have a partnership with InvestIn (<https://investin.org/>) which offers our students a 10% discount on the one day weekend courses, using the code KECHG2020 at the checkout and a 15% discount on the Summer Courses if they are booked before the 31st December (please use the coded SUMMER15 at the checkout).



We have a limited (5 only per term) of free places for students who are in receipt of Pupil Premium; if you are interested in one of these for a particular course in the Spring Term, please let me know which course dates you are interested in.

School website

Our website (<https://www.kechg.org.uk/parents-and-students/careers>) contains useful information for both parents and students, with lots of key websites for research and information purposes, and the Key Stage 4 guide will be added shortly.

Work Experience

Last summer we were able to offer our Year 11 and Year 12 students the opportunity to complete Work Experience, and the majority of those who took part in this were successful in finding in-person opportunities which was great to see. We will be promoting this after half term with this year's students in Year 11 and Year 12 so that they can start to look for placements.

However, while we wait to see where they secure placements this year, a few of last year's Year 11 students have given me comments about their experiences to include here, to whet your appetites.

Community Drama Work Experience

by Isha Handa

During the summer, I had the opportunity to complete some work experience on top of enjoying my holidays and I chose to do two different jobs. I spent the entire holidays tutoring for the 11+ and GCSEs, but what I found more exciting was the two months I spent starting up a drama company that allowed me to teach the children in my community drama. Each day consisted of working on advertising, lesson plans, emailing, hiring people and signing super formal documents like insurance papers. I wanted to take my work experience to another level and really challenge myself while doing something that made me happy. Through my business experience, I was also able to set up my own charity. As I continue to run my business and tutor students, my life gets more exciting every day!

HSBC

by Mona Yaramati

I did my work experience at HSBC for a five-day period. The majority of the course was online where we were exposed to several departments of HSBC and the roles that they carry out. I especially enjoyed our placement day where I was given a chance to go into the Birmingham office. During the day we were given the opportunity to design a new card and pitch our idea, as a team, to a product manager. It was an enriching experience that exposed me to working with people who I had never met before. I really enjoyed my work experience and it has given me a great insight into the banking industry.



Digital “App” Design with Network Rail Work Experience

by Anusha Gupta

Over the summer holidays, I completed five days of work experience with the Digital Factory side of the company Network Rail in order to gain an insight into work involving computer science. The Digital Factory is known for designing, programming, launching, and managing all of the technological aspects of the company (for example, making applications for users). During my time there, I received an in-depth insight into the entire chronological process leading to the final creation of an app. The majority of the time, I learnt and observed carefully via virtual Microsoft Teams calls, but I was lucky enough to visit one of their largest offices in person for a day in Milton Keynes. This was particularly intriguing as I got to see the working environment of the software team and how their typical day at full-time work is structured. Additionally, I got to meet some of the apprentices and managers in person and discuss the importance of their roles in the team and their personal views on their work, which was a really fascinating experience.

Firstly, I learnt about the responsibilities and techniques of a project manager and then gave a brief presentation of what I had learnt. For the next couple of days, a group of designers and app developers educated me as to how all the app's buttons, format, and user requirements are implemented. After learning about these, I had a go individually at each aspect, which included making presentations of what I had learnt as well as designing, programming, and testing a prototype app from scratch. One of the most significant things I learnt was the substantial amount of coordination and teamwork that goes into making an app - every part is vital.

Overall, I really enjoyed my work experience at Network Rail, the biggest highlight being able to understand the step-by-step process leading to the development of an app.

And finally a request for help.....

Our work with the students to support Careers Education is multi-faceted and we are always on the lookout for parents and companies to help us with interviews, talks, assemblies, work experience placements and career focussed days in enrichment week. If you are able to help us in any way please contact me at the school. Thank you.



Follow us on LinkedIn

Camp Hill is now on LinkedIn, you can follow and stay in touch with us on there.

<https://www.linkedin.com/school/king-edward-vi-camp-hill-school-for-girls>



Macmillan Coffee Morning

by Sanaa Pasha, Head Prefect



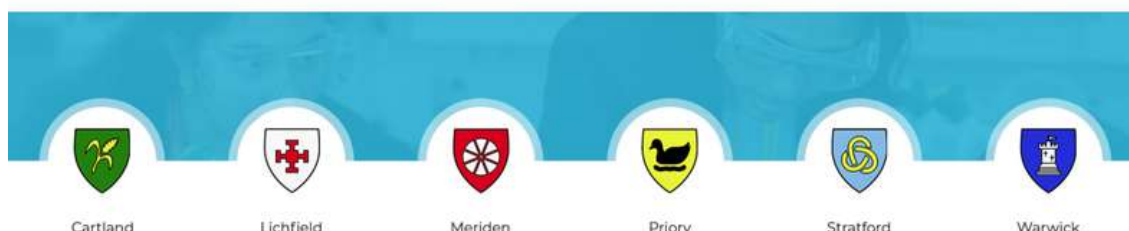
On Friday 30th October, the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning returned to Camp Hill! Macmillan Coffee Morning is a yearly event held to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support, a brilliant charity that funds cancer research and invests in resources to help people living with cancer. The first Macmillan Coffee morning was in 1990. It involved a small number of guests, donating the cost of their cup of coffee to the charity. Now, thousands of people from across the UK hold cake sales, garden get-togethers and street parties to raise money to help people living with cancer. Since 1990, an incredible £290 million has been raised for Macmillan.

Camp Hill's Coffee Morning this year lived up to its reputation of being a chaotic, fun and immensely rewarding 20 minutes of selling and buying cakes, treats and other baked goods. Mrs Neal helped to get 1000 Krispy Kreme doughnuts sold to the school at a discounted rate and it only took 20 minutes for all the doughnuts to sell! A massive thank you also goes to all the students who donated homemade and shop bought treats to sell to their peers; it was because of these donations that we were able to host such a brilliant coffee morning. With coffee morning locations in the Gym, the Studio and the Sixth Form Common Room, the whole school got involved in devouring tasty treats to support a great cause.

We are immensely proud to say we raised over £1200: the highest total Camp Hill has ever raised in a Coffee Morning! We were able to do this thanks to all the donations, purchases and logistical help from all the students and staff. (A special thank you to Mrs Ashraf who collected the doughnuts and drove them to school just 15 minutes before the coffee morning started!) The money we have raised will help Macmillan to continue their invaluable work supporting people living with cancer through research, nurses, online help forums and much more.



House Points



Coming Soon!

The House Point totals will be updated on the home page of our website every half-term.

Don't forget to hand them in!

Dates for Your Diary



**Monday
31st Oct**

Back to school
Week B

**Wednesday
2nd**

**Year 13 Oxford
Admission tests**

**Thursday
3rd**

**Years 12 & 13
Drama Theatre Trip**

**KE Foundation Netball
Shakespeare in
Schools Festival**

**Tuesday
8th**

Chamber Concert
at Camp Hill Boys' School

**Thursday
10th**

**Years 10 & 11
Division Tennis Finals**

15th & 17th

**Year 11
Gurdwara Trip**

**Wednesday
16th**

**Year 11
Maths Inspiration**

**Thursday
17th**

**Sixth Form
Open Evening**

**Monday
28th**

**KS3 Book Fair
Starts**

**Wednesday
30th**

Dance Show

Dates for Your Diary



Year 12
Progress Evening



Years 11 & 13
December Assessments
start



Highbury Hall
Concert



Year 9
RSC Trip
'A Christmas Carol'



Senior Prizegiving



Christmas Concert



End of term

