

Camp Hill Girls' Chronicle

End of Spring Term
2022



Message from Mrs Johnson

Dear Parents and Carers

My thanks to Mrs Neal and Ms Hayes for collating the articles for this edition of the Chronicle. It has been another really busy half term in school with so many "normal" activities happening, it is really starting to feel like the Camp Hill of old.

Our Year 12 students gave an impressive assembly this week to highlight the many ways in which this time of the year is significant for world religions. I know that many of our students and their families will be observing the fast (sawm) from dawn to sunset during Ramadan. This period of reflection is something to be valued. We also have families who have been observing Lent and will celebrate Easter as a Christian. April also sees the important major festival of Jewish Passover (Pesach), which is a holiday that celebrates the exodus of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. We are all aware of how so many things can impact on our lives, it is a positive thing to be able to pause and look in a spiritual way beyond our immediate circle of family and friends.

The continued challenge for us in school has been the level of staff absence and we are seeing this reflected across the country. While infection rates for younger people are falling the impact on staff has been greater than at any previous time since March 2020. I would like to say again how very grateful I am to staff (teaching and non-teaching) who have worked beyond their normal hours and duties to support school. I do know we are all, very much, looking forward to the Easter break.

I have been delighted to see the number of clubs and societies increase over the term. A visitor to school this week commented on the groups of students engaged with a wide range of activities during the lunch period. We have also been able to use the front field again at lunch time; it has been good to see so many students enjoying being outside, we are looking forward to a sunny summer term!

The House Prefects launched the House Fair (after a 2 year break!) and Year 12s stepped up to decorate the stalls, the gym and the hall for an organised chaotic charity event. More details and hopefully photos in the next edition.

As always thank you for your support over the past term, have a restful break.

And of course a quote to end with;

"Reflection is the lamp of the heart. If it departs, the heart will have no light."
Abdullah ibn Alawi al-Haddad.

Mrs L Johnson

Headteacher

Year 10 Carding Mill Valley

Trisa Sivavijayakumar 10S and Mayesa Mir 10W

During the week of 21st March, Year 10 geography students made the journey to Carding Mill Valley in the town of Church Stretton in Shropshire where we gathered data on the characteristics of the landscape for our GCSE fieldwork.



The groups reached the valley at around 10.30am and, fortunately, the weather was warm, so we managed to stay dry!

After a long and steep one-mile walk up the hill, we were briefed on what to do. Our aims on the field trip were to discover how and why channels change shape and river discharge changes with distance from the source of the river in Carding Mill Valley. Prior to the trip, we learned about the different river shapes and discharge types and levels. After the trip we will also learn how these changes impact the flood risk in Church Stretton where the site is located.



We familiarised ourselves with the river's velocity, bedrock size, and shape, and how these factors changed with the course of the river. We did this by using various data collection techniques such as a flowmeter test, the cork test and measuring the size of rocks (and possibly keeping them).

We gathered data from five different locations on the river, representing its upper, middle and lower courses - and we analysed the changes from each of the courses.

After completing our third site, we had our lunch break and headed out to gather more data. We drew a field sketch of the site and took some group pictures, before heading to the coach to go home. It was a busy but memorable day where we learned a lot, and very much appreciated the lovely Shropshire countryside!



Camp Hill Returns to the Theatre!

Yasmin Ibrahim 11C

On February 17th, amidst light drizzles of British rain on a dark Thursday evening, Year 11 set off to visit the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford to watch a contemporary adaptation of Much Ado About Nothing, a comedy heralded as Shakespeare's best. There was great excitement as this was the first theatre trip we had been able to do in two years.

Much Ado About Nothing is a Shakespearean comedy which primarily centres around 4 characters' entanglements and their respective (yet confusing) love stories. Beatrice, a sworn spinster, and Benedick, a self-proclaimed bachelor, are tricked into love, whilst Claudio's burgeoning infatuation with Hero, a Duke's daughter, begins to falter and fracture due to 'slandorous tongues.' Despite its seemingly stark plot, the trajectory of the play is fast-paced, lively and humorous. The RSC's production, directed by Roy Weise, is a futuristic fusion of soul and jazz music, eclectic dance, and incredible use of colour and visuals to form a truly enigmatic theatre experience.

In keeping with the RSC's commitment to ensuring their productions are 'for everyone' and are more representative than in the past, the production had a predominantly black cast. Reflecting this, the costumes, which were captivating and designed by Melissa Simon-Hartman, blended Afrofuturism and Tribalism in their brilliant mix of golds, reds and blues. On the coach on the way home, students talked about how visually impactful the play had been, and how much symbolism had gone into the use of colour and textures.

The jury was out on which were our favourite characters, or even which were the best performances: Akiya Henry was brilliant as a feisty, sassy, fiercely-independent Beatrice, but Luke Wilson made for an equally comic and compelling Benedick.

The evening felt like a true celebration: it was joyous to be able to enjoy live theatre again, and for quite a few of us, it was the first time we had got to see a play at the RSC. It was fun heading off on the coach with our friends, and it made for a great end to the rather bleak January and February half-term. Huge thanks to Mrs Hughes and Mrs Neal for organising the booking (including securing extra tickets when more and more Yr11 students wanted to come along!). Also, thank you to the other teachers who accompanied the trip at the end of a very busy half-term: Mrs Johnson, Ms Maginnis, Ms Strong, Ms Durham, Ms Irving, Mrs Tromans and Mrs Simmonite.

If you didn't manage to see the production when it was playing in Stratford, you can catch it on BBC iplayer. Here's the [link](#). ENJOY!!



Click on the images above for links to the relevante pages of the RSC website.

World Autism Acceptance Week

28 March – 3 April 2022



World Autism Acceptance Week 2022

Miss Orr

This term, we took part in World Autism Acceptance Week (28th March – 3rd April 2022), raising further awareness of autism in society and here in our school. Information packs were sent to form rooms, covering four areas:

- **What is Autism (in simplistic terms)?**
- **What About In Our School?**
- **How Can I Help?**
- **What can we do to develop our awareness?**

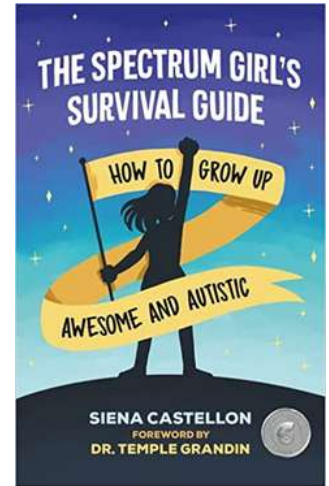
Thank you and well done to those of you who completed the 7 day kindness challenges!

Some top tips to further develop your autism awareness:

- Complete the 7 day form challenges (if you haven't already).
- Take a 5 minute look online to see how many successful celebrities have Autism!
- Visit the *Inclusion Body and Mind Differences* section of the library for some further reading if interested.
- Check your form noticeboard, to read a little bit more about Autism in the pack provided.
- Find out more information about *World Autism Awareness Week* and the work that the National Autistic Society do all year-round here: www.autism.org.uk

Last year, Shrutha Harish ran the fantastic "Spread a Smile" campaign and raised awareness amongst the Sixth Formers of invisible illnesses and disabilities, and this term we had an interesting and informative assembly about disabilities by Anna Cooke, Chloe Hadland and Casey Duncan. Thank you all for raising awareness.

Maybe *you* could take the lead on raising awareness on an area of inclusion next year, whether it's something you're interested in, you're an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion representative, or maybe it's something personal to you?!



Now in the library!

People are all different



Brains are all different



National
Autistic
Society

Thomas Cranmer Awards Success

Iona Mandal 11W



On 26th February 2022, I participated in the national finals of the Prayer Book Society's *Thomas Cranmer Awards* at Hampton Court Palace, Surrey. It was a gorgeous venue steeped in English history. As one of the youngest in the senior category (15-18 years), I represented the Diocese of Worcester with nine other contestants. Like me, they came from across the country after winning in the regional heats held the year before. For the finals, I recited from memory the Collect, Epistle and Gospel from the Fifth Sunday after Trinity from Thomas Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer* (1662), bedrock of the Anglican Church. I secured the 3rd position in the national finals, receiving a certificate and prize money of £100 from Reverend Anthony Howe, Chaplain, Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace.

The competition was a test of sound understanding, memory and accuracy in reciting the liturgical text. Any deviation involved a penalty in marking. It was also a test of nerves facing an audience consisting primarily of clergy! The Canon of my local Anglican church, St. Laurence in Northfield, helped me tremendously in preparation. I will always cherish this experience and hope to quote some of Cranmer's wonderful lines in RS!



The photos are courtesy of the Prayer Book Society

The RS department would like to congratulate Iona on such a fabulous achievement. Well done!



Success at the UK Linguistics Olympiad 2022

Mrs Price, Subject Leader for Languages

Congratulations to Iona Mandal and Sreevidya Somayajula in Year 11 who worked together as a team in this year's Linguistics Olympiad competition.

Over a number of lunchtimes, they pored over language puzzles based on the Buhid, Italian, Maltese and Arhuaco languages.

They applied logic to the linguistic data that they were presented with and were soon able to translate such sentences as 'The girl sees the rich boy's breakfast' accurately in an entirely new language.

Both students were awarded silver in this year's competition – very well done!

UK Linguistics
Olympiad

ARTiculation Competition

Ms Irving
Subject Leader for Art



Congratulations to Eesha Walji in Year 11 for coming 3rd in the regional heat of the ARTiculation public speaking competition. Eesha presented alongside 9 other speakers from schools in the West Midlands at the Herbert Gallery in Coventry on 2nd March 2022. Her speech was focussed on the paintings of Caroline Walker, whose work Eesha had seen at Midlands Arts Centre. Walker's paintings resonated with Eesha because of their honest depictions of working women in our society. Eesha's delivery was very clearly based on her own observations and first-hand experience of the paintings, resulting in an extremely confident message.

The adjudicator, Dr Zoe Whitle, praised Eesha for "conveying to us all her extremely clear journey from the online experience to the physical one", describing Eesha's presentation as "very gripping".

Eesha should feel extremely proud of her achievement, one that has also secured her place in the ARTiculation alumni network.

Every year we invite students to participate in this national competition. It provides students with a valuable and supportive opportunity to develop their public speaking skills, and we have seen a very high standard of presentations over the last few years.



Badminton Tournament

Amulya Maganty

On Monday 14th February we hosted a Key Stage 4 badminton tournament. Similar to the Key Stage 3 competition, schools from around Birmingham joined us - such as Bishop Challoner, University of Birmingham Secondary School and King Edward's High School for girls.

It was an amazing opportunity for our KS4 team to showcase their badminton skills in a few doubles matches. All our doubles pairs played extremely well, and in the end we placed joint first with KEHS.

The tournament had a friendly atmosphere and was an amazing way to get more people involved in some competitive badminton.



Trampolining Success!

Emma Bloxidge and Jess Tucker



On 12th March, Jessica Tucker, Emma Bloxidge, Evelina Coca (Year 9) and Molly Egan (Year 10) travelled to Kings School in Macclesfield to compete in the national schools trampolining final against other schools from across the UK. They had been successful in two previous rounds of competition, securing 2nd place in regionals, and 2nd in the zonal round.

It was Evelina Coca's first competition and she performed outstandingly! The team placed 7th nationally despite an acquired injury in the final routine.

It was an incredible experience and I and my teammates will never forget it. Kings School had a beautiful campus and the atmosphere inside the sports hall was incredible: there were so many amazing athletes and it was great to see them in competition.

Handball

Mehreen Khan Y10

Recently, a team of students from Years 9 and 10 ventured to Moseley School to participate in a handball tournament. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, only Moseley School was left as our competitors. However, undeterred, we went on to play a series of matches during which our team scored many goals and displayed perfect teamwork. In order to make it more fun, we mixed teams and played with a range of abilities and ages.

Overall we had a great time and returned to school proud of our gameplay. It was a great opportunity to practise our sportsmanship and skills. Well done to everyone involved in playing, organising and hosting the handball match!



Camp Hill's New Cricket Club!

Mayesa Mir 10W



Great to see so many students attending cricket club at lunchtime today. We have more attending on Wednesday Lunchtime. @Edgbaston @WarwickshireCCC #cricket #CWG22 #Birmingham #WomensCricket @kechg



This half-term, we saw the launch of a brand new Camp Hill Cricket Club. Cricket is a sport that lots of students in school are keen to play; in fact, so many people signed up, it has meant the club is now split into KS3 and KS4, and run over two separate lunchtimes!

It has been really pleasing to see this level of interest within the school community - especially now that women's cricket nationally is gaining well-deserved recognition and popularity.

The skill and attitudes shown by everyone attending the lunchtime sessions have been brilliant and have made leading the sessions a great experience. I hope that this is something that we will continue to see after Easter.

Of course, this was only made possible with the help of students and members of staff supervising, such as Miss Ellis and the PE department, so it is thanks to them that this opportunity has been made available to all students wishing to play the sport, or try something new.

House Matches

It's that time of year again! After 3 years void of opportunities to showcase and embrace our school's sporting abilities, the House Games Championships are back on! Over the course of these couple of weeks, students from year 7, 8 and 9 have been participating in a series of sporting competitions and events consisting of the three sports: netball, handball and dance. This is known as the House Games Championships; students from all six houses - Cartland, Lichfield, Meriden, Priory, Stratford and Warwick - partake in one of the three sports listed whilst conducting congenial partisanship - all with an intent to be crowned as the champions of the League.

House matches are an excellent way to advance student engagement in their personal development and to promote acceptance and friendship - one of Camphill's main aims. During my time as an umpire, it was like a breath of fresh air to witness the diverse range of talents in our school community but also the sportsman-like qualities and camaraderie between our fellow students, something we should all take great pride in! Despite facing great difficulties with distant learning and the lack of acquaintance amongst many pupils in various different classes, all of the students collaboratively worked together, maintaining perseverance throughout the game whilst showing respect towards their opponents and fellow team members and even forming many friendships along the way- the evergreen Camphill spirit is prevalent within all the students of our school!

Now, the moment you have all been waiting for, the results of the House Games Championships:

In Year 7:

Final Positions	Netball	Handball	Dance
1st	Cartland	Meriden	Warwick
2nd	Stratford	Stratford	Lichfield
3rd	Lichfield	Priory	Stratford & Cartland
4th	Priory	Lichfield	
5th	Warwick	Warwick	Priory
6th	Meriden	Cartland	Meriden

In Year 8:

Final Positions	Netball	Handball	Dance
1st	Cartland	Meriden	Cartland
2nd	Priory	Cartland	Stratford
3rd	Stratford	Lichfield	Meriden
4th	Meriden	Stratford	Priory
5th	Lichfield	Warwick	Warwick
6th	Warwick	Priory	Lichfield



In Year 9:



Final Positions	Netball	Handball	Dance
1st	Cartland	Priory	Lichfield
2nd	Warwick	Meriden	Stratford
3rd	Stratford	Cartland	Warwick
4th	Meriden	Stratford	Priory
5th	Lichfield	Lichfield	Meriden
6th	Priory	Warwick	Cartland

Year 9 Netball Team

Ojal Rao and Annika Sinha

The Year 9 Netball team played a variety of schools including Swanshurst, Kings Norton, EHS and Fiveways. We started off strong with a fantastic win of 30-7 against Swanshurst, boosting our confidence which helped us to maintain this level throughout the league, overcoming any challenges that we faced, finishing with a total of around 60 goals. We ended up playing 5 matches, 4 of which we won and the final one, we drew. After playing all of our matches, Camphill Girls won the league by 3 points. As a team we played brilliantly, our passes were sharp and powerful, our defence was strong and resilient and our shooting was impeccable. An example of this would be the match against Kings Norton, when we were nearing towards the last quarter, and it was 9 -7 to Kings Norton but after an amazing pep talk from Ms Chapman and wonderful action and playing from our team, we fought back and managed to score 4 goals in the last quarter, resulting in a win for Camphill, with a score of 11-10.

We would like to give a HUGE thanks to Ms Chapman and Faith Adams for putting up with us every Monday lunchtime and even some days after school, and also helping us to achieve our league win.





Climbing



At the beginning of this calendar year, a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students went to a place called Creation Climbing to learn how to rock climb safely. Each week, a different PE teacher accompanied us, and helped us to start filming our progress as evidence for our GCSE Physical Education.

At first, we started off with bouldering, which is basically climbing a fairly low wall without a harness. This was very helpful, because not only did we get used to climbing a wall, we also got used to having to adjust our feet positioning so we didn't fall off the wall. As well as this, it also helped us with actually holding onto the wall, because we quickly realised that holding onto a flat handhold is a lot harder than it looks! After we had done this, we moved on to the bigger walls.

To start off with, we climbed a fairly easy wall, and were belayed by the instructors (this means they held onto the rope and stopped us from falling). Then, we moved onto one of the bigger walls in the centre, but the belayer was a machine, so if we slipped, rather than being caught and dangling mid-air until we regained our footing, we were brought down off the wall at a very slow pace. Before we climbed, we were told to climb a short distance and then jump off, so we could get used to the feeling of falling. This was fun!

The next week, we were taught how to tie a knot, and then attach it to our harnesses. This would ensure that we would safely be able to tie ourselves in, so that when we moved on to belaying, we knew that we would stay attached to the wall, no matter what. After we had practised tying our knots, we tied ourselves in and were once again belayed by the instructors.



Over the next few weeks, we were taught how to belay safely, and were able to get quite a lot of practice at this. We were taught the correct communication, how to stand so that it was safe for the climber and also how to catch a falling climber.

On the final week, we were assessed to make sure that it was safe for us to climb without an instructor, and then after we had done our assessments, we were able to do what we wanted to. Some of us tried traversing (sideways climbing) and then went on to play twister on a rock climbing wall (we recommend trying this, as it is extremely fun!), while some of us stuck to bouldering.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable experience, and it was very helpful! We would like to thank the PE staff for making this possible!



University of Glasgow

Sarab's Success in Prestigious National Writing Competition

Sarab Sian in Year 10 is to be congratulated on winning 2nd place in a national competition entitled 'Values to Virtues' run by the University of Glasgow.

Sarab's essay explored why the focus on reinforcing British values within society in recent years has failed to reduce rates of radicalisation.

Here's an extract from her winning entry:

Prevention is always the best method when dealing with conflict, whether it be with war or, in this case, terrorism. In 2011, the UK government made this connection. As a part of CONTEST (a counter terrorism strategy) under the subsection of Prevent (which focused on preventing young people from becoming radicalised), the British Values were born.

A society that only represents a minority of the population's views, is destined to fall. Having a democracy increases representation. When we as humans are part of a society where our opinions are heard, we are unlikely to want to destroy and terrorise it. The Values aim is to represent what British society stands for: each of the Values displays the fundamentals that make a community which modern citizens covet. By ensuring the teaching of the Values was compulsory in schools, young British Citizens of all backgrounds and ethnicities were informed of the inclusive and equal society they are a part of. The government hoped this would reduce the rates of radicalisation, as it arguably should have; radicalisation is less likely to occur if the citizen feels a heard and valued part of their community. This ideal has worked throughout history: from religious believers proselytising for their religion, to countries recruiting for war.

Yet it hasn't worked so far. There has been an increase in young people arrested for terrorism-related offences in recent years (House of Commons: Terrorism in Greater Britain Statistics). The Values were officially introduced as compulsory teaching in 2014. Between the years of 2014-2021, it increased by 2.3% to 5.8% - more than its previous years from 2002-2013.

Well done, Sarab!



Easter Celebrations

Chloe Hadland Year 13 (Christian Union)



Every year, Christians around the world celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox (which is why the exact date can vary). The story of Jesus' death and resurrection, told in the four New Testament Gospels, is arguably the key belief behind Christianity - that Jesus died so that our sins could be forgiven, and rose again three days later, making it one of the most important religious festivals to many Christians.

Christian celebrations can include Passion plays (depicting the suffering and death of Jesus), Easter Vigils and Mass, and singing Easter worship songs, as well as spending time with friends and family, giving flowers, and of course giving and eating chocolate Easter eggs. The symbolism behind eggs at Easter is, from a Christian perspective, that they represent the stone which Jesus rolled away from his tomb to re-emerge, having risen from the dead. In this way, eggs represent new life and rebirth. This year at school, the Christian Union is holding an Easter picnic with food and games!

As well as its role as a Christian festival, Easter also more generally symbolises new beginnings. Taking place near the start of Spring each year, it serves as a celebration of new life and the end of winter. This Easter, whether or not you celebrate it as part of your faith, we can all take some time in nature to appreciate the budding flowers and warming weather (particularly if you're looking for a way to de-stress before exams!). Try something new like a sport or hobby, and spend time with loved ones.

However you spend it, I hope you enjoy the break from school and have a very happy Easter!



Green Week Assembly

Mayesa Mir 10W

On the 24th of March, students from our school who are representatives for the UKSSN (the UK Schools Sustainability Network), gave an assembly about Green Week, talking about how we can take a more proactive approach towards a greener future. Sanaa, LucyAnna, and I talked about volunteering opportunities locally that students can get involved in. We listed lifestyle changes that people can easily make, and also, how it is important to start discussions about the climate crisis inside and outside our school communities.

Instead of doing the conventional assembly on the science behind climate change, which we are familiar with, we gave practical advice on taking the initiative and creating opportunities to encourage a greener culture within schools, families, and our wider communities. We hope this was beneficial and encouraging.

Some examples of changes that we can all put into practice in our everyday lives include:

- Taking a form of transport that has fewer emissions; such as walking, cycling, or public transport - considering the rising prices of fuel, this may even be less costly.
- Reducing our meat consumption and moving towards a greener, healthier diet. The second-highest emissions savings would be delivered by a global shift to vegetarianism so making a change such as this would significantly reduce our carbon footprints and provide a more balanced diet.
- Caring for the ever-diminishing green spaces we have in Birmingham and surrounding areas can also have a significant positive impact. Taking part in something as simple as litter picking or volunteering in places such as Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park or National Trust sites is a fantastic contribution to make to the environment.

Why not calculate your carbon footprint online to see where the majority of your own emissions are coming from? Scientists are clear that big lifestyle changes are the only answer to mitigating the devastating impacts of climate change. For this reason, we must take it upon ourselves to actively reduce our carbon footprint in as many ways as possible.



World Book Day Graphic Novel Competition

To celebrate World Book Day in March, Mrs Tromans and Miss Irving invited Key Stage 3 and 4 students to submit an excerpt from a well-known book in the form of a graphic novel. We received some fantastic entries and were assisted in the judging by Desandi and Lucy in Year 10 (our resident illustration experts!). Entries included a wide range of book choices, media and techniques, reflecting the options we have in creating art work.

Congratulations go to the 3 chosen finalists:



Rinsola Alatisé, Year 9

'Crime and Punishment' (Dostoevsky)

Digital drawing and painting



Mischa Choudhary, Year 10

'Little Women' (Louisa May Alcott)

Pencil crayon and pen drawing



Rosalyn Bishop-Park, Year 7

'Anne of Green Gables' (Lucy Maud Montgomery)

Felt tip pen drawing

Yinka's Challenge

Miss Irving, Subject Leader - Art

Over the last term, a committed group for Craft Club have been meeting every Wednesday lunchtime to create their masterpieces in response to the Craft Council's competition called 'Yinka's Challenge'. Yinka Ilori is a multidisciplinary artist well known for some of his bright and original pavilions and play-spaces. He has set schools the challenge of making their own visions of playgrounds and meeting spaces, using found and available craft materials. Students have had to consider how they communicate their ideas through these objects and processes, as well as providing evidence of research and investigation.

Another brief set by the challenge was to repurpose or 'up-cycle' an existing object. Students have worked brilliantly together and have dedicated their time to making some truly imaginative and creative models, which have now been entered into the competition. We have finished the term with a mini celebration of their achievements and wish them all the best in the judging process.



Year 7 Making Sock Creatures!

Miss Irving, Subject Leader - Art

This term, Miss Tidd has been working with an extra-curricular Year 7 group to create these fun sock creatures. Starting with an old pair of socks, students have learned some cutting, fastening and applique techniques to up-cycle them into these wonderful soft toys. Incredible what you can do with a sock and a creative imagination! Look out for more extra-curricular opportunities in the new term.



Charity work - the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC)

During March, Damia Bahri in Year 12 worked tirelessly making rings in her spare time. On Friday 25th March, she set up her stall in the atrium to school, and students were so keen to buy her jewellery a larger space had to be sought quickly!

Damia utilised the support of her friends as sales were incredibly high and she raised over £275 for the DEC - a phenomenal achievement!

Well done, Damia!



Agents for Change



As previously shared, we are one of the fortunate 80 schools in the UK involved in the DfE funded Project "Equally Safe". As part of our programme, 30 of our students attended our Agents for Change event with Equaliteach. The training has equipped our young people with the skills to be Equality Ambassadors to continue to strengthen our anti-bullying work in school, particularly regarding identity-based and prejudice-based bullying.

The Agents were involved in a full school day of training regarding religion, gender, sexual orientation and disability to develop skills, knowledge and confidence to empower them to be active citizens both in school and in the wider community. Students came together for the day to help devise solutions which will facilitate and educate others about the harms of identity-based bullying and create support structures for pupils who experience bullying through their Action Plans. Our Agents have reviewed their Action Plans and are now ready to work alongside Senior Leaders in developing our in-school initiatives as well as cascading information and making change with their peers.

We are looking forward to working together to continue to embed our ethos of inclusivity, diversity and kindness.



Trip to the Jewellery Quarter

Zheela Inam 10C



ASSAY OFFICE
BIRMINGHAM

Towards the end of March, ten Graphics and Art students visited the Birmingham Assay Office. The trip aimed to educate us on the jewellery and watch-making industries and we also learnt a few things about gemmology.

There were lots of exhibitors showcasing jewellery and four talks by industry experts. The first one was about the history and the importance of hallmarking by Marie Brennan. Hallmarking is an official stamp of quality. The first step is to test the precious metals to find out their purity. This is called Assaying. After that, a hallmark is branded on the jewellery or silverware or any other item made from precious metals. Only a UK Government Assay Office can apply a hallmark



The second speaker was Marie Chalmers who talked about her career in gemmology. Qualified gemmologists analyse, describe, and certify the quality and characteristics of gemstones. After using microscopes, computerized tools, and other grading instruments to examine gemstones or finished pieces of jewellery, they write reports certifying that the items are of a particular quality. Studying gemmology is a long process with several practical and theory examinations to become certified. Gemmologists and gem buyers need strong business development and professional skills in manufacturing jewellery and luxury goods.

The third talk was about the Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Council Competition by the chairman of the GDC, Peter Crump. This competition embraces every aspect of jewellery, goldsmithing and silversmithing currently being practised in the UK industry. Entrants work to briefs set by the Craft and Design council and produce wonderful 2D and 3D work. The awards ceremony is held at the famous Goldsmiths Hall in London.



Our final talk was about courses in jewellery, horology and gemmology at the world renowned School of Jewellery based at Birmingham City University. The institution aims to support students' personal goals and career aspirations in developing a sustainable future in the industry, as well as helping them to produce an excellent portfolio of work.



These talks were hugely interesting and informative: they helped us to realise how many different career aspects there are in the industry: business and craftsmanship to name just a couple.



Enterprise Advisor

Dr Rose, Assistant Head & Careers Leader







We are looking for an enthusiastic parent/relative/family friend to act as an Enterprise Advisor to support the school in our Careers work with the students.

Whilst many students seek medical related careers, we have a growing number who want to hear more about careers in the creative industries as well as those seeking degree level apprenticeships in a wide range of careers.

Please have a look at the information on the [Careers & Enterprise Company](#)'s website about the role of a Enterprise Advisor and get in touch with me if this is something you would be interested in.



Current House Points

	House	Current Total
	Priory	909
	Stratford	837
	Cartland	748
	Warwick	673
	Lichfield	642
	Meriden	514



*House Fair:
Full report and photos
in the next edition*

Dates for Your Diary



**End of
Spring Term**



**Start of
Summer Term**



**New Year 7
Welcome Evening**



Bank Holiday



**Year 7
Parents' Evening**



**GCSE & A level
exams start**



**Break up for
Half Term**



**Staff Training
Day**