

# Enrichment Week

## Year 7 Condover

**Rudraa Patel 7W and Kidichukwu Onyeogo 7V**



We arrived on Wednesday morning and promptly registered and dropped our luggage in our designated labs and then proceeded to enjoy an hour or so of sunshine, cheese sandwiches, Radnor splash and cookies on the field. At around 12:40, just as we were about to explode with expectancy, the teachers finally said we should go and get our luggage, as we were going to leave! The journey took about 1.5 hours, though it felt like ages as the anticipation kept bubbling inside all of us! The coach journey was filled with various bursts of singing, laughter and, once there were even the smallest hints of being nearly there, shouts of 'Condover!' would be heard. Eventually, we rolled up to the giant gates of Condover Hall, feeling unimaginably excited and ready for adventure.

After we got off the bus, we all went to our assigned dormitories to put our bags there and had to rapidly line up on the tennis courts outside. From there, our JCA instructors took us on a tour of the site and informed us about fire alarm, safety instructions and much more. There was a kayaking lake, North and South tower and a Buttery field which we ate lunch on just before we left. After, my group began our first activity: kayaking. The other groups did various other activities such as aerial track, Jacobs ladder and much more. Doing kayaking helped lots of people to try new things and face their fears. Then it was time for dinner and our last activity for the day: Run around quiz! My group really enjoyed the Run around quiz and at the end we were all exhausted but still had the energy to run back to our dorms to finally go to sleep -it was a perfect way to end our day.

On Thursday, quite a lot of people woke up tired and said they had only had a couple hours of sleep. (Well, the teachers warned you!) But the day wasn't waiting for anyone, so we all had to head off to breakfast, where we enjoyed thoroughly a meticulously prepared meal, with lots of choices. You couldn't walk out feeling hungry! After all the stomachs had been filled, we headed to our first activity out of 5 – which could have been anything from Jacob's ladder to abseiling depending on what activity group you were in. We then proceeded to do 4 more activities and eat 2 more extremely delicious meals. At the end of the day, we were all positively shattered, and dived into bed, except for one unfortunate dorm who were inconveniently locked out when everyone was snuggling down into beds (or sort of). After quite a few reminders from the staff, we finally drifted to sleep. Goodnight!



On Friday, my group did low ropes which involved navigating a series of obstacles and challenges constructed close to the ground, often using ropes and wooden elements which helped us to work together as a team, emphasise communication and problem solving. It was tricky at first but we all gave it a shot and made it to the end! When the coaches came we all got on and enjoyed the last hour and a half of screaming and singing at the top of our lungs and one of the girls on our coach slept through ALL of the shouting!! But it was a phenomenal experience we will never forget!

When we got off the coach, most people's parents were there already, and we were definitely very glad to see them! We all went home and enjoyed the comfort of our own beds. For many days after we talked about how thrilling Condoover was, and it was definitely a trip to remember! Thank you to all the staff at JCA and the teachers who went with us, and anyone behind the scenes.



# Enrichment Week: Creative Writing

Miss Coady

During Enrichment week, the English department challenged students in Year 8 to unleash their creative writing skills! After a week of exams, we were all ready to be infused with the muse and have a go at putting pen to paper....

After a warm-up of 'story-dice,' (a game involving shuffling picture dice to make up stories on the spot), our groups took some time to choose a style/genre of writing that they felt suited them best. We had an eclectic and impressive range of writing pieces to enjoy. Imaginative poems, stories, diaries and satirical rants were composed individually. A favourite piece had to be 'If I Ruled The World.....'. Needless to say, we had some inventive (and utopian) ideas to feast the mind upon! On completion, the English teachers escorted the writers to the beautiful fields, where volunteers showcased their writing to their peers (under the resplendent shade of the oak trees).

It was a heart-warming and memorable 'moment in time' which very much sums up the spirit of creativity, wit, and (often) magnificent contributions to literature you are constantly impressing us with. Keep reading and writing!



# Year 9 paper clothes challenge 2025

K Irving

Year 9 were challenged with the task of creating a costume which reflected their personalities and interests, in 2 hours – ALL OUT OF PAPER! After a brief introduction to some 'inspiration images' and possible techniques, off they set in their groups to plan and create against the clock. Students brought enthusiasm to their collaborative ideas and were wonderfully supportive of one another on the 'catwalk' at the end of the session. Well done Year 9 and thank you for being so imaginative.





# Year 10 Senior Citizens

By Irem Kayani




During Enrichment Week, Year 10s got the chance to take part in the annual Camp Hill tradition, holding the Senior Citizens' party. Our theme this year was 'Ballroom', and it is safe to say that with our chic designs, delicious food and gorgeous costumes, we did a fantastic job. Each House was designated a job after discussions with Mr Hardy, allowing the forms to get to work as soon as possible. There were many tasks involved, such as making decorations, organising entertainment, welcoming the guests, creating a 'Murder in the Ballroom' activity booklet for the guests to enjoy, preparing food, serving refreshments to both students and guests, and organising just how everything would work, so it would be as smooth and efficient as possible.

Warwick and Lichfield were in charge of decorations and began by adorning the hall and reception with lots of lovely decor, many silver and gold balloons and even a chandelier made of fairy lights that they had constructed themselves. As soon as the Senior Citizens entered the school, they were warmly welcomed by Cartland and taken to their allocated seats by Meriden. Priory had worked behind the scenes with the performers to put on an outstanding show, especially with their lively choreography to 'Dancing Queen' by ABBA as a finale, which everyone was invited to sing along to.

The planning and hard work of all the hosts played a vital role in making the party an unforgettable one. Watching the students gliding through the hall with effortless speed, while balancing plates, taking drinks orders, engaging with guests, and keeping everything running like clockwork, one can only guess how exhausted they were after that. With their tireless energy, the students were a well-oiled celebration machine!

The Stratford students proudly demonstrated their culinary flair by presenting an impressive spread of starters, mains, and sweet treats. Inspired by the elegance of a luxurious Afternoon Tea, the menu left bellies full and guests content. Each table was a canvas of beautifully arranged dishes, thoughtfully designed to cater to every palate and dietary need. While guests savoured every bite, the students were hard at work behind the scenes, hauling endless stacks of dishes down to T3 so they could be washed.

The Senior Citizens attending the Ballroom-themed party were delighted as Priory organised for them to experience a series of captivating performances of acts presented by talented students. Our incredible Year 10 performers lit up the stage with elegance and energy, drawing admiration from guests, students and staff throughout the evening. Captivating vocals filled the room, and enchanting melodies from a variety of instruments added a magical touch to the atmosphere.



As all good things must come to an end, the final act of the night was a thrilling scene of drama performed by the talented members of Cartland, who captivated the audience with a suspenseful reveal of the ballroom's mysterious murderer. The room was brimming with anticipation as the story unfolded, leaving guests on the edge of their seats. This theatrical twist provided a perfect crescendo to the afternoon's entertainment. Shortly after, excitement turned to celebration as raffle winners were announced, sparking joy and a few delighted surprises among our attendees. With the last prizes awarded and smiles shared all around, we sadly had to bid farewell to our wonderful guests, who had given us an unforgettable afternoon.

The Ballroom-themed party allowed us to make memories that we will cherish forever. An enormous thank you to all the teachers who supported the preparations and helped transform our creative ideas into reality. Along with the hard work and commitment of the students, this all contributed to the afternoon's success. Above all, we were very happy to have the opportunity to look after our guests and care for and entertain them, so that they had an enjoyable and fun afternoon. The Senior Citizens' Party is a fantastic Camp Hill tradition, and we were privileged to take part and to make it the triumph that it was!



# Drayton Manor

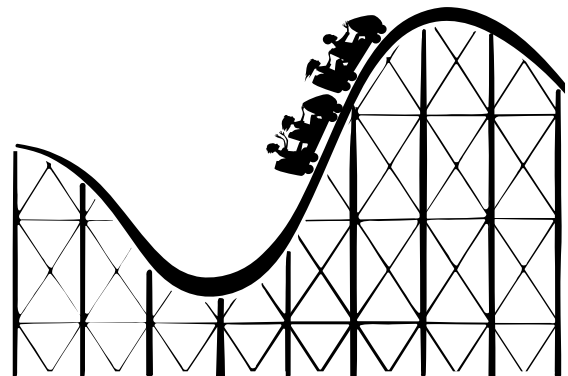
By Irem Kayani

During Enrichment Week, our year group was lucky enough to visit Drayton Manor and honestly, I couldn't have asked for a better way to wrap up our last enrichment experience in main school. The day was packed with laughter, adrenaline, and memories that'll stick with me long after Year 10 is over.

One of the highlights was The Maelstrom. That stomach-lurching swing had everyone screaming either from thrill or terror, with its queue stretching all the way around the ride. I still laugh thinking about how my friend was convinced she could handle any ride, and would never get frightened, only to let out a yell that could probably be heard from the car park the second we started going backwards on Gold Rush.

Not everyone was up for the rollercoaster madness, though. Thomas Land and the Drayton Manor Zoo turned out to be a surprise hit, especially among people who preferred the gentler side of theme parks. It was great seeing people enjoy themselves in their own way, and the vibe around that side of the park was chilled and joyful. A huge thank you to every teacher who took us, organised the trip, and made the day possible, but some teachers who definitely deserve a moment's recognition are the brave teachers who volunteered to go on Storm Force 10 when we needed adult supervision. They got absolutely drenched and took it like the absolute legends they were.

Overall, it was a lovely way to end our final Enrichment Week in main school. The rides, the friendships, the laughs and that splash zone moment all made for a perfect day in the sunshine.



# Summer Term 2

## Sports Round Up

### National Rounders Runners-up

By Marriam Javed 11P

On Thursday 26th June, a group of Camp Hill students travelled to the University of Leicester to participate in a National tournament, organised by Rounders England. Following an early departure, we arrived at the playing fields eager to compete, and we were met with lovely bright weather (evident from the many cases of sunburn!). With great determination, we managed to secure a place in the semi-finals by winning all our group stage matches.

Luckily, I won the coin toss, allowing our team to field first – which proved to be an advantage. Our opponents scored a total of six rounders, the most we had conceded so far. However, we held our nerve and managed to win the game with eight “good balls” left. That was it – we had made it to the finals.

After waiting tirelessly for the umpires to arrive on the pitch, the final had officially begun. Once again, we fielded first, conceding only five and a half rounders. This was it. Make or break. We needed to score six rounders to win! Unfortunately, due to the intense pressure, many of our players were caught or stumped. However, two players persevered and fought for us all – Jaish and Jess. The tension rose as they sprinted around the pitch without being caught or stumped out, ensuring there was always a batter available. Sadly, after several amazing hits, Jaish was caught out. Jess was our last batter standing.

Unfortunately, South Hunsley only had to place the ball in the batter’s box to win the game. It was an excellent match, with a final score of 5–5.5 to South Hunsley.

Although we lost, it was an exhilarating experience that we all thoroughly enjoyed. I’d like to thank and congratulate my teammates – Maia, Grace, Jaish, Isobel, Rishika, Adelene, Anoushka, Madeleine, Kiera, Hunain, and Jess – for a great day. It was an honour to captain you all!

A special shout out to Jaish, Anoushka, and Grace (in particular) for receiving a Golden Ticket, giving them the opportunity to trial for the England Talent Pathway, as a result of their outstanding performances. Well deserved!

And finally, a big thank you to Miss Chapman and Mrs Parker for accompanying us and offering superb tactics – and for bringing a cooler bag fully stocked with ice-cold water. It was highly appreciated!

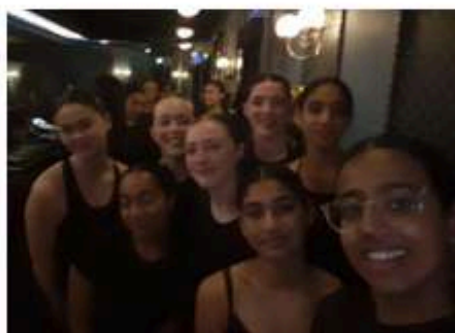
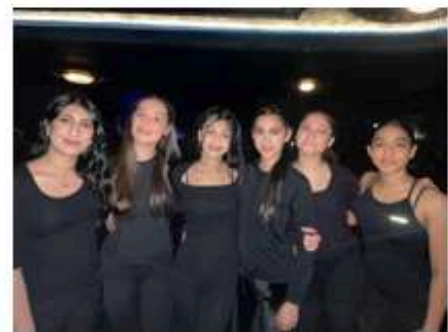
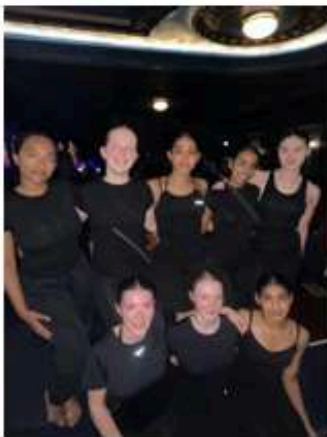




# Dance Competition



On 24th March 13 students from year 10 - 13 went to the Alexandra Theatre to compete in the Great Big Dance Off. GBDO is a schools competition where each school is allowed to enter up to two dances in the regional competition and then the top 2 dances from each category (primary, KS3, KS4) from each region advance to nationals. This is the first year that KECHG has taken part and we entered a contemporary group and a Bhangra group. At 1pm on the 24th, all of the dancers, along with Miss Bing and Miss Parker, got on a minibus to travel to the Alexandra. Upon arrival, we had around 45 minutes to do our hair and stretch ready for our tech rehearsals and following that we had a quick 30 minutes to do our stage makeup and get into costume ready for the show to begin at 4pm. First was Act One which consisted of all of the primary entries, and a few KS3 and KS4 entries so we got to watch from the grand circle and cheer on all the other teams (particularly the cute 6 year olds!), before having to do some final stretches and makeup touch-ups during the interval so we were ready to compete in Act 2. During Act 2, both of our dances competed and then we got to watch the remaining performances before finding out the top two teams for KS3 and KS4+5 that had qualified to go to Nationals. The competition was of a really high calibre and we were competing in a category with over 25 other dances and the contemporary group managed to place 4th! We all had an amazing team and thanks to the PE department for organising it.



# The Fry Cup

Jaish Soni

On Tuesday 1st July, the top 9 tennis players in our school competed in a prestigious foundation tournament: the Fry Cup. This tournament has been running for over 100 years and this year, Camp Hill held the honour of hosting it. Before the other schools arrived, we thoroughly warmed up and applied plenty of sun cream, preparing ourselves for the long day of tennis. Since it was a doubles tournament, our team consisted of four pairs ranked from 1 to 4. The other schools competing were Handsworth, the High School, and Five Ways.

There was a top half (pair 1s and 2s) and bottom half (pair 3s and 4s) of the competition, where each pair had to play 6 matches: 3 against the same number pairs and 3 against the other number pairs. In the bottom half of the tournament, we won every single match and in the top half, we won 10 out of 12- with some matches being as close as 7-5!

Overall, we came out on top, with everyone being over the moon but also completely shattered. This was such an amazing day for us, filled with intense competition, so much fun, and a well-deserved win. To end our experience, we had afternoon tea, where we were presented with the Fry Cup! Our captains, Annika and Shavi, gave a beautiful speech on behalf of our team, and after that, Ms Bing, of course, took lots of pictures for our Instagram (kechg.pe).

Thank you so much to Ms O'Grady for coaching us, and to Ms Chapman, Ms Bing, and the student helpers as well, for organising and hosting the whole tournament. Well done to all the players: an incredible achievement for us and the school!

Under the picture of Ingrid and I, the caption is : A flashback from 3 years ago - the last time Camp Hill won the trophy!



# Camp Hill's attempt to make history by breaking the Guinness world record for the world's largest rounders game!

## Shakthi

On Monday 14th July, excitement buzzed through Camp Hill, as students and staff came together in their attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people playing a single game of Rounders. The previous record, set by Cox Green School, was 148 people... but we went even further, with 238 students and staff getting involved!

The atmosphere was incredibly energetic throughout the day, with people from every year group joining in. Some staff even played during lunchtime, which made it even more fun (and competitive). The field was packed, the energy was high, and it was amazing to see the whole school coming together for such a unique event.

But what made it all even more impressive was the behind-the-scenes effort. To make it official, the entire five and a half hours of playing had to be recorded on video (which required consent from all the players' parents). And there was a mountain of paperwork that had to be completed and submitted to Guinness for the attempt to be valid.

A massive thank you needs to be said to our incredible helpers – Hafsa Iqbal, Clover Webster, Lexie Hubbard, Nadine Osman, Birl Tenekeci, Marriam Javed, Jess Wang, Maansi Pagaria, Annika Sinha, Shakthi Sreevats, Grace Evans, Isobel Mountford, Jaish Soni, Maia Spencer and Ms Bing (who kept everything running smoothly throughout the day) and a huge thank you to Ms Chapman, Ms Parker, and Mr Edwards for umpiring the entire thing. Finally, thank you to everyone that participated – without you all we may not have even been able to attempt to beat this record!

We are now eagerly awaiting news from Guinness World Records to confirm whether our record attempt has officially made it into the books. Regardless of the outcome, the day was a resounding success - and one that we'll all remember for years to come.



# Teachers vs Students Rounders Match

Shakthi Sreevats

In one of the most anticipated events of the term, on Wednesday 16th July, the students faced off against the teachers in an epic rounders match, and we're proud to say we won 16-7! We played two innings of 18 good balls each and students were in the lead after both innings!

The game was filled with competitive (and slightly questionable) sledging from Mr Franks and Mr Bettison, who kept dropping the ball despite their confidence. However, in all honesty, the teachers put up a decent fight with Ms Palmer smashing some incredible rounders, and Ms Bing sprinting from post to post at the speed of light.

But the student team came through with some amazing talent. Jess Tucker hit some unbelievably far shots, joined by equally strong performances from Anoushka Hari, Maia Spencer, and Annika Sinha, who all helped us score many more rounders.

Let's be honest - we went easy on the staff this time. Congratulations to everyone who participated, and next match, we look forward to beating the teachers by even more!



# Eggs, Bouncing and the Victory of the Duck

## KECHG Sports Day 2025

Clara 12P

With neck and neck races, homemade house signs, and every event from speed bouncing to a teacher's egg and spoon race, Sports Day 2025 encompassed everything a house event should.

The day began with the running events of 800m and 1500m, where a strong sense of camaraderie was created through pre-event lamentations for the life decisions that led to us to putting our names next to the 1500, and post-event heavy breathing and red faces. It was also where I began the mass duck sticker distribution. I was very happy that by the end of the day I saw many a competitor sporting them (and not all in Priory – an omen of our eventual conquer?). Special congratulations are due to the people who ran both the 1500m and the 800m, who were watched with awe from those of us still panting on the floor from the previous race.

Then were the jumping and throwing events. The throwing events consisted of discus, shotput, and (less ostentatiously) the overarm throw with a tennis ball. We were all much more honest than we could be with the jumps, as we measured each other's long and triple jumps reasonably accurately. We also discovered that speed bouncing is much harder than it looks, and I challenge anyone who doubted that event to try it at home and see if they have the breath to laugh at it after.

Finally, we came to the best part of the day – the field events. Competitors marched to the centre of the field, with determined eyes baring face paint and smudged names of houses on their legs. There were lots of feats of athleticism from everyone, from Y7s full of adrenaline for their first Sports Day, to the teachers (and a random guy from Microsoft) who let their competitive natures show quite unabashedly. All events were intermixed with cheering, singing and dancing- prompted by the fab playlist on the speakers.

Ultimately however, the school spirit of camaraderie had to be replaced by dazzling respect and admiration for the best house – Priory (as if I need to say, it's so obvious). Like a cute, rubber phoenix, we rose from the ashes of previous years defeats and took the sports day crown. Woo!

### Staff Sports Day Race

Sports Day is always an enjoyable day, offering students a chance to demonstrate their skills and talents beyond the classroom. It's also a wonderful opportunity for our amazing staff to join in the fun and display their own athletic abilities.

This year, a number of enthusiastic teachers volunteered to represent their houses in the relay race. The event featured some memorable moments, including an impressive start by Ms Maginnis in a particularly fast paced egg and spoon run. However, in a dramatic finish, Ather Abbas from The Foundation being a last-minute substitute sprinted across the finish line, overtaking all other competitors.

Thank you to all the teachers who participated. Your energy, sportsmanship, and good humour make this race a favourite moment for students year after year.

