



## HEADLINES

As I write this, my final Birchwood News, I am signing off in the sure knowledge that the school is in good shape and in safe hands. It is certainly a very different school to the one I inherited 21 years ago. The stats speak for themselves:

	Number of students	Number of Sixth Form Students	Number of teachers	Number of non-teaching support staff
2002	672	67	47	14
2023	1431	255	107	52

Whilst many things have changed, our ethos has not – Birchwood is still an inclusive school, welcoming all children in the local area regardless of background. The staff are firmly rooted to the belief that a good education should be about three principles - academic progress, pastoral support and enrichment. Moreover, the personal qualities of empathy and tolerance are best nurtured in a school with a 'broad church.' My successor, Mr Griffin, is also very wedded to this concept, so whilst things will change under new leadership, our educational philosophy will not. Stability and change in good measure will see Birchwood High School continue to progress and prosper.

Whilst I look towards a new chapter in my life, the thing I will miss the most are the people – the students, staff and governors. This edition of Birchwood News is full of examples of how staff have 'pushed the boat out' to make sure as many students as possible enjoy and benefit from our enrichment programme. The return of DofE, trips abroad and enrichment week are a sure sign that the ghost of the pandemic is firmly behind us.

My assemblies this week have focused on our strong school community of respect and aspiration but at the same time, appreciating what we have living in a pleasant part of the UK. As a Geography Teacher, I have always been fascinated by global affairs and the inequality that pervades humanity. Our support to children in Kenya and Malawi through our charitable fund-raising events brings this home. The two boys pictured below have to carry fresh drinking water to their family each morning – a round trip of 3 miles. We are helping Mrs De Graaf (whose family are Kenyan) to take school equipment directly from Birchwood to this rural community. The open-air classroom and learning resources in the Malawi photo are a huge improvement and the school has helped raise funds through Colour-runs and other donations so Dr. Prior, a Member of the Governing Board and Sarah Brooke, CEO of Sparkle Malawi can support the charity directly ([www.thesparklefoundation.org](http://www.thesparklefoundation.org)). Both Mrs De Graaf and Dr Prior have run assemblies at Birchwood to outline how this direct support is making a real difference to those whose lives are a lot tougher than ours.

On a separate note, thank you to the 400+ parents who completed our recent Survey Monkey poll. A snapshot of the results is shown on page 2. Whilst it is great to see that 90% of respondents said they were happy with the school and felt that their child was safe, if you do have a concern, please let us know. It is important that we work with parents and carers, and we will do our best to resolve your issue.

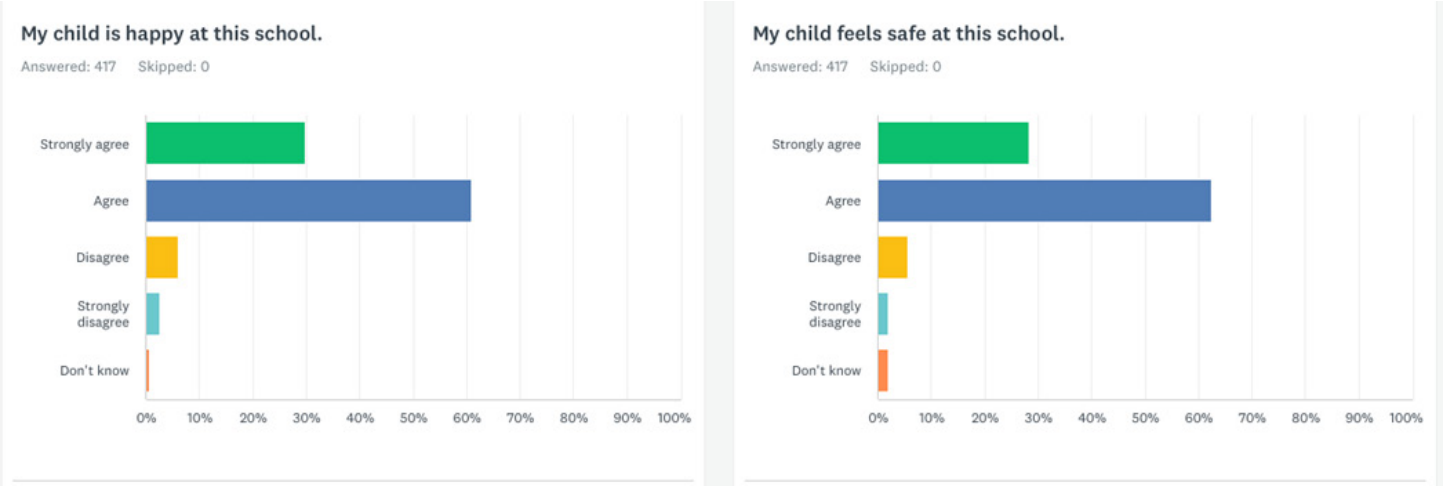


Inside this month's edition:

PSFA page 5 and 6, PE page 7 and 8.

Would you like to advertise in Birchwood News?

A one off advert (5cm x 5cm) £25.00, or to advertise for a whole year (8 editions) £100.00  
please contact [newsletter@birchwoodhigh.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@birchwoodhigh.org.uk) for further information.



As for me, I am not counting down the days. It has been a real privilege and my final day (31 August) will be the moment when I formally hand over the reins to Mr. Griffin. Leading a school like Birchwood has been, for me, about picking up the baton and handing it over in a better place. I hope I have been able to do this.

*Yours sincerely  
Dr. Chris Ingate, Principal*

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## New Principal student team...

**Since the class of Year 13 students have now left, a new Principal Student panel is required by the school.** We interviewed Mr Torrance and Tabitha Gray to find out how this process works. Previously, there was a Head Boy and Head Girl system, but in this day and age, it didn't feel quite right. So, the new system was introduced last year, with one principal student, 2 deputy principal students, and 4 assistant deputy principal students with slightly separate roles. Madeleine Gilbank is the new principal student (green jacket), Amelia Nicholson (black jacket) and Emia Smith (light brown jacket), Eve Bailey (black jacket) is an equality assistant principal student, Jack Eley (back left) is the well-being assistant principal student, William Gilbank (back right) is the environment assistant principal student, and last but not least, Jessica Hobday (blue jacket) is the event assistant principal student.

The nomination process for the roles is like applying for a job, and therefore a very useful skill to have. Firstly, the Sixth formers who wanted to apply, had to send in a letter, explaining things about who they are, things that they had done throughout school life, in and out of school, etc. If they got through the first set of interviews, round two was to make a presentation and present it in front of the current principal students, and Mr Torrance himself.

So, when will the new team start? The short answer is, they already have. They started as soon as the current Year 13's left after their exams. In fact, they have already had their first task! They had to plan the current Year 13's leavers party, which went very well. They will stay in their positions until they leave themselves, so around this time next year.

We interviewed Tabitha Grey, who was our first principal student, last year, to find out more about her role. Tabitha said she had really enjoyed her year as principal student. She found the role challenging, it helped improved her organizational skills and made her more confident talking to people. Tabitha is convinced this role has helped her to get her degree apprenticeship.

Mr Torrance would like to thank the outgoing team for all their hard work during the last year and welcome the new team into the new roles.

*Edward Wilcock and  
Neala Goodard-Bird,  
BBC Reporters*





# News in Brief.....

## FINANCE

I am Mrs Young, the parental and student contact in relation to all income for the school.

We use an online payment system, ParentPay, for administration of the school income. Any leavers with a balance on their meal account please contact me requesting a refund. Any books need to be returned to faculties or the Library. If you require ParentPay login details or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me via email: [jyoung@birchwoodhigh.org.uk](mailto:jyoung@birchwoodhigh.org.uk)



The journey towards regularly marking LGBT+ Pride month throughout the world began by a series of protests in 1969. This was a response to a violent police raid at the Stonewall gay club in New York City. The protests were widely considered a significant moment in promoting the rights and equality of LGBT+ people. At Birchwood, alongside the usual educational Power Point shared with form groups, we marked Pride month this year

by hosting guest speaker Ian Adams through the organisation Speakers for Schools. Ian is an internationally recognised LGBT+ role model and regular public speaker. In his talk which was attended by students who signed up throughout the month, Ian spoke about the importance of diversity and inclusion within both schools and wider society. Hearing about his work with the NHS and in Westminster, the challenges both professional and personal he has overcome as a gay man, was particularly inspiring.

The Fusion film event, 'Oriented' - a documentary following three Palestinian friends exploring their sexuality and national identity as they form a non-violent group to promote equality.

All proceeds from the film event will go to The Albert Kennedy Trust - a charity founded to support LGBT+ young people who are homeless or living in a hostile environment.

*Mr Harlow*

## Student News...

Congratulations to Aiden Bishop who achieved his 1st Dan karate black belt. It was no small achievement. The grading took around 3 hours and was pretty non-stop. He had to do a 30 minute written Japanese exam to start and then 45 minutes solid of basics and combinations. All 11 kata's he has learnt over the years. 5 pair techniques which he had to make up himself and included one weapon technique. It finished with 30 minutes non-stop sparring against other black belts.

Congratulations to Cameron Winter who represented Hertfordshire Under 13 basketball team on Sunday 2 July.

They beat representative teams from Essex and Cambridge to become Inter County champions. Cameron trains with Stortford Vikings, based here at Birchwood, and had to come through several trials to be selected for the Hertfordshire Under 13's so it's a great personal achievement. Well done, Cameron!

Five Birchwood students have helped Bishop's Stortford Canoe Club to finish in 3rd place in the Eastern Region, and qualify for the National Hasler (canoe marathon) Finals in September. Competing in canoe marathon races throughout the year, Daniel Baines, Jack Gaulton, Finlay Sandal, Oliver Klumpler, and Libby Gaulton have won points for the club, leading to its best result in years. All five students have contributed to this, paddling in several different racing divisions, across different distances.

Oliver and Libby have also taken part in the British Sprint Racing National Regattas in Nottingham, both achieving very respectable results.

## Term Dates 2023 - 2024

### Summer Term 2023

Term finishes -Tuesday 18 July

### Autumn Term 2023

Friday 1 September – Wednesday 20 December

### Half Term

W/B Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October

Friday 1 September – CPD

Monday 4 September – Years 7 and 12 only

Tuesday 5 September – Whole school

Friday 6 October – CPD

### Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4 January – Thursday 28 March

### Half Term

W/B Monday 19 February – Friday 23 February

Thursday 4 January and Friday 5 January CPD

### Summer Term 2024

Monday 15 April – Friday 19 July

### Half Term

W/B Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

### CPD Days

(no students in school

unless requested)

Friday 1 September

Friday 6 October

Thursday 4 January

Friday 5 January

Monday 22 July

Tuesday 23 July (occasional day)

### Other Important Dates...

A Level results Day - Thursday 17 August

GCSE results Day - Thursday 24 August

Open Evening - Thursday 5 October 2023

Sixth Open Evening -

Thursday 16 November 2023

*Please note that the school is closed to students on all CPD days, unless a member of staff has asked students to attend.*

### The Red Box

Any female student who requires Period Products at short notice, can go to Reception and ask for the Red Box.  
Mrs Cook, Receptionist

## Young Choreographer of the Year 2023.

For this year's dance choreography competition, first round entries were virtual, so thank you to everyone who sent along their videos. We were blown away by the high standard and creativity of Birchwood students. There was a mix of genres and styles; lyrical, street, tap and jazz. Finalists were then selected and performed for an audience including a teacher judging panel. The effort and time that had gone into the finalist's choreography and costumes did not go unnoticed, which made choosing the final winners and runners up a very hard decision.



A HUGE congratulations to the following students whose names will be added to the young choreographer trophies:

Junior Winners: Gabriela Caboz De Jesus and Olivia Maher 8RES Lyrical

Runners Up: Paris Georgiou and Lila Short 7MCS Street Dance

Senior Winners: Zoe Lloyd-Rossi 10KMS and Gabriella Gooding-Charles 10ERA Tap & Jazz

Runners Up: Daisy and Millie Blackery 10CC0 Lyrical

## UKMT Maths Challenge

Congratulations to Macius Pejka (Year 8), who qualified for the second round of the UKMT Maths Challenge. This took place on 14 June, and Macius achieved the top grade of Merit, scoring 101 out of 135 (well above the threshold of 90 to make this grade).

Well done Macius from all of the Birchwood Maths Faculty!



**BIRCHWOOD  
BROADCASTING  
CORRESPONDENTS**

## SWEET TASTE OF SUCCESS



In this technology rotation, we had to think about every aspect of a business. We had to create adverts (TV and billboard), the design of our chocolate bar, the packaging, the logo and do the market research. We had to create a chocolate bar that would be good for young children. Even though we had a lot to think about, we still came out with a delicious chocolate bar, mine in the shape of a sports car. To make the chocolate bar moulds, which we would pour the chocolate in, we had to get our shape, which we designed on the computer, then laser cut. Then with the shape we had a machine melt some plastic and then shape the plastic into whatever we designed (there were some space themed ideas, star themed ideas and so many other ones to fit our brief). In one of our last lessons, we had to melt the chocolate in food technology. We melted the chocolate in the microwave and poured it into our mould. We got to eat the spare chocolate. After it had been cooled and become solid, we could eat it and it tasted amazing. This has been one of my favourite rotations because we learned about market research by creating our own questionnaires and finding out that colours actually can make a difference to how customers think of your company.

*Daniel Anderson, BBC Reporter*



# DofE Bronze - in glorious sunshine!

Recently, 51 Year 10's took part in their DofE Bronze practice and expedition over two days. They started near Hatfield forest and finished at Rickling Green, navigating their planned routes with an agreed goal in mind. Students demonstrated putting up and taking down tents, cooking, route planning and navigation skills to name a few and all students managed to pass this part of the course. They are also completing volunteering, skills and physical sections over 3-6 months which with evidence, will then hopefully complete their DofE Bronze Award. I would like to thank all of the students who were so wonderfully behaved, our two assessors Pete and Andrew and all the brilliant staff who gave up their time over the whole weekend. The students will now be completing a group presentation of their team goal later this week.

*Mr Loveday and Miss LaLonge*



## Summer music prom

Our recent Summer Prom Music Concert at Birchwood was an incredible musical extravaganza. The event showcased the immense talent of our school's musicians and provided a delightful evening of entertainment. The concert featured a diverse range of performances, including the various vocal choirs, rock band, strings group, orchestra and more.

Not only did the concert showcase the talent of our school's musicians, but it was also an opportunity to bid farewell to some of our year 11's and year 13's - Florence, Ben, Toby, Angus and Daniel – who have made a massive contribution to Birchwood's Music department over the years, we wish them the best of luck for the future.

Overall, the summer concert was a resounding success and highlighted the incredible musical talent within our school community.

We would also like to thank the PSFA for the generous donation of £800 towards a new digital piano to replace old pianos in the Music department.

*Mr Grogan, Head of Music*

## Cake Sale makes £141 for Kenya School

- Thanks to the Birchwood School
- community for your support with
- Mahinga Primary school in rural Kenya.
- The children received items of stationery
- and some trainers which were donated by
- you! In addition to this, the BBC Birchwood
- Reporters held a Bake Sale and raised
- an amazing £141 which will go towards
- building a temporary kitchen for the school.
- I'm looking forward to seeing this project
- through to enable the children to stay at
- school during lunchtime instead of
- travelling long journeys or going without
- lunch. Their resilience, teamwork and
- cheer just blew me away. Thanks so much
- for your continuing support.

*Mrs de Graaf*





#### **Why not follow us on .....Facebook**

We have a Facebook page where you can keep up to date with events and meetings. Please follow us at Birchwood Parents Staff and Friends Association (PSFA) Birchwood PSFA (birchwoodpsfa@gmail.com)

#### **DON'T FORGET you can help us raise funds via TheGivingMachine**

If you are a regular online shopper you can generate free donations to our school at no extra cost to you every time you shop via TheGivingMachine.

Please have a look online [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) and search for Birchwood High School.

#### **Musical Bingo – Friday 14 July 2023 – 7pm for 7.30pm start**

Tickets are £15 including 3 games and dabbers. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks. For tickets please email [ticketpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:ticketpsfa@gmail.com)

All fund raised will go towards Birchwood's all school, bi-annual musical theatre production to help with costumes, set and seating etc.

#### **Birchwood Bonus Ball**

Congratulations to Heather Utley who was the winner of the May draw! Ball 48 was drawn by Mr Gilbank and Heather won a massive £163.50!

The Bonus Ball is a great way to support the school, and at the same time be in with a chance of winning some cash every month! It is £3 per month per ball, payable either in one lump sum or monthly as a standing order. A draw takes place at the end of each month and the winner receives half of the money collected, the other half going towards PSFA funds, for our children. Our bank details are:

Barclays Bank

Account Name: Birchwood PSFA

Account Number: 23298728

Sort Code: 20-25-19

Email [treasurerbwpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerbwpsfa@gmail.com) to let us know you've paid and how many balls you would like.

#### **The Birchwood Futures Foundation**

The alert for the Birchwood Futures Fund is on ParentPay. Please consider contributing a small amount each month. In the words of a well known supermarket 'every little helps'! Donations of any value are voluntary. With your support the PSFA is hoping to play a significant role in helping to keep Birchwood a well-resourced school with opportunities for all students.

The purpose of the Birchwood Futures Foundation (BFF) fund is to help raise additional financial resources to enhance students' educational experience whilst at Birchwood High School. We are hoping to expand assistance to support resources the School does not currently receive dedicated government funding for, such as mental health provision and the school minibus.

#### **PSFA Facebook Page**

Please follow us on our Facebook Page 'Birchwood Parents Staff and Friends Association PSFA' and stay up to date with upcoming events and meetings.

#### **PSFA Preloved Uniform**

If you are replacing items of branded school uniform and the old items are still in good condition, please consider donating good condition items of preloved uniform to the PSFA. Please drop off clean items of uniform to our reception. If you would like to make a purchase of preloved uniform, please email [psfapreloved@gmail.com](mailto:psfapreloved@gmail.com). Please note this email address will be checked once a week and uniform requests available for collection from student reception, upon receipt of payment.

#### **Other ways to support the PSFA**

You can generate free donations to our school at no extra cost to you every time you online shop via TheGivingMachine. Please have a look online [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) and search for Birchwood High School.

We have registered with Stikins Name Labels. The school can earn up to 30% commission on all sales. Please visit [www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk) and quote our fundraising number 1955.



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This year the PSFA have provided funding for:

- a permanent canopy outside the canteen
- new equipment for Duke of Edinburgh expeditions including a large event shelter, sleeping mats and tents
- a set of spectacles with coloured lenses to support students with this specific requirement when taking exams
- new saucepans for Food Technology
- a trip to the Big Bang Science Fair at the NEC in Birmingham for Miss LaLonge's Science Club students;
- new fieldwork equipment for Geography, including meter rulers, measuring tapes and quadrats
- two new electric pianos and two smaller electric organs for the Music Department
- pin badges for members of the BBC Reporters Club
- soil for the Gardening Club
- supplies for the bird feeder project undertaken by Art Club
- an external motivational speaker to support whole school mental health and well-being



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The BBC Reporters Club would like to thank the PSFA for their wonderful new badges. This will help students and staff identify the BBC students for future reports in Birchwood News.  
Thank you once again.  
Mrs Barnard

# PE news....



Well Done to Year 10 who recently came 3rd in District Rounders

On Thursday 15 June, I took a team of year 7 girls to their first district rounders competition, held at Leventhorpe. They were so excited as we drove to the competition and I could hear them all discussing tactics and playing positions. The pools were drawn and we were up against Ralph Sadleir, Leventhorpe, SWCHS and Hockerill. Some tough competition but that never phased these girls.

First up was against Ralph Sadleir and we were batting first. The Ralph Sadleir team had some very strong fielders and although we had some great hits, we only came away with half a rounder. The girls were disappointed; however we proved to have an equally strong fielding team and only allowed them half a rounder too. But we won based on getting more of their team out!!

Second match was against Leventhorpe and we were fully warmed up by this game and we produced some amazing hits (in particular from Grace, Martha and Deanna). Equally we produced some amazing fielding, especially between backstop (Kim) and 2nd post (Willow). Quick thinking and accurate throwing by Kim allowed Willow to catch each throw and stump 2nd post, resulting in 5 consecutive outs! The winning result was 10.5 v 4.

Third match was against SWCHS which we knew was tough competition but again, it didn't phase the girls who were on a winning streak. This was a very fast paced game from both teams but again, with hard hits and rounders scored by Martha, Grace, Rosie and Deanna alongside great fielding and two unbelievable catches from Deanna in deep field, we came out with a win 7.5 v 3.5.

The last match in the pools was against Hockerill. This was another tough match and although the girls fought hard, Hockerill were very strong in both batting and fielding and they deservedly won 9 v 3.5.

However, the games did not end there as we were then informed that we had made it through to the semi-finals. We were now up against SWCHS again but this time their stronger A team. The girls, again fought hard with determination but they were up against a very strong team and unfortunately we did not quite make it through to the finals.

The girls were honestly amazing. Great team play and support for each other. Great communication in the game and good tactics. Not only were they up against tough competition, they were playing out in the hot sun for 3 hours, but with their enthusiasm and determination, they should all be super proud of themselves and I hope they continue to grow as individual players and as a team as they enter Year 8.

A huge well done to all the girls.

*Mrs Sieczko, PE*





# PE news....



Congratulations to Ellie May Piction who finished 2nd in the Herts County Schools 75m hurdles event at Jarman Park on Saturday 10 June.



## Do you have any old PE Kit you no longer need?

The PE department are looking for donations. We appreciate that good quality kit can be given to the PSFA for their preloved sales or sold. However if your kit has had a harder life but still usable the PE department would like it for their spare kit, this includes black leggings.

Many Thanks

Mrs Chapman, PE



## Birchwood Fitness Suite Gym Membership

Fifteen station fitness suite with Technogym cardio and strength equipment, free weights and power rack.

Changing rooms and free car parking available to members.

No contract or one-off joining fee.

Pricing:

Weekly membership £3.60 inc. VAT

Rolling weekly membership available.

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 18:00 – 21:30

Saturday 08:00 – 17:00

Sunday 09:00 – 13:00

For joining details visit [birchwoodfs.schoolhire.co.uk](http://birchwoodfs.schoolhire.co.uk)



Rebecca Bedwell got Player of the Match  
Year10 rounders v JFAN last night - we won 20-7.5



## Nicky Morris Athletics 6 July

Year 7

1st Amelia Bush - Discus

Year 8

1st Mia Beer - 300m

1st Ellie Piction - 70m Hurdles

Year 9

1st Amy Thorpe - 100m

1st Sylvia Dolphin-Tsang - Shot put

Year 8/9 Combined teams

1st 4x100m relay

Ellie May Piction, Anya Trevitt, Amy Thorpe and Mia Beer

1st 4x300m

Holly Austin, Jess Lane,  
Sylvia Dolphin-Tsang and Ellie Piction

Birchwood finished 3rd overall, which was a brilliant performance from such a small team.

Well done and thanks goes to the following Year 10's who attended as leaders on the day and did a fabulous job officiating.

Amber Owen,  
Priyah Sandhu  
Lily Booker  
Emily Thompson

Miss C Peet, PE





# Ardèche



Over the 20+ years that I have worked at Birchwood, I have had the privilege to go on some amazing trips with some super students BUT this one, with 62 wonderful year 10 students was by far the best one yet (the staff were pretty good too!)

From the very outset they were superb, they coped exceedingly well with the very lonnnngggg coach trip and ferry journey and as soon as we arrived at the campsite they literally flung their bags into their tents and headed straight off to the river, full of energy to burn!

The next day we began our 2 day decent of the Ardeche river. The students took to the kayaking like ducks to water (well, some were definitely more co-ordinated than others!) but soon nearly everyone found their rhythm and were paddling down the Ardeche like pro's, enjoying the stunning scenery, expertly navigating the odd white water rapid and making the most of any opportunity to do a little cliff jumping too!

The overnight Bivouac was certainly an experience that will never be forgotten, which all too soon led to our slightly sleep deprived second day on the river. Everyone was certainly glad to see their camp beds when we returned to camp that evening...

Day 3 was up in the trees, with students working their way through over 20 different combinations of clip and climb style courses throughout a beautiful forest. The courses gradually increased with difficulty and height along with the height and length of the zip wires too!! The final one culminating in a 400m long zip wire over the river, into the opposing cliff where the students navigated a tricky via ferrata! Nearly everyone had a go at this but even if they didn't, all had the opportunity to challenge themselves and overcome any fears of heights (or perhaps falling!!).

Exploring the awesome caves of D'Ornac, sightseeing around Pont D'Arc and ice creams and crêpes in Vallon was the next day's itinerary and the students were again fantastic. We even received some lovely comments from the public at one of the restaurants about how delightful and polite the students were.

That evening we had a packed schedule of 'Fun/ silly' relay races and a giant girls v boys rounders match, which sadly not even with the male teachers playing on the girls team could help them beat the boys. However, Dr Ingate did score the final rounder in style! We finished off the evening with an awards presentation.

The final morning saw everyone either dangling off high ropes (again) or completing different challenges while blind folded or taking part in Tag Archery (very hot work in 30+ degree heat but yet again they all were amazing!)

Even though, at times, it was exceedingly challenging, I do hope that everyone lucky enough to have spent the week away in France will look back on this trip with the best memories, I know that I certainly will (once I have recovered from the lack of sleep!!).

Thank you to both the Staff and Students for being so wonderful, I wish we could go back and do it all again!

*Miss Perrett, PE*





## EPQ students visit Anglia Ruskin University

20 Year 12 students following the Extended Project Qualification benefitted from a visit to Anglia Ruskin University's Chelmsford Campus this month to develop their research skills. The session led by university staff included guidance in the critical evaluation of information for bias and the challenges and the opportunities that AI presents for researchers. The group also had opportunity to join a guided tour of the ARU campus to gain an insight into life as a university student.

The Extended Project Qualification is an independent project on a topic of each student's choosing. Students plan and research the project before completing either a 5000-word essay or the creation of an artefact. At the end of the project they present on their experiences and reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of their approach and the quality of the end product. The project, equivalent to half an A Level, is well-regarded by universities and future employers as students develop and evidence their independent study and research skills. Some of this cohort's topics include:

- Media portrayals of the Middle East and Africa
- Creation of a video computer game
- Free will and determinism
- Impact of social media on mental health
- Creation of a fashion clothing website
- Influence of Christianity on social attitudes

•An evaluation of the US legal system  
This extra qualification is offered to all sixth form students at Birchwood and is completed over 12 months from March in Year 12.

*Mr Levey*

# Men's Health Week Monday 12 – Friday 16 June 2023

- OCEAN equality group ran a series of events to mark Men's Health Week last week. We raised a good amount of money for our internal pot to be able to spend on working with young boys at Birchwood and mental health throughout the academic year. The members of OCEAN came together to decorate the sixth form block, make and sell ribbons, cakes and to also set up and host the drop-in session for boys only at the end of the week. The sense of passion for the cause and the commitment shown by sixth formers was outstanding. We really hope that we raised the profile and importance of male mental health and that the young men at Birchwood were able to ask questions or think about their emotional well-being and be better informed about how to ask for help when needed.

- Please watch this space as we begin to build our profile on the school website to better inform visitors about the mission of the OCEAN group and what we are getting up to!

*Mrs Hassani*



## ROTARY YOUNG CHEF



The rotary young chef competition took place on the 22 June, it was the biggest year yet with eight junior teams and nine intermediate teams taking part. The students, in teams of 3 produced a three-course meal in 90 minutes, which was then judged by four judges from the catering industry. The standard was extremely high and all six of the Birchwood teams were mentioned in the final presentations, well done to Amalia Chaturvedi, Sophie Rogers and Amira O'Keeffe who came runners up in the junior team part of the competition.

*Mrs McEwen-Smith*





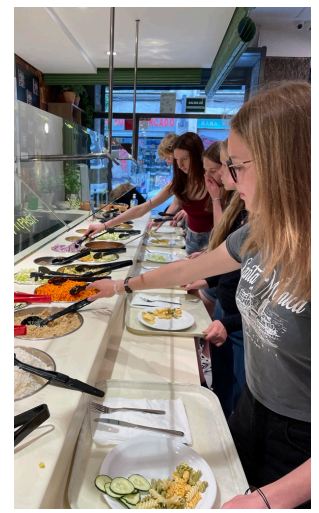
# Madrid 2023

On Wednesday 7 June, Miss Roderick with Mrs Jacobson, Mrs Ogus and Mr Harlow took 45 Spanish students from Years 9 and 10 to Madrid.

With a 1a.m start at Birchwood, we arrived in Madrid with a full day ahead of us. Despite drizzly rain (which was quite nice as it was humid) we had some lunch and then went on a walking tour of Madrid's most well-known landmarks. We had our first dinner at restaurant La Catedral where we ate a variety of Spanish dishes. After our meal we made our way to Hotel Mediodía for a welcome night's sleep. On day 2 we took the metro to a popular food market, Mercado San Antón where lots of us tried new things and used our Spanish to practise followed, by a stroll through the beautiful Retiro Park. Our buffet dinner at FresCo had lots of different choices. During the late afternoon we visited Museo Reina Sofía and saw Picasso's famous painting, "Guernica". Day 3 the sun finally shone brightly and we started with an abridged tour of Real Madrid's home El Estadio Santiago Bernabéu, followed by delicious churros at the churrería San Ginés! After lots of walking and some free time for shopping we stopped at El Palacio Real, where we took a look inside some of the palace's most important rooms! They were so ornate! Our tapas meal rounded off a busy day. Finally, on our last full day, even though our evening flight had been cancelled, we all carried on and enjoyed the Flamenco dance class, which was our personal favourite. Everyone had a go and joined in with the fans ("los abánicos") we were given, as well as some fun with the brightly coloured shawls. We even had volunteers brave enough to dance on the stage!

Overall, we all had an unforgettable time, which brought us closer together and we can't thank everyone enough for taking us (including Mrs Dixon who worked behind the scenes!) We also got back safely on Sunday instead and had lots of stories to tell!

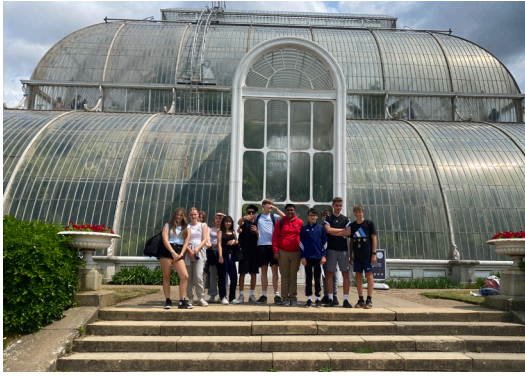
*By Ruby Rowland 9BMN and Sophie Robinson 9DPN*











On Thursday 29 June we took 90 Year 9 students to Kew Gardens. After spending more time than we would have liked seeing the sights of the M25, we spent the day visiting different greenhouses and looking at a variety of exotic plants. Students received an education session from the staff at Kew which told them all about the tropical rainforest (a topic studied in Year 9 geography) – they were able to see what rainforest plants look like in real life and learned about the importance of and threats to the rainforest. As well as this we saw many other exotic plants from around the world, including a plant that changes its gender depending on its mood, and another which Kew had to get special permission to grow as it is extremely dangerous to other plants! Students really enjoyed spotting the catfish in the pond too!

*Miss Diver, Humanities*

### **The Year 9 Tate Britain gallery trip**

Tuesday 27 June 2023

On Tuesday 27 June 2023 a group of year 9 students visited the Tate Britain gallery on London's embankment to inspire them for their GCSE Art course.

The students had a great day exploring the wide ranging collection of paintings, drawings, prints, and sculptures. The gallery is curated in chronological order so the students were able to see how the visual arts developed through the ages from classical Italian portraits and religious scenes, through to contemporary conceptual sculpture. The work on view proved to be a talking point and many students had questions about how work was made, and why work was made.

The Turner gallery displayed a huge collection of the eminent British artist J.M.W. Turner (where popular as did the work of his contemporary John Constable displayed in the same gallery).

The most recent contemporary work was enthusiastically observed, even if it created a little confusion as to the meaning at times.

The students were encouraged to record their findings through drawing and photography, making notes of ideas and inspiration.

The Art department would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to all the participants for a really fantastic trip and thank you to all staff who supported on the trip.

Miss Morrison, Head of EPA



## **Duxford**

On the 28 June, Year 7 we went to Duxford on a maths trip. Duxford is known for its extremely fascinating planes including the fastest passenger plane in the world "Concorde", which can reach up to speeds of over 2000km per hour. We went into all of the different hangars and looked at all of the planes whilst filling out a booklet about some of the planes we encountered. Each hangar had a specific concept i.e. war planes or record breaking planes. When walking into a hangar, you could see planes looming over you, it was a little overwhelming but also sublime with all the various colours from the planes shining onto the floor. On the trip, we took



some amazing photos of planes, which some of us entered into the photographic competition (winners on page 19)

Clearly the rest of Year 7 enjoyed this trip as they thought it was interesting and were very knowledgeable about the types of planes including the Spitfire, which we saw take off. Overall, it was a thrilling day getting to learn about Duxford and its exhibitions.

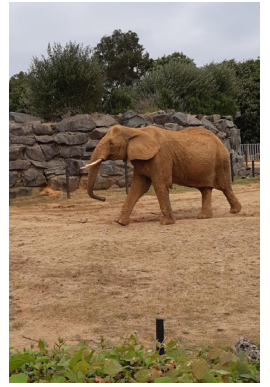
*Izzy Green, Year 7 Student*





For Enrichment week, Year 7 got to go to Colchester Zoo on Friday. All of year 7 really enjoyed it. We went round in groups and got to see loads of animals. There were: lions, giraffes, rhinos, elephants, monkeys, goats, alpacas and so much more. Because the zoo was so big, we did not get to see it all, but it was still an excellent experience. The trip was organised so we got back before the end of school and left at just after 9am meaning we would get four hours to admire the animals. We had a quick lunch to maximize the time we would get to see the animals. Earlier that week, Year 7 went to Stansted Mountfichet castle and got to explore the parts of a castle and that was also really fascinating.

*Daniel Anderson, BBC Reporter*



### **The Year 8 Henry Moore Foundation trip**

Wednesday 28 June 2023

On Wednesday 28 June 2023 a group of year 8 Art students visited the Henry Moore Foundation studios and garden at Perry Green.

The trip was a great opportunity to interact with some artwork in real life and view how Henry Moore created his 3d works of art.

The day started with a guided tour in which the students found out about Henry Moore's inspiration and working practices as well as viewing many of his iconic pieces in situ in the beautiful gardens. The groups saw how he was inspired by simple organic forms including flints, stones, and bones. These he translated into small scale models called maquettes, before scaling up to a full sized plaster carving.

The carving was then sent off to the foundry to create a monumental cast metal sculpture.

After a much enjoyed picnic lunch the students were able to visit the internal studio spaces and all important gift shop too where lots of fudge was purchased! The work seen included further sculptures, some inspiring photographs of Henry Moore at work and several skilled tapestries produced by weavers from West Dean College working from Henry Moore's drawings. The group then had time to draw in the gardens, exploring the detail and form of the sculptures as well as the surroundings. We were very lucky to have such lovely weather for the day. The students produced some excellent drawings, capturing the beauty of the work and gardens. The Art department would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to all the participants for a really fantastic trip and for the excellent work!

*Miss Morrison, Head of EPA*





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During Enrichment Week students have been learning Italian and about Italy in their MFL sessions. They have learnt how to greet, introduce themselves and more importantly how to order ice creams! During the rotation they also learnt how to make Venetian style masks. Amber Poole 8RNN – won best mask of the day on Monday! Wow, look at the precision of those sequins!! Molto bene!



Amber Poole 8RNN - best mask of the day!! Wow, look at the precision of those sequins!! Molto bene!



Year 9 mask of the day went jointly to Sylvia Dolphin-Tsang and Lewis Beard, with his chequerboard mask.



Best mask of Wednesday from Year 7 - Lewis McPherson



.....

In PE during enrichment week the students have been trying a different selection of sports including foot golf, cycling, golf and tennis.





## The Year 10 V&A Museum trip Monday 26 June 2023

On Monday 26 June 2023 a group of year 10 students visited the V&A Museum in London to inspire them for their GCSE Art course.

The students had a great day exploring the wide ranging collection. Arts and crafts on view included some amazing jewellery, casts of significant sculptures from around the world, and beautiful carved marble sculptures. Those interested in fashion and textiles saw clothing through the ages, and for all interests there was a range of arts and crafts from different countries and cultures. The students were encouraged to record their findings through drawing and photography, making notes of ideas and inspiration.

The Art department would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to all the participants for a really fantastic trip and thank you to all staff who supported on the trip.

*Miss Morrison, Head of EPA*

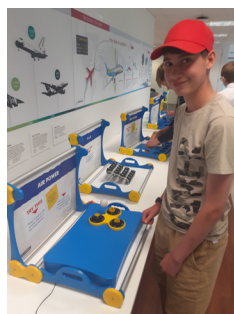


## Stansted

As in previous years, Year 8 students enjoyed two separate trips to Stansted Aerozone. This year, one of the groups got to meet one of the Airport Duty Managers, who talked to them about some of the weird and wonderful events that have gone on in the airport (giant snail smuggling, for example), as well as the more serious aspects of her job, such as the day she thought the airport was under attack after a car caught fire outside.

Students were able to try out a range of airport equipment, and had a go at guessing the identity of some unusual objects. As usual, for many students, the highlight was watching the take-offs and landings from the viewing platform overlooking the runway. Along with the usual host of Ryanair planes, one group were lucky enough to see an RAF plane taking off, bound for Poland to support the Ukrainian military.

*Mr Summers, Maths*



## Silverstone

This year, for the first time, we took a group of Year 10 students to the Silverstone Museum. Being just over a week before the British Grand Prix, the track was a hive of activity, with a ferris wheel being installed, along with a host of vintage vehicles in the car park waiting for the big weekend.

In the workshop, students were able to get "hands on" with a range of F1 equipment such as tyres, helmets and carbon fibre panels. There was a highly competitive Scalextric tournament, and a visit to the exhibition hall with a range of cars and motorbikes from the last 80 years. The visit concluded with a simulated race around the historic circuit.

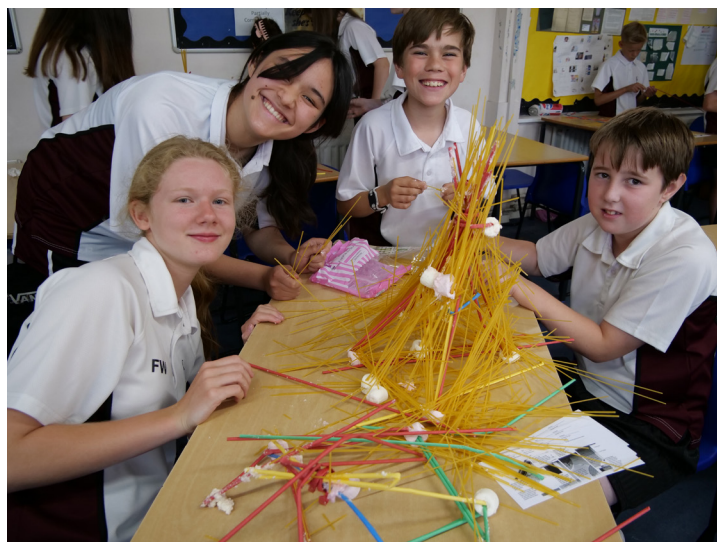
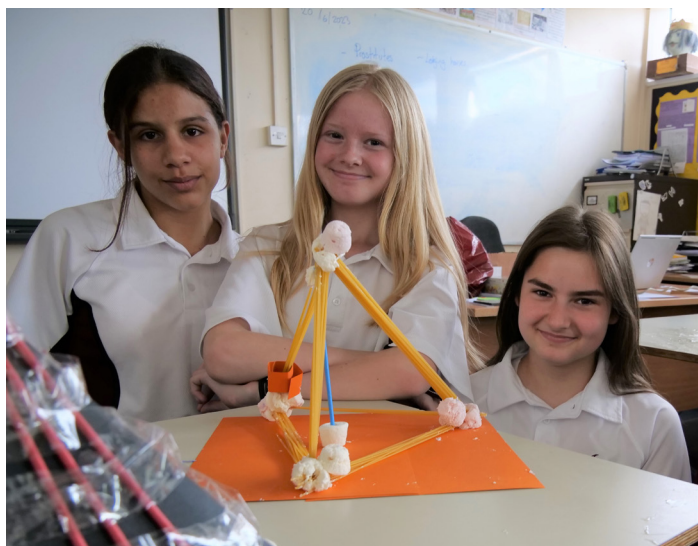
*Mr Summers  
Maths*





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In Humanities students have been making earthquake proof buildings, creating history games and designed mandala patterns.



Students in Maths worked in teams to assemble a BuckminsterFullerene (3D object like an old fashioned football). Each "Buckyball" will be constructed of regular pentagons folded from A6 paper and regular hexagons folded from A5 paper.



Science chose the theme of "Movies" for their enrichment week activity. Students made fake wounds out of PVA bioplastic which were very realistic and studied how to make effective blood splatter patterns for a movie set. Whilst other students in Science explored the physics of stunt cushions and their effectiveness to break the fall of a 50g weight.





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Students in Technology have been making air powered vehicles and testing how well they work at the end of the sessions.



Expressive and Performing Arts students watched Shrek the movie, then had to produce a response to the film. Music asked the students to use cubase to compose a piece of music relating to the film. Drama students worked on a technical aspect of the movie such a lighting. Dance students created a dance as a practical response to the film and art students created a poster to promote the film.



As part of enrichment week, the army were invited to attend. They created team building activities and challenges which encouraged the students to work together. The Army's slogan is "Be the Best" and some of the students said it was one the best challenges of the week!





Social Sciences Staff have run “The Apprentice Challenge” during enrichment week. Students had to design and market a new product.



In English students investigated the conventions of murder mysteries, solving crimes and created their own “whodunnits”.

## Duxford Photo Competition Winners



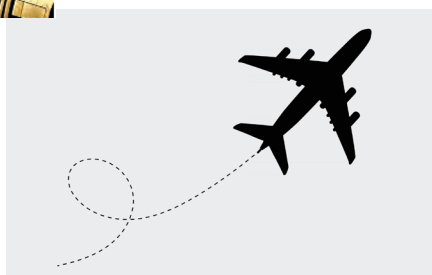
1st Place: Jack Lodge



2nd Place: Adam Reed



3rd: Lucas Cawthron



## Student of the month

Katie Leslie  
Art

Luke Cutmore  
Business

Alfred Hildrew  
Chef

Aimee Suttle  
Dancer

Gemma Beazley  
English

Harriet Hamer  
Film

Lucy Rowell  
Geography

Edward Hall  
IT/Computer Science

Alexia Popa  
MFL Linguist

William Chandler  
French Linguist

Jack McArthur  
German Linguist

Saskia Hawkes  
Spanish Linguist

Sophia Coxall  
Mathematics

Neala Goddard  
Media

Logan Reid  
Musician

Lewis Hayes  
PE

Isabelle Hyams  
Performer (Drama)

Alex Bond  
PLC

Cleo Perry-White  
Science

Ethan Lawler  
Social Science

George Jackson  
Statistician

Harriet Nineberg  
Technology



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## *The reviews were completed after students finished reading novels in both their English and Literacy Lessons. Miss Cuddington, English*

### *Howl's Moving Castle Book Review*

Howl's Moving Castle is a story about Sophie Hatter who is an 18-year-old girl. She lives in the town Market Chipping in the land of Ingary where she is the eldest of her three sisters. She is given the job of working in the family hat shop by her step-mother.

As the story progresses we learn that Sophie can speak life into objects, and as the reader we realise this at the same time as Sophie. This ability poses a threat to the Witch of the Waste who puts a curse on her and turns her into an old lady.

Sophie is now left with little choice but to travel to Howl's Moving Castle. Howl supposedly eats young girl's hearts, but she hopes that he will help take the spell off her. She makes a deal with Howl's fire demon Calcifer: if she can break the contract between Howl and Calcifer, then Calcifer will change her back to her younger self. The only problem is that neither of them can tell her what the contract is about, so Sophie has to work it out on her own.

During Sophie's stay at the castle, she finds out that Prince Justin went missing whilst he was searching for Wizard Suliman, and that the King had ordered Howl to find them both and to kill the Witch of the Waste. Although Howl had been given orders to kill the Witch, he avoids her as she put a curse on him. He continues to avoid her until Sophie needs rescuing from the Witches Fortress. The Witch had lured Sophie into a trap by making her believe that she was holding Miss Angorian captive. Howl had been in love with Miss Angorian, so Sophie had gone to the fortress to try and save her. Howl then comes to save Sophie and he kills the Witch. He explains that Miss Angorian was actually the Witch's fire demon in disguise and that the fire demon was attempting to create a 'perfect human' by taking different body parts from Wizard Suliman and Prince Justin and assembled them to make a body. It was then supposed to be completed with Howl's head.

At the castle, Miss Angorian tries to steal Howl's heart by taking hold of Calcifer who Howl had given his heart to. This was the contract between them - the heart kept Calcifer alive, and in return Calcifer used his magic for Howl when needed. Sophie uses her ability of bringing things back to life to free Calcifer, therefore breaking the contract between him and Howl. Howl got his heart replaced and destroys the Witch's fire demon, which freed Suliman and Justin. Sophie and Howl admit they loved each other when Howl suggests they live happily ever after.

I enjoyed this fantasy novel and I think it tells a great story with lots of descriptive language, however most situations can be quite predictable so there isn't really anything that happens that is unexpected. For example, Howl kills the Witch of the Waste and him and Sophie live happily ever after. Sophie Hatter is quite a nosey person, and she was always sticking her nose into other people's business. She also liked cleaning a lot and Howl didn't like either of those things. He liked his castle to be messy and he got irritated when Sophie was getting involved in his business. Eventually, Howl started to adjust to the tidiness and the nosiness, and he didn't mind as much. I liked the relationship of these two characters, and it was interesting to see them grow over time.

Howl's castle from the outside is made to look intimidating and large and it has been built with huge black blocks that look like coal, but in reality, there is only one main room in the castle and then upstairs is Howl and his apprentice's bedrooms. Howl doesn't actually eat young girl's hearts it was just a tale, as his castle looked unwelcoming from the outside. Once the reader got to know Howl, he was actually quite a nice person. Overall, I would give this book 3 out of 5 stars and I would highly recommend this book for readers aged 11+.

*Sophie Byers*

### **HUNGER GAMES REVIEW (10 STARS)**

The Hunger Games book is very good because it has a variety of characters and a lot of emotion. I like how the books have plot twists and it's not all one story that has no changes that no one would expect.

The story is about a girl and boy from a poor district who get chosen for the hunger games. They have to train in the city with all the rich and different people. After the training they are all given a score and you will find out what they got if you read the book. Also in the book they start the game but do they survive the game or do they not?

The theme is about one adventure and the romance between a young boy and girl who make it look like they're in love for the viewers, to get sponsors and try and survive the game without getting killed. But do they love each other now they have pretended to be hopeless romantics is this coming true? The adventure was when they tried to hide and escape from danger. Hoping to at least stand a chance against the lower districts who have won every time.

I also love the part where Katniss volunteers for the game instead of her sister being made to do it. I love the sister bond that they portrayed. Katniss was the best big sister that Prim could have.

As a whole I really liked the book and would definitely recommend this book to people.

*Libby Gaulton*

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## HUNGER GAMES REVIEW

The Hunger Games is about Katniss's sister Prim who gets her name pulled up at the reaping. Katniss volunteers as she couldn't bear to see her sister get killed. Peeta (another boy from her district) gets called up too! After the reaping they both get on a train to the Capitol where they train for the game. All of the tributes get an interview on live TV, which is where Peeta reveals his feelings for Katniss. The games finally start but Peeta has formed an alliance with 4 other tributes and they all try to kill Katniss! In the end Katniss and Peeta work together to kill everyone else before they are crowned the winners of the 74th Hunger Game!

### Information about the setting

The districts are quite a poor place, people living there struggle to get food, water and even shelter but in the Capitol it's luxurious, futuristic and very grand. It makes you not want to leave as it has everything you can ask for and more!

### Description of characters

Katniss is a courageous young girl who is brave, tough, loyal and lets nothing stop her whereas Peeta on the other hand is scared, shy, vulnerable and knows that he'll lose in the hunger games.

Snow is a greedy, selfish, worthless cheat who always gets what he wants and never cares about anyone else's feelings. Although the people of Panem have a wacky and funky style, they are still very supportive and kind people.

### Themes and Ideas

There are themes of poverty, wealth, power, violence, love and reality TV in the Hunger Games. There is always a different theme in every scene. The Capitol is thought of having a higher status than the people in the districts. Although there is luxury there is still a chance of dying.

### Personal response

I really enjoyed the book/film. It was definitely a page turner that was gripping and exciting all at once.

I could read this book again and again and I still wouldn't get bored. The build up to when the game started took a long time but it was worth every second of waiting.

### Rating

I rate this book/film a solid 4.5/5 stars as it was very enjoyable and I would definitely recommend reading/watching the film if you have not already!

*Lila Short*



## THE HUNGER GAMES

The Hunger Games is an enthralling and captivating novel that uncovers the story of a fight for survival set in the dystopian future. Katniss, the main character, takes her young sister, Prim's place in the annual, televised, last man standing fight hosted by the Capitol.

The first setting is District 12, which is a very deprived area, surrounded by electrically powered fencing, although due to the district's poverty they're only able to keep these powered for around 2 hours per day.

The second setting is The Capitol, an affluent area where The Hunger Games are hosted.

The two main characters include Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark. They're the two participants of The Hunger Games who resided in District 12. The pair's first meeting coincidentally began as one of survival and this carried through with their fight to survive at the games.

The main theme of the book is one of endurance, as The Hunger Games is all about survival of the fittest. Love is also explored in the book which is portrayed in Peeta Mellark's confession of his undying love for Katniss at the interviews. Personally I love this book. It was packed with nail-biting, intriguing and thought provoking scenes that tells the story of Katniss' life of a fight for survival for herself and her loved ones.

I highly recommend reading this novel – in my opinion it's a must read.

Rated 5 Stars

*Corey Chaplin*



# English - Summer Reading Challenge

## Instructions:

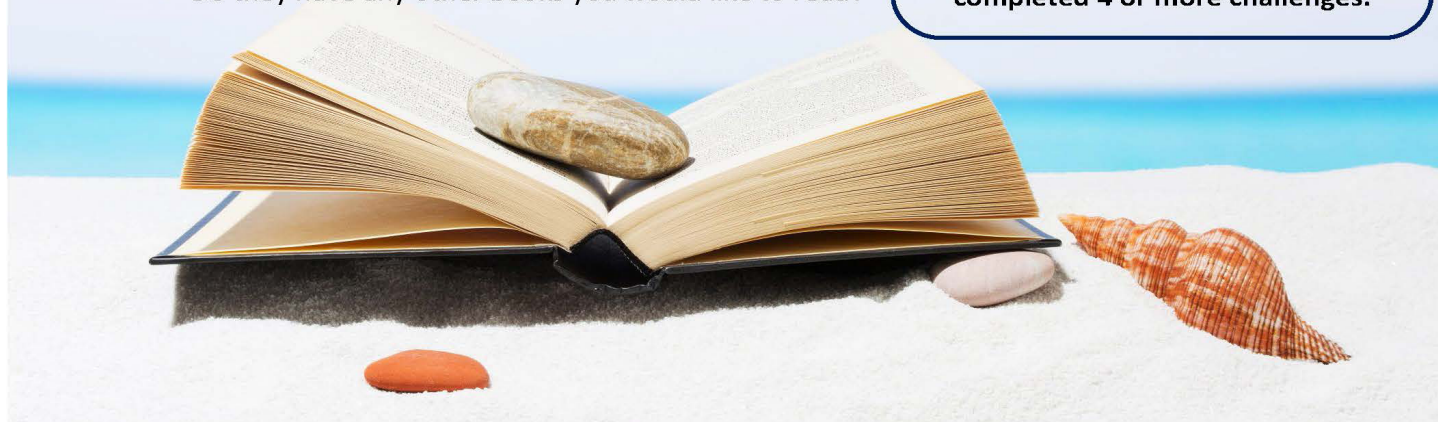
For each challenge you complete; stamp, colour in, tick or cross off the square.

Your challenge is to get a line (complete a horizontal, diagonal or vertical line of challenges) or a full house (complete the whole table)

Next write up a review of the stories that you read.

- Which did you enjoy the most and why?
- Were there any that you didn't enjoy? Explain why?
- Is there an author you particularly like the style of?
- Do they have any other books you would like to read?

**Send your completed bingo sheets and write ups to Miss Livermore ([jlivermore@birchwoodhigh.org.uk](mailto:jlivermore@birchwoodhigh.org.uk)) and house points will be awarded for lines, full houses and those that have completed 4 or more challenges.**



Finish a book you started and haven't finished yet.	Read a short story. You can find some online ones here: <a href="https://bookriot.com/free-short-stories-online/">https://bookriot.com/free-short-stories-online/</a>	Read an online blog about something you are interested in.	Read a piece of fan fiction. (Fans of a television series/film books write their own version or write a story based around those characters.) You can find some here: <a href="https://www.fanfiction.net/book/">https://www.fanfiction.net/book/</a>	Read a novel/short story from the science fiction genre
Read a book in your house that you haven't read	Ask your friend what their favourite story/book is and read it.	Read a book with an interesting front cover	Read a book that is part of a trilogy/series	Read a novel/short story from the mystery genre
Read a review of a television series or film that you like.	Read an instruction manual	Read a newspaper article and explain to a friend or family member what it is about.	Read a 'how to' book	Read a book based on a true story.
Read a book by an author you have never read before.	Read a book by an author from a different country	Read a magazine article	Read an autobiography of somebody you admire.	Read a graphic novel
Read a 2023 new release	Read a book recommended by a family member	Choose and read a book from the Waterstones best seller list for young adults: <a href="https://www.waterstones.com/category/childrens-teenage/teen-and-young-adult">https://www.waterstones.com/category/childrens-teenage/teen-and-young-adult</a>	Read a book from 'The Penguin 100 Must Read Classics' <a href="https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/2022/05/100-must-read-classic-books">https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/2022/05/100-must-read-classic-books</a>	Read a book/short story from the horror genre





## Saturday 10 June 2023 – The day that I ran my first 100 mile event.

Over the past few years I have been setting myself physical challenges designed to really test both my physical and mental abilities. In this academic year I have had 3 major events;

October 2022 – Run a sub 4 hour Marathon (London)

November 2022 – 24 hour obstacle course race (World's Toughest Mudder)

June 2023 – Run 100 miles (South Downs Way 100)

Each event posed a very different challenge for both body and mind. Some were successes and some were not. London did not go to plan, I failed to account for the heat on the day and found myself struggling at around the 17 mile point – I had sweated too much and my pace slowed down, resulting in my sub 4 hour goal not being achieved.

I took this disappointment on to the next event in the US and ensured that I was prepared for all weathers. As students have heard in my recent assembly, this event could not have gone any better! 75 miles run, which was the highest UK mileage and my body and mind remained in really good places throughout.

This year, 100 miles was a very daunting challenge to set myself. I knew that I would be out for around 24+ hours and would not have much to break up the running like the obstacles at WTM. I had to prepare myself for long stints on terrain that I was unfamiliar with. The South Downs Way runs from Winchester to Eastbourne and consists, largely, of chalky ridges with very little shade and 3500m of elevation. I've focused a lot on building mental resilience in the past couple of years, choosing events that will require me to dig deep and find reserves of motivation when I feel like I have none left. Those of you that run will know that, although it can be an absolute joy to do, there can be times where it really does suck! You can head out and lose the mental battle early on, resulting in you not enjoying it at all.

In the week before I was hyper focused on the weather forecast as I saw the temperature creep higher and higher for the weekend. I knew that I needed to adapt my strategy for the race in order to finish it. I spent the days before ensuring that I was hydrated and well rested so that I wouldn't be able to use those things as excuses if I were unsuccessful.

330 runners lined up on the start at 6am on the Saturday morning, only 57% of them would finish. The temperatures hit 32°C during the day and runners were really struggling with heat stroke. My plan was to not consider the run as 100 miles, but rather to break it apart into 10-12 mile 'races' between aid stations so that I could just look at the day in blocks. I planned to bag some early miles before the temperature increased dramatically and to then slow down and manage the heat during the day before picking up again after sunset. Having this strategy ready before the event paid off during the day. I was able to stay in a really good head space throughout by thinking about the race in chunks, yes some of the sections were not as enjoyable as others but I knew that the rubbish ones would be over in time!

Hydration was key during the day and I estimate that I took on about 17 litres of water over the event, 13 of them during the daylight hours. I avoided heat stroke and made it through to the night where I was joined by a good friend who offered his services to pace me through the second 50 miles. My wife met me at regular points and provided me with food and encouragement as I donned the head torch to move on through the night.

My body got me through, despite a huge blister on my right foot from mile 70 onwards. My mind remained in a good place throughout, laughing and joking through the night and thinking about the finish and the sense of achievement. After 28 hours 18 minutes and 18 seconds, I crossed the finish line in Eastbourne, I was a 100 mile finisher!

43% of runners on the day did not finish. It has been considered as one of the toughest events that Centurion Running have organised and I got through it.

Coming in to school on the Monday morning was a challenge but the students and staff at Birchwood have been incredible with their support and questions regarding the challenge. This level of endurance running teaches you a lot about what you are actually capable of and, this event, showed that everything that I have been working on in the past few years can come together on the day to result in goals being achieved. There are times where things do not go to plan but I ensure that I learn from them and adapt planning for the next event.

What next? I'm attempting the 3 Peaks in August for charity but after that, I currently have nothing planned (yet!)

*Mr Briscoe, Head of Science*





MONDAY NIGHTS



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# House



## Congratulations to our new team:

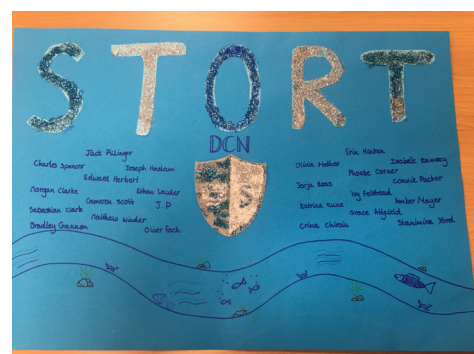
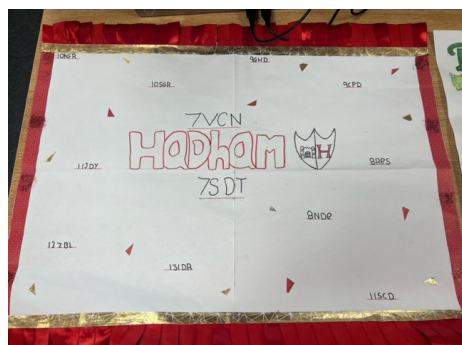
Head House Captains  
Daisy Dunn and Scarlet Dillon  
Deputy House Captains  
Ivy Felstead and Lydia Griffin  
Assistant Principal student  
Events, Jessica Hobday

The WINNERS of the summer  
staff bake off:

Sweet- Mr Levey  
(blueberry and raspberry cake)  
Savoury- Mrs Parker  
(sausage rolls)

Thank you to everybody who  
entered. Thank you to our lovely  
judges Mrs Byers, Mrs Reid and  
Miss Dale.

Dane	Hadham	Stort	Waytemore
Darcy Loveday Amelia Nicholson Harriet Nineberg Alfie Wood Sydney Godden	Ilinca Dionisie	Jack Pillinger Amber Mayer Matthew Winder Katrina Zune Cameron Scott Charles Spencer	Paige Squires Ruby Waller



## House poster competition

The winners per house are:

Stort

12DCN

Dane

Joint Winners 7CLE & 12ACO

Hadham

7SDT & 9CPD

Waytemore

No entries!!





## House Leader Board

House	House Points
Dane	33 972
Waytemore	33 247
Hadham	32 464
Stort	29 648



### Year 7

Form Name	House Points this term
7VCN	1,212
7CLE	1,179
7MCS	1,079
7GSH	956
7LCY	942
7HPN	909
7SDT	889
7RGD	636



# COLOUR RUN

On Wednesday 28 June, we held our annual colour run event as part of the enrichment week. We had 150 Year 7 & Year 8 students take part in the event. As you can see from the pictures, the students (and teachers!) thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to everybody who took part and helped at the event. So far we have raised over £2000 which will be going to our schools charities of the year.

*Mrs Collyer, Head of House*



### Year 8

Form Name	House Points this term
8JMC	1,061
8RES	1,050
8MGN	987
8MLY	824
8JJO	756
8NDE	722
8CHT	640
8ARE	533
8RNN	443

### Year 9

Form Name	House Points this term
9CPD	872
9SAS	864
9SHL	856
9CSO	771
9BMN	766
9DPN	738
9MRY	700
9JLE	673



### Year 10

Form Name	House Points this term
10KMS	552
10CCO	474
10JHD	473
10ERA	458
10DHR	453
10CPZ	430
10KGR	427
10JBD	398



### Year 12

Form Name	House Points this term
12DCN	281
12ACO	239
12ROS	161
12MSR	125
12ZBL	78





CAMPEXCEL



CLUBEXCELCAMP

FOR  
CHILDREN  
AGED 3-13  
YEARS

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AND NORTH LONDON



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