



# The Newman

Your College Newsletter Issue 30 Christmas Edition 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our Autumn Term edition of The Newman. I write to you as we come to the end of my first term as Head teacher at Newman Catholic College. In my thirteen years at the school thus far, I have seen the school grow, change, adapt and thrive. I am excited by the opportunities that lie ahead for our school community. I would like to make myself available to any parent who has any concerns or questions every week. Without appointment, I will be available each Tuesday from 3.30-4.15 if you would like to drop in, even if just for a conversation or support.

We have worked hard on reviewing our Teaching and Learning and Assessment procedures this year. This will mean you will see more consistency across how staff deliver learning, of their expectations, and for homework. We will also have a new reporting system in place for you, to make the reporting of student progress easier to access and interpret for parents.

We have two exciting developments taking place on the school site over the next year and beyond. We have additional provision for students with Special Educational Needs being built in a permanent building on site. This will offer over twenty new students specialist provision on a main school site. This should be finished in 2024. Furthermore, we have offered to temporarily host the Manor School's Key Stage 3 provision on our site temporarily, whilst they are having their permanent building in Wembley developed. This is an opportunity for our community yet again to show that we care for and support our local schools, and we will learn so much from this link.

We would like to wish Ms Donne good luck who is leaving us after 18 years of dedication and service. She leaves us for a promotion to a Deputy Headship, and we thank her for her years of service to the Languages Department and to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). I am pleased to say that Ms Vitamore will be joining the SLT as associate Assistant Head teacher and Ms Palmer will be interim Curriculum Leader for Mathematics. Finally, I would like to draw your attention to an article released by the Daily Mail entitled ["800,000 pupils from poor families are being denied free school meals"](#) - this was published last week, and highlights both the challenges many parents face in our community, and how it impacts on our young learners.

Our school has a rich history of community and charitable work, which is reflected not just in this article, but also the NCC Foodbank run by Mr Roche, Ms Kiernan and Ms Grace and students. I'd like to thank them for all of the hard work they put into this every week. We have also raised £900 for Breast Cancer research and awareness this term, so thank you to Pili Regueira for her leadership on the annual 'Pink' day.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 4th January (red week) for an 8.40 start. On behalf of the whole school community, we would like to wish our families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr Dunne



# Reward Assemblies

## WINNERS GALLERY



# Brent Council Pride of Brent Youth Awards

## Antonio Kipo, Winner of the Directors Award



Antonio in Year 12 is an amazing Young Leader and a shining role model to everyone who meets him. He has made such a wonderful contribution to our Newman School Community. We are proud of his achievement.

As a student in Year 10 and 11, Antonio was the Anti Bullying Student lead in our school. He organised our Anti Bullying week awareness and produced a PowerPoint presentation about bullying for teachers to use in class. Antonio did the Anti Bullying presentations to his peers. He also organised Odd Socks day and a video to raise awareness that it is okay to be different and unique. Antonio also initiated a 'Stop Bullying' button on our school desktop page, which students can click to link for Anti Bullying support and resources. Antonio completed Anti Bullying Ambassador training with the Diana Award. Antonio's efforts show that if we work together as a school, we can reduce bullying together.

Antonio is a qualified St John's Ambulance First Aider. He has supported Mr Finnie, our Curriculum Leader of Physical Education and Mr Jeeves to deliver basic First Aid training to all Year groups as part of our PSHE Health and Well Being Drop Down Days during 2019-2022.

Since March 2020, Newman Catholic College have been running a Foodbank a response to support 50 vulnerable families who have struggled with Food Poverty due to being furloughed, made redundant, no recourse to public funds, universal credit etc. Antonio is one of the students who volunteer and he helps the staff who also volunteer to run this every Friday afternoon. His friendly demeanour and smile make people feel welcome. He always goes the extra mile in helping us set up and pack away. His commitment is outstanding.

Antonio was also a member of our Youth Travel Ambassador Group (YTA). As part of YTA, Antonio was involved in researching and developing road safety campaigns with other students. This has focused on how students travel to school whether it be walking and cycling, road safety or improving the bus experience. Antonio also worked with other YTA students to deliver assemblies to all year groups on Road Safety awareness. Antonio supported the YTA staff to deliver Road Safety Awareness to Year 7 students as part of our Health and Well Being Drop Down Days.

Antonio has also been an active member of our Student Council for the past five years. This year he was elected as the Student Council chairperson. Antonio has shown that he is highly committed to everything he undertakes. He is deserving of this award as he is an inspiration to his peers, staff and those who meet him. He is a true student leader who wants to make a difference and create a better, more just society in this challenging world.



*The Awards Ceremony  
December 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 Brent Civic Centre*

*With Councillor Butt,  
leader of Brent Council  
and Councillor Patel,  
Deputy Leader*

*With Councillor Hylton,  
Deputy Mayor of Brent  
and his proud mother.*



*Queen's Jubilee*



*First Aid  
Drop Down Day*



*Foodbank*



*Anti Bullying  
Ambassador*

# Community Engagement

Everybody needs good Neighbours and we 'Love our Neighbours'

Feed our Families Foodbank  
Faith in Action



Newman Catholic College

Everyone Counts  
Everyone Contributes  
Everyone Succeeds

Working in partnership with



Right to Food.  
Brent

A campaign to improve everyone's access to fresh food.



Our Foodbank continues to run on a weekly basis. We have managed to continue to be self sustainable even in these challenging times supporting over 40 vulnerable families in the school community. This would not be possible without the ongoing support of the local community who continue to donate to us. The school vegetable garden which has been maintained by Kensal Green Mutual Aid volunteers has produced over 2000 vegetarian meals for the school and the local community. Our Staff and Student volunteers continue to help out and it is wonderful to see the commitment our student volunteers make even on these cold winter afternoons. We support the Brent Right to Food Campaign and the Brent Food Aid Network.

Thank you this term to....



## Brent Food Aid Directory



The following is a list of places where people can obtain free hot food or food parcels, via open access unless noted 'by referral only'. Please note that services may change or close without notice.

Organisations	Address	Opening times	Details
<b>Ansar Youth Project</b>	Wembley Youth Centre London Road HA9 7EU	Fri 9am to 12pm	🍲
<b>Brent Food Bank</b> by referral only, via Citizens Advice Brent - 0808 208 2138	Vestry Hall, St Mary's Church Neasden Lane NW10 2TS	Tues & Thurs 1pm to 3pm	🍲
<b>Centre of Help and Hope</b>	Lindsay Park Baptist Church, The Mall, Kenton HA3 9TG	Wed 1pm to 3pm	🍲
<b>Church of God of Prophecy</b> a Christian message is given	Seventh Day Adventist Church, Glebe Road (Pound Lane junction), Willesden NW10 2JD	Tues 10.30am to 12.30pm	🍲
<b>Church of English Martyrs</b>	197 Ealing Road HA0 4LW	3rd, 4th & 5th Sun of the month 7.30am	🍲
<b>Fresh Horizons CNB</b> expect a long queue	Chalkhill Road (Blackbird Hill Junction), Wembley HA9 9EW	Sat 10.30am to 11.30am	🍲
<b>Gift Your Neighbour</b>	Harlesden Methodist Church, 25 High Street NW10 4NE	Fri 11am to 12.30pm	🍲
<b>Granville Community Kitchen</b> call 07952 616 352	2a, 135 Salusbury Rd NW6 5RN	Mon 12pm to 2pm	🍲
<b>Harvest Soup Kitchen</b>	The Granville Centre, 140 Carlton Vale, Kilburn Park NW6 5HE	Wed 3pm to 4.30pm & Fri 4pm to 5.30pm	🍲
<b>Kenton Methodist Church</b> by referral only, via Harrow Foodbank - 020 8416 7344	The Leadership Training Centre, 40-43 North End Road, (off Fourth Way), Wembley HA9 0AT	1st & 3rd Sat of month 12.30pm	🍲
<b>Kilburn Streets Kitchen</b>	Kenton Methodist Church, Woodgrange Avenue HA3 0XF	Wed 1pm to 3pm	🍲
<b>London's Community Kitchen</b> expect a long queue	Kilburn High Road, NW6 6JE (outside Clarks Shoes)	Fri 7.15pm	🍲
	Brent Indian Association, 116 Ealing Road, Wembley HA0 4TH	Sat 11am to 1pm	🍲

<b>Pentecostal City Mission Church</b>	2 Scrubs Lane, Harlesden NW10 6RB	Fri 12pm	🍲
<b>Rumi's Kitchen</b>	Ummah Centre, 21 Craven Park Rd, Harlesden NW10 8SE	Sat 1pm 1.30pm	🍲
<b>Sacred Heart Church</b>	Quex Road, Kilburn NW6 4PS	Mon - Fri 10am to 12pm & 2pm to 4pm	🍲
<b>Soul Kitchen</b>	Kenmore Park Children's Centre, Wareford Road HA3 9HZ	Sat 11am to 1pm	🍲
<b>St Andrew's Church</b>	Harrow Road, Sudbury HA0 2QA	Tues & Thurs 12pm to 3pm	🍲
<b>St Catherine's Church</b>	Neasden Lane (Dollis Hill Lane junction) NW10 1QB	Tues 5.30pm to 8pm & Fri 3.30pm to 5.30pm	🍲
<b>St Cuthbert's Church</b>	1st & 3rd Sat of the month 12.30pm to 2pm	🍲	
<b>St John The Evangelist Church</b>	Fordwych Road, Kilburn NW2 3TN	Sat 1pm	🍲
<b>St Laurence's Larder</b>	The Community Centre, 1 Crawford Ave, Wembley HA0 2HX	Wed 1pm	🍲
<b>Sufra NW London</b> by referral only, via Brent Hubs - 020 8937 1234	Christchurch, Christchurch Ave (Wilkesden Lane junction) NW6 7BJ	Thurs 11am to 1pm	🍲
	160 Pitfield Way, Stonebridge NW10 0PW	Tues & Thurs 11am to 3pm	🍲
	Pakistan Community Centre, Marley Walk, Willesden Green NW2 4PU	Tues & Thurs 11am to 4pm	🍲
	Ansar Youth Project, Wembley Youth Centre, London Road HA9 7EU	Fri 9am to 12pm	🍲
<b>YWAM Urban Key London</b>	13 Station Rd, Harlesden NW10 4UJ	Fri 11am	🍲

This list is not exhaustive. Please get in touch to have your service considered for inclusion in a future edition. Compiled by Sufra NW London, with the generous assistance of volunteers from Brent Foodbank.

# PTA Parent Teacher Association

Our amazing PTA team have worked hard this term to put on three events for our school community. In October we hosted an event to celebrate **Black History Month** on October 14th. This was attended by our local MP, Dawn Butler, Deputy Mayor of Brent, Orleen Hylton and Councillor Ryan Hack. Guest speakers included Dawn Butler, Orleen Hylton, Tasha Thompson from Black Girls Do Run and Marcus from MJ's Treats. We had wonderful food prepared by our parents and donated by MJ'S Treats, the Trinidad Roti Shop and Hawkeye enterprises.

**Bingo Night** took place on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The PTA raised over £300 for the school. Many thanks to the members of the a school community who came along to support this event. We had some wonderful prizes including cash from Daniel's Estate Agents, Taste of Lahore, Nandos, The Royal Oak, Rubio, Superdrug and The Green Man. Well done to all those whose lucky numbers came up. We look forward to another Bingo Night in the new year.

**Newman's Got Talent** We held auditions on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Grand Final was held on December 9<sup>th</sup>. A number of students auditioned singing, dancing, playing instruments, telling jokes, spoken word, magic tricks, rapping and more.

The overall winner was Luis in Year 9 with his piano recital. Runners up were Stephen in Year 7 who entertained us with his jokes, Amro in Year 8 who showed us his drumming skills and Anurag in Year 13 who sang for us in Hindi.

Thanks to our judges Mr Dunne and Mr Jalil, our PTA committee who organised the event and those who came along to be entertained. A memorable night was had by all.

If any parents would like to join us, please come along to our next meeting on **Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm**

## NEWMAN'S GOT TALENT



# Careers News KS4 Medical Science Project

Congratulations to the Year 11 students who took part in the Medical Science Project, the initiative of a past pupil of the school, **Dr Rossby Awadzi BSc, MSc, MBchB and Get medical CEO.**

The students (pictured below) gave their time after school on Thursdays during the summer term of Year 10. This proved to be a fantastic opportunity for them to learn from a team of experienced doctors. During the project, the pupils were encouraged to discuss various clinical cases of disease and then created resources and videos to help teach and inform other students and health care workers across the Boroughs of Brent, Ealing and Harrow. This involved students using their learning to participate in recorded interviews with senior health care professionals.

The highlight of the project was the **GetMedical Surgical Skills Workshop** where a team of doctors ran a session on site as an introduction to the world of surgery. Students were taught anatomy and physiology in relation to surgical skills. The experience gave them a greater understanding of basic biology through the recreation of a realistic surgical environment in the science laboratory.

We owe an enormous thanks to Dr Rossby and his team for providing such a wonderful experience.

**Tutors:** Dr. Rossby Awadzi, Dr. Amal Anwer, Dr. Joshua Sestoafia, Dr. Samuel Kalu & Ohema Osare (Medical Student)

N O'Neill



Back row L to R

Hadi Gourgus, Moussa Al- Kawarit, Louis Grundy, Essey Mehabab, Emanuel Balaj, Mohamed Osman, Abdul Wahhad Ahmad, Bilal Nadeem

Front L to R

Mohamed Ajgal, Diego Iavarone, David Njoku, Sayed Alavi, Malik Lar, Abdi Mohamed, Sayed Sadat

Missing from photograph: Mohamed Brahhim Gharrich

# Careers News KS4 Medical Science Project



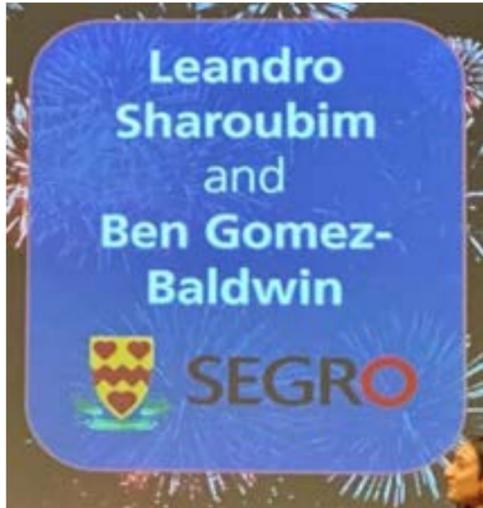


Sixth Form students had an assembly led by Mandekh the Programme Director at Brunel University responsible for Global Challenges alongside Sebastian, a final year social cohesion student and Dr Tony Burch a local resident and friend of the school. Afterwards interested students had an informative Q and A session. The key messages were to take advantage of every opportunity and challenge yourself!



Our Careers Advisors are in school on Thursdays. If you need Careers advice see your Head of Year or Drop in and see them at lunchtimes in the Conference Room.

Spark Charity provided an opportunity for students to be mentored by professionals from Segro. Congratulations to Leandro, Mohammed and Keval who successfully graduated from the programme. We are extremely grateful to Rachel from Spark Charity and the mentors who made this possible. We look forward to working with Spark and Segro in the new year with new cohorts.



Mr Lopes and Miss Grace attended another Spark awards ceremony at the University of West London. Leandro won mentee of the year and his mentor Ben, mentor of the year.

*Here's what Ben wrote: "From the first day I met Leandro at his school, it was clear how determined he was to learn from the SEGRO/Spark! Schools Work Programme. His energy, enthusiasm and commitment throughout the various sessions we hosted was far beyond what I expected from someone of his age and with no prior work experience. Working with Leandro during the one on one mentoring sessions was an absolute pleasure and he really demonstrated a keen eye for detail and a good understanding for commercial real estate and particularly investment and development. Leandro is a credit to his school and I look forward to staying in contact with him and hopefully supporting him with his future career".*

*Leandro said of Ben: "An extraordinary mentor; with infinite patience, an indescribable desire to pass on all his knowledge and experience, and always with an undistinguished smile; These are the characteristics that most describe Him. Despite the linguistic boundaries, Ben was easily able to transmit to me everything he could without any problem, and almost making me feel like there were no boundaries between us. I have had few people who I can call "mentors", and I am proud to say that for me Ben was much more than a mentor, but rather an example and an inspiration, almost like a father to a son.*



## This term's focus was on Health and Well Being

With students facing pressures both within and outside of school, PSHE is a subject dedicated to providing a safe space in which students are encouraged to openly explore issues relevant to their lives, such as mental health and relationships. Drop Down Days' strengthen their PSHE curriculum and make student learning more effective and relevant. Drop Down Days', are off-timetable' days, with activities used to strengthen students' practical application of skills and provide a deeper learning experience. At NCC Drop Down Days focus on specialist workshops. Our PSHE curriculum, aims to give our students the skills and knowledge to become independent, confident, healthy and responsible members of society. PSHE education covers mental health and wellbeing; physical health (including healthy lifestyles and first aid); learning about safe, healthy relationships and sex (including understanding consent, negotiating life online, intimate relationships).

We had Drop Down Days for Year 7,9 and 10. The Year 8 one has to be rescheduled due to the snow. Workshops focused on Mental Health and Music, Knowing Yourself, Leadership, Self Defence, First Aid, Gambling Addiction, Personal Safety. Thanks to Steve Eusebe (Do the Mic Thing) Anita Whittaker (Innovative Opportunities), Bang Radio Charity, Scott Davies (Epic Risk Management), Alastair Coward (Zest of Mind) and PC Weedon our Safer Schools Officer as well as our very own Mr Jeeves.



# Sixth Form News

## The Leadership Team



## Sixth Form Enrichment

Sixth Form Enrichment takes place on Wednesday afternoons. A range of activities are on offer to our students.

These include- Construction, Journalism and Podcasting, London Citizens, Fitness and Circuit Training, Hair and Beauty, Dance, Gardening, Primary School Mentoring (Thanks to St Andrew and St Francis and Furness Primary Schools), Street Food.

**Congratulations to our Head Girl, Sundas and Head Boy, Emmanuel and their team who were elected to lead the 6<sup>th</sup> Form during 2022-2023. We wish them every success with the leadership.**

**Dance** with Mr Kourmoulakis. Students enjoyed this very much and a group of dancers have made it through to the next stage of the Jack Petchey Glee Club Dance Challenge



**Journalism and Podcasting** with Anita from Innovative Opportunities. Students recorded podcasts of interest to them



**Street Food**- Cultural Capital around the world by cuisine. Students tried Syrian, Brazilian, Lebanese, Caribbean, Pakistani to name a few. They also made Italian Risotto and decorated cakes and biscuits for Christmas.



**Construction** with Johann of Innovative Opportunities. Students learnt to wire a light, soldering and other skills.



**Hair and Beauty** with Julia of Straker Hair- styling and cutting models. Knowing the career pathways



# JackPetchey Foundation

Inspire • Motivate • Achieve



The Jack Petchey Foundation was set up to inspire and motivate young people and recognise them for their achievements. Their vision is of a world where young people have high aspirations; the opportunity to develop their potential; the chance to be architects of their own future; to play a full part in society and to be valued and recognised for the positive things they achieve.



November - Joseph Zeidan won the award for his willingness to help others, he supports the Library where he helps staff and students in his own time. He is a valued member of our Student Council; he has just delivered a wonderful assembly for 'Anti Bullying' to the entire school. Joseph is always willing to help around the school in a variety of ways and is a credit to the school community.



October – Alexandro Baldwin was awarded the Jack Petchey for all the wonderful work and support he offers around the school. Alexandro is a part of the Student Council where he is a devoted and vocal member; he dedicates his time to in the food bank on a Friday after school and member of our London Citizens team. He is a well-rounded young man that shows all the qualities of what the Newman values stand for.



September – Luis Fernandes-Barbosa was awarded the Jack Petchey for all the work he does selflessly around the school, he helps on Parents evenings, escorting families around the building and sharing his knowledge, he is part of the Student Council, London Citizens and gives time after school to support the Food bank we offer to the community. Luis is a wonder asset to the NCC and is going from strength to strength. He represents the schools ethos, Everyone Counts, Everyone Contributes, Everyone Succeeds

We are very proud of these three young men.

# The Newman Cup 2022

On the 21st of November we opened our doors to a number of local primary schools for the Newman Cup.

We had 8 teams turn up to battle it out to see who would be going home with the trophy, the weather decided to run against us on the day but with the resilience from our sports leaders we were able to run



d su



The tournament ended with a thrilling penalty shootout, with all teams enjoying a day being coached and refereed by our sports leaders.

We look forward to making this an annual event and are already starting our plans for 2023.



A big thank you Mr Finnie, Ms Hardy & Mr Connors and all of our amazing students for helping with the running of the day.

Mr Jeeves

# The Newman Cup 2022

The Newman students volunteered their time to help with the Year 5 Newman football tournament today and were absolutely fantastic.

They made sure to introduce themselves to all of the students and teachers and ensured we had everything we needed. Throughout the day, they continued to make sure everything was running smoothly. They also helped the students improve their football skills throughout the day by practicing with them when they didn't have a game.

Myself and the other teachers were very impressed with their manners, professionalism and eagerness to help!

Sarah Cutler, Harlesden Primary (PE Lead)



# Maths Department News

## Sparx and Hegartymaths

This year the Maths department are fortunate to continue working closely with Sparx and Hegartymaths to improve upon their already excellent online provision.

All students have individual log ins (year 7 and 8 sparxmaths, year 9, 10, 11 hegartymaths) and can use these accounts to access high quality videos and questions that give immediate feedback for their own independent study.



## Financial Maths:

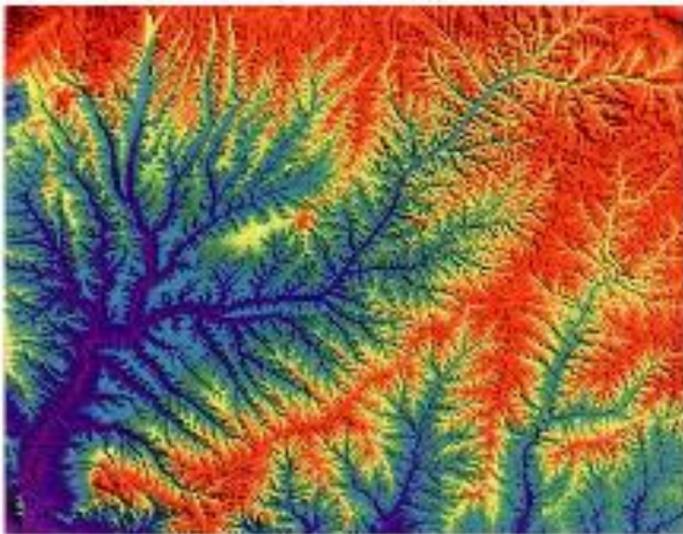
This year we are continuing our commitment to support the development of students' financial literacy using the 'Your Money Matters' programme, endorsed by Martin Lewis of Money Saving Expert. This term year 8 explored value for money and discussed how to use comparison websites and how to shop around to get the best deals. Upcoming topics for other year groups will include budgeting, interest, savings, understanding payslips and tax.

## History of Maths:

Students continue to explore the history of maths. This term we have looked at origins of number systems, history of algebra, Emmy Noether and the history of pi. The oldest known reference to pi is on the Rhind Papyrus, an Egyptian artefact from circa 1650 BC. A Swiss mathematician, Leonard Euler, formalised the use of  $\pi$  as notation for this value in the 1700s.

## Fractals

A fractal is a never ending pattern that repeats itself at different scales. This property is called 'self similarity'. Fractals appear in nature.

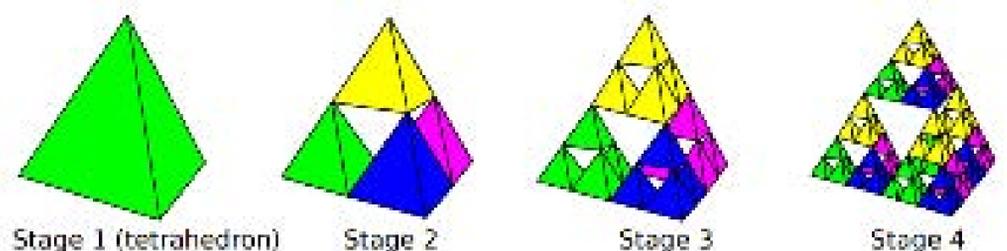
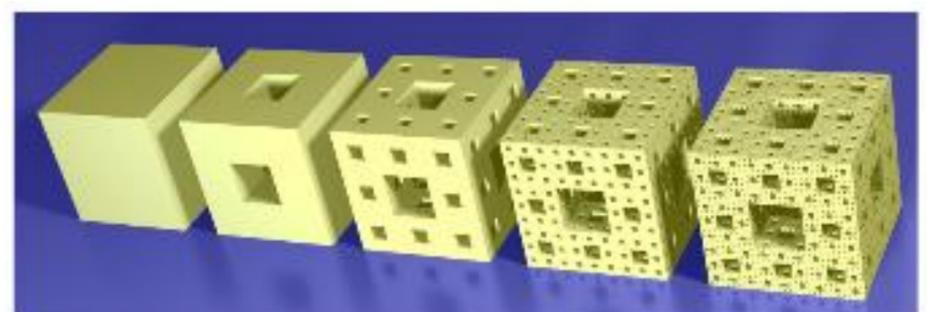
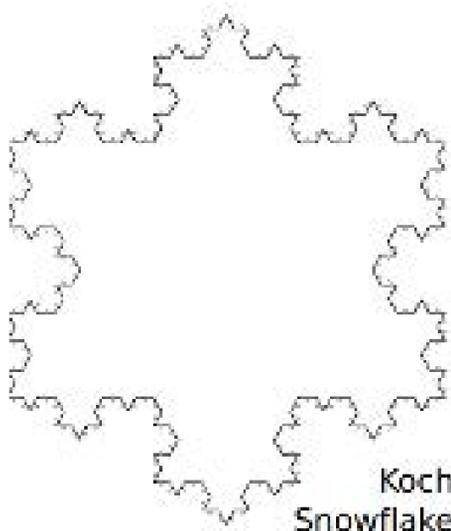


River network from the Shaanxi province in China. Colors represent elevation. Image: Bruce D. Malamud, Kings College London.



M51 the "Whirlpool Galaxy". Image: Nasa.

As an end of term treat, students in Year 7 explored fractals and made their own Christmas trees using three special fractals: the Koch snowflake, the Menger sponge and the Sierpinski tetrahedron.



This year the Maths department is continuing our participation with the UKMT Maths challenges. The students involved last academic year thoroughly enjoyed it and this would be a great experience for your son, so do encourage them to get involved this year. Unfortunately the team challenge will no longer be running. However, students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 will have the opportunity to compete in individual challenges against other students around the country in the Spring term. For more information visit [ukmt.org.uk](http://ukmt.org.uk)

## Further Mathematics GCSE

The Maths department are excited to be able to offer Further Mathematics GCSE for invited students in year 10 this year. This course offers an excellent opportunity to consolidate more challenging topics from GCSE maths and introduce new concepts that students will need for A Level maths including the Factor Theorem, matrices and calculus.

## Homework Club

From next term maths homework club will run Thursday lunchtimes in M47. Students will be able to access chromebooks and receive assistance with their homework tasks. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this support.

## Equipment:

All students are required to have their full equipment, including a Maths set and a scientific calculator. These are available to buy through parent pay at a subsidised cost: £1 for a Helix Maths set, and £10 for a Casio fx-85GTX scientific calculator.

## Using 'Why Mummy' Jargon to Understand Mathematics By Benjamin Anarfi-De-Khems

Understanding mathematics is a big concern for the government and mathematics educators. No wonder the government keeps on changing mathematics curriculums.

Sometimes mum or dad will say sorry son/daughter 'I did not understand maths at school' when you really need her/his help to understand a mathematical concept. But the questions are; "What is understanding mathematics?" and "How best can you as a student change your perception of mathematics and try your best to understand it?" Do you know why we add the powers of indices when multiplying indices with the same base? If you do, then you do understand a little bit of indices concept. Again, have you wondered why you have to divide by two when finding the area of a triangle? If you do, then you understand finding the area of a triangle. The reasons behind what we do in maths is the understanding of mathematics. This is what mathematics educators call conceptual understanding. Conceptual understanding measures the 'why' behind every concept in mathematics. The question then becomes - "How can I know the 'whys' behind every mathematics concept?"

Well this is very simple my friends. Do you remember when you were a three-year-old and used to question your mummy every time she asked you to do something? If you do not remember, then ask your mummy she will remind you. You were very annoying. This is how annoying Kofi was with his mum. Listen to the following conversation between Kofi and his mummy when he was a three-year-old:

Mummy: Kofi, come and put on your jacket.

Kofi: why mummy?

Mummy: because we are going to do some shopping.

Kofi: why mummy?

Mummy: because we need to buy some food stuffs?

Kofi: why mummy?

Mummy: so that you can get food to eat.

Kofi: why mummy?

Mummy: so that you can grow big and strong.

Kofi: why mummy?

Mummy: Kofi, can you please stop being annoying?

Kofi: why mummy?

Do you think Kofi was being annoying? I really don't think so. Kofi was trying to explore, be inquisitive and understand the world around him. As a student you are responsible for your actions and your learning. So why don't you be like Kofi and be an annoying student and keep asking why Sir or why Miss so that you can be inquisitive, explore and above all understand mathematical concepts? The 'Why' will help you to understand the mathematics. How many times have you asked your teacher why Sir or why Miss about the topic?

The 'why' which is the reasons behind the concepts will help you to understand mathematics. If you don't regularly use the 'why' to probe understanding then you are entering into the 'How' zone which is just the procedures, the step by step rules of solving a problem. This is what mathematics educators call procedural knowledge. The problem with this method of learning is that you cannot keep up with all the procedures in mathematics and definitely you are going to forget some of them if not all of them. This is the main reason why we do get stuck when solving a question. This is because you have forgotten about a particular formula you used to know. However, if you did go for the 'why' method of learning, since you already understand the concept, you will be able to deduce the procedures or the formula from scratch.

So you see the importance of being an annoying three-year-old? 'Why Mummy' jargon is Conceptual understanding, it helps you to explore, be inquisitive, and understand the mathematical concepts you don't like. You don't understand mathematics because you have stopped being the annoying three-year-old you used to be. So if you really want to understand mathematics yourself and stop hustling your mum and dad, then you need to act as the annoying three old again and keep asking the "whys" (the reasons behind the concepts) and stop receiving the "hows" (the procedures, the step by step rules or the formulas) from the teachers and I bet your understanding of mathematics will never be the same.

# English

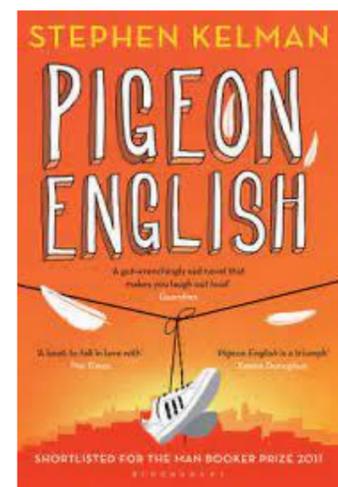
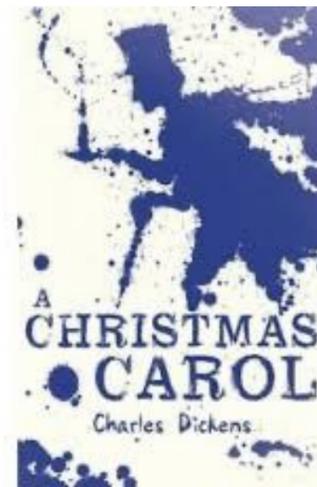
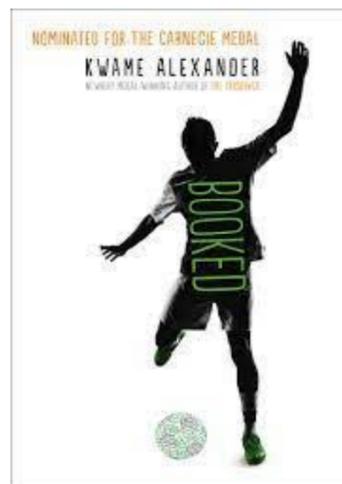
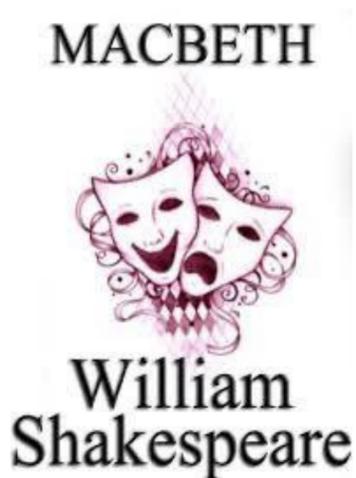
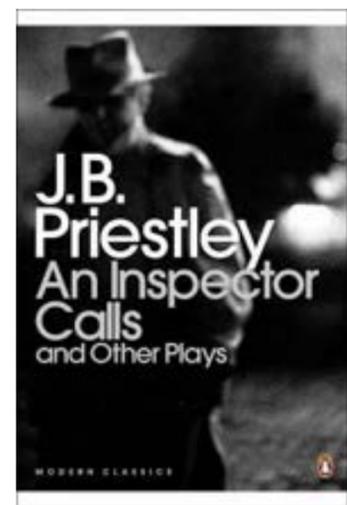
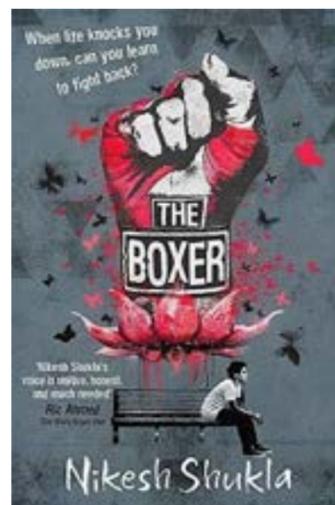
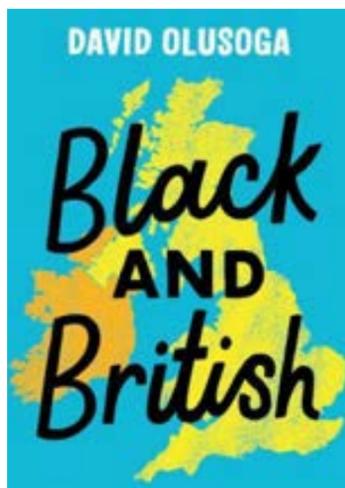
## Read, Read, Read...

*Scan, study, look at, pore over, peruse, to grasp* (Collins English Thesaurus, 2018)

**We are proud of the reading culture at NCC.**

The library is always at capacity, students read independently at the start of every lesson, during registration and partake in our 'Drop Everything And Read' (DEAR) sessions. Reading at NCC is a pleasure!

The following titles remain very popular, with Year 11 and 13 Paul students reading poetry from the 'Power and Conflict' anthology this term:



## Read ahead...

### Spring 2023:

KS4 (Year 11)

**Shakespeare Study:**

'Macbeth' or 'Romeo and Juliet' (Teacher Choice)

### Read Widely:

<https://www.rsc.org.uk>

'About Shakespeare' section



# Read ahead...

Spring 2023:

KS4 (Year 10)

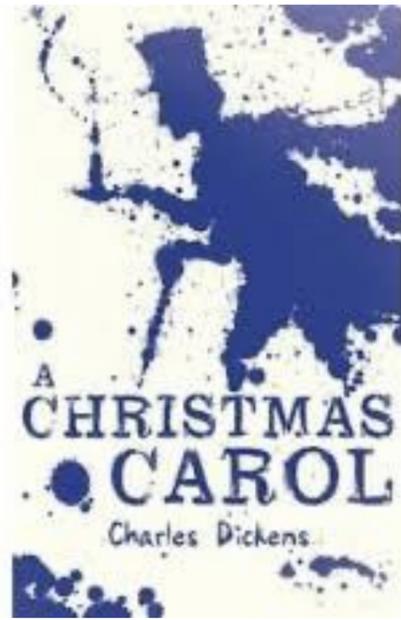
19<sup>th</sup> Century Text:

Charles Dickens:

'A Christmas Carol'

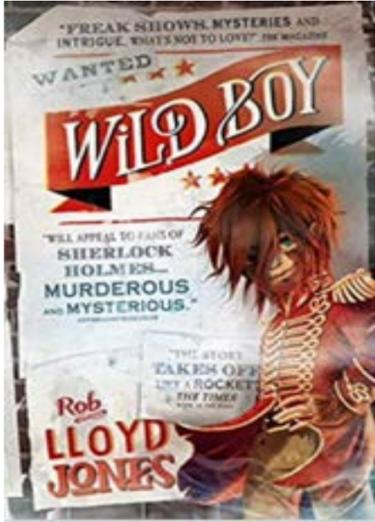
Read Widely:

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/christmas/>

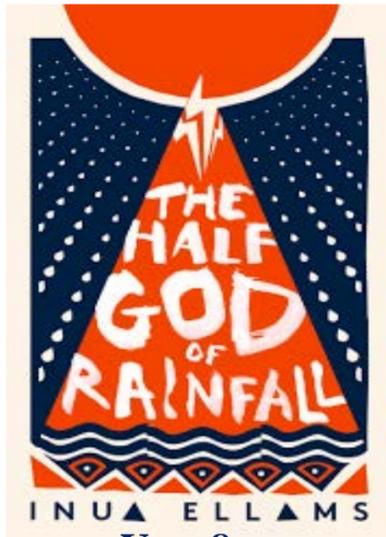


## Teachers reading...

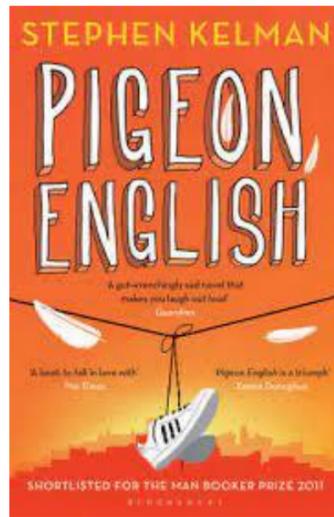
The English Team completed 'Closing the Reading Gap' by Alex Quigley (2020) last academic year:



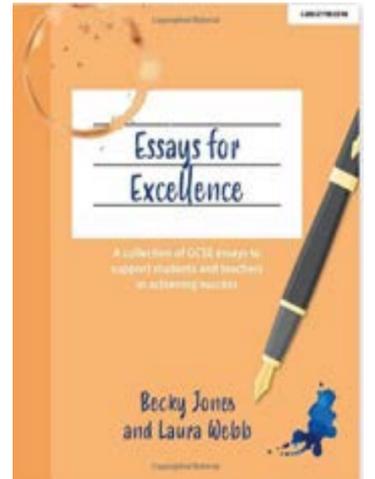
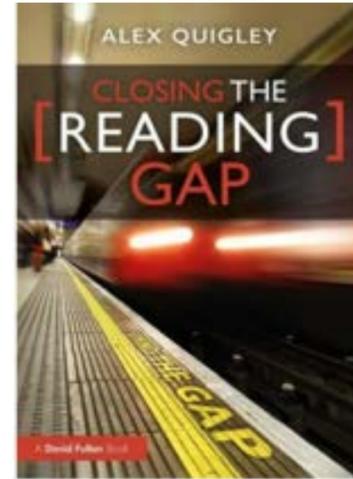
Year 7



Year 8



Year 9

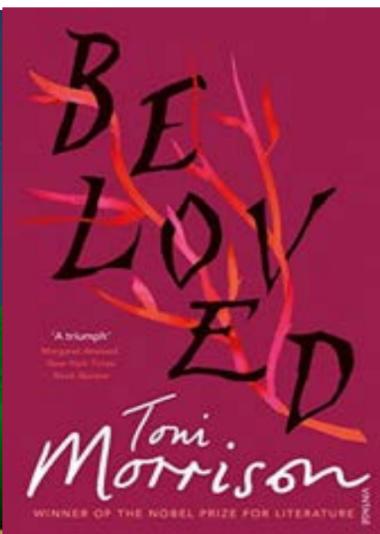


We are now enjoying a new title by fellow English Teachers Laura Jones and Becky Webb 'Essays for Excellence' (2022).

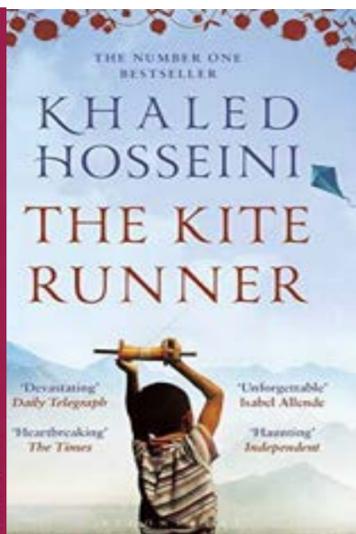
## Christmas reading recommendations by your Teachers...



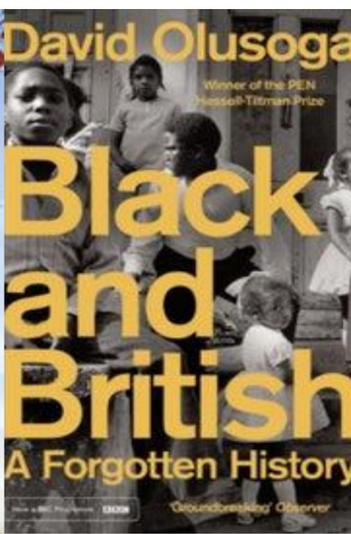
Ms Scotland



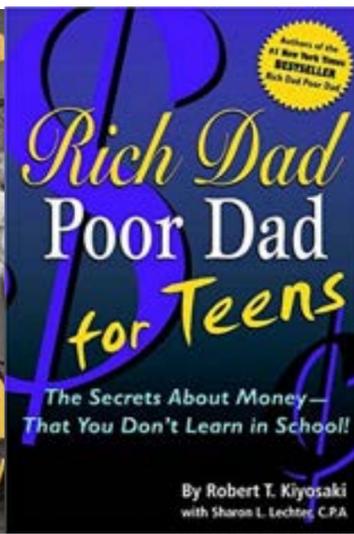
Mrs Walsh



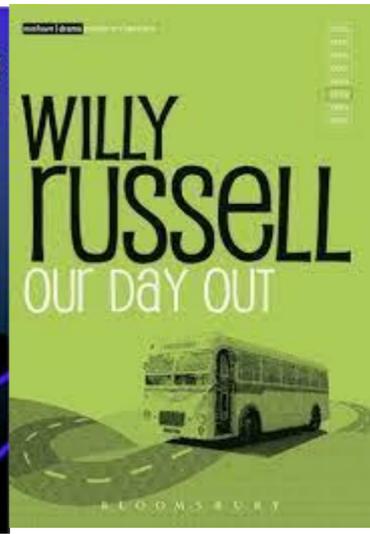
Ms Khalaj



Mr Troisi



Ms Hardy



Ms Jones

## Christmas Reading: At home, online or abroad





# Geography

Well done to Year 11 students for attending after school revision sessions. A range of revision techniques were used to ensure pupils were prepared for their mock GCSE exams. Strategies included Dual Coding for case studies alongside interleaving of exam questions. These tried and tested techniques have proved highly successful in previous years.

**Recap – Rivers – River management**

**Across**

- An artificial lake that forms behind a dam.
- River \_\_\_\_\_ involves restoring straightened channels to their previous meandering pattern slows down water flow.
- Planting trees to increase interception of precipitation, reducing the amount of water that might flow into a river.
- Artificially raising the river banks to increase the cross-sectional area, enabling the river to hold more water.

**Down**

- The type of river management that involves building artificial structures but takes a more sustainable and natural approach to managing rivers.
- The type of river management that involves building artificial structures which try to control natural processes.
- Flood \_\_\_\_\_ channels are constructed to by-pass towns or other high-value land.
- \_\_\_\_\_ straightening involves cutting meanders to create a more efficient channel to increase the transfer of water.
- Floodplain \_\_\_\_\_ involves restricting land uses in high-risk areas so that high-value land uses are far away from flood-prone areas.

**Hard engineering**  
Identify the hard engineering strategies shown below.

**Soft Engineering**  
Identify the soft engineering strategies.

**Factors affecting flood risk**  
Identify the physical (P) and human (H) factors that affect flood risk.

- Precipitation e.g. heavy or prolonged rainfall
- Agricultural practices e.g. ploughing down
- Geology e.g. rapid overland flow over impermeable rocks
- Slope e.g. water travels faster over steep slopes
- Urbanisation e.g. water travels faster over impermeable surfaces
- Deforestation e.g. cutting down trees

**Hydro**  
Annotate the hydrograph.

**Take 10 UK Weather**  
Case study knowledge is important. Learn these 10 facts and apply them to your 6 and 9 mark questions.

- We have 4 distinct seasons of fairly equal length.
- There are 6 air masses that bring different weather to the UK e.g. Polar continental and Tropical Maritime.
- Average temperatures in the UK range from 7°C in the Shetlands to 22°C in London in the summer.
- The south east of the UK experiences the driest weather.
- The wettest place in the UK is Snowdonia in Wales - 3000mm + of rain per year.
- On average it rains 1 in every 3 days in the UK however the amount of rainfall varies from region to region.
- Scotland has shorter winter days and longer summer days than the rest of the UK due to its latitude.
- Sunshine hours are greatest along the south coast of England - 1,750 hours on average.
- The north west of the UK experiences the most rainfall.
- In the winter the daylight hours are shorter than in summer.

**Take 10 Great Green Wall**  
Case study knowledge is important. Learn these 10 facts and apply them to your 6 and 9 mark questions.

- The Great Green Wall stretches from Senegal to Djibouti. It crosses 11 countries.
- It is hoped that it will stop soil erosion in the Sahel and enable farmers to earn a better income.
- It is also hoped that agro-forestry will develop.
- 11 million trees have been planted across 27,000 acres.
- Some communities don't feel that they have been consulted across 9 of the countries.
- The wall was agreed in 2010.
- Native acacia trees and fruit and nut trees have been planted.
- In Niger the GGW has been a success but they started 25 years before 2010.
- Senegal wants to develop eco-tourism to stimulate economic growth.
- In some locations low populations mean that the trees cannot be cared for.

This term we say goodbye to Mr Banks our PGCE student from Roehampton. Mr Banks has taught a range of classes at both KS3 and KS4. We would like to thank him for all his hard work and wish him good luck at his next placement.





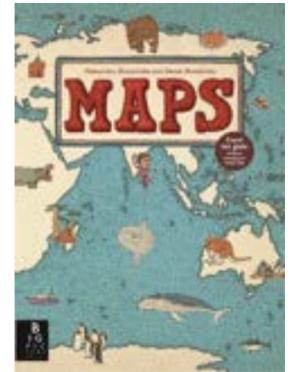
# GEOGRAPHERS READ TO SUCCEED



Super geographers check out the books on the list below to widen your geographical knowledge.

## Year 7 - What makes a place amazing?

- Alastair Humphreys: Alastair Humphreys' great adventurers.
- Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielińska: Maps.



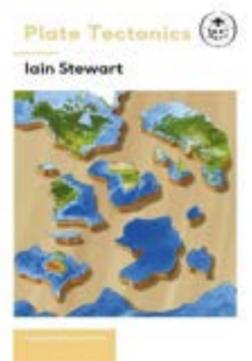
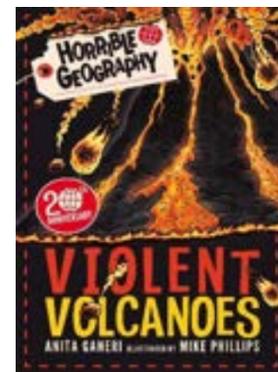
## Year 8 – What are tropical storms?

- Andrew Langley: Hurricane: Perspectives on storm disasters.
- Louise and Richard Spilsbury: Hurricanes – nature unleashed.



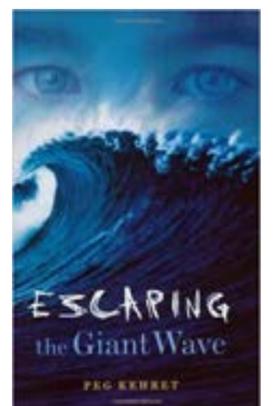
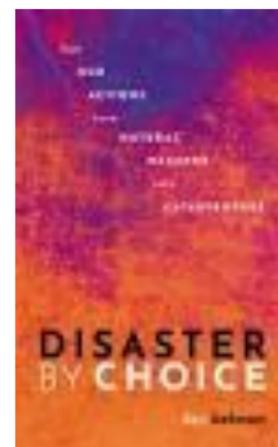
## Year 9 - How are lives shaped by volcanoes?

- Anita Ganeri: Violent volcanoes.
- Iain Stewart: Plate Tectonics: A ladybird expert book.



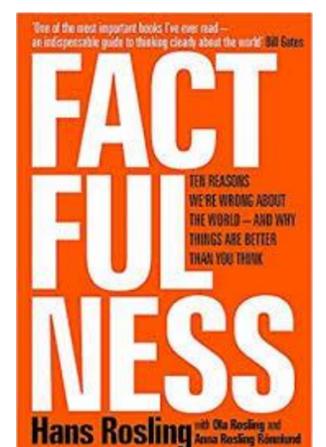
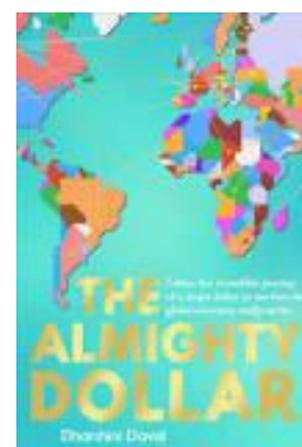
## Year 10 - Tectonic hazards

- Ilan Kelman: Disaster by choice\*.
- Kehret: Escaping the giant wave.



## Year 11 – Development

- Dharshini David: The almighty dollar.
- Hans Rosling: Factfulness.



# Reading for Pleasure

Reading that we do of our own free will, anticipating the happiness that we will get from the act of reading

Accelerated Reader is used to help students to choose books within their reading level. This term students have worked hard to exceed their personalised targets. Congratulations to the following students

**Year 7:** Ajani Adofo, Mohamed Faisal Ali, Shahzeeb Ali, Tomas Alves De Souza, Aatheesanan Anajmugan, Erfan Bahrami, Joshua Cabantes, Taleywa Golding, Dominic Gomes-Bottle, Prince Kantilal, Rayan Kashefi, Adam Khalifa, Makai Kibuuka-Musoke, Ralston Mascarenhas, Zain Mohamed, **Ammar Moussawi**, Nathan Caleb, Matheus Ribeiro De Camargo, Ezequiel Alexandre Santos, Andre Victor Sena Maia, Sviatoslav Slobodian, Ziani Karim Thomas-Gaye, Muhammed Yasin, Victor Zeidan,  
**Year 8:** **Jamal Akinade**, Sayed E Alavi, Ilyas Awale, **Alexandros Baldwin**, Artur Bizareli, Eden Eyison, **Abel Foldi**, James Hamill, Zakaria Hasan, Nur Ibrahim, Nicky Jose, Sanchay Kantharuban, Javin Kotey, Sebastian Kowalski, Vitalii Lemak, Fabrizio Leonardi, Pedro A Lima, Joshua Lopez Delgado, James McAveety, **Zyad Mekky**, Omar Mtawei, Victor Perez Hernandez, Masinga Phambu, **Aarush Raut**, **Abubakar Sadat**, Fatah Sales Sadat, Yienz Taika, Joao Pedro Vidal, Muhammed Shaji, Ishan Vaishya, Yusuf Zaheer-Flaherty, Victor Zeidan,

**Year 9:** **Joshua Archer**, David Gomindes, Milner Kalenga, Harshkumar Patel, Dawson Pereira, David Portariuc, **Krish Savji**, Dejuan Scott-Lester, Junior Charles Stephens, Mushi Tan,

**Year 10:** Andrei Nistor, Dario Saldanha,

**Students in purple have met two targets**

## Reading at home

Keep your child reading this holiday. All reading should be celebrated. Reading can involve books, magazines, comics, the internet, brochures, plans, research, letters, instructions. Here are some tips to keep your child motivated during the summer holidays

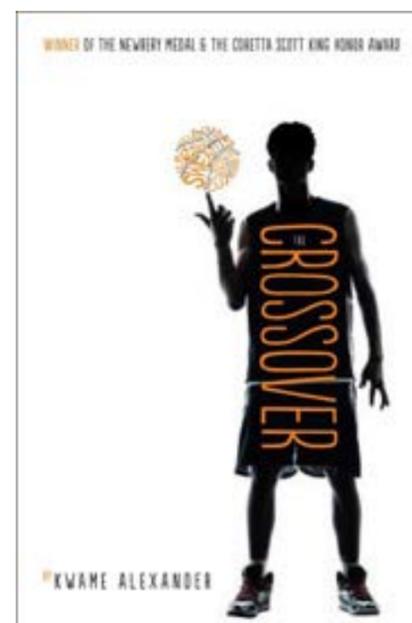
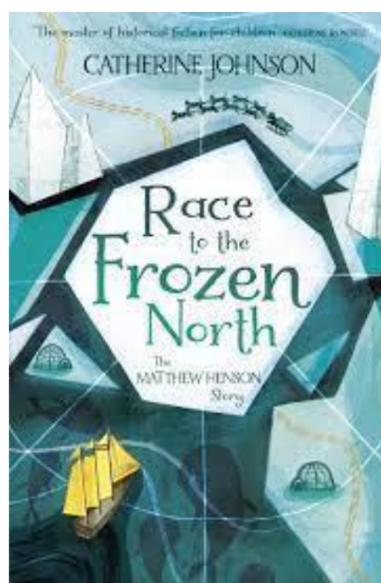
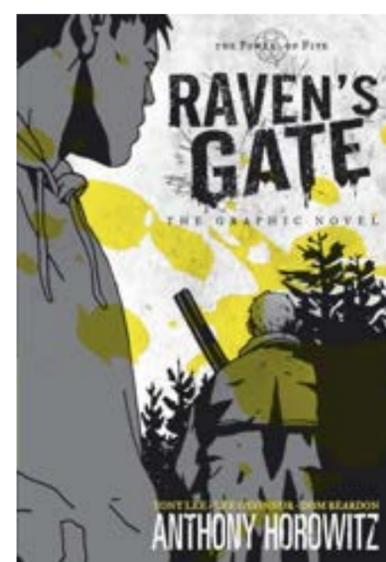
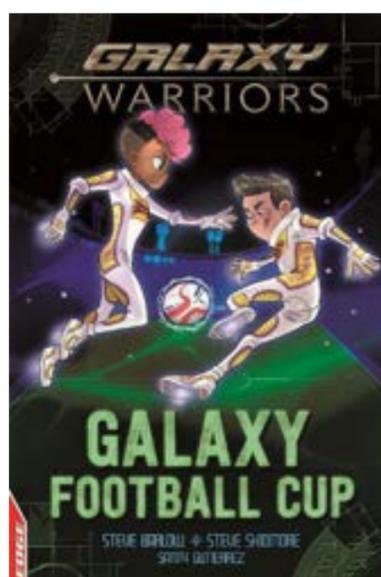
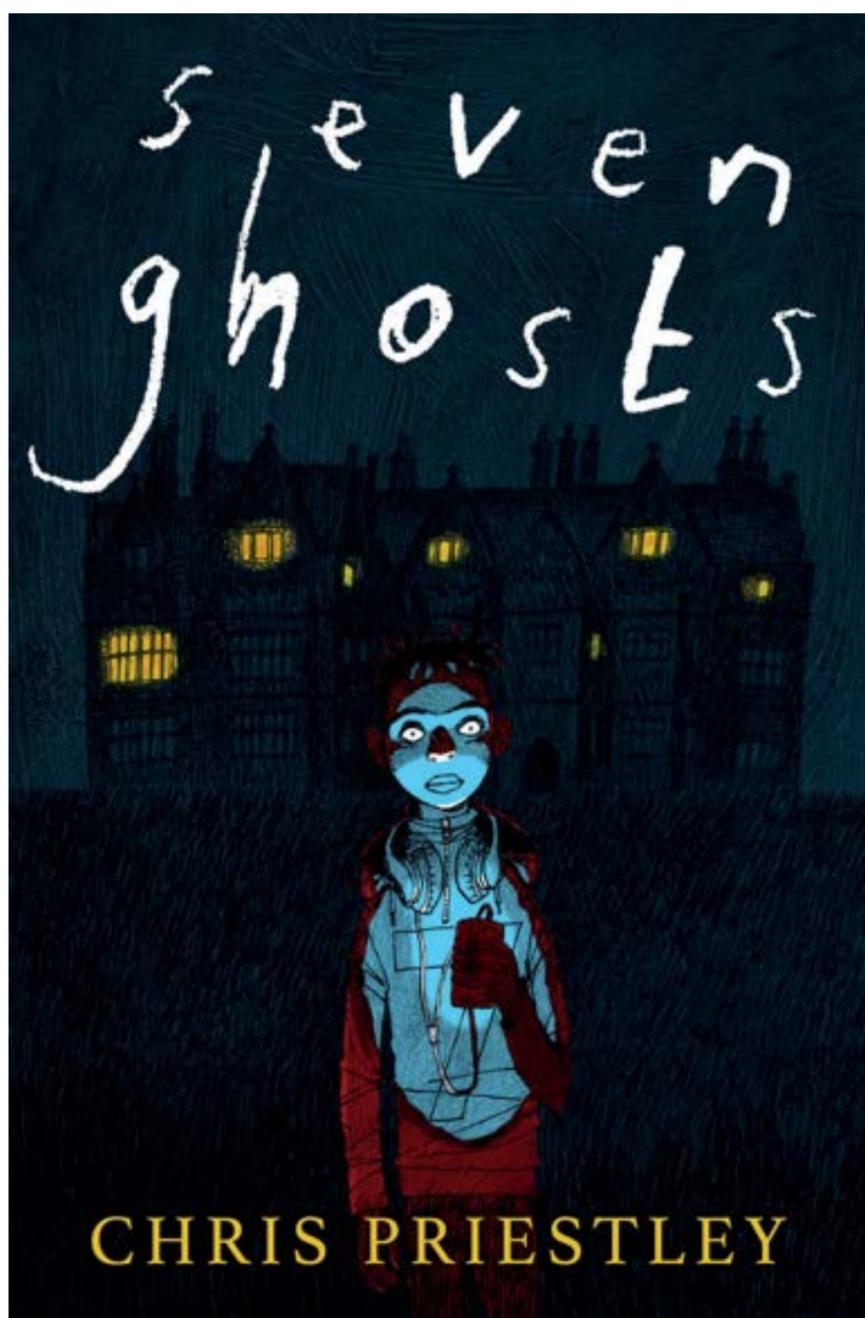
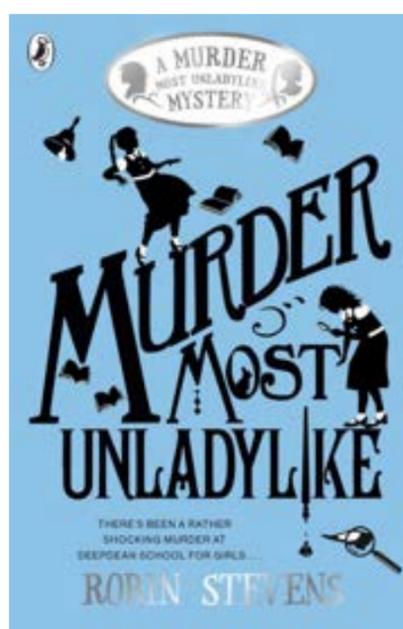
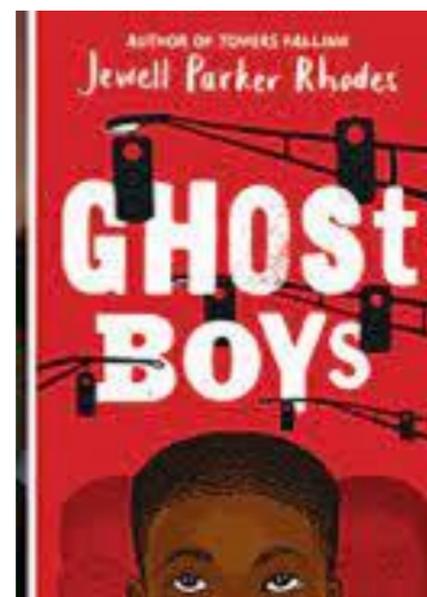
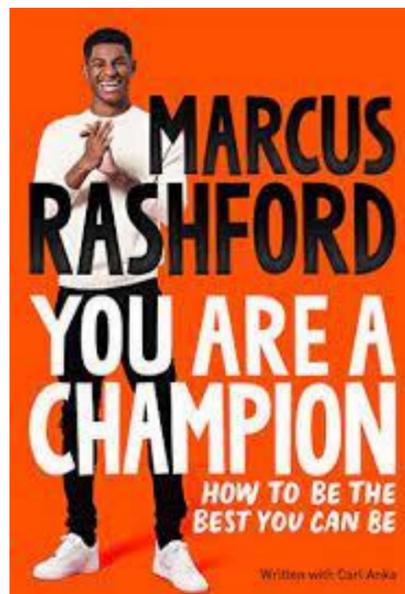
1. Set aside time daily
2. Take turns in reading
3. Play book bingo - challenge your children to read six different types of books
4. Swap books with friends or visit the library

Visit the <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/> for fantastic lists of age appropriate books.



# Winter Term Top 10 Most Borrowed Books: how many have you read?

1. **Seven Ghosts** Chris Priestley
2. **You Are a Champion: How to be the Best You Can Be** Marcus Rashford
3. **Ghost Boys** Jewell Parker Rhodes
4. **Murder Most Unladylike** Robin Stevens
5. **Kid Force 3: Alien Kidnap** Tony Bradman
6. **Galaxy Football Club** Steve Barlow
7. **The Power of Five: Raven's Gate - The Graphic Novel**, Anthony Horowitz
8. **Race to the Frozen North** Catherine Johnson
9. **The Clown and the Clam** Jamie Hex
10. **The Crossover** Kwame Alexander





**Our Goals:**

- Protect The Coral Reefs.
- Develop Kelp Farming.
- Sustain Fishing By Managing Fish Stocks.
- Reduce Ocean Pollution.

**Did You Know?**

- The ocean covers more than 70 percent of the earth's surface.
- Coral creates its own "skeleton" by producing coral structures that protect the organs found in coral.
- The deepest part of the ocean is called the Mariana Trench, which is around 7 miles deep and is located in the South Pacific Ocean.
- The sea is what makes the ocean blue.



**SAVE THE OCEANS**

**HELP THE TEAM SAVE OCEAN**



**TEAM SAVING OCEANS**

- Sustain fishing by managing fish stocks
- Develop kelp farming
- Protect coral reefs
- Plastic is the most harmful rubbish in the oceans...
- Over a million sea birds die due to the rubbish in the oceans...
- The island of rubbish...the term Pacific trash



**BEST OCEANS**



**WILD LANDS**

**Facts about trees**

Our lives are not complete without the tree. The tree is really helpful to us. We get produce, medications, rubber, wood, paper, etc.

Trees purify the air we breathe.

absorbs dangerous carbon dioxide that is prevalent in the atmosphere.

and subsequently allow the environment to breathe easier.

Trees are also animals only homes (if they live in the wild i guess)so that's why they are so important



**5 reasons Why you shouldn't cut down trees**

1. Trees Turn Carbon Dioxide into Oxygen
2. Trees Clean the Air
3. Trees Contain Medicine
4. Trees Provide Beauty
5. Trees Provide an Energy Break

**Our Air**

*Our Mission*

- To develop cleaner air travel
- Provide electric ground vehicles
- Support people to ride bikes more often

*Cleaner Air Travel*

Our top priority is to develop cleaner air travel around the world, after all, air is the most important thing in our life. As you can see in the picture to the right, aeroplanes produce a lot of smoke and gases.

**Wild Lands**

**Our Missions**

- Mission 1: To protect our forests from devastation.
- Mission 2: To defend all creatures within their habitats.
- Mission 3: To plant trees in where they are needed.

**What can we do?**

We can, instead of moving on to the next page in your school book, use the most of the page you were on. We could protest or stop forests from being cut down. You could volunteer for a group project that has to do with planting trees.

**Air Pollution**

**Our Air Pollutions Missions**

- Clean air by reducing road vehicle pollution
- Increase offshore wind farms for cleaner electricity
- Develop cleaner air travel solution
- 91% of the world's population are breathing polluted air every day
- At least 1 in 10 people die from air pollution -related diseases
- Air pollution is a greater threat to life expectancy than smoking ,HIV or War.

**Why We Need More Electric Cars And Boats?**

We Need more electric cars and boats because it is less expensive and it is electric and will not require gas. Also, because it will not create more pollution than gas cars. So then we can have less people dying from air pollution-diseases. So if we create more electric cars that are less expensive will have a great earth and we will have a healthy life.



**Computer Science**

**What is our mission?**

1)Our mission is to help the trees and the land of our world we need to clean our world there are fire and cutting down trees we need oxygen to live on this earth if we stop and think about it first and we start helping our earth

**How can we help?**

You can help by donating to us. Every donate we plant a tree. we have a google but every time you visit a website a tree is planted and when you donate money we plant so lets say you donated £50 we plant 20 trees if you donated £20 or £30 we plant 10 or 15 trees and if you donate just £5 or £1 we plant 5 or 1 have a look of this picture see how big the fire is and some can get near our homes so start donating or joining our google tree helpo.



**Our air our aims**

- Clean air by reducing road vehicle pollution
- Increase offshore wind farms for cleaner electricity
- Develop cleaner air travel solutions

**How u can help**

- Some pollutants directly contribute to global warming
- Outdoor air pollution causes around 4.2million early deaths every year
- Air pollution negatively impacts a child's physical health and their right to education and to play



Source: clean air fund



This term, the Year 7s learned how to create presentations using Google Slides. They selected an environmental cause and created a poster and presentation, representing a charity.

Here are some examples from Adryel, Ezequiel, Gabriel, Joseph, Joshua, Prince, Rayan and Taleywa.



## Computer Science

The Year 9s learned how to create basic programs using Python. They edited images, by applying filters, using only Python coding.

Here are some examples from Darien, Leonardo, Matheus, Mushi, Ron, Don'Ice, Ricco, David, Junior, Giovanni and Kiyane.

# BUSINESS STUDIES

Firstly, Mr. Albert and Mr Connors would like to wish you all a happy and healthy festive season.

We hope that you all enjoy a good rest and spend some good quality time with those dear to you.

This Year has brought us closer to normality and we think that, as always, our students have been fantastic! You deserve a good rest. See you all in January!

# What have we been up to?

Our Year 10 students have been lucky enough to receive a personalised money management course from Sacha who works for Financial Harmony.

This financial literacy programme for young people aged between 14 to 18 years old aims to create a positive relationship with money and personal finance with the hopes to create discipline around self-care and money management throughout their lives in addition to providing access to tools and resources.

As well as teaching fundamental financial literacy skills the programme is designed in a way to assist young people bridge the gap between teen to adulthood, providing the foreknowledge and hands on experience of using income to fund their chosen lifestyles.

The students have really enjoyed the course thus far and have gained valuable knowledge which will only benefit them in later life. We would like to offer our sincere thanks to Sacha and her team for the course thus far and look forward to continue working with her in the future.

## Financial Harmony Course for Parents

There are currently two courses that will be starting in January 2023. One is face to face (at The Granville) and the other is online. I have attached both posters and added some wording below in case it's needed for your literature. Please amend as required:

These courses are free for parents in Brent and have been designed to provide the skills and tools to:

- Improve money management skills,
- Increase financial awareness including tips, hints and rights; and
- Cost cutting, debt reduction and making savings



Previous parents have said:

"The "Money Secrets Uncovered course" delivered by Sacha is really eye opening. I wish I could have done it years ago. Thanks to her interpersonal skills, the content is quite easy to understand, interactive and just what you need to turn your life around. I felt so empowered by all the knowledge I gained, and it feels good."

"I learnt a lot about money management, investments, saving, difference in accounts and how to save money, this is one of the best courses I have attended. Sacha's patient, explains everything so you can understand and you receive a certificate at the end. Sacha sits with you and has a one to one with you to see how you are managing, very good course. This course helps everyone, young, middle age and old. It helps you to get to grips with your finances and it teaches you about the banking system."

For more information and to register, parents can contact Sacha at Financial Harmony on 07831 662005 or email [myfinancialharmony@gmail.com](mailto:myfinancialharmony@gmail.com)

FINANCIALLY THRIVE  
WITH A MONEY COACH

FACE TO FACE  
SESSIONS

# MONEY SECRETS UNCOVERED

 MON & WED'S  
FROM 9TH TO 25TH  
JANUARY 2023

 TIME  
10:00AM TO 12:00 PM

 THE GRANVILLE  
140 CARLTON  
VALE, NW6 5HE

**JOIN NOW**

Limited  
spaces

In partnership  
with



**THE GRANVILLE**  
SOUTH KILBURN TRUST



Financial Harmony

FREE



Savings tricks, money tips, debt  
reduction and much more!

6 - session finance course  
plus a 1-2-1 meeting for  
parents in Brent.

Call 07831662005

Email:

[sacha@financialharmony.co.uk](mailto:sacha@financialharmony.co.uk)

Book now



SCAN ME

**FINANCIALLY THRIVE  
WITH A MONEY COACH**

**ONLINE SESSIONS**



**FREE**

# **MONEY SECRETS UNCOVERED**



**EACH THURSDAY -  
12TH JAN 2023 TO  
23RD FEB 2023**



**TIME  
6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM**



**ONLINE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

**JOIN NOW**

**Limited  
spaces**

**Savings tricks, money tips, debt  
reduction and much more!**

**6 - session finance course  
plus a 1-2-1 meeting for  
parents in Brent**

**In partnership  
with**



**Call 07831662005**

**Email:**

**sacha@financialharmony.co.uk**



**SCAN ME**

# 1p Savings Challenge!

Again we would like to introduce you to the 1p Savings challenge that we introduced this last year. How many of you gave it a go?

The New Year is the best time to develop a new habit. What we are suggesting is that you take part in the 1p challenge.

Here is how it works:

Each day you save what you saved the day before, plus just 1p more. So you start by saving 1p, then 2p, then 3p a day – right the way up to £3.65 by the end of December.

If you start on 1 January, then by 31 December you'll have saved a huge total of £667.99 – just by saving your pennies.

If you want to get involved speak to Mr Connors who will print you off a chart that you can use to track your progress!





## Performing Arts Christmas 2022

**“Little Amal embodies a dimension of our human family that is travelling lost, at risk and in danger.” (Cardinal Vincent Nichols’ Christmas Message 2022)**

The Performing Arts Department of Newman Catholic College is honoured to have supported Little Amal at the earliest stages of her development, in our Drama Studio, in 2019

(From the *Brent and Kilburn Times* 15th, December 2021 by Juliette Fevre)

### **“The Willesden students who inspired a 3.5puppet's 8,000km walk from Syria”**

‘Good Chance theatre company created Little Amal having been involved with Newman Catholic School and hearing from pupils who also had memories of growing up in Syria.

As Little Amal’s 8,000km journey came to an end a month ago, Newman School recalled its collaboration with Good Chance, which started in 2018.

At the time, Dina Mousawi, creative producer at Good Chance Theatre and two artistic directors, Joe Robertson and Joe Murphy, set up a workshop to involve students in the creation of the puppet.

Among the students were Syrian-born Ghufran Al Taisnah and Nour Al Wadi, who would later be interns at Good Chance Theatre.

Behind the creation of the character of Little Amal, a story had to be made up involving a past, hobbies, and a personality.

Dina said: “Nour and Ghufran were vital in that because they lived in Syria and they know what it looks like to be an eight-year-old in Syria.”

Building a life from scratch starts with the smallest things, with details. What game does Little Amal love? What are her fears, dreams, hopes? Nour and Ghufran started to recall their childhoods in Syria.

When both girls were younger, families would go to large parks, or to the Citadel in Aleppo, to have picnics or barbecues until the early hours of the morning. This was a favourite thing to do for many children. And, naturally, for Little Amal as well.

Damas’ streets were filled with jasmine trees, it’s a smell that Little Amal loves. In summer, the character was written to enjoy sleeping on rooftops and watching the stars.

One day, the girls showed the crew how with a tissue, they made dolls, twisting the corners and ends to make the head, the waist, and arms. Time passed by, and Little Amal’s personality was drawn.

Ghufran and Nour namely witnessed Little Amal’s very first steps in a lavender field in Kent.

Shortly after Little Amal arrived in England, a group of Syrian students led by Mrs Beirne-Francis and Mrs Tetley, went to Lewisham to meet the now internationally known puppet.

It was an opportunity for them to listen to their parents’ experiences: “It shows us what journey our families had to go through to bring us here,” said one of them.

For instance, Yasmin and Yoni’s father had been lost in the mountains for 11 days with a group of people, with no water, while following smugglers.

Students’ stories all roughly follow the same narrative: fleeing the war, the dad was the one who went ahead. In England, he would obtain visas for his children and their mums. Most of them arrived in England when they were 10.

Mahmud’s story differs nevertheless, he had to do his very own walk with his mum and brother. He left Syria in 2014 to stay a few months in Lebanon and Turkey. They travelled for nine days on a boat to Italy where they stayed a few weeks before finally arriving in England. He was 11 at the time.

Little Amal had not been welcomed everywhere. In Greece and France, she faced hostility.

Students also recall being picked on a lot by other children when they arrived in England.

Language being the major issue: “Because you don’t speak English, you can’t defend yourself.”

Nour Al Wadi remembers how hard it was, to go to school, smile, laugh and do her homework like a normal child when every other day she was told that a new person she knew died in Syria. Mohammed added: “Here we have to act as we fit.”

Nour was surprised to see how people engage with Little Amal, but she’s doubtful: ‘Would you treat a real child like this? Would a real child be treated like this soulless puppet? Would they be equal?’

For Yasmin, the puppet is empowering: ‘It shows Syrians they can do it, that they can come to Europe.’

The name Amal means ‘hope’ in Arabic. Dina from Good Chance Theatre said: “I hope that we could live in a tolerant society where everybody has hope and understanding and empathy of the people in different situations to themselves.”

Mohammed, from Newman School, has hope for a “better life” for foreigners coming here.

To that extent, telling and listening to asylum-seekers stories seem vital.”





The New York Times

# Little Amal Arrives in New York, With a Message of Hope and Humanity

The 12-foot-tall Syrian refugee puppet traveled from Turkey to Britain last year. Now, she will spend nearly three weeks in the five boroughs taking part in numerous events.

Then Year 13 student (and now NCC staff member) Yonis Albadie with Little Amal in Lewisham, October 2021



## Employer Engagement in Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department ensures that the courses and wider employer engagement programmes that we continue to deliver enable our young people to build a better future.

# HS2



It might not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think about Performing Arts, however, we have built firm relationships with various teams working on the HS2 train link, from London, to Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds. In recent weeks a group of apprentice engineers delivered a workshop on surveying a site. It was a practical workshop as well as highly informative event about their industry. The message to our young people is to strive to further improve their written and verbal communication skills as well as their confidence. All areas, that studying Performing Arts address.



The team from HS2 strongly encouraged our students to consider the apprenticeship route., University is not for everyone.





## University Destinations having studied Performing Arts

It was with great pride that we welcomed Franz David Agcaoili, our Apprentice Live Venue Technician back, He has just completed his first term at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama; studying for a degree in Production Arts.



**GUILD  
HALL**  
SCHOOL



Hawraa Mtawe, who received a Merit for her Extended Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts, has just completed her first term at St Mary's in Twickenham, studying for her LLB. We are very proud of her achievements.

## **RADA**

Gabriel Viera YR13, has auditioned for the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and is awaiting the results. He has applied to study Acting at University. In the opening paragraph of his Personal Statement he demonstrates the breadth of experience he has gained at NCC.. There are a wealth of Employer Engagement opportunities available to students studying an Extended Diploma in Performing Arts, here at NCC.

“ I was able to use my physical theatre skills in the musical ‘*Cabaret Havana*’, where I successfully auditioned for a role with the British Youth Music Theatre. I raised the funds to pay for my training by running events for the community in my school,i.e performing traditional South American dance. Throughout my sixth-form studies, I have taken the roles of extras in different films, for example, *Heart of Stone*. a feature film, starring Jamie Dornan and Gal Gadot. I have just completed a commercial with H&M promoting their Autumn clothing range 2023.

. All of these experiences have allowed me the opportunity to develop different skills and learn what it's like to work with people in different industries.”



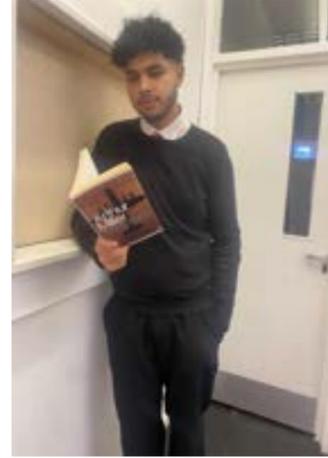
YR 13 Performing a physical piece based on *Jack and the Beanstalk*





Gabriel Rato has completed his UCAS form and has offers from Greenwich, UAL and Manchester to study Business Marketing. Gabriel's extensive work in the study of customer behaviour in the theatre industry, and research into the financial and marketing structures in this business, have inspired him to apply for a degree in Marketing.

Aliya Salat, who gained a Distinction, Distinction Merit in her Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts and completed her Level 3 in Applied Science, now works at NCC as a Lab Technician. She graduated her Apprenticeship from Birmingham City University. In October.



### **Great British Bake Off- The Musical: coming to the West End**

Exciting news: *Great British Bake Off- The Musical* is transferring to the Noel Coward Theatre on the West End in February, with tickets having already sold out on many days.

Writer Jake Brunger visited Newman last November and spoke to former students (now staff member) Yonis Albadie, as well as Amer Alanda, Mahmoud Al-Hawamda and Ahmed Al Farrouh. This conversation was fundamental in shaping the character of Hassan, a Syrian student. Some of 'Hassan's' lines were spoken by Yonis himself during his conversation with Jake Brunger. Yonis met Aharon Raynor, who plays this student when he went to see the musical, during the Cheltenham run in July.

We are extremely proud and grateful that Yonis and friends were willing to share their experiences of life in the UK and lend authenticity to Hassan's story. Most importantly they have offered a vital platform to demonstrate the courage, humour, tenacity, ambition, grace and generosity of the many children and teenagers who have had to leave their homes to create a new life in Britain. More information can be found here: <https://www.noelcowardtheatre.co.uk/whats-on/the-great-british-bake-off-musical>



### **Complicite Theatre**

The Performing Arts Department is excited to announce that we have been selected by Complicite theatre to be a main partner in their Creative Engagement Project, exploring communities and their engagement with the natural world. This project will involve weekly devising workshops with one of Complicite's Associates, a nature expedition, a Devising Week in Spring Half Term and will culminate in a festival to share the devised work and finally a viewing of the premiere of Complicite's latest production: *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*.

*Drive Your Plow* is an adaptation of a novel by Polish writer, Olga Tokarczuk, and is the first production since the death of Complicite founder, Marcello Magni and will star his wife Kathryn Hunter and is directed by his co-founder and Artistic Director and actor Simon McBurney (*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, *The Last King of Scotland*, *Mission Impossible*, *The Loudest Voice*, *Rev*).

Newman Catholic College is privileged to be selected by Complicite for their most ambitious school engagement project to date. We very much look forward to seeing what our talented and creative Year 13 students (13 Benedict and 13 Extended Diploma) produce for this project. More information Drive Your Plow can be found here: <https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2023/event/complicite-drive-your-plow-over-the-bones-of-the-dead>



# Design and Technology

## Year 9 – Resistant Materials – Mechanical Toy



Year 9 Resistant Materials students proudly displaying their mechanical toys.

# Year 9– Resistant Materials – Mechanical Toy



Year 9 students assembling and painting their mechanical toys.

## Year 8 Resistant Materials- Clock Project



Year 8 clocks on display.



Year 8 assembling their clocks.

## Key Stage 3 – Food Technology



Alex made some cupcakes...



Hubert made some bread rolls...



Caelan made delicious savoury rice, topped with plum tomatoes

## Key Stage 4 – Food Technology



Callum made a lovely strawberry cheesecake...



Banana Bread made by Adrian....

# Christmas traditions in

## COLOMBIA:

Students in KS3, but also in KS4, learn about different traditions from a wide range of Spanish speaking countries, including Spain. One of those countries is Colombia. In year 9, the cultural capital input is focused on Colombia and since it is Christmas time, I took the opportunity to introduce some of the typical and more important traditions in Christmas in Colombia. I hope you enjoy and learn something that you did not know.

Miss Sanz

Christmas in Colombia is not just a day, it's a season, but then when does the Christmas season start?

Well, officially the Christmas season starts on the 7th December with "El día de las velitas" (Little Candles Day).

Houses and streets are decorated with candles, lanterns and lots of lights. Some people design and hang their own cardboard lanterns, especially in smaller towns. There are also big firework displays, music and foods. But, arguably, we can say that the Christmas season starts a bit before, around the end of November but no specific date. How is that?

Colombian families gather together to set up their "arbolito de navidad" (Christmas tree, they use diminutives in Colombian (Spanish) and other decorations at home. Apart from the

"arbolito de navidad", the second most important decoration is "El pesebre"

(the nativity scene). For Colombians, it's important to set up the whole nativity scene -including the landscape- next to the Christmas tree.

From the 16th December until the 24th December, they do something in Colombia called "La novena de aguinaldos" (Christmas advent prayer). They normally just say "La novena", which literally means "ninth".

For the nine nights leading up to Christmas, people gather in each other's homes, traditionally to recite an old Christmas prayer. "Novenas" also take place at people's offices, malls, and public spaces. During a novena, be prepared to eat traditional Colombian Christmas foods and to sing traditional Christmas music, known as "villancicos" (carols).



If you think Christmas in Colombia starts by stumbling down the stairs in your pyjamas, sitting next to the freshly cut tree and opening presents, you are wrong.

While in many Northern European and North American countries Christmas is celebrated on December 25th (Christmas Day), in Colombia and many Latin American countries Christmas is celebrated on December 24th evening - to be more specific, at midnight.

On Christmas night, known as "nochebuena" families pray the last "novena", share a special dinner, and -at midnight- everyone starts opening the presents that Baby Jesus brought.

If you thought the fun ended on December 24, then you haven't celebrated Christmas in Colombia!

Of course, there is another festivity in between Christmas and New Years'.

On the 28th of December, we celebrate something called "El Día de los Inocentes". It is kind of the Colombian version of April fools, where creating humour at your expense is the name of the game.

On this day people play tricks on each other, and even TV channels adapt their programs to this day by showing a lot of blooper shows.

Aguinaldos are those fun little games played by children and adults during the Christmas season.

One of the most popular and commonly played is known as Tres Pies: players try to slip one foot in between the feet of their opponents without them noticing.

Another popular one is Si o No - basically, you can't say one of those words.

People play those games for a few days any time during the Christmas season. They normally agree on certain points and the winner gets a small present.



# Christmas traditions in French speaking countries



## France

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of December, French families traditionally sit around the table for a long, often luxurious meal called a Réveillon. This often goes on until midnight and beyond and comprises of such delicacies as turkey served with chestnuts, you may also find lobster, snails, and oysters on the table, and for dessert, a Bûche de Noël, which is a chocolate yule log.

## Canada

Whilst many Canadian Christmas traditions are similar to what we celebrate in the UK, many French Canadians may also choose to acknowledge Réveillon as well as midnight mass, a special ceremony in which the nativity scene is displayed below a Christmas tree, followed by a large banquet that carries on over the night. Gifts are usually exchanged on new years day.



## Switzerland

On Christmas eve, Swiss families will typically celebrate with a festive meal followed by the revealing of the Christmas tree. The story of the nativity is then retold followed by the favorite alpine Christmas carol, "Stille Nacht," which originated in neighboring Austria. Children will then begin hunting for Christmas presents followed by an attendance of midnight mass.

## Belgium BE

Just as in the UK, Christmas begins with a special meal usually consisting of turkey or game. Christmas markets are very popular in Belgium and one can often be found in most major cities and in some rural spots. Advent runs for four weeks and is symbolized in homes and churches with the display of advent wreaths and the lighting of candles.



## Haiti

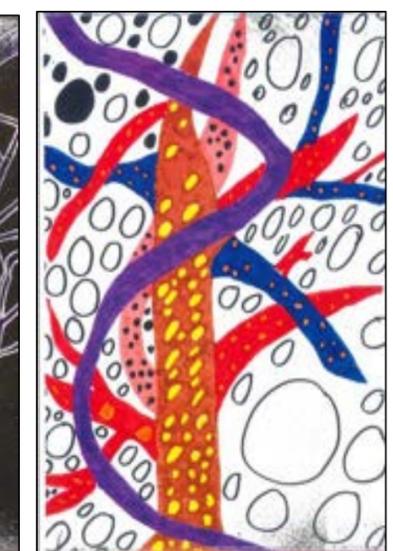
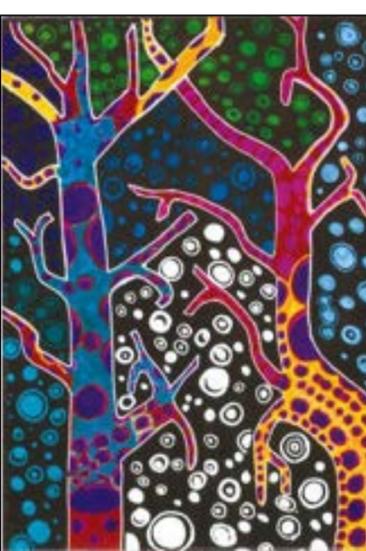
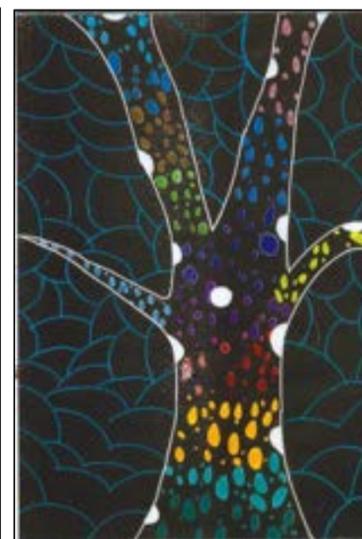
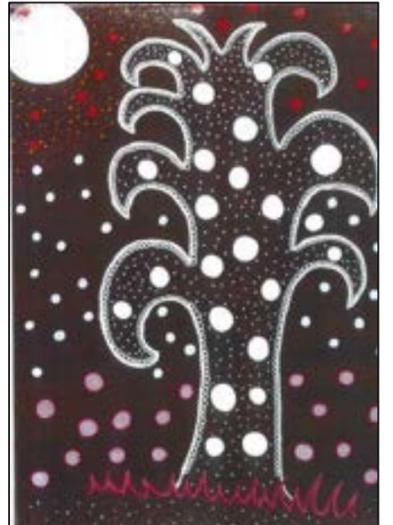
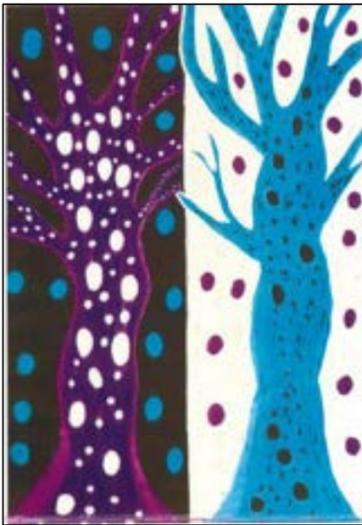
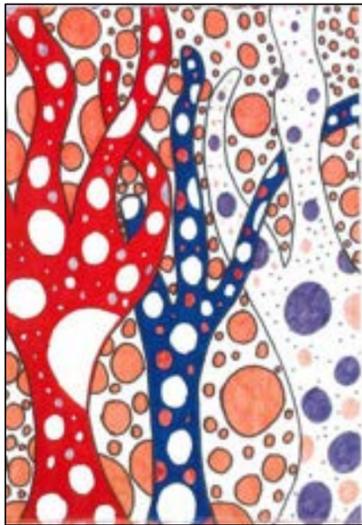
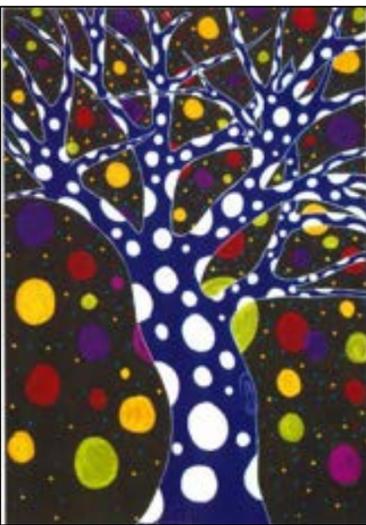
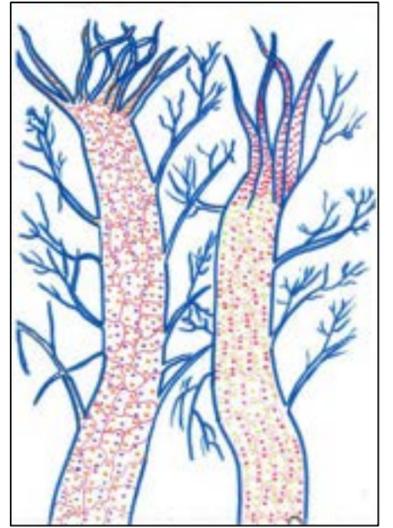
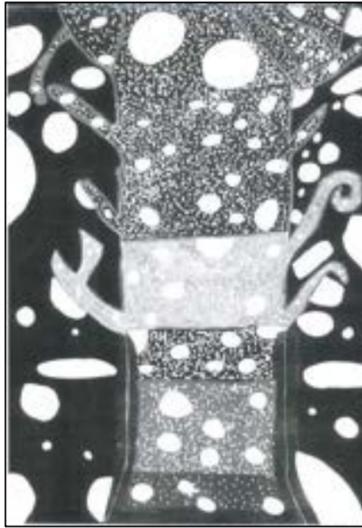
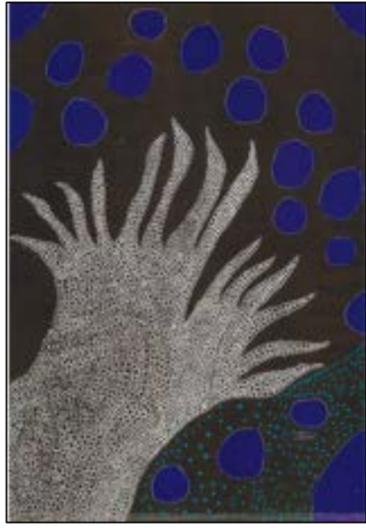
Christmas is usually celebrated on Christmas Eve in Haiti with many Haitians going to midnight mass. At midnight the traditional song "Minuit Chrétien" is sung by everyone in the assembly. The festivities traditionally continue until New Year's Eve which is celebrated with fireworks music and eating Pumpkin soup, a symbol of Haitian independence.

# ART

## These are 12 Paul's 'Trees in the Snow' inspired by Yayoi Kusama



Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese contemporary artist who works in sculpture and installation, but is also active in painting, performance, video art, fashion, poetry, fiction and other arts. Her work is based in conceptual art and shows some attributes of feminism, minimalism, surrealism, Art Brut, PopArt and abstract expressionism. She is one of the most important living artists to come out of Japan.





# Refugee Project Interventions

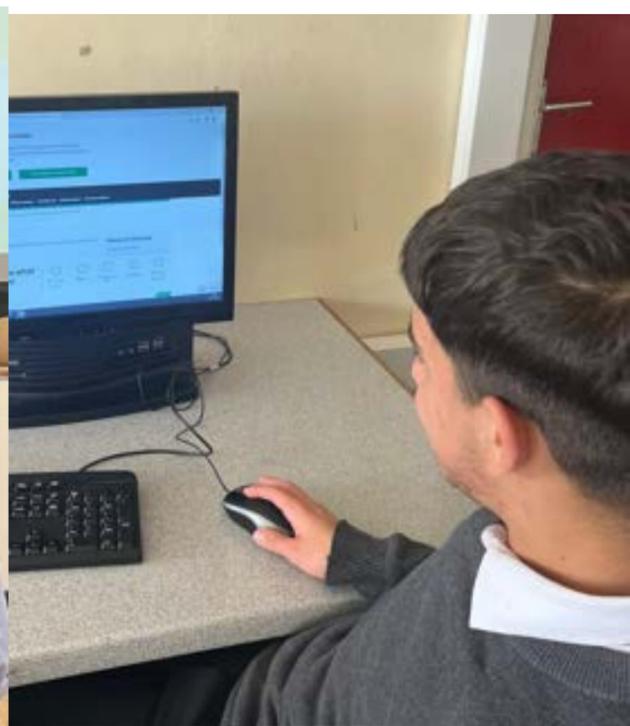
We currently have around 105 refugee and asylum seeking students in our school coming from Afghanistan, Albania, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Iran, Kurdistan, Kuwait, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen. Of these we have 16 Looked after Children here without any family. These students are spread out through the different years and have differing abilities.

In order to help them to adjust, integrate and reduce isolation we offer a number of different interventions in the year for the students and families.

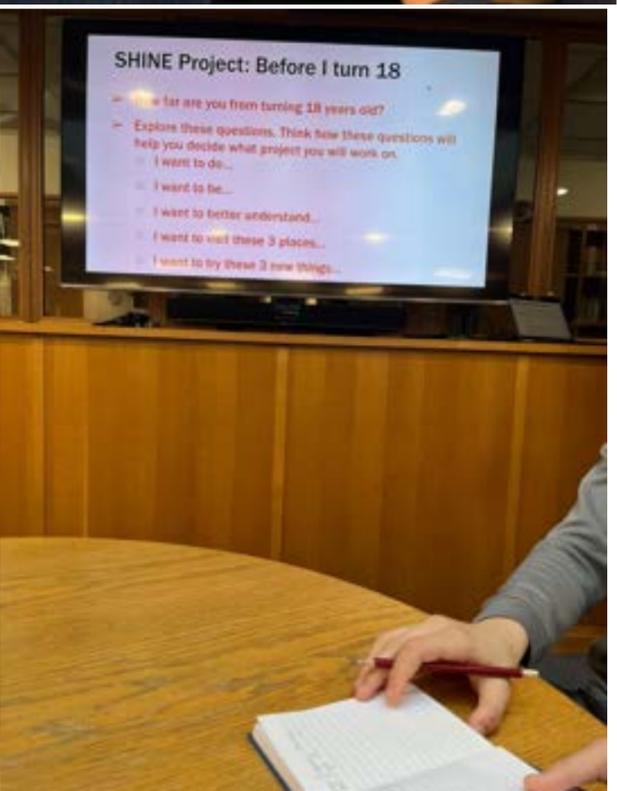
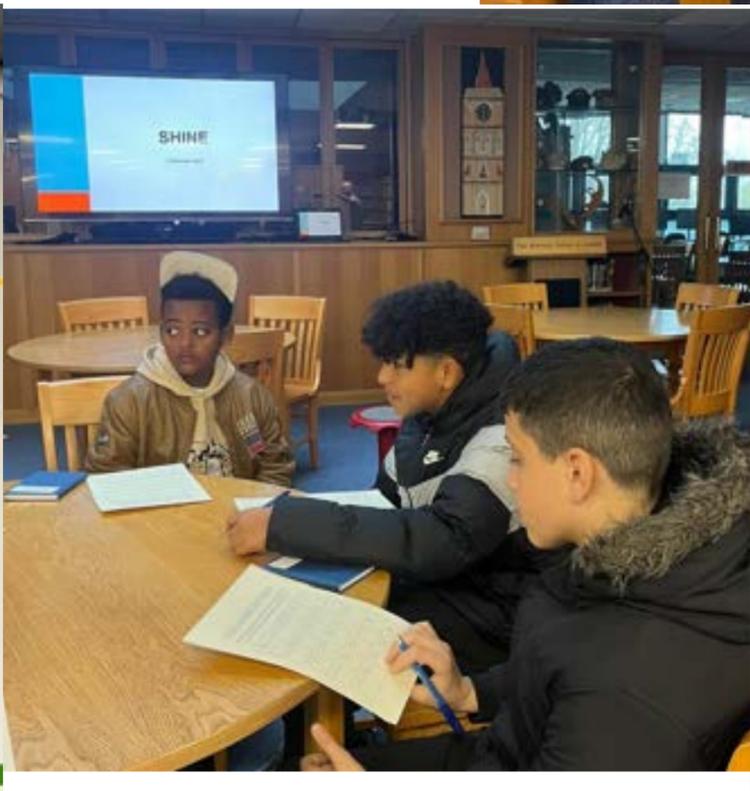




**PLIAS-** Careers advice with an organisation that aim to reduce the risk of exclusion. They provide support looking into future education, jobs and CV writing. PLIAS also ran a girls assembly for our students on identifying grooming and abuse in relationships, focusing on consent and empowerment.



**SHINE** – a Saturday morning workshop at the American School London. These weekly workshops provide our students with opportunities they would not normally have, from meeting authors to robotics to textiles and much more! This years theme is *'Before I am 18...'*



**Bang Edutainment** – Bang run two workshops for us at the moment on Vital Skills (Digital Literacy) and Stacks (Financial Literacy). They are learning key information to improve their financial management, protect their future, use computers and social media to their advantage.

**BANG**



**Pet Therapy/ Read2Dogs-** A literacy and therapy intervention that allows students to share in a safe space. It is proven that reading to dogs helps build confidence in literacy skills and many students feel safer in the presence of an animal leading them to be more likely to share.

**Forest and Friends** — A group of 10 EAL, Refugee and Asylum Seeking and SEN students attend a weekly forestry school in Roundwood park. They focus on self leading, healthy boundaries, imagination and learning in nature.



**Paiwand Boys Group** — Paiwand Afghan Association run a weekly youth group for our students and newly arrived children. It's a safe space for them to socialise, practice English and learn. This is on Thursdays after school.



**Kew Lights-** As part of their Community Access Scheme, Kew Gardens gave us free tickets to visit their Christmas Kew Lights. We took 18 students to experience something new and explore their new city!



**Winter Wonderland –** Our annual parents trip to Winter Wonderland is a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet each other and explore London without their children so that they feel more comfortable. It gives them a chance to become more engaged with our school.





**Do the Mic Thing** – We had a taster workshop with Steve to introduce music as a way of sharing past trauma. We hope to raise enough funds to start 1:1 workshops next year!

**SATURDAYS** 

**with SPRINGBOARD**

**STARTING 24 SEPTEMBER**  
Running 10am – 3pm  
Every term-time Saturday

Enrol at [bit.ly/springboardrefer](https://bit.ly/springboardrefer)  
Email [info@springboardyouth.com](mailto:info@springboardyouth.com)  
for more info

**Join us to...**

- Practise your English speaking, reading and writing
- Get creative with drama, art and storytelling
- Learn about other cultures, science and the world around us
- Get active with cricket, yoga, football, table tennis and more!

**Springboard Youth Academy** – For all new arrivals to the UK, our partner Springboard offer wonderful opportunities on Saturday Mornings at Newman to practice English, play football and socialise.

**Upcoming:**

Starting in the new term we will have

- A weekly Girls Group on Mondays after school
- A food academy with a chance to obtain an AQA
- Science clubs!

# “I learned how to create and design a CV!”

EAL students enjoyed a day with BANG, an organisation that supports young people to be healthy, thriving and contributing positively to their communities.

“The lessons helped me in many different ways,” explained Osamah. “First of all they helped me to think about the job I want in the future and what I have to do to be able to get this job. The second thing I learned about was my classmates, what they are good at and what they need to develop. It made me understand them much better than before. Lastly, I learned about a Curriculum Vitae (CV) and how to make my own CV.” Mansour agreed that the lessons were helpful. “The teacher was so friendly and he taught us different kinds of lessons. I discovered different websites like Monster, Linked In etc. He discussed my goals, interests, hobbies and many more things about myself. I also learned how to create and design a CV and how to apply for different jobs. I enjoyed learning about the interests, hobbies and goals of my friends too.”

“The skills we learned were vital,” said Abdi. “Before this I didn’t really have any idea about how to search for a job. I also learned about the skills I need and how to apply for jobs.” Adilson said that he learned about computer skills. “The computer skills I learned were how to search for jobs, about CVs and how to create one. A CV tells someone about you and you need to include lots of information on it, then when you apply for a job you give them your CV.”

“It was very interesting to learn about soft skills and hard skills. I learned about which jobs need soft skills and which jobs need hard skills and then I searched online about jobs in the Police. Finally, I created my CV on the computer,” explained Jainik. “I found it useful learning about careers and the type of jobs I can do,” added Willyan. “I learned about what I’m good at and which skills I need to improve.”



**“I learned how to identify my strengths and weaknesses. Doing this helps young people identify and reach their goals. Now I understand why I need a CV and how to write it so that I can apply for jobs.”**

Omar

**“I learned what I am good at and what I need to improve, this will help me get the job I want in the future.”**

Willyan



# “Together we are strong!”

PMB supported Pink Day, in aid of breast cancer research. Anna Helena Miranda enjoyed Pink Day. “On Pink Day, people get together to remember an important cause. Many women go through this and I would like to give the cause all my support. We are helping people who need it and I also like to wear pink! Together we are strong!” Hemashri agreed and added, “We wear pink and raise money to help save lives, helping breast cancer research and giving our support.” Maheen said that Pink Day unites people and “makes them understand how we can support cancer research”. Disha adds, “We supported cancer research and I hope that it helps people who have cancer recover.”

**“I was happy and proud because I stood in solidarity with people who are suffering from cancer. I hope they recover and that they will be well.”**

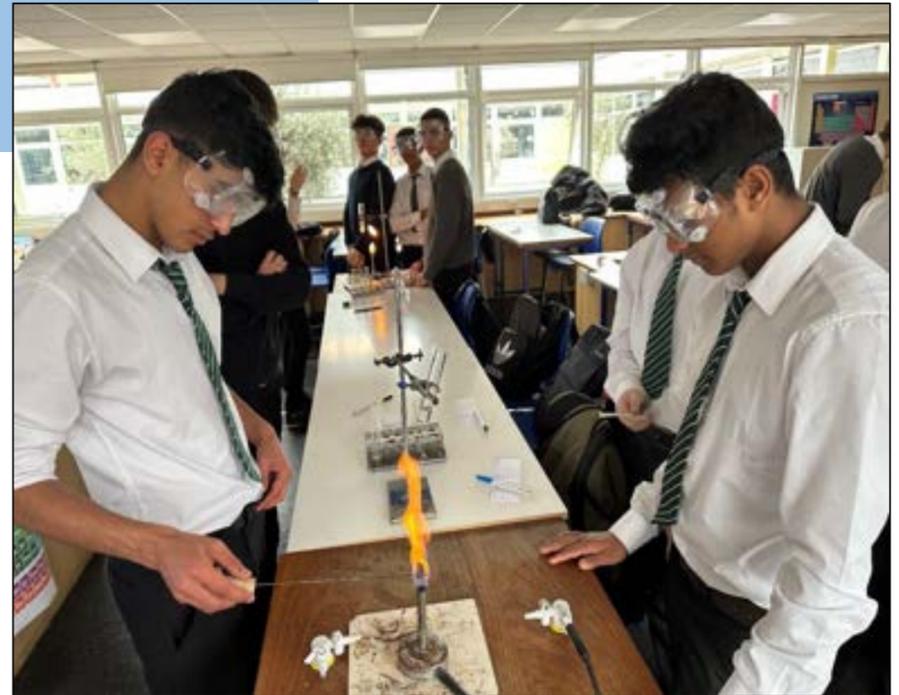
Zahra



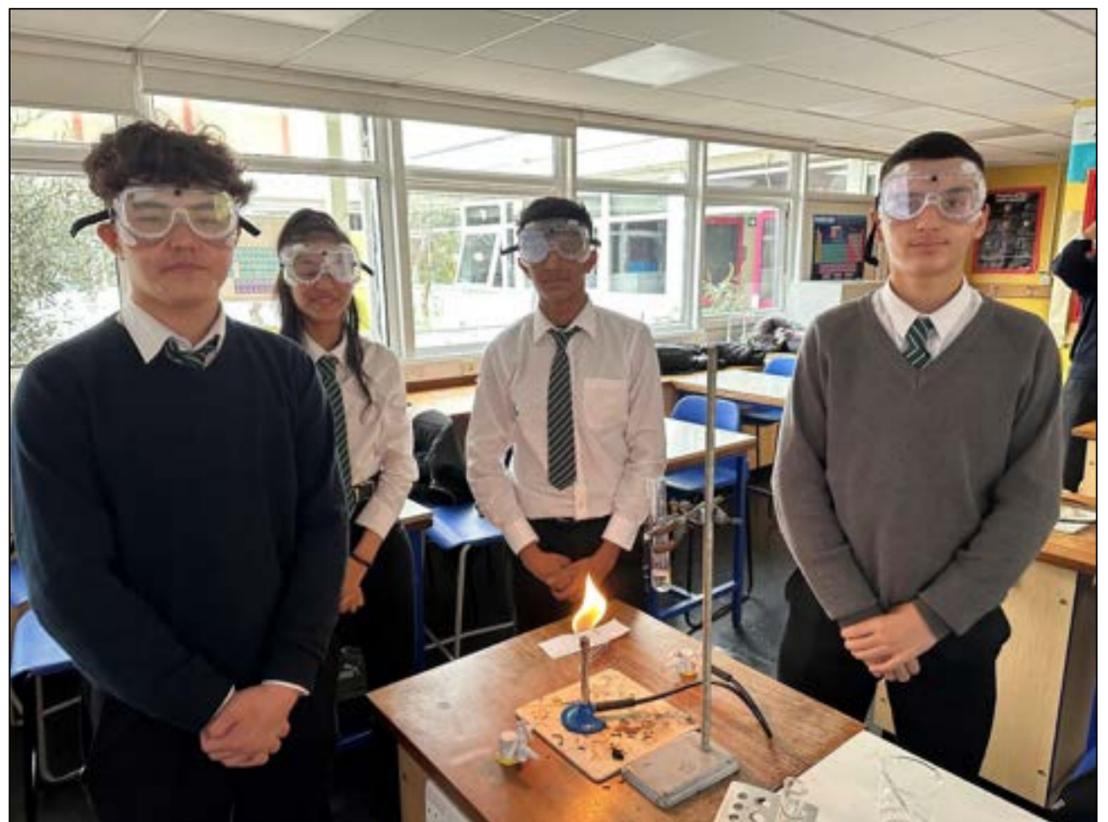
# Studies in Science

EAL College

Students in PNA carried out a practical experiment in science to explore the energy storage in different foods. In order to carry out the practical, the students burned a range of foods to establish the energy storage.



**“I learned a lot about chemistry and it was fun.”**  
Mansour



## Students from PMA wrote about their experiences at Newman Catholic College...

“I came to Newman Catholic College two years ago. We have lots of good teachers here and they help you to learn English. They also teach us about how to apply for jobs. I found many friends at this school.” **Dana**

“I’m part of Newman Catholic College and I like the free breakfasts every morning, from 7.30am!” **Pratik**

“I had no English before coming to Newman Catholic College two years ago. But the school helps me to learn and improve my English. I have found so many good friends in this school.” **Ehsan**

“In my school I learn to improve my English every day, both with my teachers and with my friends. This will help me in my future.” **Gabriel**

“I would like to tell you about Newman Catholic College. It is important to me and to all of the students because in school you learn what you need to know. I learn about many things that will help me in my future. I am learning what I need to do in the future to find a good job. I am also learning to read, write and speak well in English.” **Ricaro**

“Newman Catholic College is very good and I enjoy being at this school. Following the school rules is important and respecting the teachers and all they do to help you.” **Mohamad**

“At Newman Catholic College we have good teachers and students. I am learning to improve my English and my reading skills.” **Arkan**

# Spooky stories

**EAL College**

**Students in KS3 Pathway developed their skills in story writing this term.**



It was night time and there is a scary house in the forest and the bats are flying around the house. It's a full moon and it was foggy around the house. The lights were turning off and on. The house was huge and big. The door was slowly opening and the bats went inside. Suddenly, a creepy sound came. It was inside the house. I went inside the house, it was very dark and there were books on the floor. I saw a dead wolf. Suddenly, a ghost came up through the floor, it didn't have a face! I saw a broken window and jumped out. I escaped the haunted house.



**By Alison**

This night is cold and the moon is so big. I run because it is so late and I need food and water. I see a person, the person said, "Would you like to come with me?" I said yes and the person took me by the hand and he ran into a house. I see another person or monster, I don't know because it is so black. I don't see the person but I just listen to a noise, the noise is like a zombie. I run but the zombie runs fast. I see a bathroom and it has a window. The window is blocked but I find a key. I open the window and run to my house and call the police. My mother said, "Joshua look at this notice." I see the notice. It said, 'a crazy person takes kids and the kids are never seen again'. But the police finds the person and then they go to prison.

**By Joshua L**



It was a gloomy and very cold night. The trees are twisted. The cat was jumping on that twisted and haunted tree. The cat's eyes are blue, the blue eyes shining in the night. I walk into the house. I feel very cold. I am scared. Suddenly, I can hear crying. I go into one room but there's no baby there. Suddenly, I saw a zombie. The zombie hugs me and I run upstairs. Then the zombie attacks me. I run to the window. I jump from the window and the cat was looking at me. Suddenly, the cat attacks me. I ran as fast as I could to escape the house. I looked behind me and the house crashed to the ground.

**By Harshkumar**

**EAL students wore Christmas jumpers and raised money for charity.**





Offering young people a chance at a promising future

# All Young People Deserve A Promising Future

Would you like to help change the life of a child living in your community?

Would you like to encourage a young person to fulfil their potential?

Could you support a mentoring programme that has been proven to change young people's lives?



**P**romise grew up in Brent and was abandoned by her parents at the age of 16. Her potential may never have been realised but for the inspiring relationship that was forged between her and a committed local mentor who she met through her school. This person encouraged, supported and challenged her, with the ultimate result that Promise graduated with an excellent degree

from Cambridge University. She says that without a mentor, this would never have happened.

Now we need your help in order to continue this work by supporting the Promise Foundation. We are a charity in Brent which deploys the services of local professionals to act as mentors for young people aged from 13- 18.

Our most effective mentors are sensitive to others' cultures and have an ability to communicate successfully across cultural lines.

### Our mentors help young people in ways which include:

- Increasing their self-esteem, motivation and confidence
- Gaining a wider perspective on career options
- Developing and acquiring skills
- Drawing up a personal action plan
- Developing a positive mental attitude

### Our mentors also facilitate such things as:

- Mock interview and CV writing
- Work shadowing and/or work experience
- Introduction to new networks and contacts
- Visiting college/university open days



The Promise Foundation is a local charity that deploys the resources of the community to provide young people with a one-to-one mentoring relationship that helps unlock their unique potential. The charity works locally in five schools, including Newman Catholic College.

If you would like to help, and are interested in being a mentor, giving some of your time to support a young person, the Promise Foundation would love to hear from you.

Additionally, if you're a business based in Brent and would like to help the Promise Foundation in providing its services to young people, please get in touch using the email addresses below.

**M**eeting for an hour a week over a period of one academic year (September to July), means opportunities are created by identifying relevant areas of improvement. These might include overall progress in a subject area and work

ethic, homework completion, attendance levels and also punctuality. We run on-going training programmes throughout the duration of the mentoring relationships to inspire, inform and equip both mentor and mentee with the skills they need.

If you feel this could be you, and you'd like to help a young person fulfil their potential, then please contact our Charity Project Director, **Simon Marks**, for more information

[simon@thepromisefoundation.org.uk](mailto:simon@thepromisefoundation.org.uk)

For more information, or to contact us, please email: [simon@thepromisefoundation.org.uk](mailto:simon@thepromisefoundation.org.uk) or [admin@thepromisefoundation.org.uk](mailto:admin@thepromisefoundation.org.uk). Our website is [www.thepromisefoundation.org.uk](http://www.thepromisefoundation.org.uk)

## Year 7 Science



7 Joseph Skeletons lesson

- Year 7 students have been settling very well in the science department. They have been learning to investigate and analyse scientific questions, and they have been introduced to some physics, biology and chemistry topics.
- On the picture we see some students from 7Joseph after an exciting lesson about our bones taught by Mr. Skeleton! The students were introduced to the vocabulary and definitions of the topic. They then learned about the bone composition and labelled some bones. They finally used the model to look closely at the anatomy of the human skeleton.

## Science Club

- Science club was restarted shortly after half-term. There has been a strong uptake by Y7 students. We hope to see this growth rate in participation continue in the near future. Science club runs weekly **(every Wednesday from 3.10 to 3.45pm)**.
- Initial activities involved pupils utilizing circuit boards to build their own circuits involving light bulb, motor and sirens. At present pupils are attempting an elephant toothpaste experiment to demonstrate a volcano setting involving the use of malt vinegar, baking soda, and washing-up liquid. We had a wonderful participation from Steven Murphy in Year 7 who demonstrated the reaction of baking soda and vinegar to release CO<sub>2</sub> gas that would be trapped by washing-up liquid in the form of foam.
- Next stages would involve participants to build a paper Mache volcano from scratch with cardboard, PVA glue, and newspapers to then model volcanic eruption utilizing the new found skills in elephant toothpaste experiment.



NEWMAN MAGAZINE



Science  
department



## Food Burning Practical Year 9W science class

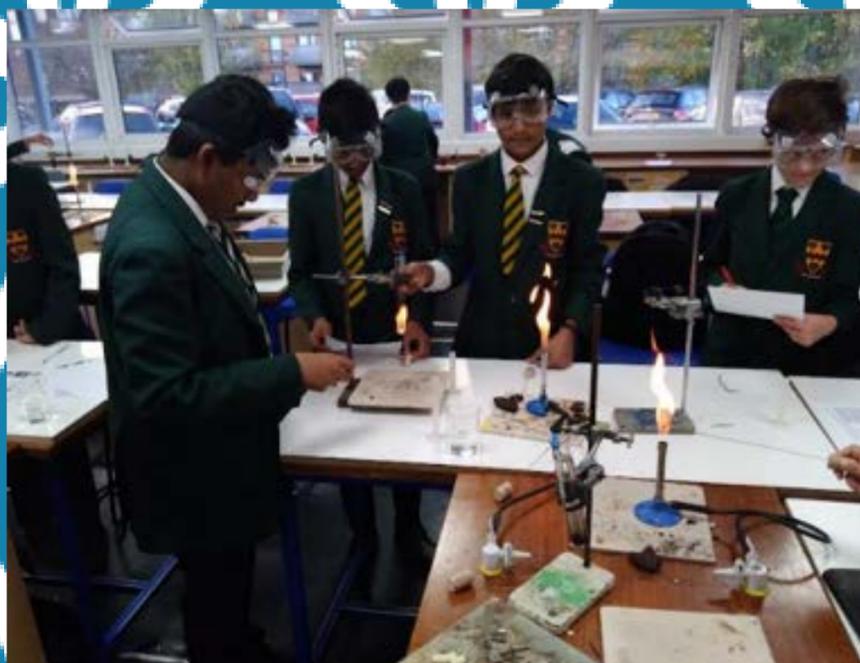
Our lovely 9W class was involved in doing the food burning practical.

In this practical, students burn a sample of a foodstuff of known mass, heating a known volume of water. From the measured temperature change, students calculate the energy transferred to the water, and hence estimate the energy present per unit mass of food.

This experiment can be used to compare the energy values quoted on food packaging with the data obtained from the experiment. Students can repeat results to determine repeatability and share results between pupil groups to determine reproducibility of data. This experiment is effective at evaluating the effectiveness of a method. All the students were able to explain why the data obtained from the experiment is significantly different to the energy values quoted on food packaging.

We also explored the idea of random and systematic errors.

- The Science department is using an online platform called Educake. With Educake teachers can assign homework and track students' progress using online formative assessment. Students can access Educake from their laptops, tablets or phones very easily. They can use this tool not only to complete homework but also to revise. They can track their progress as well as find their weak and strong points in the curriculum.
- Students seem to enjoy working on Educake.
- Andrei in Y8 finds it very useful to check his knowledge at the end of each topic. He also asks his teacher for clarification on areas he needs help with.
- Dawson Y9 says: 'I find Educake very easy to use, it allows me to check my knowledge on what I have learned'
- Ron Y9 says: 'I can use it on my way home or to school, all I need is an internet connection'



## NEWMAN MAGAZINE

## Science department

# HISTORY

Merry Christmas from the History Department! Our students have worked hard to create posters on our Autumn 1 and 2 content, have a look at some:



## Economy

Mansa Musa would have a massive change in the Mali Empire. First of all, Mansa Musa would improve the trade routes in the Mali Empire because the Mansa Musa and Sangandia would police the trade routes whereas before the trade routes were riddled with bandits. This was a massive change as bandits would frightened traders and with them gone, the traders were a lot more safer. Another point would be the Mali Empire's resources. Mansa Musa would create a port city between Taghaza{city of salt} and Wangara{city of gold} as the trade route before was too complex. A lot more people would be involved in this trade system as they would be mildly wealthy as the two resources were valuable in the Mali Empire. The Mali Empire would inherit new resources when defeating the Kingdom of Songhai. The Mali Empire would inherit fishing and farming resources with the improvement over canoes as they will have a flat bottom which makes it faster.

## THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS

Joseph Zeidan

The battle of Hastings happened on the 14th October 1066 between a Norman and Englishman. The Norman's name was William of Normandy and the Englishman's name was Harold Godwinson. This battle resulted in the victory of William. This battle was a succession battle after King Edward the Confessor died. Many tactics were used in this battle like the feigned retreat and the Anglo-Saxon shield wall.



## AFFECTS OF BEING IN THE TRENCHES:

Symptoms of trench foot include a **tingling and/or itching sensation, pain, swelling, cold and blotchy skin, numbness, and a prickly or heavy feeling in the foot.** The foot may be red, dry, and painful after it becomes warm. Blisters may form, followed by skin and tissue dying and falling off.



## Charles and the English civil war

Charles started this war after several complaints and demands from the parliament like control of his children's education, control of his army, the courtrooms, laws, advisors, taxes criticizing his best friend

Charles I was King of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 27 March 1625 until his execution in 1649.



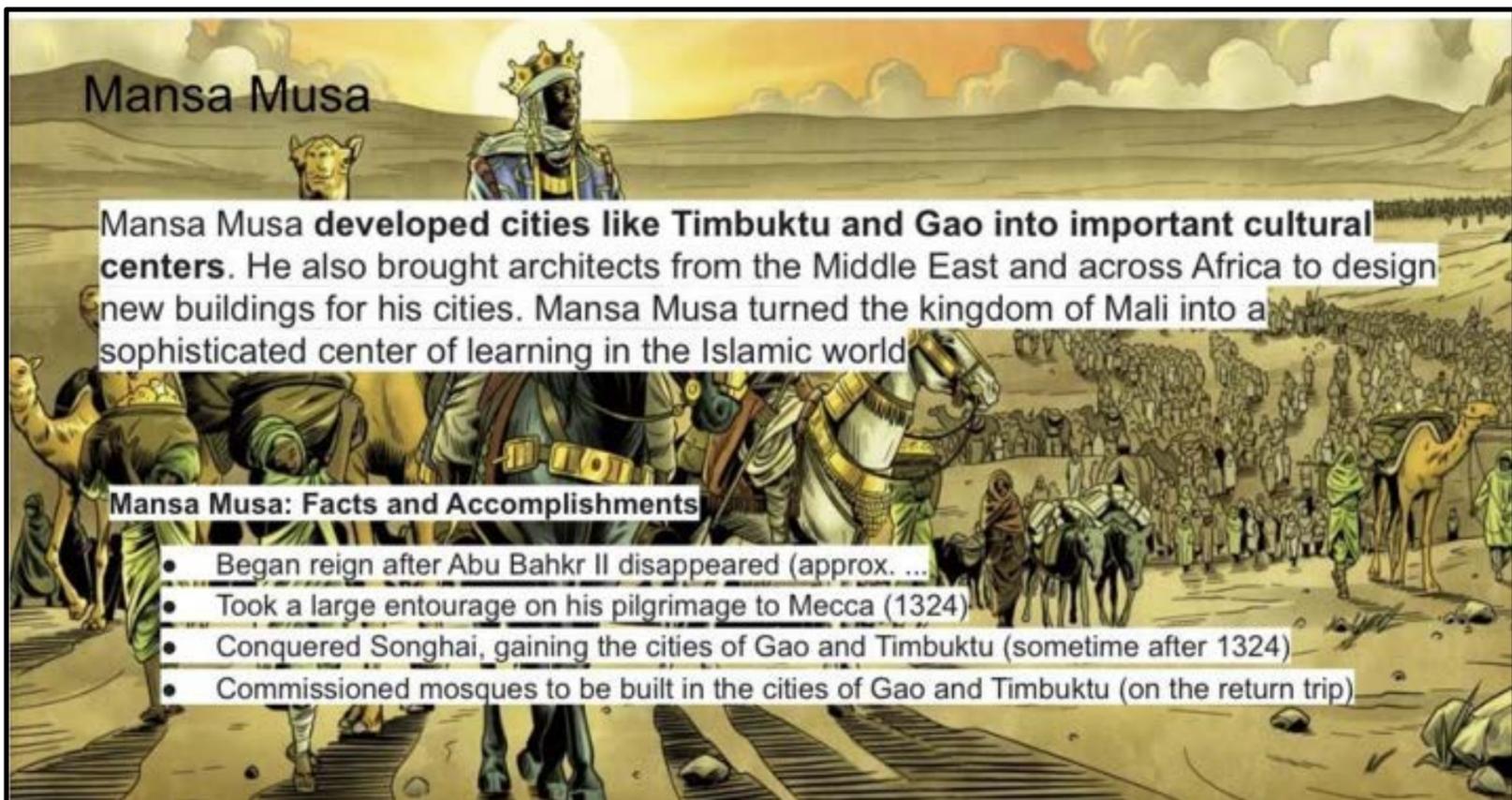
King Charles 1 was executed after starting a civil war against the parliament and losing being the only English king to ever be executed.

## Mansa Musa

Mansa Musa **developed cities like Timbuktu and Gao into important cultural centers.** He also brought architects from the Middle East and across Africa to design new buildings for his cities. Mansa Musa turned the kingdom of Mali into a sophisticated center of learning in the Islamic world.

### Mansa Musa: Facts and Accomplishments

- Began reign after Abu Bakr II disappeared (approx. ...)
- Took a large entourage on his pilgrimage to Mecca (1324)
- Conquered Songhai, gaining the cities of Gao and Timbuktu (sometime after 1324)
- Commissioned mosques to be built in the cities of Gao and Timbuktu (on the return trip)





Massive congratulations to Luke Patten, a past student who is currently undertaking an internship with Brent Council. Luke is currently pursuing a specialist course in conjunction with Charing Cross Hospital to become a porter. The Inclusion Team are indeed proud of Luke's achievements and wish him all the very best! Well done Luke!

Miss S. Jackson (SENDSCO) and the Inclusion Team



❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **Keep warm this Winter** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

Mr Lopes has kindly shared this information about keeping warm in these extremely cold times.

Cold spells over winter are likely to affect households already struggling to meet rising energy costs. If you're worried about the rising cost of bills, or struggling to heat your home, there are a number of local places in Brent offering a warm welcome throughout the day, including your local library

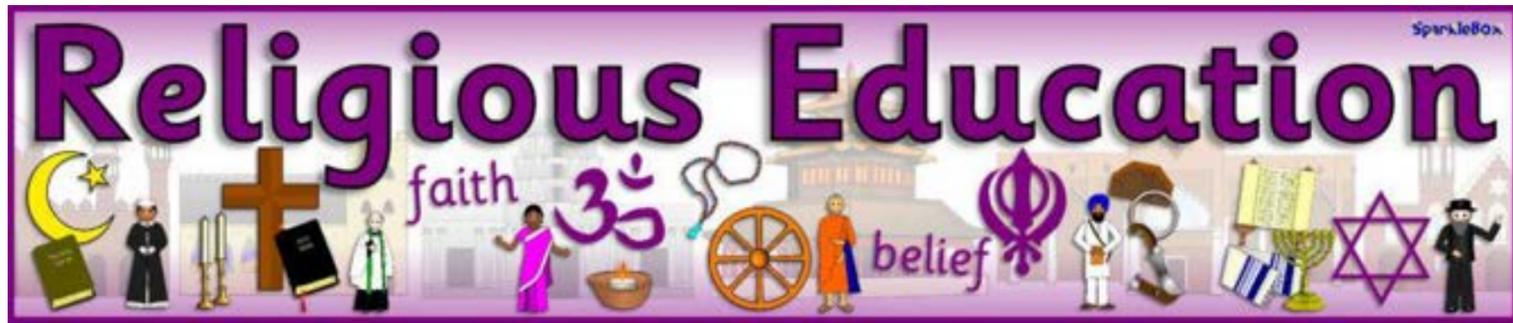
<https://www.brent.gov.uk/news-in-brent/2022/december-22/keeping-everyone-warm-this-winter>

This is about the warm space scheme to help with the cold and energy cost.

<https://www.warmwelcome.uk/>

This is the link to help find others in areas that aren't in Brent.





## Christmas Update and Prayer 2022-Mr Hughes

I would like to take the opportunity at this special time of the year to wish all of the school community, a happy and holy Christmas.

It has been a very rewarding year for the department, both academically and in the spiritual life of the school.

The Year 11s who did their Religious Education GCSE exams in the Summer of 2022 did very well.

We had many students who achieved the top grades of level 7 to 9. It is always incredibly satisfying to see all our students who work hard achieve their potential so they can move on to the next exciting stage of their lives.

We look forward to the Spring Term and helping our current Year 11s to prepare for their RE GCSE exams. We will always do our very best to help them be successful.

We believe that the spiritual life of the school is very healthy and the power of the Holy Spirit permeates throughout the school.

It can be seen in the big school events like Newman Day, the Charity drives, the Foodbank and in the little Acts of Kindness that people show to each other in the school.

When Jesus was once asked to explain the most important commandments, his response was "to love God and love others". We feel that in our own worship in school and that the way we serve others in all our school community demonstrates that.

Long may it continue throughout 2023!

**Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.**

**Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wisemen. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.**

Mr Hughes (Head of Religious Education)

### St Bernadette's Relics Tour

The life and legacy of St Bernadette has touched the lives of people across the world. Her life has inspired generations of people to journey in faith on pilgrimage to Lourdes.

St Bernadette saw the Virgin Mary eighteen times in a series of Apparitions that took place in cave on the outskirts of Lourdes, a place now known as the Grotto of Massabielle. A Relic is a part of the physical remains of a saint after their death, or an object which has been in contact with their body. Relics are venerated to honour the holiness of God. Relics make us feel close to a Holy person. Mrs Regueira, Mrs Mullahy and Miss Grace visited the relics at our local parish, Our Lady of Willesden.

### The Mizen Foundation

We were delighted to have Margaret and Barry Mizen spend the day with us. They delivered assemblies to all year groups. They shared the story of their son Jimmy's death with issues such as Bullying, Consequences of actions (Getting our students to think about how they respond to situations) Anger, Forgiveness & personal responsibility. Showing how, no matter the situation, you have the power to take control

Margaret and Barry asked us to take individual responsibility for our actions, our relationships with others and our communities. Change comes from the individual. Margaret told our students that she promised Jimmy she would keep his name alive and she would dedicate her life to working for peace.

<http://mizenfoundation.org/>



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**Weekly Masses:** New term, new academic year, a return to the new norm. The school has continued to celebrate Mass on Fridays at 12:20 thanks to the generosity of the visiting clergy. Each year group plans and takes on leading roles in the Liturgy: reading, serving, bidding prayers, operating the PPT as well as singing the hymns and responding to the prayers in Mass. Each term starts with the Y11 pupils. Offering time to God as they work and prepare for their GCSE.



We would like to thank all the priests who are allowing us to continue to live a sacramental life of the school. Thanks to Fr Tom, Fr Allan, Fr Albert, Fr Stewart, Fr Ruwan and Fr Johnson who are making time for us in their parish life. We appreciate this.

**Prayers:** The school continues to be a place of prayer. The chapel is the hub of our Spiritual life and love of the Divine.

Pupils and staff are able to use the chapel for personal, private prayer. The Chaplain leads prayer group services in the chapel. These are currently for the Y7 & 8 on Wednesday mornings.

Pupils are encouraged to take an active part in the services. These allow time to reflect, to pray and to develop a relationship with God.

**FIRM FOUNDATIONS:** The school chaplain has joined up with Firm Foundations and advice to renters team so as to help those struggling with the Financial Crisis, the rising cost of living, the fuel and food costs and those who are renting privately or living in accommodation that is unfit etc. Pat Fernandes (Advice for Renters) and Sr Silvana (Caritas) are working alongside us and other schools, parishes, and groups to offer free advice. The school aims to have a stall available at the Parents Teacher Meetings in the coming terms. We have in the past held coffee mornings, inviting parents and guardians into school to meet and to discuss with financial advisors.



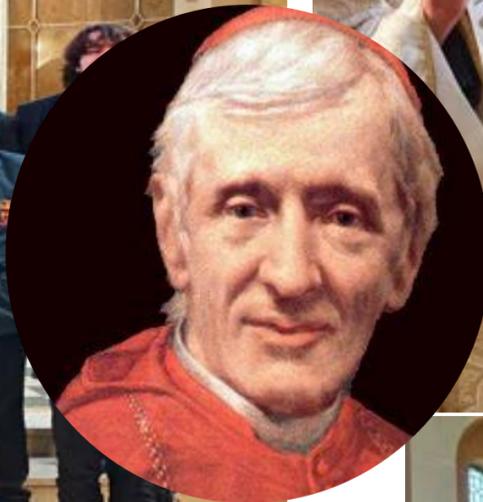
**Liturgy Group:** Once again Mr Roche will be establishing Year Group Liturgy Groups. Each new academic year Y7 have to elect members for the Liturgy group. These join the Y8 team to plan with events with the chaplain. This allows the boys to discuss the readings for the Mass, write prayers for the Mass and to participate in a particular way in certain events in the school year. The Chaplaincy badge "Fides Actio" and the Liturgy Badge are worn by the members.

**The NEWMAN Masses:** The entire College were able to celebrate Newman Day with two Masses celebrated simultaneously. One in the Parish church of Our Lady of Willesden and the other in the school Hall. Both Masses were planned by Mr Roche. Fr Jon celebrated the mass in Our Lady of Willesden with staff and pupils from y7 to y11, meanwhile Fr Tom OMI from Quex Rd celebrated Mass with y12, 13 and those pupils in the Pathway program. The 6<sup>th</sup> Former Mass was supervised by Ms Grace and the Form Tutors. We had a great organist, Helen Blake play the organ in church. Pupils had Mass booklets and were able to follow along and respond accordingly. Pupils read beautifully and clearly, the servers carried out their duties and the day was a delight. The Chaplain was MC at the parish event. As is tradition on this special day each pupil has received souvenir of the day – this year a Newman armband and the bar of Cadburys Dairy milk. Pupils went home earlier, they queued to be presented with their gifts. Staff members also received a bar of chocolate, an armband and a Newman prayer card if desired. Thanks to all who helped and took part.



May St John Henry Newman continue to pray for Us.

# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



Lord, make me a better person,  
more considerate towards others, more honest with myself,  
more faithful to you.  
Make me generous enough to want sincerely to do your will  
whatever it may be.  
Help me to find my true vocation in life, and grant that  
through it I may find happiness  
myself and bring happiness to others.  
We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**Marian Procession:** The Parish were able to have its procession of Our Lady of Willesden around Harlesden. Newman once again was represented along with family members, out to process and recite the Rosary for Our Lady's intercession as the Statue of Our Lady was processed around the streets. This year we were joined by the seminarians from Allan Hall.

Motorists and locals showing respect, prayerfulness and understanding. The weather was an additional blessing as it was a pleasant Autumnal evening.

**Bereavements:** November is the Month of the Holy Souls, when the Church remembers those who have in gone before us to their eternal reward. All staff and pupils were given the opportunity to record the names of their deceased loved ones. These were prayed for the school Masses. The Book of the Holy Souls lay on the altar in the chapel. Mr Roche is always available to sit, talk, pray etc. with pupils and staff.

**May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen**



**PRAYERS FOR THE HOLY SOULS**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

The names of the dearly departed to be included in prayers for the Holy Souls

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**The Death of HM Queen Elizabeth ii:** As the new school year was starting the country heard the sad news of the passing of Queen Elizabeth ii RIP.

The pupils and the staff has the opportunity to pay respects in school and many of the staff and their families as well as the pupils ant their families went to see the late Queen lying in state. A day and event that will live on in memories.

**Into your Hands o Lord we commit her spirit.** A book of condolences and a altar of respect was opened and available for pupils to see and to pause for thought. The whole country were able to see the state Funeral a few weeks later.



**Remembrance Service:** Every year the chaplain leads the school in the 2 minutes of silence and reflection on the 11<sup>th</sup> of Nov at 11am. All the school gathered on the playgrounds. Prayers were said, scripture recited and a wreath lain at the foot of the cross. The pupils and staff stood quiet and still to mark the 2 minutes. The Last post sounded out over the school grounds and beyond.

**"We will remember them"**

Later, Mr Roche drove a group of pupils to Willesden Cemetery, to the war graves to pay respect to those who died in wars. There we placed Newman Crosses around the monument. The Last post played out over the November sky amid the silence. Each in thought and reflection on what was the consequences of war and the benefits of peace.

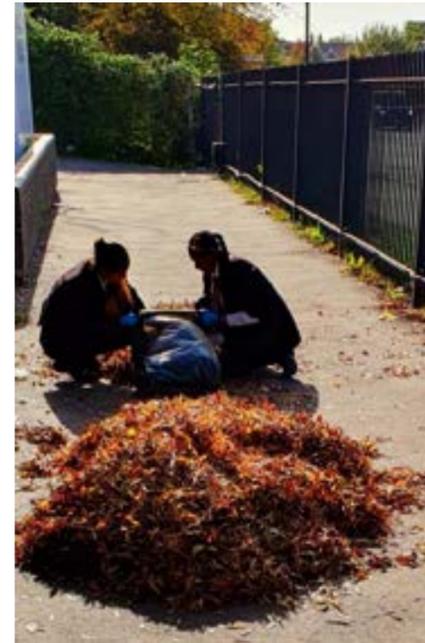


# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**GARDENING ENRICHMENT:** Enrichment group were set up and the Y12 and Y13 pupils from our 6<sup>th</sup> Form are providing 1 hour of gardening work around the school. They are learning new skills and finding the gardening a “good place to think” according to one of them. The advantages of gardening to the mental health of the individual. The laugh, the banter and the good-naturedness is matched by the work done. This group work in the gardens and with the baskets around the school as well as the edible garden.

The evenings are getting colder the days shorter and yet this is the time to plant hundreds of bulbs, daffodils etc. We were also given sapling trees to plant. Check the flowers in spring. The saplings will be for the next generation.



**Advent & Christmas:** As November draws to a close, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the Universal King. All the school had the ‘joy’ of having the chaplain deliver the Advent Assembly. This is another step onwards in the **ADVENT**-ure we call life. We looked at the meaning of Christmas and the events around the first Christmas. This was then reflected in the mirror of what had happened recently: the Ukrainian war and the migrants crossing the English Channel. The true meaning of Christmas is not trees, presents and getting the best deal from Black Friday but Love. Love that reaches out to others, starting with yourself and your family then to others.

How will you help others and share the light of Jesus this Christmas?



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



## Christmas:

**Have a blessed and Holy Christmas. May Peace be in your lives now and always.**



## Nativity Quiz

1. Where did Mary and Joseph live before Jesus was born?  
a) Nazareth b) Bethlehem c) Jerusalem
2. What was the name of the angel that told the Virgin Mary she would have a child?
3. What did Joseph do for a living?
4. Why did Mary and Joseph leave to go to Bethlehem?
5. Why couldn't Mary and Joseph find a place to stay?
6. Where does the Bible say Jesus was born?  
a) In a stable b) In hay c) In a manger
7. In which city was Jesus born?
8. Jesus was born on the 25th of December. True or false?
9. What does the angel say to the shepherds when they tell them to go to Bethlehem?
10. How many Wise Men visited baby Jesus?
11. What gifts did the wise men bring for Jesus?
12. According to the Bible, which animals were specifically mentioned as being present in the stable when Jesus was born?  
a) sheep and a donkey b) cattle and a donkey c) donkey, sheep and cattle d) None
13. How many days after the birth of Christ did Joseph and Mary give him the name Jesus?
14. What does Jesus' other name, "Immanuel", mean?  
a) God with us b) Son of God c) He who is God d) Chosen One
15. Who was the prophet that foretold a virgin shall give birth to a son called Immanuel?
16. Who spread the news about baby Jesus throughout Bethlehem?
17. Why did King Herod want to kill Jesus and all the children in Bethlehem?
18. What is the City of David also known as in the bible?
19. The wise men travelled ..... to Jerusalem.  
a) northward b) southward c) eastward d) westward
20. Where did Jesus' family flee to from Bethlehem?  
a) Egypt b) Nazareth c) Samaria d) Greece
21. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem, according to the bible?
22. Which of the gospels tell the story of the Nativity
23. Who was the Roman ruler at the time Jesus was born?
24. Children in the region of what age were to be killed, in the hope that Jesus would also be killed?
25. Christmas wasn't celebrated for over 300 years after Jesus died. True or False?

# Parent Information



## Parent Pay

We are a cashless school. Parents need to pay for their children's meals in advance. Parents have the option of topping up Parent Pay online (there is a link at the top of the school website home page) or by going to a shop displaying the Parent Pay sign. All parents should have received a unique login (for the internet) and payment card (to be used in shops).

## Extended School Activities

We have extended school activities happening every afternoon of the week. These are free. Please encourage your child to join up and learn a new skill. Make sure your child signs up for an activity. These are listed on our website.

## Newman Catholic College PTA Parents Association

This is a group of parents who meet monthly to organise events and raise money for the school. Some events have been our Community Day, Bingo Night, Quiz Night. New members are always welcome. This is a chance to meet other parents and make new friends.

Future meeting dates- Come along and see for yourself.



Meet Chloe Edmonds, our PTA Chairperson



Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March (Quiz Night)  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April (School Iftar), Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April,  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July (Summer Community Day)

All meetings start at 6.30pm in the School Conference Room.

## Introducing Miss Patel.....

Introducing Miss Patel who is our new West London Zone Link Worker. Miss Patel has graduated with a degree in Psychology from Coventry University. She has been mentoring for the last few years and has found her calling. Alongside this she has also volunteered for the National Hindu Students Forum UK which is the largest Hindu student organization in the UK and has helped organize national events. Miss Patel's passions are anything creative or arts and crafts related and in her spare time specialising in Mehndi (Henna) but is happy to give anything creative a go! She will be taking over from Miss Westman. West London Zone help children and young people build the relationships and skills they need to get on track socially, emotionally and academically to thrive in adulthood. Miss Patel is looking forward to getting to know and working with the children.

Do you know someone in need?

### Fresh Foodbank

Every Friday 11.00-12.30pm at  
Harlesden Methodist Church

Supporting individuals and families in need in our local community. The food bank will supply up to 2 standard sized shopping bags of food free. (BYO Bags)



THE FELIX  
PROJECT



### Newman Foodbank

We run our own Foodbank every Friday. Our food is donated. We stock a number of long life products as well as fresh bread, cakes and sometimes vegetables. If your family need our support, please speak to Miss Grace or your child's Head of Year.



## CAR BOOT SALE

If you would like a stall, please call Alfie on 07960113708.

All proceeds from the Car Boot sale go to the school.

## FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATIONS

Newman Catholic College

Harlesden Road, Willesden  
London NW10 3RN

Tel: 0208 965 3947/8497

Fax: 0208 965 3430

E-mail: [office@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:office@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

Website: [www.ncc.brent.sch.uk](http://www.ncc.brent.sch.uk)

The qualifying benefits are:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual

Income, as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), that does not exceed £16,190

- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

### Apply for free school meals

If you meet the criteria you can apply by:

- [Download the application form](#) (.pdf, 1.41MB) and return to Children's Team, Brent Customer Services, PO Box 1057, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 1HJ
- Asking your child's school for an application form which you can return to them or us
- Contacting Brent Customer Services Team on 0208 937 3110 for a paper copy of the application form which they will post to you.

The application form is only for a child or young person who attends a school or nursery in the London borough of Brent.

We will ask for proof of Child Benefit to be provided if this is your first application for free school meals. Eligibility for free school meals will not be backdated, so ensure you apply as soon as possible.

Please note that providing us with an email address or mobile number (or both) will help to ensure we can regularly inform and update you on the progress of your application.

### Working Tax Credit exception

If you receive [Working Tax Credit](#) your children may be entitled to free school meals:

- for no longer than four weeks from the date you became unemployed (or reduced your working hours to less than 16 per week) and started receiving Working Tax Credit.

In this case you will need to provide evidence of your benefit. You need to make sure this information shows the date you became unemployed, or the date you reduced your hours, because free school meals are only available to parents on Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

If you have been unemployed and receiving Working Tax Credit for longer than four weeks, then your children are not entitled to free school meals.

If your Working Tax Credit stops and you begin receiving a different benefit that is one of the qualifying criteria listed above, you will continue to be eligible after the four-week period.

If you increase your hours or begin working and continue to receive Working Tax Credit your free school meal entitlement will stop.

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# Snapshots



## A snowy NCC Winter Wonderland!



## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

*Christmas time comes only once a year,  
We hope the festive season comes full of cheer.*

*We would like to wish every girl and boy,  
A holiday full of good health and joy.*

*A gift comes in many shapes and forms it does not have to cost.  
These gifts come from the heart, creating a memory that can never be lost.*

*Newman is a family but there is something that we know,  
With the continued support from you and our community our bond  
will continue to grow.*

*Whether times are difficult or the road may not be clear,  
Know within the Newman family support is always near.*

*As 2022 come to a end there is a new year wish, we forward on to you.  
May 2023 be filled with success, good fortune and happiness, all year through*



**We wish everyone a Holy,  
happy and safe Christmas  
Season with your Family and  
Friends.**

**The Students and Staff  
of Newman Catholic College**