



# The Newman

Your College Newsletter Issue 37 Easter Edition 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of our Newman community,

Inside this latest edition of "The Newman" we have another packed term of school life for you to enjoy.

January 6th marked the beginning of the "Year of Hope" Jubilee Year celebrations until 6th January 2026. We marked this with our annual badge competition being a message of "never let the flame go out", a design won by Ms Linton, the Head of Art! Our Lenten charity work earned £2,500 for CAFOD, whose staff joined us for the final stretch of a pilgrimage walk over ten bridges over the river Thames. There will be many more special events to mark the Year of Hope, and we look forward to celebrating this theme to enrich our mission.

In this edition, you will find more details on a Sixth Form trip to visit Auschwitz in Poland, and the Holocaust Memorial assemblies led by the History department. Furthermore, this edition outlines wonderful performances by our Performing Arts students, our recent Battle of the Bands, messages from our new librarian on reading and poetry activities, field trips, our multi-faith Iftar and much much more.

From next term, a shorter but more frequent edition of "The Newman" will be published monthly, and news stories will be frequently published on our website, to enable you to keep up with all of the goings-on at NCC.

Please put a note in your diary for the 5th July 2025, which is our Summer Community Day from 1-5pm in school. We would like as many families to attend as possible!

Wishing you and your families a peaceful Easter. Good luck to all students preparing for external exams from our return on 22nd April from 8.30am onwards.

Kind regards,

Andy Dunne  
Headteacher



# Newman Catholic College Safeguarding Updates

**Safeguarding Team: 0208 965 3947**

**Email: [Safeguarding@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:Safeguarding@ncc.brent.sch.uk)**

**Designated Safeguarding Lead: Miss S Jackson**

**Safeguarding Team: Miss B Goodin- Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Ms S Murphy –Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Mr D Nwandison, Mr C Albert and Mr J Roche**

**Governor Responsible for Safeguarding in school: Mr T Ostojic**

**Mental Health Lead: Ms B Goodin**

**Safeguarding during weekends & school holidays:**

**If you have any concerns, please email us at the following address:**

**[Safeguarding@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:Safeguarding@ncc.brent.sch.uk) but if it is an emergency call 999 or 08001111 or 0808 800 500**

**Brent Family Front Door :Office hours (Mon – Fri 9am - 5pm): Call 020 8937 4300 (option 1)**

**•Outside office hours: Call our emergency duty team on 020 8863 5250**

## Tops Tips for Parents

### Watching and Browsing Online - Internet Matters

According to Ofcom, 90% of children are watching online videos and browsing the internet regularly. Children may love to stream videos and look up information, it's a fun way to learn and relax after all but they must be guided. The e-space is filled with inappropriate content and dangerous material. It is important that parents are able to steer their children towards the right places when online. Internet Matters has published a guide dedicated to supporting adults in setting digital boundaries for children, so that they can make smart choices and build healthy online habits. In the Internet Matters guide you'll find practical tips on managing content access, the use of safety controls, advice on setting boundaries and ways to educate children on how to stay secure online. Please follow the link below :

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/watching-and-browsing-online-a-parents-guide/>

## Other useful websites

Useful places to go for information for your son/daughter:

Samaritans: [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) 116 123

Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/> 0800 1111 specifically online safety

0808 800 5002

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

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> 0808 802 5544

<https://www.kooth.com/>



# The 4 Cs of Online Safety



## 1. Content

Content encompasses everything posted online, including text, images, and videos.

Children and young people may encounter illegal, inappropriate, or harmful content.

### Actions:

- Implement Filtering and Monitoring systems.
- Teach students digital literacy to evaluate content.



## 2. Contact

Contact refers to the risks associated with interactions between users online.

This includes peer pressure, inappropriate advertisements, and the danger of adults posing as children to exploit or groom young people.

### Actions:

- Encourage students to communicate only with known individuals and be cautious about sharing information.
- Educate students about the signs of grooming and the importance of reporting suspicious behavior.



## 3. Conduct

Conduct involves the behavior exhibited online.

This includes online bullying, sharing inappropriate images, and the overall way people interact on the internet.

### Actions:

- Implement clear policies against online bullying and inappropriate behavior.
- Teach lessons on the importance of respectful behaviour.



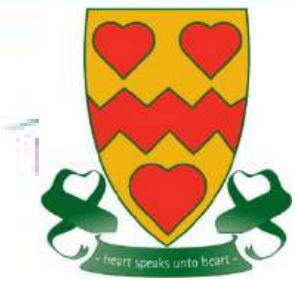
## 4. Commerce

Commerce addresses the risks associated with online transactions, such as gambling, phishing, and financial scams.

### Actions:

- Teach students about safe online shopping and the importance of protecting financial information.
- Regularly review and risk-assess any online platforms used by the school to ensure they are secure and appropriate.

# Mental Health Support



If you have a concern/worry, you can always speak to a member of staff or email [studentwellbeing@preston-manchester.com](mailto:studentwellbeing@preston-manchester.com). Other services available to our student include:



**Young Minds** are a mental health charity for children, young people and their parents, making sure all young people can get the mental health support they need.

Visit their website: [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)



**Clear Fear** an app developed for teenage mental health charity stem4 and focuses on learning to reduce the physical responses to threat by learning to breathe, relax and be mindful as well as changing thoughts and behaviours and releasing emotions.



**Samaritans** 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support.

Call: 116 123 or email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)



**Good Thinking** is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps.



**Papyrus** provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide. Anyone worried about a young person should call: 0800 068 41 41 or text: 07860 059 967 (9am - midnight 365 days a year).



**The Mix** provides free, confidential support for young people under 25.

Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am-11pm, 7 days a week).



**Kooth** is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal and magazine.



**Shout** offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required.

Text "SHOUT" to 85258



**Childline** confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem.

Call: 0800 1111 anytime or chat with a counsellor online.



"Battle of the Bands" is a live music competition where bands, compete to be judged as the best in front of an audience, with prizes awarded to the winner.



1<sup>st</sup>= Young Remedies  
- In Between Days  
2<sup>nd</sup>= The School Choir  
3<sup>rd</sup>= The Amusement Park  
- I shot the Sheriff

Thankyou to Mr Lawrence, Mr Crawford, Mr McKoy and Mr Joseph for their support. Also our fantastic Afro Cuban Bands.

I was the lead guitarist for the band 'The Young Remedies'. It was great fun attending Battle of the Bands. I greatly enjoyed listening to all the other bands. My favourite band was the one who performed 'Who shot the sheriff'. I deeply believed that they would win due to their exceptional performance. When our band was called up. A big smile spread upon our faces and we all shook hands as Mr Lawrence handed over our prizes. The experience was fantastic and I hope there will be another one.  
Alex Year 10





# Women's Day Conference

The Drama department were proud to host the annual Women's Day Conference in the Dance Studio in partnership with the US Charitable Trust. Our female students were able to discuss, engage and explore various important topics with a highlighted focus on women's safety.



The conference commenced with a dance performed by our students and choreographed by Miss Purvina Harkisan. It then gave the stage to a speaker's panel compiled of women from a vast range of industries, backgrounds and ages. The space allowed for the girls to connect, feel empowered and be given their flowers - literally! Each student left the conference with their very own bouquet of flowers.



The Us Charitable Trust began Zenobia Scholars at NCC once again – a programme designed to empower young women and girls through a diverse range of bi-monthly sessions. These workshops cover essential life skills, from self-defence training to wellbeing and personal development workshops, preparing girls with the confidence and knowledge to navigate the world after secondary school.

The programme was first introduced at our annual International Women's Day Panel which took place on March 11th. This year, we took a different approach with a '90s Slumber Party Meets Call to Action' theme, blending nostalgia and activism. Attendees – including an influential panel of women from various industries – had the opportunity to engage in interactive activities, including a floral arrangement workshop, themed quizzes that sparked necessary discussions, and smaller breakout sessions designed to facilitate deeper connections and mentorship opportunities.



# Interfaith

## Iftar



The PTA held the 3rd Interfaith Iftar at Newman Catholic College with guest speakers from all three Abrahamic faiths giving a short talk on the significance of fasting in their faiths. Two students also gave a talk and one did a beautiful Quran recitation.

There was a very special moment earlier that afternoon. I was preparing the dates in a room next to the school hall where Mass was taking place for Ash Wednesday and the call to prayer played from my phone at Asr time. It moved me as I witnessed interfaith in action and thought this must have been how Jerusalem sounded for centuries, and prayed that this would be the case again.

In the evening, people of all faiths and no faith, ate together, prayed together and sat together. We learned about Lent Passover and the significance of Ash Wednesday as well as the purpose of Ramadan.

We were blessed to have a guest Imam from New York who popped in quite by chance and led our prayers.

Farhat Zaheer Parent Governor



# We remember John Richards Windrush Pioneer

**A Loving farewell to John 'Big John' Richards: A Windrush Pioneer**

**Newman Catholic College joins in mourning Mr John 'Big John' Richards, a beloved Windrush pioneer, who passed away at the age of 98 on 10th March 2025. Mr Richards was one of the last surviving passengers of the historic HMT Empire Windrush, which carried 1,027 hopeful and hard working Caribbean migrants to help rebuild Britain in 1948. His life was a testament to resilience, dedication and community spirit.**

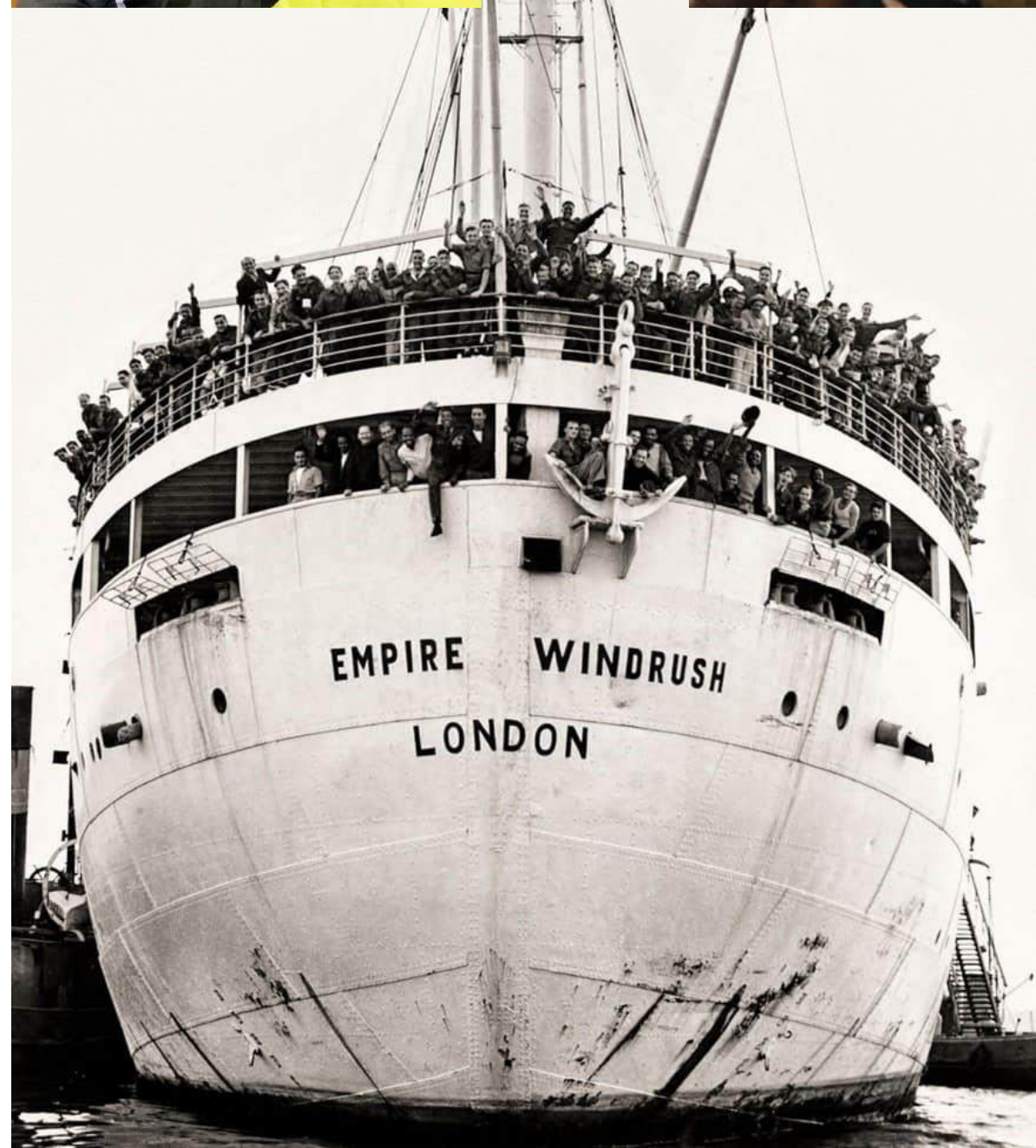
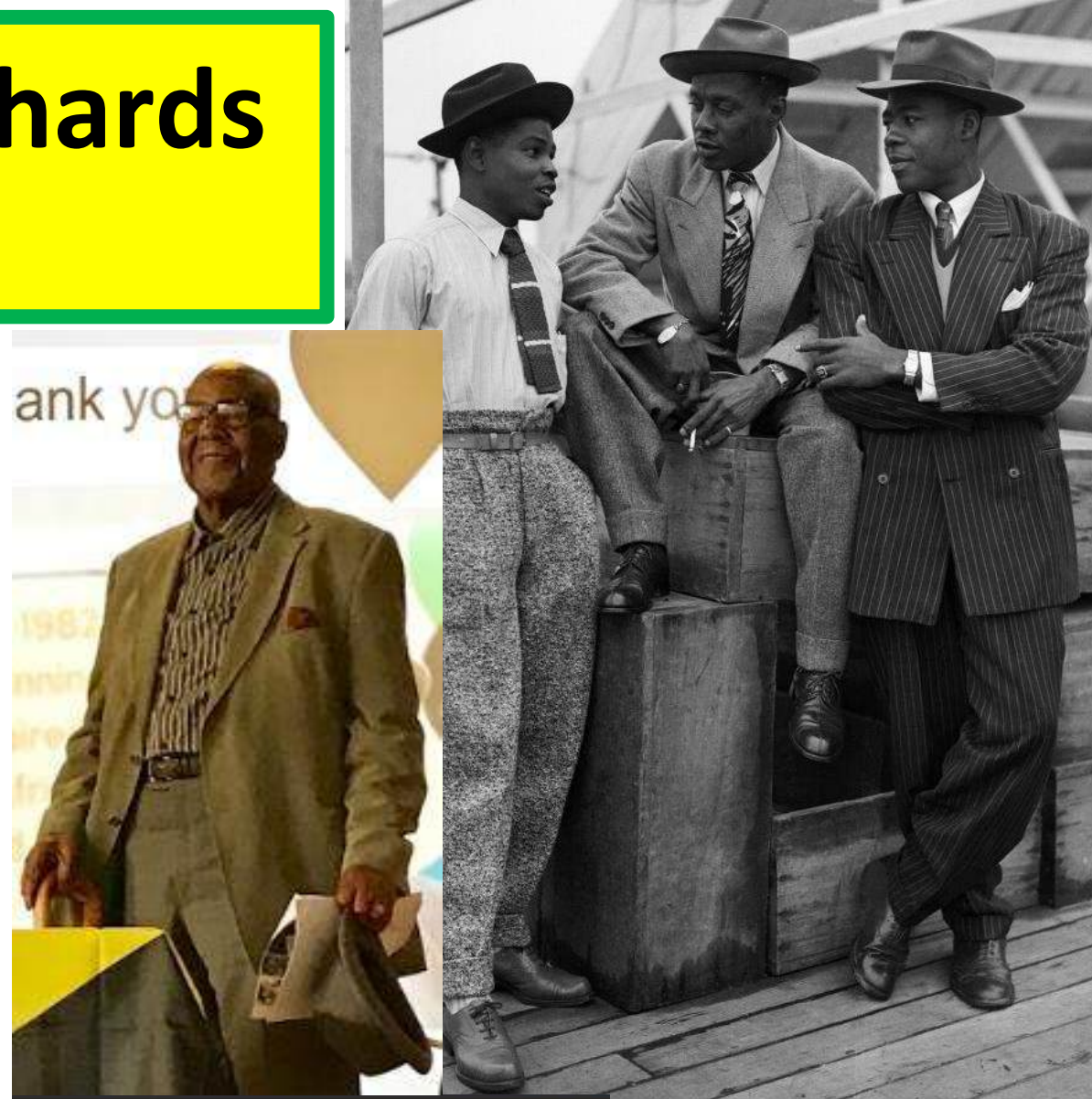
**Born in Portland, Jamaica, in 1926, John Richards spent his early years working in the United States during World War II before making the journey to Britain. Upon arriving on 22 June 1948, he began a lifelong career with British Rail, playing a vital role in maintaining the trains that kept the nation moving.**

**Beyond his professional achievements, Mr. Richards was a pillar of the Caribbean community in the UK. A founding member of the Learie Constantine Community Centre in Willesden, he helped create a space where West Indians could gather, share their culture, and support one another in the face of adversity. His commitment to fostering unity and heritage was unwavering.**

**In recognition of his contributions to British society, Mr. Richards was invited to St. James' Palace for the 50th anniversary celebration of Windrush in 1998. His legacy was further cemented in 2023 when King Charles commissioned a National Portrait Gallery exhibition featuring him as one of ten Windrush pioneers, marking the 75th anniversary of that historic voyage.**

**Newman Catholic College was honoured to welcome Mr. Richards in 2018, when he visited for a special Q&A session with our Year 9 students. His wisdom, warmth, and storytelling left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege to hear him speak. His presence was an inspiration, reminding young minds of the sacrifices and triumphs of those who paved the way for future generations.**

**John 'Big John' Richards will be deeply missed, but his legacy will endure in the countless lives he touched. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the fortune of knowing this remarkable man.**





# Enrichment

Community Organising with Mr King in partnership with students from UCL



Street Food Restaurant visits and Cooking Experiences



Mr Jeeves takes students to Elmwood Tennis Club where they have lessons with professional coach Will.



Podcasting with Justin Marosa



Hair and Beauty sessions with Michele Hunter



Primary School Mentoring thanks to St Robert Southwell, Newfield and Furness Primary Schools



Sixth Form Enrichment takes place on Wednesday afternoons. We also offer Fitness and Football, Gardening, Chess and Charity Volunteering too thanks to Rumi's Cave.



Floristry thanks to Nilly Flowers



# Careers

Our whole school Careers Fair organised by the US Charitable Trust meant all students had opportunities to engage with 22 different employers and ask questions about Careers that interested them. We covered Gatsby Benchmarks 2, 4, 5 and 7.



All students in Years 9 and 10 had a talk about Career Opportunities in the British Army from Warrant Officer Katherine Robinson



A team from Balfour Beatty spoke about HS2, Britain's new high speed railway. They offer apprenticeship opportunities in a range of construction pathways



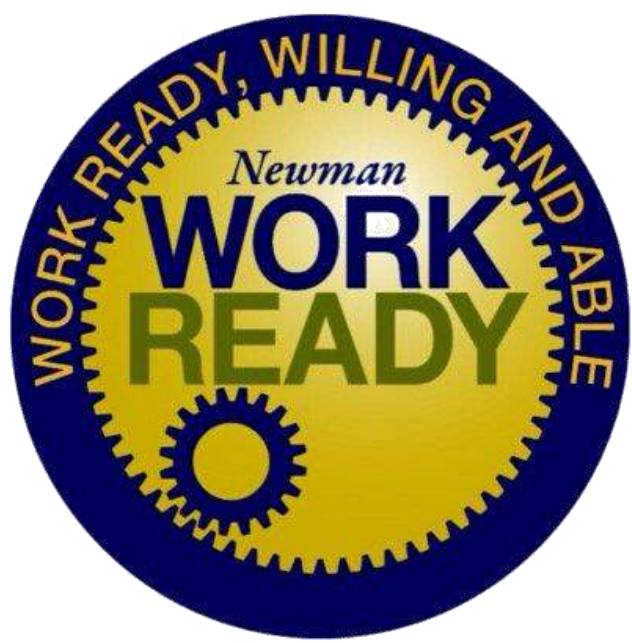
During Apprenticeship Week, Miss Beirne Francis organised a panel of people working in the Creative Arts industry.

**MEET THE PANEL**

<b>Tiffany Li</b> COO, The US Charitable Trust	<b>Anna Arfan</b> OOH Executive, Publicis Media Starcom	<b>Tony Burch</b> Retired GP	<b>O.B Rahman</b> Talent and Development Manager, Charlie Bigham's
<b>Jamie Townsend</b> Social Value and Legacy Manager, BBS TV	<b>Angela Jhoo</b> Real estate	<b>Otis Roberts</b> CEO, Jason Roberts Foundation	

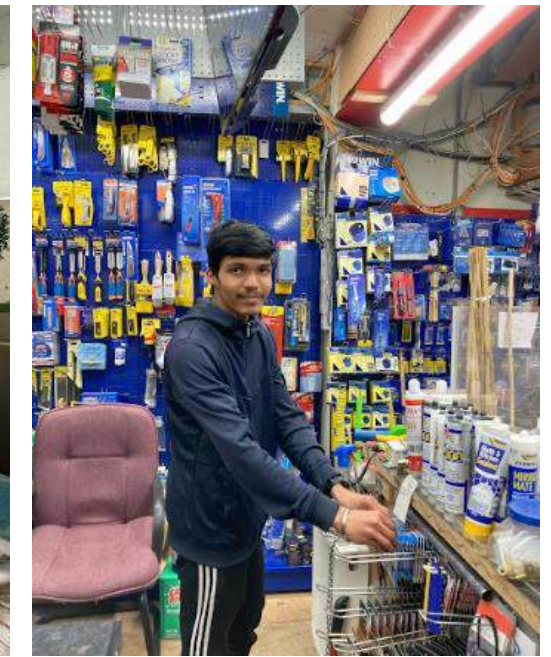


Apprenticeship Week-Sixth Form had the opportunity to hear from different Apprenticeship providers. They then moved into small groups for opportunities to ask questions..



# Careers

The Work Ready Programme runs alongside the students' existing studies and offers a different placement each month in order to give our students an insight into life in the work place. Work Ready is a mutually beneficial programme that supports young people as they take the first steps on their career path by creating a platform for each student to put into practice the knowledge they have acquired in the classroom, whilst presenting employers with an opportunity to reach this area of the community where there is genuine potential to develop a talent pool for apprenticeship schemes and employment.



Al Noor is placed in Tesco

Mohammed is at Harlesden Fresh Fish

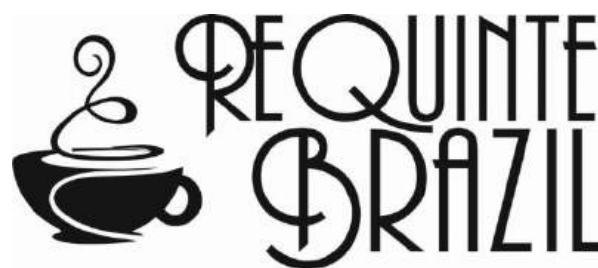
Rahul is at Halai Builders Merchants



Francisco is at Requite Brazil

Rocky is at Nilly Flowers

We very much appreciate the support of our local businesses who are giving our students these wonderful opportunities to learn new skills.



The students of Year 12 business and economics participated in a workshop by Microsoft led by two guests who work at Microsoft. We started the session with some light-hearted ice breakers to get everyone familiar with one another. We introduced ourselves by stating our names and subjects we study, what we aspire to be in the future and a fact that no one knows about us. After the ice breakers, the guests who were leading the workshop also shared their career experiences, describing where they had worked before Microsoft and how they had moved to where they are today. They emphasized the importance of perseverance and continuous learning in order to succeed in the career we want in the future. They also showed what an effective CV looks like and how to make an effective CV. The guest showed examples of well-made CVs and offered suggestions on how to present them to the desired employers. They said that CVs have to be tailored for every application and highlighted key areas that have to be included. They also encouraged us to stay active on LinkedIn, saying that "regular posts and interactions could open up job opportunities and help us connect with professionals in our fields." In summary, the workshop was really informative and gave us useful tools for career growth, also different perspectives showed us that there is not just one way to get into the career that you want. Dario Saldanha Year 12





Community Engagement

# Feed our Families Foodbank Faith in Action



Our Foodbank continues to support more than 90 families in the school community. We continue to see an increased demand for our Foodbank with numbers accessing the Foodbank continuing to grow. Reasons for using the Foodbank include low incomes resulting from debt, health conditions and issues with social security payments, universal credit, no recourse to public funds. We are reliant on donations to continue to offer this service.

Our relocated Vegetable Garden has started to yield crops- Jerusalem artichokes, kale, broccoli which are given to the Foodbank. A huge thank you to Katie Pascoe, Tony Burch and their team from Kensal Green Mutual Aid.



Our Student Volunteers were interviewed by Monica from Chalkhill Community Radio for her Reconnecting with Nature Radio Show about the Foodbank. This was to help raise awareness of the amazing Food Growing Project we have on site, thanks to Let's Grow Brent and Kensal Green Mutual Aid



Support our Newman Foodbank. Please donate one of the items below.

Jesus states that those who are judged favourably will be those who have shown compassion and kindness to the needy, saying "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me".



Tomatoes

Lentils

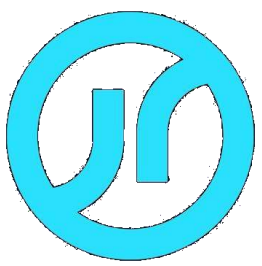
Rice

Breakfast Cereal

Pasta

Chickpeas

Tuna



# Jason Roberts Foundation Partnership

The Jason Roberts Foundation continue to work with us and provide opportunities for enriching our students' lives. Otis Roberts (our Alumni) their CEO has participated in Apprenticeship Week and our Careers Fair. He also generously donated a copy of the Cyrille Regis (our Alumni) book to our school library. Thanks also to Angie from Jason Roberts Foundation who has been working with the US Charitable Trust to empower our female students. Female students learnt how to start a Balloon Business and make a Balloon Arch. If any students are interested in volunteering with the Jason Roberts Foundation, they should email Otis Roberts [otis@jasonrobertsfoundation.org](mailto:otis@jasonrobertsfoundation.org)



## EASTER HOLIDAY COURSE

SPORTS ON OFFER INCLUDE:

GOLF - FOOTBALL - TENNIS - DANCE  
BOXING - ROWING - TRIPS & MUCH MORE

12PM - 4PM EVERY DAY

7TH - 10TH APRIL

14TH - 17TH APRIL

FOR 5 - 16 YEAR OLDS

BRIDGESTONE ARENA, NW10 8PL

ST RAPHAELS SPECIAL  
7TH APRIL - 12 - 4PM

WE TAKE OUR SPORTS TO ST  
RAPHAELS FOR THE DAY TO  
CELEBRATE BRENT'S NEW  
STRATEGY



Hyde Foundation

WEMBLEY STADIUM FOUNDATION





# UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting School

We are a UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting School. We were visited by Frances and Helen from UNICEF UK and Lib Peck and CJ Burge from London's Violence Reduction Unit. They had a tour of our school and met with students from our RRSA Steering Group about the benefits of being a Rights Respecting School.



## Debate Club

Mr Azevedo has started a Debate Club and this is proving to be very popular with students. Debating cultivates valuable skills like critical thinking, public speaking, and research, while also boosting confidence. Mr Azevedo is a former student of NCC and during his time as a student, an active member of London Citizens and Student Council Leader.



## Ramadan and Eid



In Ramadan, Muslims abstain from eating, drinking, from dawn to sunset. It is also a time of Communal prayer, reflection, and community. Mr Sarroukh and Mr Hagi led out students in daily lunchtime prayer during this time. We pray as they celebrate Eid that they experience joy, peace, and fellowship with their families and communities. We also ask for understanding and compassion between Christians, Muslims and other religions that we may learn from one another and build bridges of Interfaith friendship.

## Staff Award

Mr Dunne has introduced a Staff Well Being Award for staff who go above and beyond. Staff who have been recognised so far have been Mr Hughes, Mr Clark and Mr Barchi.



# SANCTUARY

## SCHOLARS



**NATIVE SCIENTISTS:** PHD STUDENTS FROM IMPERIAL COLLEGE RAN AN EXCITING WORKSHOP IN ARABIC FOR OUR YOUNG SCIENTISTS!



**WEST LONDON MUN & YOUNGPOWER:** FROM SCHOOL TO THE SPOTLIGHT! SAMI, MOHAMED, BAYAN, KRISTIANO, AND HUSSAIN TOOK THE STAGE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKERS, SHARING THEIR JOURNEYS AND DEMANDING CHANGE. THEIR IMPACT WAS SO POWERFUL THAT THEY WERE INVITED BACK TO YOUNGPOWER, WHERE THEY (AND AMRO!) SPOKE ALONGSIDE LEADING SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATES, PROVING THAT THEIR VOICES CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE.



**QPR:** GAME ON! IQRA ISMAIL LED UNFORGETTABLE TRAINING SESSIONS, EMPOWERING OUR GIRLS ON AND OFF THE PITCH!





School of  
**SANCTUARY AWARD**  
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary

# REFUGEES WELCOME



Newman Catholic College is a School of Sanctuary and a place of welcome for all. We aim to

- Educate about why people are forcibly displaced.
- Recognise that the UK is enriched by new arrivals.
- Support pupils from all backgrounds to feel seen, supported and included.
- We have 200 students from Refugee/Asylum Seeking backgrounds



We celebrated the **International Day of Education**, with Students and Staff embracing their cultural backgrounds. We have over 60 different Nationalities and Languages spoken in our school.



## **Easter wishes from the English Department**

Easter is the blooming of spring which signifies a reflection of hope and celebrating new beginnings!

This term, the English department have enjoyed reading different texts across Key stage 3 with shared themes of hope and resilience across Literature in language. The staunch encouragement of literacy whole school is the anthem the department is constantly developing and the push for students to read more is also the key message across the department.

This term the Library put on an awesome fiesta for World Book Day by our innovative Librarian Ms. Bentley inspiring whole school and student euphoria around the importance of books.

The Young Poets have also immersed themselves in the preparation for their final competition submissions next term supported by Miss. Khalaj and Ms. O'Malley.

The department over the term has put extra together extra classes and encouraged students to attend. The GCSE's will be starting in May and individual timetables have been shared to afford adequate preparation for revision. The department is encouraging all our year 11 students to use the holiday period by taking significant steps to actively engage in working towards boosting their grades through consistency and addressing practice papers.

Over Easter revision classes will also take place and students will be provided with revision booklets for self-study. We would encourage parents to kindly support and ensure adequate time is spent for study over the Easter break.

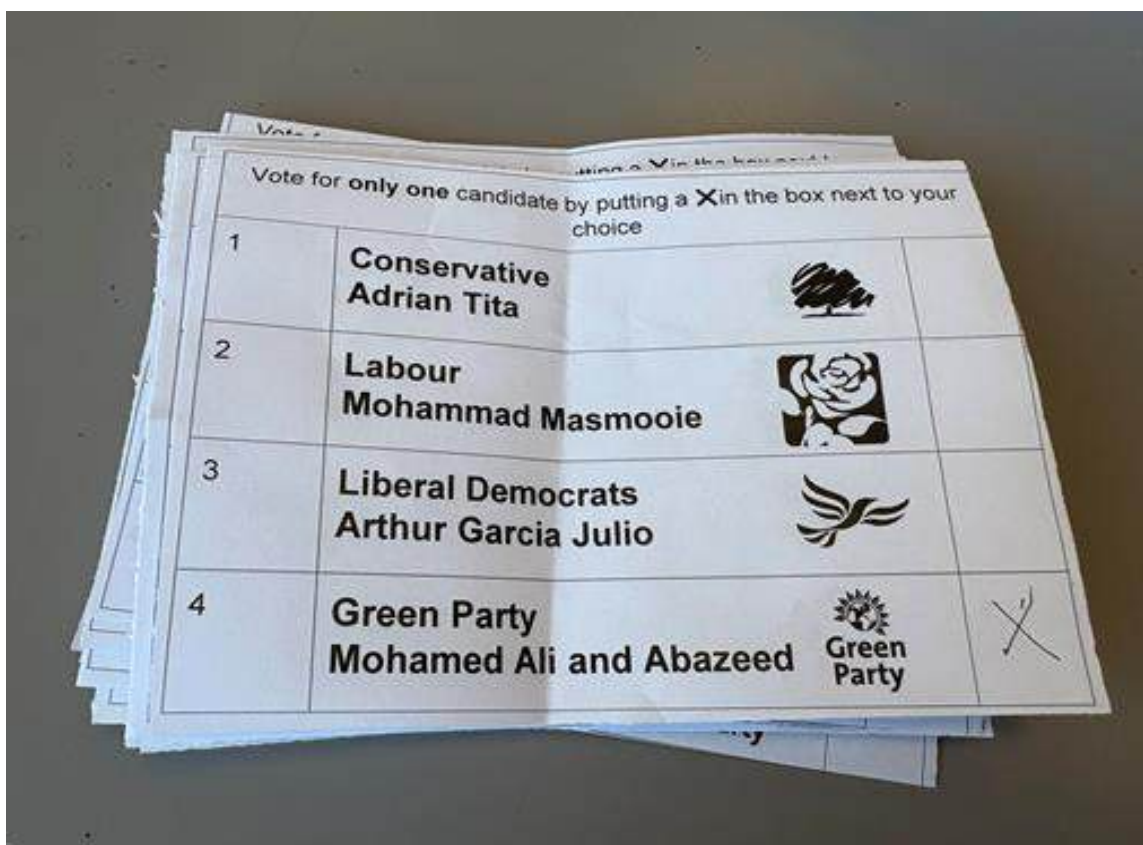
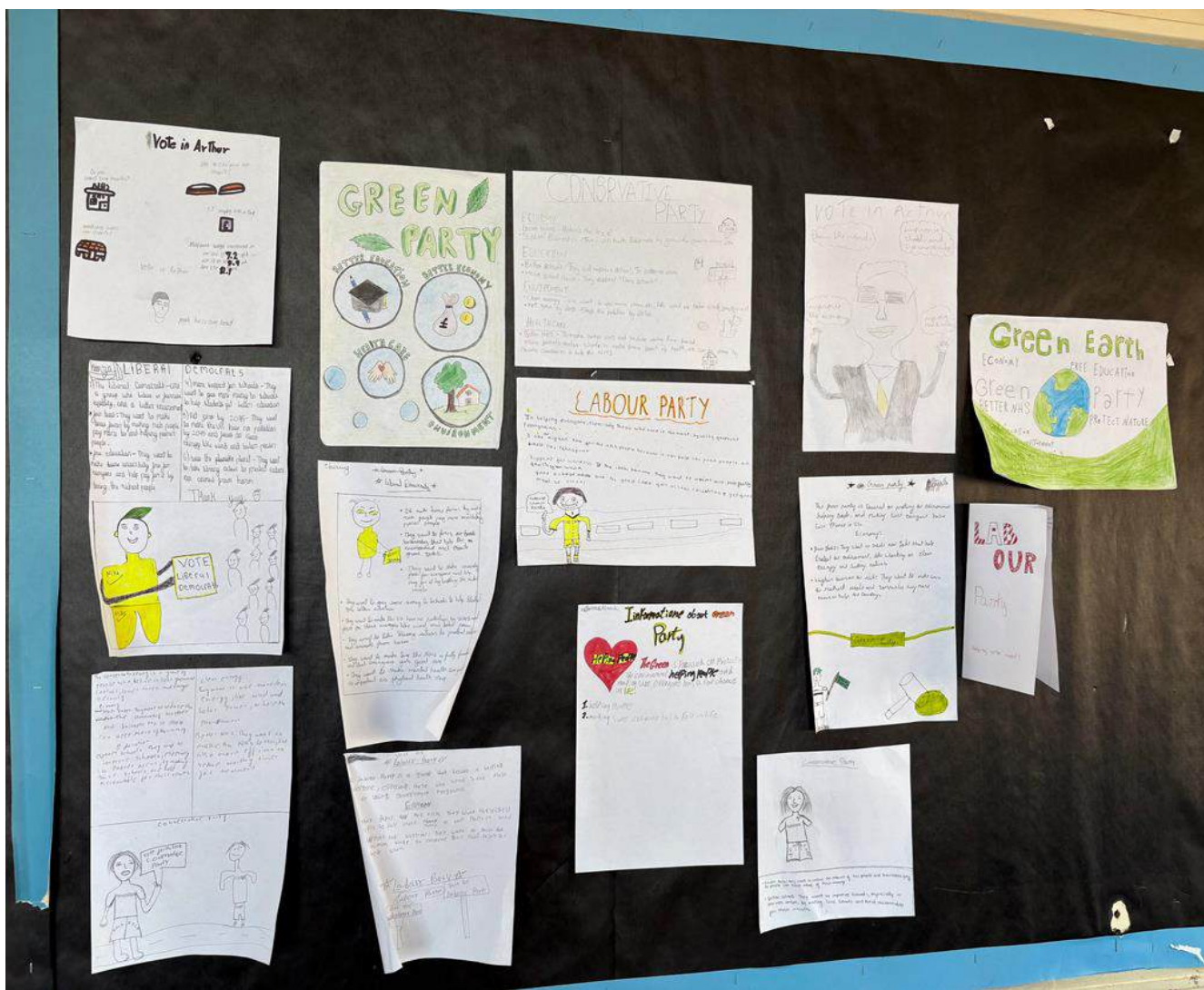
Wishing you all a peaceful Easter break from the English Team!!



# CITIZENSHIP



This term, our Year 11 classes focused on political parties and the electoral process. Students representing each main party gave passionate speeches and answered a variety of questions at their 'Question Time' show. They were able to confidently ask relevant questions and answer in depth too. The 'general public' canvassed by creating leaflets and posters, now displayed in H14. The students all voted for their leader- Mohamed Ali, representing the Green Party, won. It was a landslide victory!



# Politics Conference Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, our A Level Politics Class extended their learning of Political Parties and attended a Student Conference at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, organised by Poleconuk.org.

The purpose of the trip was to give the pupils an insight into how Political Parties work with a focus on the Labour Government; the Conference marked 8 months since Labour came to power, and discussed what has been achieved and what has not.

Pupils were given the opportunity to hear the views of MPs representing: Labour – Emily Thornberry, Conservative – Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, Green Party – Sian Berry, Liberal Democrats – Daisy Cooper, Reform UK – Richard Tice and SNP – Pete Wishart. Our students were also fortunate enough to hear from a Holocaust survivor Lord Dubs who came to the UK on the Kinder Train in 1933; furthermore, they heard from Lord Brady, the former chair of the Conservative 1922 Committee and Seb Wride, Public First, on poll results.

Each of the speakers gave a very clear and concise summary of the beliefs within their Parties as well as what they do. This was followed by a detailed Q and A session where students were able to ask questions: our students Tony and Baron, gave clear and concise questions to Emily Thornberry and Lord Dubs in terms of providing more housing and General Welfare.

This was a great opportunity for our students, not only in terms of hearing the speakers, but also in terms of seeing and meeting numerous like-minded young Politicians and hearing their Political views, through the many questions that were being asked: an excellent insight into how the young people of today feel about Politics and what opinions they have formed.

This was a great privilege for our students to have taken part in a live Politics Q and A session in the heart of Westminster.

What the pupils said.....



## Baron

Overall, the Conference was fantastic, it really reflected into my head, empowering my knowledge and shaping my Political Thinking.

## Tony

Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, former Conservative Minister was extremely against abortion. During the Conference he was constantly asked questions about why he is against abortion, and he always replied with: "life begins at conception"

## Ashton

The Conference was good, it helped me to understand a bit more about the parties, for example: the Liberal Democrats focusing on fixing the voting system or how the Green Party focuses on improving the environmental issues and that there are young members in the party showing me that participation crisis does not exist as much as we think.

## Aboubacar

I found the Conference great, I liked how the Politicians gave a voice to the young people present and that they responded to their various questions.

## Hamza

"I personally enjoyed finding out the many views the representatives had. We discovered that each MP, as well as some of the audience, were resilient and willing to discuss their point of view, even if it happened to be slightly controversial. Nevertheless, it was an experience that I did enjoy."

## Manuel

"I discovered many views and opinions from both the Audience and Politicians, I was particularly interested in the Green Party representative, Sian Berry MP, and realised that some representative such as the Reform MP, Richard Tice, opposed some of the Green Party's aims, especially Net Zero, to which he dubbed it as "Net 'Stupid' Zero".

# The Holocaust Experience: Poland February 2025

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 11 NCC pupils together with Mr Jallil and Mrs Majcherczyk-Olczak met at Stansted Airport to begin their journey to what was going to be a memorable yet moving experience.

Our journey took us to Poland: the Jewish Quarters of Krakow and then to Birkenau - Auschwitz.

We were met at Krakow Airport by our amazing guides, Chuni and Anna who gave us an insight into the Holocaust on our coach journey to the Jewish quarters of Krakow.

We were joined by 2 more schools: Cheltenham College and Finham Park School as well as Portsmouth University.

On arriving at the Town we dined in a very simple but welcoming restaurant, the food was simple, yet delicious and the company was very inviting .

Anna took us on a walking journey around the Jewish Quarters which enabled us to get a feel of life for Jewish people.

The next day, after a hearty breakfast and early start, we were taken by the coach to Auschwitz - Birkenau, where we were met by the Museum guides who took us around both camps: here we learnt about the true horrors of the Holocaust- words cannot express what we saw and heard: what we read in books is the tip of the iceberg to what we actually witnessed.

This was an emotional experience, but one we shall never forget and we have shared our experience and what we saw with the whole school during the year Assemblies.

What the pupils said....

Denito

It was something words lack to explain since the information we are taught is partially sugar coated in contrast to the things we were told at the camps.

When I travelled to Poland, I felt quite apprehensive knowing I was about to visit a historical place filled with trauma.

As soon as I arrived at the concentration camp (Auschwitz), I sensed a kind of heavy energy that made me feel extremely uncomfortable.

The entire trip was somewhat traumatizing, but at the same time necessary for us to understand the history behind what happened in the past, and to ensure humanity never repeats it in future.

Guilherme Roque

The opportunity to attempt to comprehend what has happened in those times of unfathomable suffering and terror truly grounded me with overwhelming ideas of what people had to individually suffer through, was an opportunity that would refuse to miss out upon .

With each step on the grounds of these lands filled with terror suffering and agony alongside the guides embedding history to not be forgotten and to be avoided by all cost .

This trip is one that everyone should have the ability to live and comprehend first hand, as words aren't enough to truly show and bring the clarity needed to see what has happened in times of darkness

Sambor Stan

Samuel

The holocaust was a bad event that was not supposed to happen. It was very tragic to see people murdered over nothing. Seeing Jewish people getting murdered because they are Jewish is sad.,

The trip was very important for me, because i got to learn different things like seeing the rooms where these people died. The trip opened my eyes and taught me to be more passionate about human life and never hate people no matter their race.

Festus

The holocaust awareness is critical for furthering understanding and promoting tolerance in our society. Remembering the atrocities faced by millions during this dark chapter in history serves as a powerful reminder of the consequences of hatred discrimination and indifference by educating future generations about the holocaust we not only honour the memory of its victims but also reinforce the importance of standing up against anti Semitism (prejudice against Jews ) and all forms of bigotry.

Engaging in discussions about the holocaust encourages empathy and critical thinking urging individuals to reflect on moral choices and social responsibilities ultimately holocaust awareness is not just about remembering the past it is about ensuring that such horrors are never repeated.

# The Holocaust Experience: Poland February 2025



## Year 7P Built Castles

Year 7P followed in the footsteps of William the Conqueror and built castles from wooden Motte and Bailey to Stone Keep Castles. They presented their castles to the whole class- well done 7P for your great contributions!



# Maths Department News

## Level 2 Further Mathematics and GCSE Statistics Taster Lessons

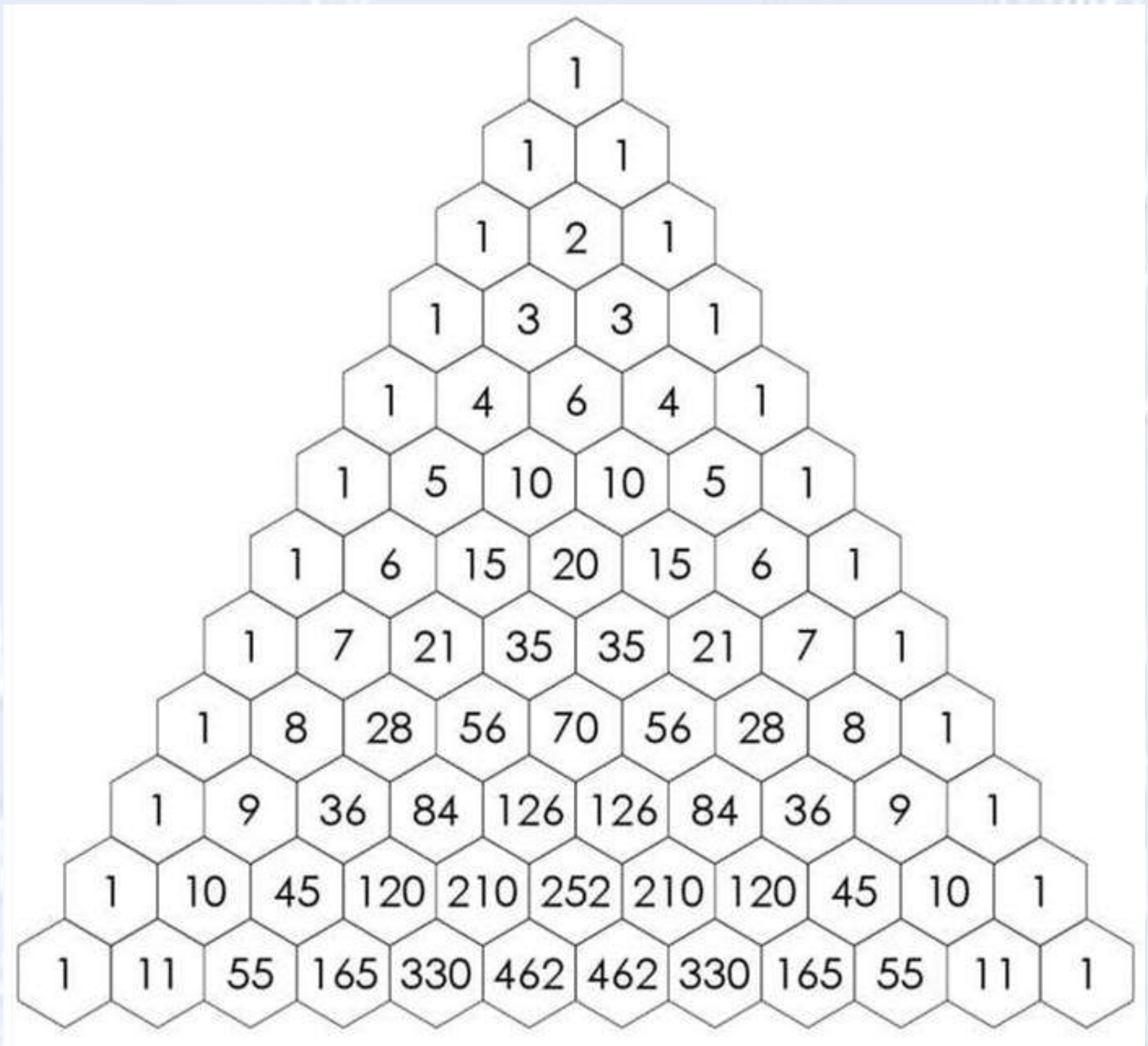
As announced in the last issue of The Newman, we will be offering Level 2 Further Mathematics and GCSE Statistics as an official option for students moving into year 10 September 2025. This option is particularly suited to those students who plan to study A Level mathematics or science. Both qualifications provide the opportunity to strengthen knowledge and skills of high-level GCSE mathematics content and an introduction to some A Level mathematics concepts. This places students in a very strong position for making the transition to sixth form study.

Students in year 9 experienced a taster lesson for more insight into what studying further mathematics level 2 and GCSE statistics will be like. The students explored the patterns in Pascal's triangle and learned how this relates to binomial expansion and probability. This concept also has a number of applications in both theoretical (for example, abstract algebra, multiple angle formulae) and applied mathematics (for example, economic forecasting, automatic distribution of IP addresses).

Can you spot any patterns in Pascal's triangle?

Try colouring in all the odd numbers. What do you notice?

Did you know the first record of this triangle was actually much earlier than Pascal. Chinese mathematician Jia Xian devised a triangular representation in the 11th century.



If you have any questions about this option, please see Ms Palmer or email [epalmer@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:epalmer@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

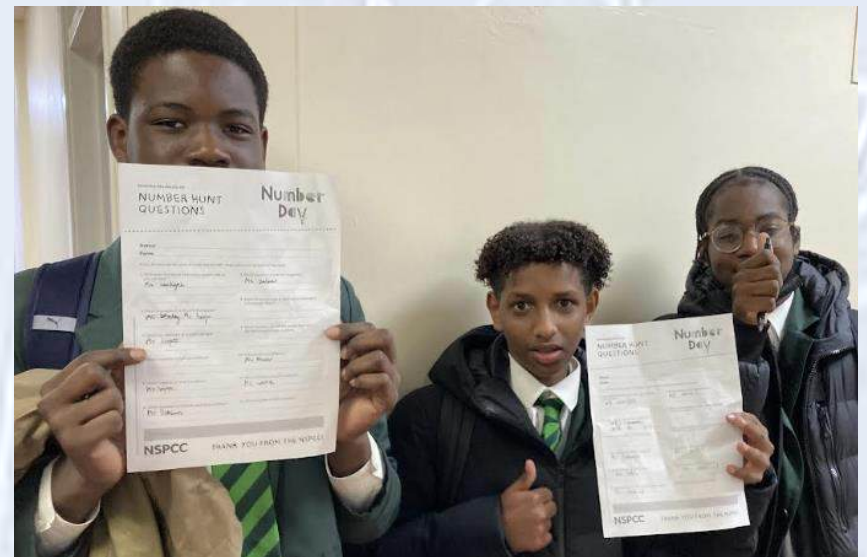
## Maths Department News

### NSPCC Number Day

The mathematics department had a busy but fun day fundraising for NSPCC by supporting their Number Day initiative. The NSPCC is an important UK charity that runs Childline and aims to improve the lives of children through education and campaigning for law changes. If you'd like to find out more about their work visit [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)



At lunchtime we held a small maths fair with lots of prizes to win by participating in probability games, estimating and puzzle solving. There was also a number hunt throughout the day that exposed students to different types of numbers including irrational, perfect and imaginary numbers. Overall, it was an excellent day, creating a great buzz amongst the students and allowing everybody to see the joy in maths.



As well as seeing maths from a different perspective, we also took the time to discuss more serious issues during specially planned lessons. All students in years 7-9 had the opportunity to explore how to stay safe online using NSPCC's Online Safety Quiz and this opened up a safe space for students to express their own concerns. We also looked at Article 28 from UNICEF's Convention on Rights of the Child. This article discusses not only children's right to an education but also that they should be treated with dignity in their school setting. As part of this we also watched a short video of Nobel Peace prize winner Malala Yousafzai discussing the importance of education for girls

. Thank you to all students who took part in the day and all parents and teachers who supported with donations/cakes. We raised almost £100 for NSPCC.



# Maths Department News

## UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

Year after year, our Year 9 and 10 students continue to sharpen their problem-solving skills and mathematical thinking, and 2025 was no exception. This year's UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge brought yet another wave of success, filling our maths department with immense pride and joy.



**Gold Awards:** A huge congratulation to Luis Fernandes-Barbosa and Aarush Raut, who demonstrated exceptional mathematical ability and problem-solving prowess to achieve the highest distinction! Their outstanding performance places them among the top young mathematicians in the country. Furthermore, Luis was invited to take part in the Pink Kangaroo follow on round. Wish him luck.

**Silver Awards:** Hubert Dehmel-Heder, Zakaria Hasan, Sanchay Kantharuban, Riel Mavounda, and Masinga Phambu.

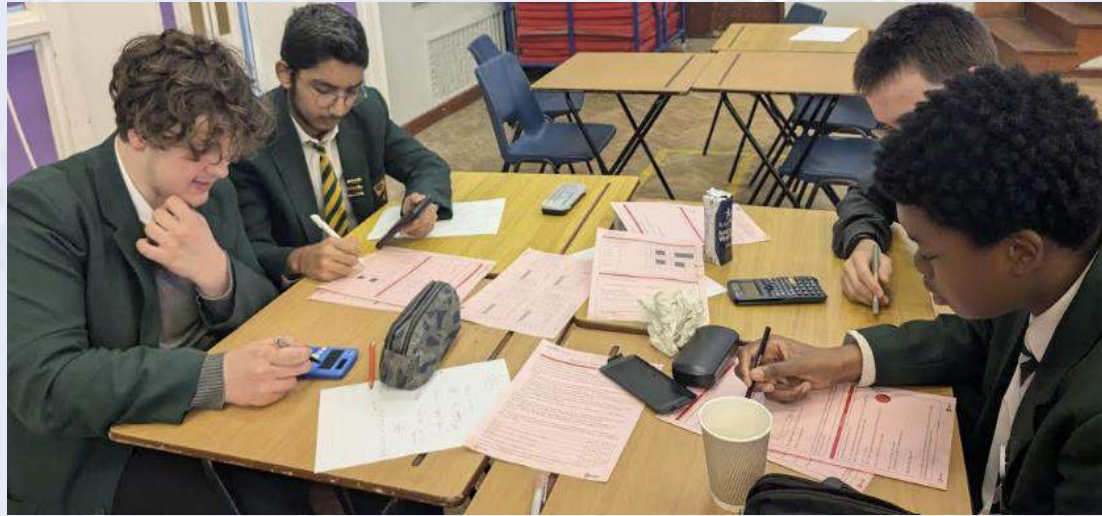
**Bronze Awards:** Ajani Adofo, Nelson Bhandari, Samuel Campos, Max Donnelly-Trimble, Maximilian Lule, Adam Shekoni, Gabriel Barone, Chirag Bedi, TarOpafadzwa Chiwa, Alfie Hood, Krishaang Thachappilly, Caio Klem Viera, and Yusuf Zaheer-Flaherty.

Every student who participated in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge—whether they earned a medal or not—deserves to be celebrated. Taking on a competition of this level demands not only mathematical skill but also perseverance, critical thinking, and a fearless approach to problem-solving. Their commitment to stretching their abilities and embracing challenges is truly commendable.

The achievements of these students serve as an inspiration to all. Their passion for mathematics will undoubtedly lead them to even greater opportunities in the future—whether in academics, competitions, or future careers in STEM fields. We urge parents, guardians, and teachers to continue supporting and motivating our young mathematicians to push boundaries, embrace new challenges, and unlock the limitless possibilities that maths offers.

Well done to all! Keep striving for excellence—the future is bright for our brilliant mathematicians!

## Maths Department News



For the first time, the maths department was able to send a team of four year 10 students to take part in the Maths Feast competition run by AMSP. Maths Feast is a fun educational challenge for Year 10 students which tests problem-solving and teamwork skills. The students used their maths over several rounds requiring different skills and strategies for success.

Here is a question from last year's Maths Feast:

This type of question is also part of the Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) course that is offered to students studying at NCC6.

### Maths Assembly

This year's maths assembly reflected on Article 29 of UNICEF's Convention on Rights of the Child as well as the words of our patron Saint John Henry Newman, "God has created me to do Him some definite service". We discussed the aims of education and then focussed on careers.

After considering what might be important when choosing a career path, we looked at some of the numerous possibilities within the area of maths. Some were familiar such as pilot or meteorologist, some less so, for example, sports statistician or health economist. For more information on careers related to maths visit <http://www.mathscareers.org.uk/>

The maths department strongly believe that maths is a subject for everyone and would encourage all students to continue studying maths at sixth form or college. For those with a grade 4 and above, Level 3 mathematical studies is an excellent course rooted in using mathematics for real world applications such as finance, critical path analysis or data analysis, all common requirements for many careers. For those wishing to continue to a maths related degree, A Level mathematics is a must and for those aiming for a degree in mathematics, A Level further mathematics should be seriously considered.

### PiDay

To celebrate pi day the mathematics department delivered some special lessons looking at the history of pi day, how pi is used in different careers and challenged students to remember as many digits of pi as they could. Our winner managed to recite 29 digits but we know that there are some students in the school who can do 100 using a song! The unofficial world record holder can recite 111700!



### 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-85GT CW scientific calculator.

A Fermi (Enrico Fermi 1901-1954) estimate is one done using back-of-the-envelope calculations and rough generalisations to estimate values which would require extensive analysis or experimentation to determine exactly.

An example is Enrico Fermi's estimate of the strength of the atomic bomb that detonated at the Trinity test, based on the distance travelled by pieces of paper he dropped from his hand during the blast. Fermi's estimate of 10 kilotons of TNT was well within an order of magnitude of the now-accepted value of 21 kilotons.

### **In 2021 how many pet cats were there in the UK?**

If you get within the correct margin of error for the answer you will score the maximum 5 marks, but it **must be with supporting working**.

You will get marks for using appropriate figures in your working out. These should include your UK population estimate and the proportion of people/households you believe to own a cat.

# Maths Department News

## Year 11 Interventions

Year 11 maths interventions play a crucial role in preparing students for their GCSE exams. These extra sessions provide targeted support, helping students strengthen their understanding, boost confidence, and improve exam performance.

Not every student grasps every topic the first time around. Interventions allow teachers to identify areas of difficulty—whether it's algebra, geometry, or probability—and focus on closing those gaps before the exams. But GCSE maths isn't just about knowing the content; it's about applying it under timed conditions. Through these sessions, students refine their problem-solving strategies, improve question interpretation, and learn how to avoid common mistakes to maximise marks.

Maths anxiety is real, and for many students, it can be a major barrier to success. Interventions create a structured and supportive environment where they can ask questions without pressure. Over time, this extra guidance builds confidence, helping students feel more prepared and less overwhelmed as they approach exam day.

The more students engage with maths, the stronger their skills become. Regular exposure to challenging problems enhances problem-solving speed, reinforces knowledge, and ultimately improves grades. Even small improvements can make a significant difference—turning a Grade 3 into a 4 (a pass) or pushing a Grade 6 up to a 7 or 8, opening doors to further education and career opportunities.

If your son is invited to attend an intervention session, please support him to attend as this could have a significant impact on his results.

## Royal Institution Maths Masterclasses

Once again we have been lucky to be invited to nominate year 9 students for a place at a sequence of 6 Maths Masterclasses run by the Royal Institution, April to June 2025. Please keep your fingers crossed for them. These sessions will be led by experts from industry, academia and education and will offer students the chance to investigate maths topics in depth, combining theory with interactive exploration. The students who attended in previous years have found it incredibly inspiring as it showed them a different and exciting perspective of mathematics and the endless possibilities it offers.



## Level 3 Algebra Award

Congratulations to those students in year 11 who passed the Level 3 Algebra Award they sat in January. The content of this course encourages students to focus on improving their higher-level algebra skills and will assist them to achieve top grades in their upcoming GCSE mathematics examination.

## Sparxmaths Homework

Students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 continue to be set weekly homework on [sparx-learning.com](https://www.sparx-learning.com). This is an online platform that creates personalised homework for each student. The questions are chosen to challenge but allow 100% success. You can view more information about this platform at [sparxmaths presentation](#).

It is vital that your son completes his homework independently as the platform adapts the questions to the responses he gives. If your son needs help with his homework he should take the following steps:

- Watch the support video
- Look at the relevant lesson on google classroom
- Go to homework club (Monday after school or Thursday lunchtime in M47)
- See his class teacher.

You can keep track of your son's progress by looking out for weekly emails from sparx. If you are not receiving these, please contact the school to update your email address.

# Geography Department

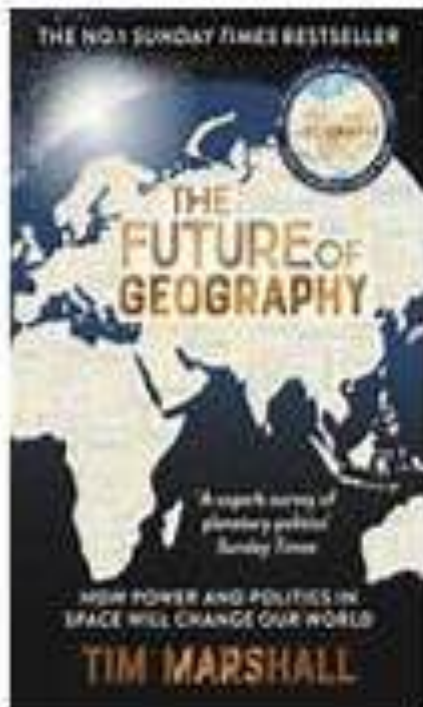
## Year 10 Fieldtrip

This term Year 10 Geography students will be visiting The Field Studies Council Centre located in Epping Forest. The students are preparing for their Geographical Skills exam paper which accounts for 25% of their final grade.

It will be an opportunity for our pupils to put theory into practice and don some wellies!

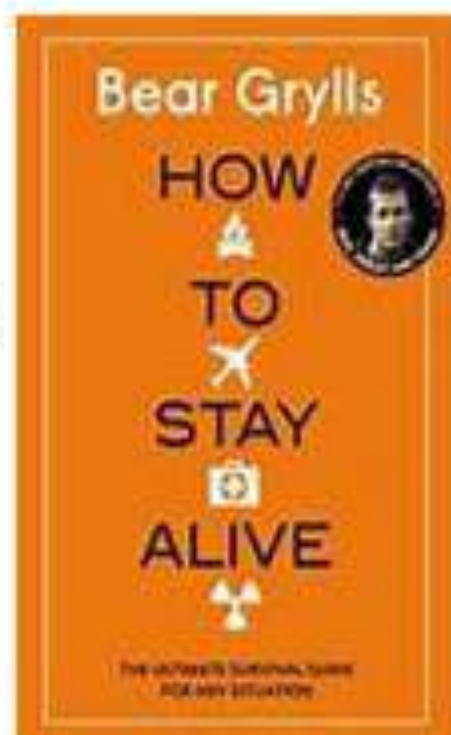


## What to Read?



The Future of  
Geography  
by  
Tim Marshall

How to Stay Alive  
By  
Bear Grylls



## What to Watch?



The Americas



All are on



## Continent of the week



Use google maps to explore the Continent of Africa. Learn the countries in Africa and test yourself

Sparkle  
[www.sparkle.com/games/g/africa](http://www.sparkle.com/games/g/africa)

## Easter Fun!

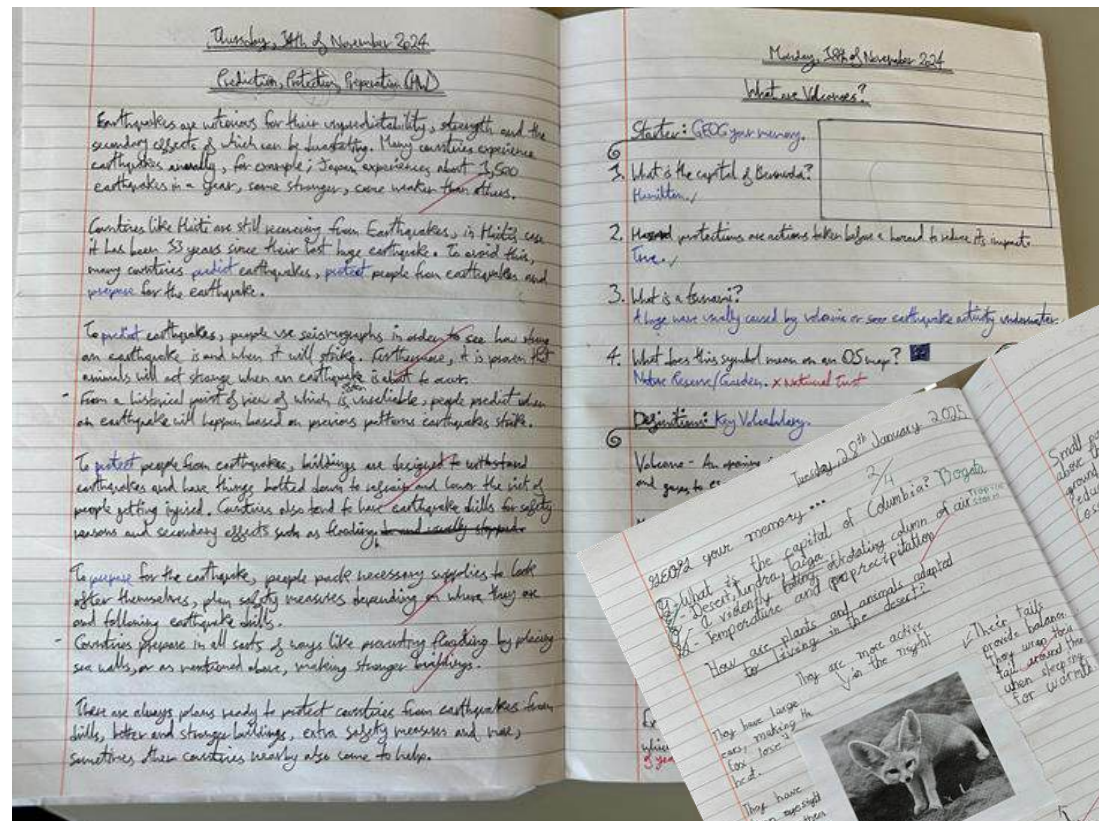
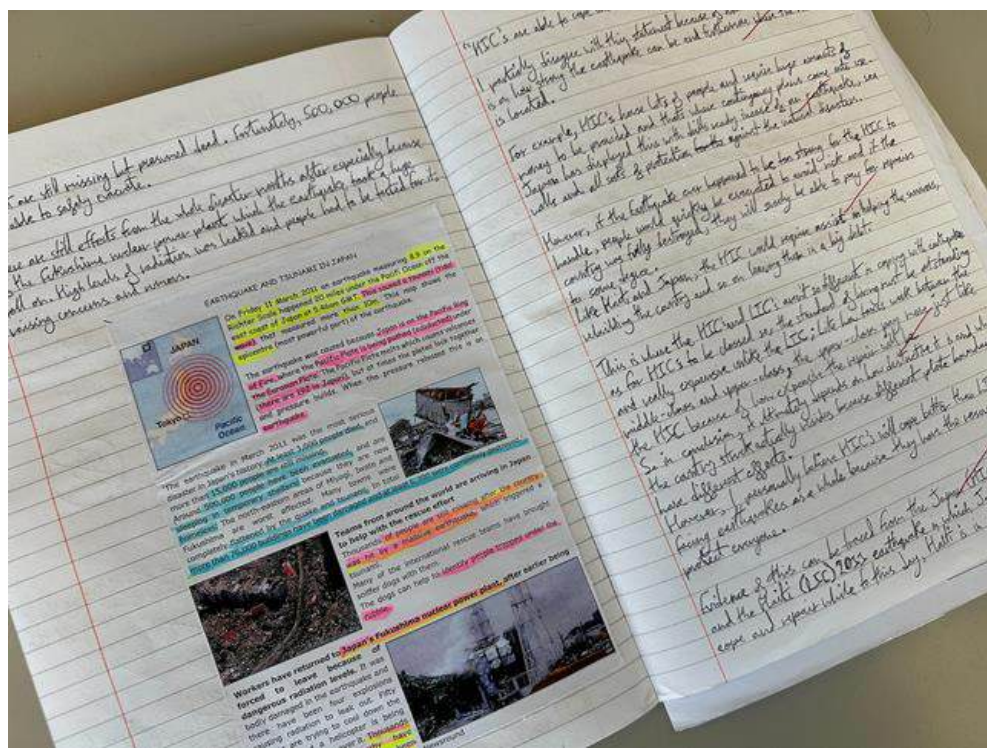
### Find out about Easter island

Easter Island is one of the most remote inhabited islands in the world.

Find out 5 facts that you didn't already know about it.



## Some excellent examples of pupil's work



## What are we currently learning

Year 7	Rivers and processes. How waterfalls are formed.
Year 8	Ecosystems. The characteristics of Tropical rainforests . The cause and effects of deforestation
Year 9	Globalisation. The advantages and disadvantages of TNC's like Apple
Year 10	River systems. Preparation for trip to Epping Forest
Year 11	Revision, revision , revision !!!!

## Geography in the News Climate Change



Stay up to date with what's happening  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c9vy191rgn1o>

## Performing Arts Getting into Film

The Drama department prides itself in providing external opportunities and access to professional industry level programmes for students to enrich their skills and be aware of the pathways available to them.



The UK film sector employs around 200,000 people and is worth £1.36 billion, with the potential to grow even more. The UK video games sector is valued at over £7 billion, with almost 50,000 employees.



Some roles are required across the screen industries. For example, producers (the people who turn ideas into reality), writers and production accountants work across film, television, games and so on. And some roles extend beyond the screen sector into other creative industries, including advertising, music, fashion or theatre.



# Performing Arts Getting into Film

In London, there are many clubs, competitions and courses available to develop your skills in your area of interest. In school, we have offered weekend placements and programmes with prestigious institutions like the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. We also run two drama clubs that have now successfully put on two productions in their infancy (James and The Giant Peach and A Christmas Carol) and have one more before the year ends (Nations).



It is vital that you get involved and explore the wide range of opportunities that exist for you. Below are some examples of amazing experiences to challenge and progress your personal development.

Competitions: Into Film Awards, Into Film of the Month, BAFTA Young Game Designer, Young Animator of the Year UK

Clubs: National Saturday Club, Film & Screen Club, Speakers for Schools Virtual Work Experience and 4 Skills Work Experience (both UK-wide)

## Examples of pathways include:

### Researcher

BFI Film Academy  
(aged 16)

Studied English and history at university; worked as a production runner before getting promoted into the role of researcher.



### Production carpenter

Carpentry apprenticeship  
(aged 17)

Built sets for local theatre group; found role as a production carpenter, now building sets on feature films.



### Editor

Studied TV and film production at college

Worked part-time in a café; undertook free industry training; found a place in a training programme as an assistant editor.



The good news is that young people don't need to make any big decisions about specific screen industry roles while still in school or college. Many pathways into the screen industries are interchangeable, and people might choose to change direction once they have had a chance to experience a role or work setting and find out what they enjoy and what they don't enjoy.

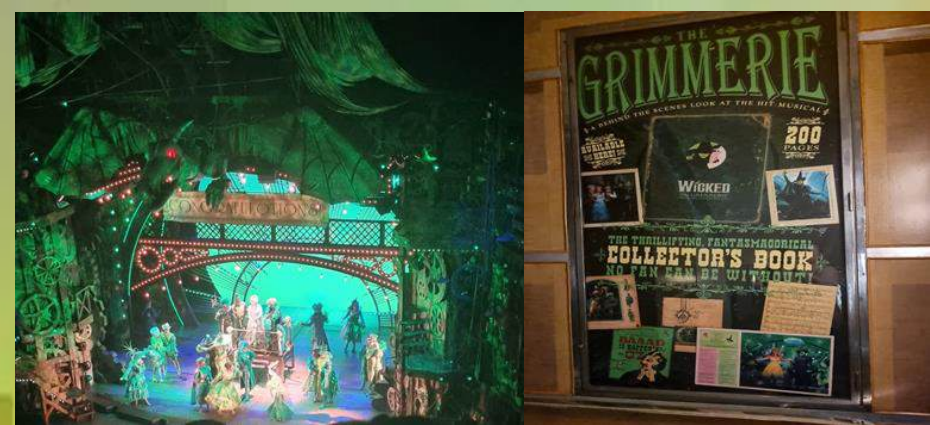
## Trips:

# WICKED

A large group of 60 students across the years were whisked away to the magical world of Wicked. This group were a mix of our Btec Performing Arts course cohorts, those involved in James and the Giant Peach or A Christmas Carol and our school Choir.



The Performing Arts Department will continue to recognise and reward engagement to those who show keen interest in developing their skills in arts with opportunities and experiences that will enrich their knowledge of the arts industry.



It was a wonderful opportunity to watch one of the West End's biggest shows which celebrated its 20th anniversary two years ago and has only grown in popularity since the release of its film adaptation last year.



# Trips:

# KILN THEATRE

Whilst many of our trips consist of watching performances, it is really important for our students to be made aware of the many roles that exist outside of being an actor. Acting is not for everyone, but that doesn't mean theatre can't be.



We were kindly invited to a Backstage Workshop at the Kiln. Students were able to learn about the various roles that contribute to bringing shows to life - from lighting and sound engineers, writing and production, stage and costume design to front of house. The ample opportunities and pathways available excited the students about the possibilities for alternative career paths to acting.



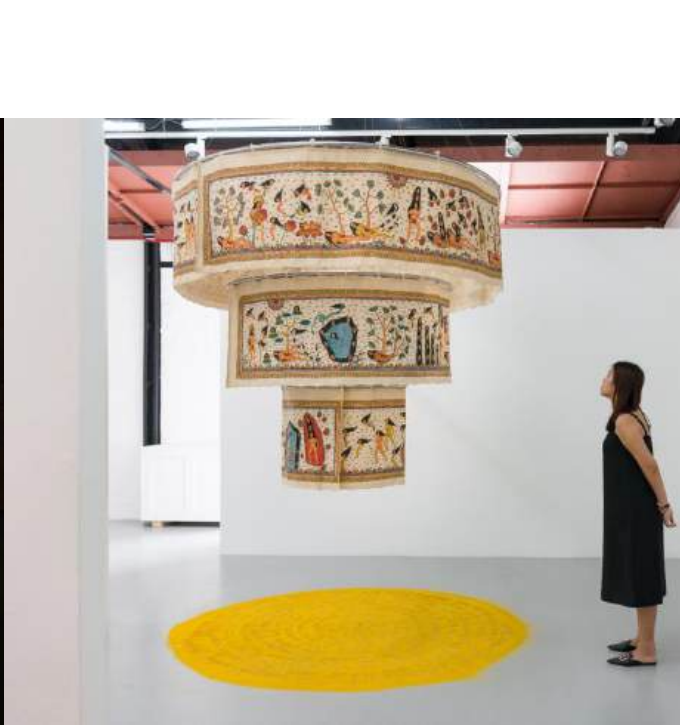
The Kiln is an important staple for newly written theatre, platforming independent writers and directors and smaller production companies. The Kiln has run many programmes and projects in partnership with Newman and other schools across Brent. Come to the Drama Office to see how you can get involved.



# Complicité

The Performing Arts Department have welcomed once again the opportunity for our Year 12 students to work with Complicité Theatre Company. The company has fostered a great relationship with Newman and are always eager to return and work with our students.

The project began with a Creative Research Trip to the Barbican where students toured Citra Sasmita's first solo exhibition, Into Eternal Land. A radical reflection of Indonesian heritage that honours women herbalists in history. The exhibition serves as the students stimulus in their own performances that they will devise and showcase in the following weeks.



# Dragons Den! – Business @NCC

For their Level 3 Business qualification our students had to present ideas for new Businesses imagined, developed and created by themselves to our very own teams of Dragons.

Our esteemed panel of Dragons comprised of Ms Grace, Mr Zalil, Mr King, Mr Connors and Mr Albert

Students presented a range of Business ideas including restaurants, coffee shops, interior designing and photography. All students wrote a full Business plan and presented a professional business pitch and were then grilled thoroughly by the dragons. We are very proud of what they produced. All students were successful and all received offers from the dragons! Mr Albert was the most successful dragon of the day investing in over half of the businesses on offer!

This is our 4th Year running this Unit and each year it is getting bigger and better! For any students who would like to take part in this or for more information about L3 Business at Newman please speak to Mr Albert or Mr Connors and we will be happy to explain the course content to you!



Festus brought Ghanaian food for the Dragons to try as part of his pitch!



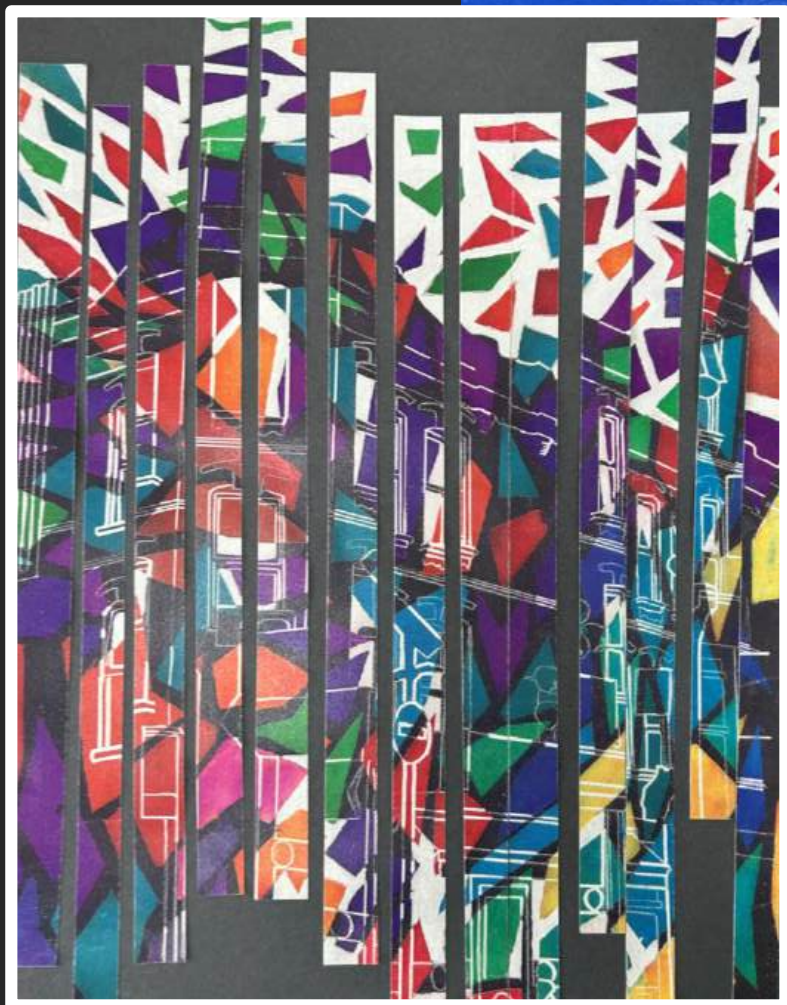
Thank you to our Dragons for their contributions and for their continued support of the Business department!



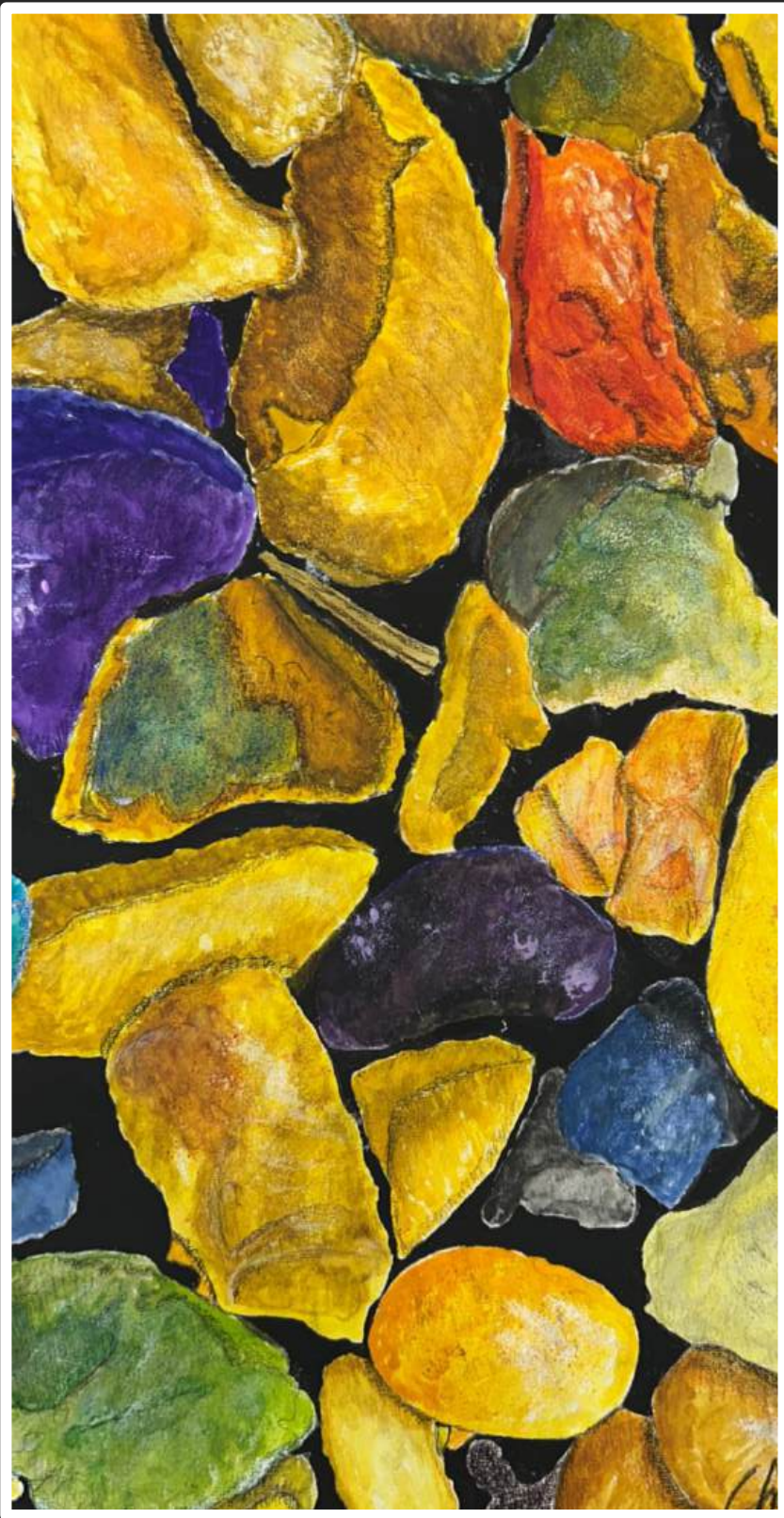
## ART AND DESIGN:

### FINAL EXAM PROJECT: GATHERING

This term, Year 11 and 13 have been responding to the theme of Gathering for their end of year exam. Following extensive research, observational studies and theme exploration, they have gone on to produce dynamic and creative personal responses.

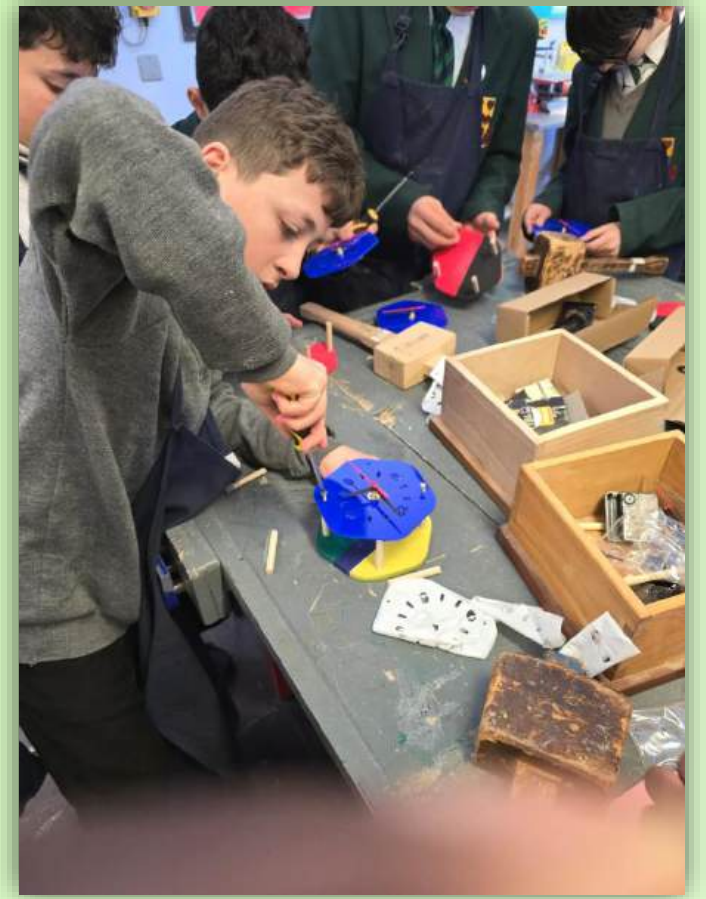






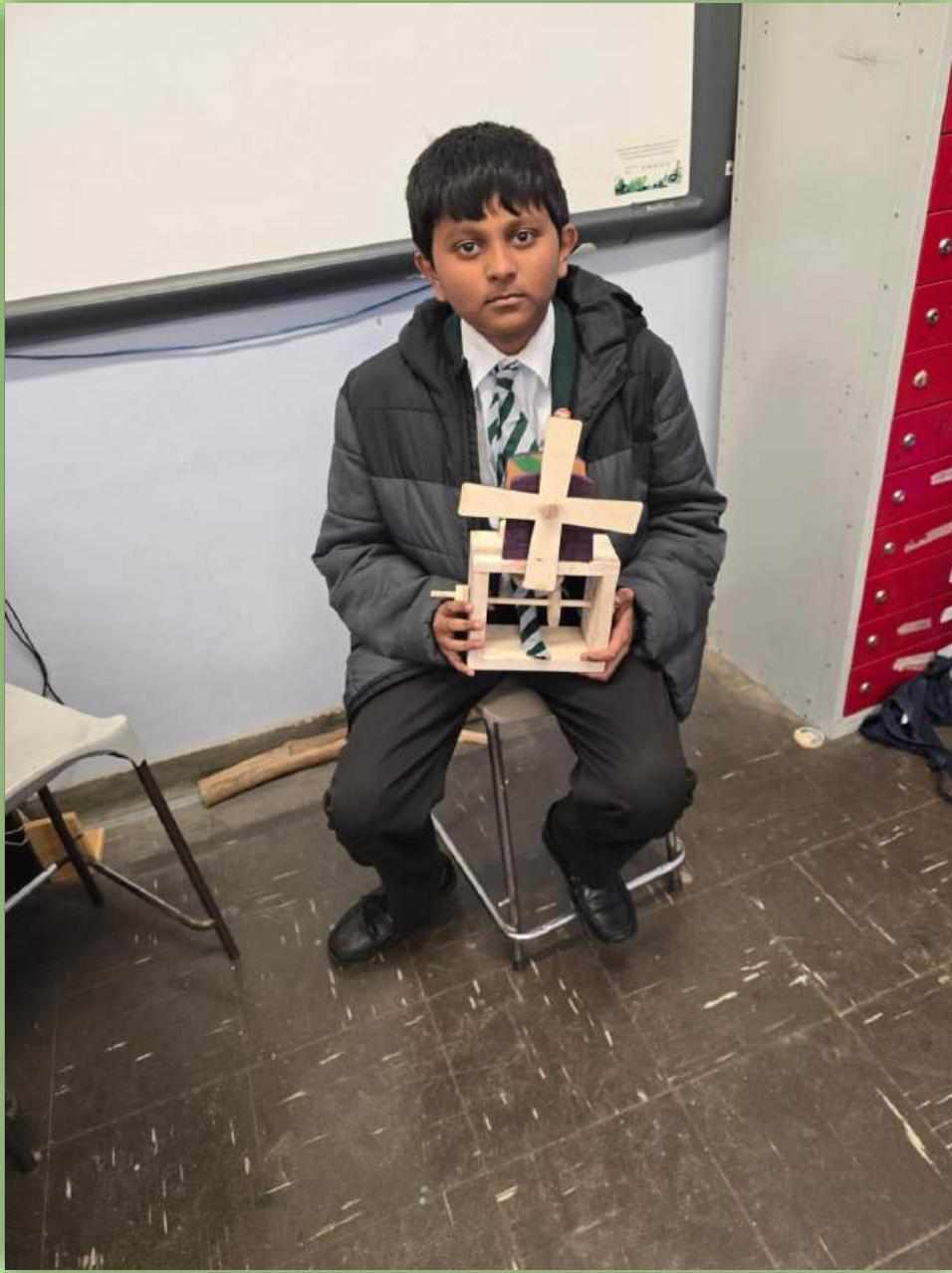
# Design and Technology

## Year 8 -Resistant Materials



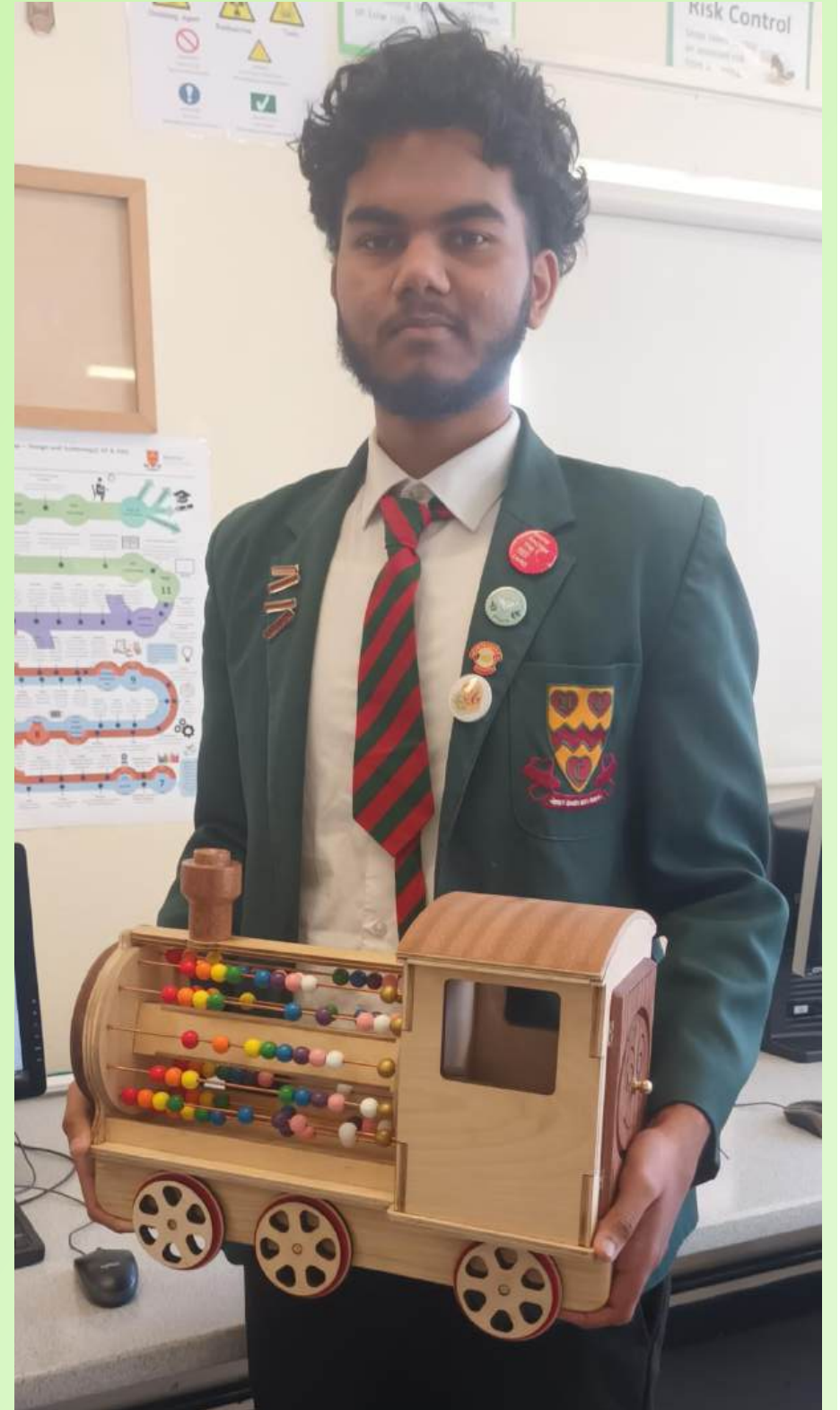
Year 8 Students working and displaying their clock projects.

# Year 9-Resistant Materials



Year 9 students working and proudly displaying their Mechanical Toys.

# Year 11 Design and Technology



Year 11 GCSE Project. Caelan showing of his DT project aimed at helping young children to develop numeracy skills .

# Food Technology - Year 7



Year 7 learnt how to make **Fish goujons** After a very sour start to lesson with most of the class expressing their disgust for fish and cornflakes, they had lots of fun crushing the cornflakes for the crispy coating, adding Jerk Seasoning and an array of different flavours to make the best tasting Fish goujons ever. There was a happy crowd and great feedback from everyone, including those who despise fish.

# Food Technology - Year 8



Year 8 made a whole dish, presented it, washed and cleaned up in under two hours! What a success for them. The dish was **Chicken Curry and Rice** and we had a presentation competition that was judged by Mr Mckoy. The winning team was very happy with their win and somewhat interesting presentation of an extremely large portion of food!

# Food Technology – Pathway 4



**Pathway 4** made some delicious **Apple and Cinnamon Swirls** which was quite a challenging task due to the number of steps on the recipe and only one hour to do it all. However, all classes were successful in making them and they turned out looking great and were very, very tasty.

# Engaging with **Science**: Investigations Across Year Groups

At NCC, science lessons are thriving with hands-on investigations that ignite curiosity and encourage critical thinking. Here's a glimpse into the exciting experiments conducted across our year groups recently:

## Year 11 Investigate Infrared Radiation Absorption and Emission

Year 11 students recently conducted an engaging experiment to explore how different surfaces absorb and emit infrared radiation. Using Leslie's cubes and infrared thermometers, they tested materials with varying colours and textures, discovering that black, matte surfaces absorbed and emitted heat more effectively than shiny or white surfaces, which reflected more radiation. This investigation linked directly to real-world applications, such as why radiators are often painted white and why emergency blankets have reflective surfaces. The experiment deepened students' understanding of thermal energy transfer, preparing them for further studies in physics and engineering.

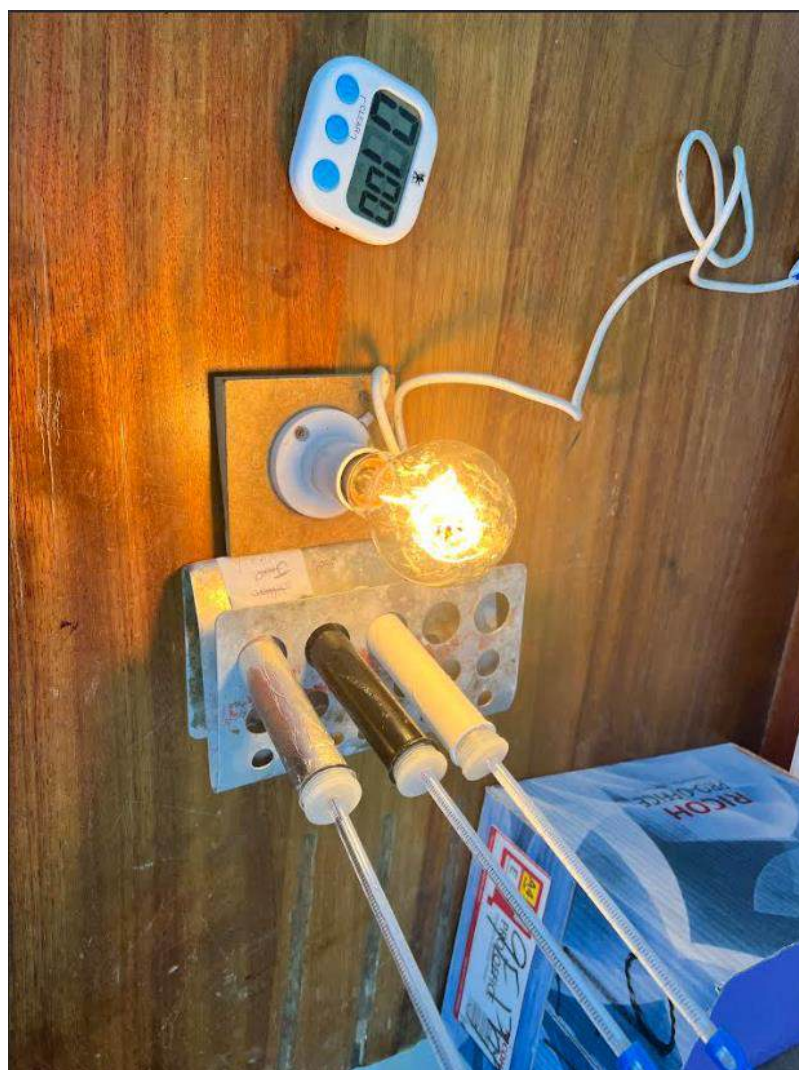
## Year 9 Explore Plug Wiring and Electrical Safety

Our Year 9 students recently took a hands-on approach to understanding electrical safety by wiring a plug in their science lessons. They carefully identified the live, neutral, and earth wires, learning their roles in ensuring a safe and efficient electrical connection. Through this practical activity, they also explored the plug's built-in safety features, such as the fuse, which prevents electrical overloads, and the earth wire, which protects against electric shocks. By the end of the lesson, students gained valuable life skills and a deeper appreciation for the importance of electrical safety in everyday appliances.

## Year 8 Investigate Heat Conductivity

Year 8 students recently explored the fascinating world of heat conductivity in a hands-on science investigation. Using metal rods, wax, and a heat source, they tested how quickly different materials transferred heat. They observed that metals like copper and aluminium conducted heat rapidly, causing the wax to melt faster, while materials like wood and plastic were poor conductors, keeping the wax intact for longer. This experiment helped students understand why metals are used in cooking utensils and radiators, while insulating materials are essential for items like oven mitts and building insulation. The lesson sparked curiosity about the science behind everyday objects and how material properties influence design and technology.

## Year 11



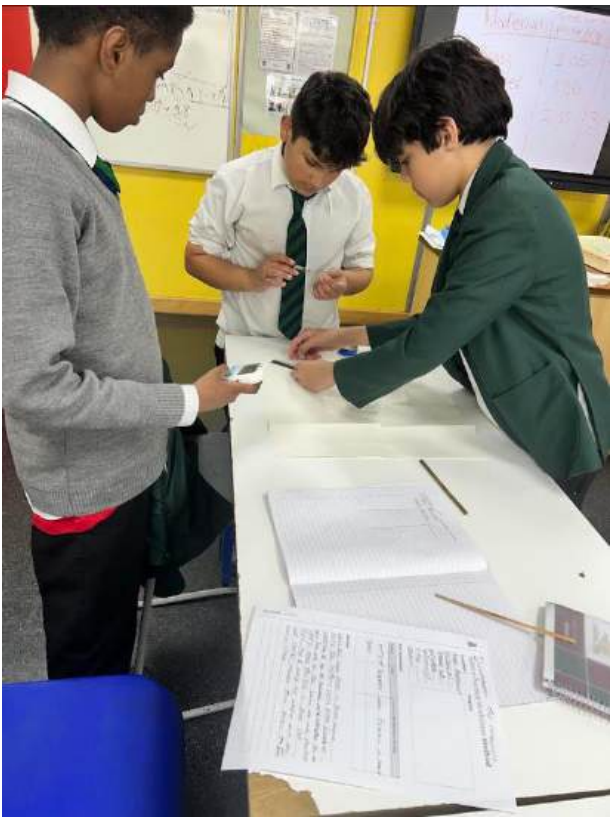
**Year 11s studying how different surfaces absorb and emit infrared radiation.**

## Year 9



Year 9s wiring plugs

## Year 8



Year 8s studying conductivity of materials

## Science Club (KS3 and Sixth Form)

After the Easter holidays, Science club will be running every Monday and Wednesday after school in F28/F29. We are hoping to see many of you there in the coming weeks.

Sixth Former volunteers welcome! It would look amazing on your CV to say you helped run Science Club at your secondary school.

Any questions please contact:

Ms Kumar  
[skumar@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:skumar@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

Mr Lopes  
(MAS Coordinator):  
[tlopes@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:tlopes@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

Mr Hagi  
(Science KS3 coordinator):  
[nhagi@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:nhagi@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

# EDUCAKE



Free 30-day trial Teacher login Student login  
Teachers At home Subjects News Pricing Contact

Assigned by	Deadline	Topic	Questions	Number Correct	% Correct
Mr Lowe	None	Energy in Biomass	17	16	94%
Ms Hammond	None	The Earth's Crust	12	11	92%
Ms Hammond	None	The Earth's Atmosphere	19	14	74%
Ms Hammond	None	Infrared Radiation	20	10	50%
James Sakor - gram07-05-2014	None	Calcium Carbonate	19	15	79%
Ms Hammond	None	Environmental Change	20	16	80%
Ms Hammond	None	Environmental Change	20	17	85%
Ms Hammond	None	Environmental Change	20	15	75%

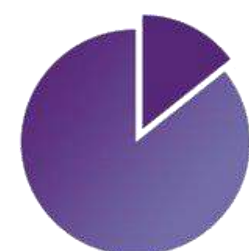
The Science department is using an online platform called Educake. With Educake, teachers can assign homework and track students' progress using online formative assessment. Students can access Educake from their laptops, tablets or phones very easily. They can use this tool not only to complete homework 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.

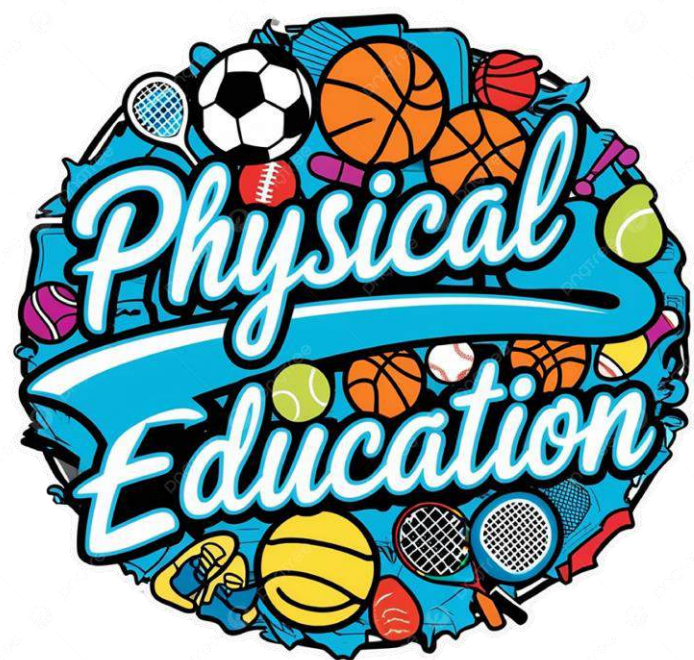
Any questions please contact:

Ms Tsapa: [dtsapa@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:dtsapa@ncc.brent.sch.uk)

Mr Hagi (Science KS3 coordinator): [nhagi@ncc.brent.sch.uk](mailto:nhagi@ncc.brent.sch.uk)



**Educake**  
**Science**



This year has been a very busy year for the PE department, we would first like to thank all the boys who gave up their time to take part in our football and basketball teams. The commitment shown towards training and matches has resulted in positive seasons for a number of year groups, with our Year 8 Football Team reaching the Semi-Final and our Year 9 and 10 Basketball Teams reaching their respective Semis too. We look forward to starting next season as strong as this one with continued success across the school.

It has been refreshing to see an increased interest this year in Table Tennis and Badminton, this passion for sport has bred a competitive spirit which we hope will continue into the cricket and athletics season after Easter.

With Brent Athletics and NCC sports day coming up in the summer term we would like you to think about what events you are interested in. Please come and find Mr Finnie or Mr Jeeves to discuss what options you have.



A huge thankyou to Mr Finnie who has taught First Aid and CPR to students in Years 9 this term as part of PSHE Drop Down Days on Health and Well Being



# Religious



# Education



## CAFOD and Jesuit Hakimani Centre Visit

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, our school had a visit from Susan Kambalu from CAFOD and Brian from the Jesuit Hakimani Centre in Nairobi. Brian had come all the way from Kenya to London to speak, alongside CAFOD, at the largest Catholic youth event of England and Wales that took place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Susan Kambalu is an old friend of the school and has delivered many workshops in our school about the wonderful work CAFOD does to try and relieve poverty around the world.

Both Susan and Brian came to our school to meet students and listen to them talking about their experiences of attending a Catholic school in London. Brian and Susan spoke about the Flame event and the importance of evangelisation at youth events and how young people have the power to make a demonstrable change for the better in our world and be good stewards, regardless of where we come from. The pupils that they met spoke very eloquently and powerfully about their own backgrounds, experiences and time in Newman Catholic College

## Tea and Philosophy Club

Our Tea and Philosophy Club grows from strength to strength and is something that I have been enjoying very much since it started in September 2023.

The Tea and Philosophy Club meets once every two weeks (currently Green Week Wednesdays after school) and we discuss deliberately chosen theological or philosophical topics over a pot of tea (or hot chocolate) and biscuits.

We have discussed a wide range of topics recently such as the reliability of believing in religious experiences, psychological reasons why people are religious, deontological ethical theories and is there life after death and the different religious viewpoints on this.

The pupils have been very mature, thoughtful, receptive and articulate when discussing such a wide range of views and religious belief. It has been very rewarding having the time with them to discuss such "big" topics and seeing how considerate they are to looking at and thinking about topics and thoughts that they have not come across before.

The Tea and Philosophy Club is open and welcome to all!



## Easter Prayer

**The RE department wishes you all a very happy and holy Easter.**

**"God, thank you for all the good things in our lives, and for Jesus who is alive!"**





## World Book Day Events

For World Book Day this year we had an exciting programme of events taking place across school for the week. The focus of the World Book Day campaign this year was 'Read Your Way' which was all about unlocking the fun of reading and enjoying reading on your own terms.

### AUTHOR TALKS

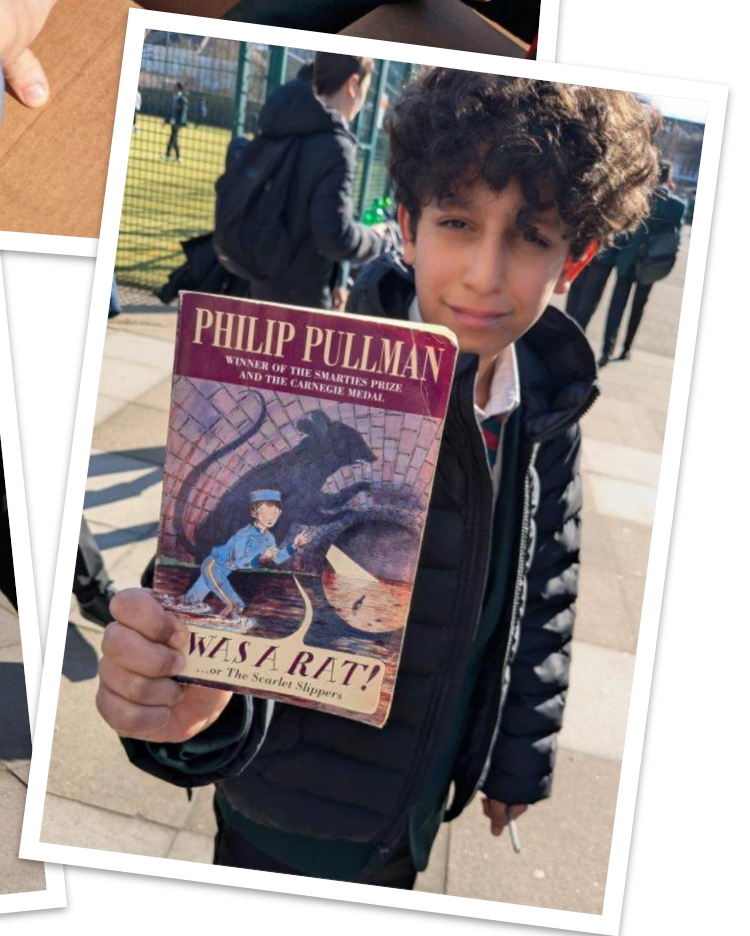
The library hosted a series of screenings of author talks with activities to promote reading for pleasure and enrich student's writing. With talks from authors Benjamin Dean, SF Said, Rick Rordan and Sharna Jackson covering topics such as how to become an author, creating main characters and villains, crime writing and perseverance in writing, there was something for everyone!

'The talks in the library were very good and interesting.'  
Krupansh, Year 7.

'The activities during the talks were good, like character creation'  
Joseph, Year 9.

### BOOK SWAP & GIVEAWAY

We took the library outside, hosting a book swap and giveaway, giving students the opportunity to take a book for themselves to keep.





## World Book Day Events

### AUTHOR TRAIL

Our Author Trail proved very popular with students having to 'collect' authors from various members of staff all around school to win a prize.

'It was a fun and interactive experience, especially the Author Trail'. Joseph, Year 9



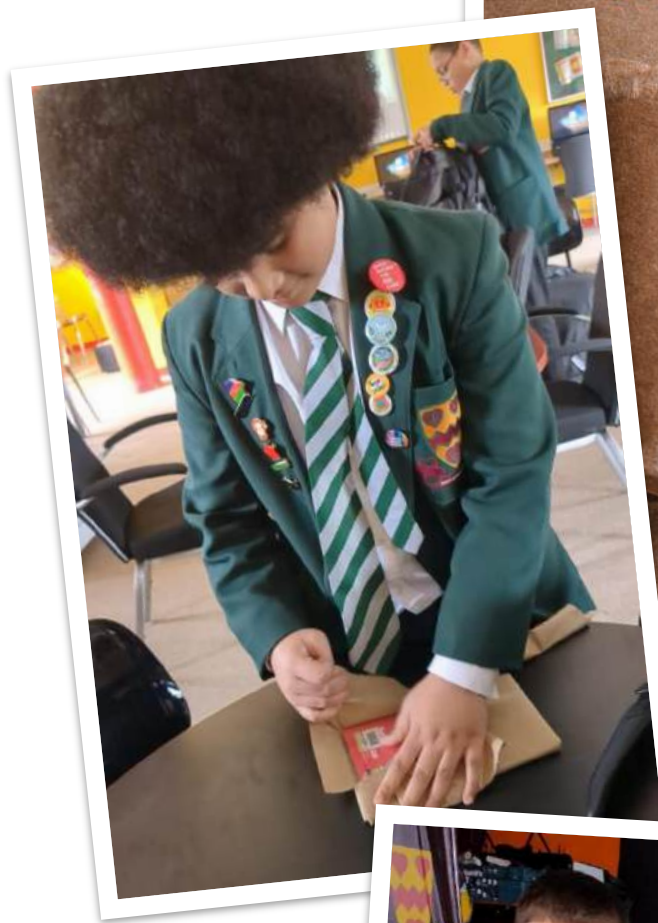
DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

Uncover a new world with a mystery book!

★  
Pick one you like the sound of, unwrap, loan it out and enjoy!

### 'DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER'

We took the concept quite literally, and a selection of books were wrapped in brown paper with only a few key words and an age suitability rating to guide choice. Students were able to choose something they wouldn't necessarily have picked up otherwise and find themselves a great book to read.



### GREAT BIG FOOTY & BOOKY QUIZ

Year 7s took part in the National Literacy Trust's World Book Day annual quiz, where they took on two rounds of questions from football stars and writers about both football and books.

'I loved it!' Mohammed, Year 7

Here are our joint winners Pryce and Lucas with their prize. 'The book has info about football players and match scores...I think I did better on the book questions!' Pryce, Year 7.





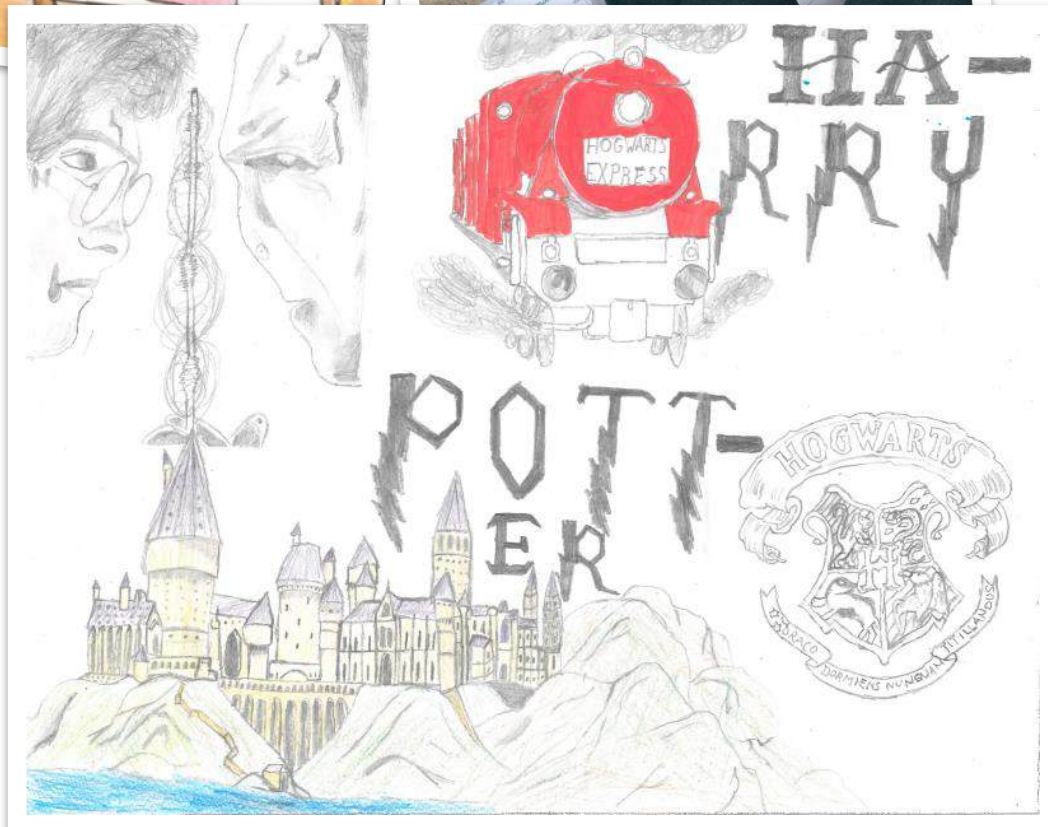
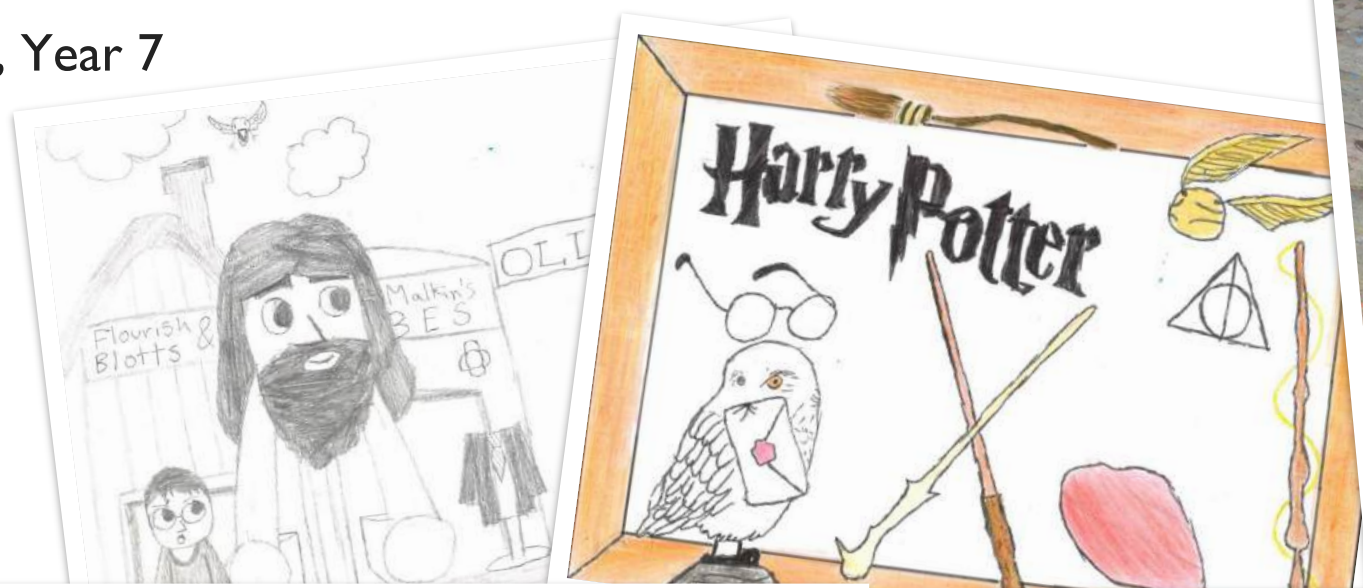
## World Book Day Events

### HARRY POTTER DRAW ALONG

Collaborating with the Art department, our Harry Potter draw along produced some wonderful creations! Students listened to an excerpt from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone and drew their vision of Harry's world.

'I thought it was great because I saw other people's art!'

Michael, Year 7



### CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

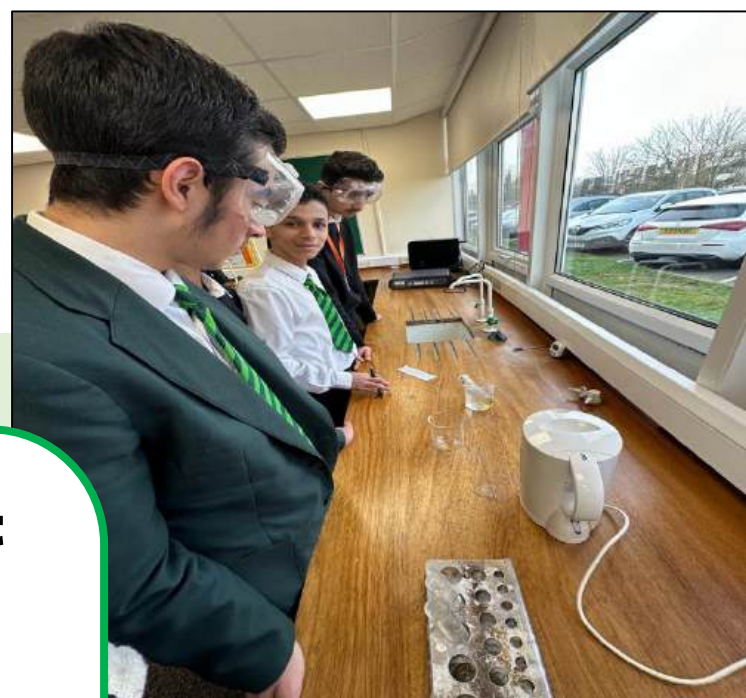
Students were invited to create a short story or poem based on the theme of hope for our creative writing competition. Our entrants showed great creativity and created some fabulous pieces.

# Science in Action

EAL

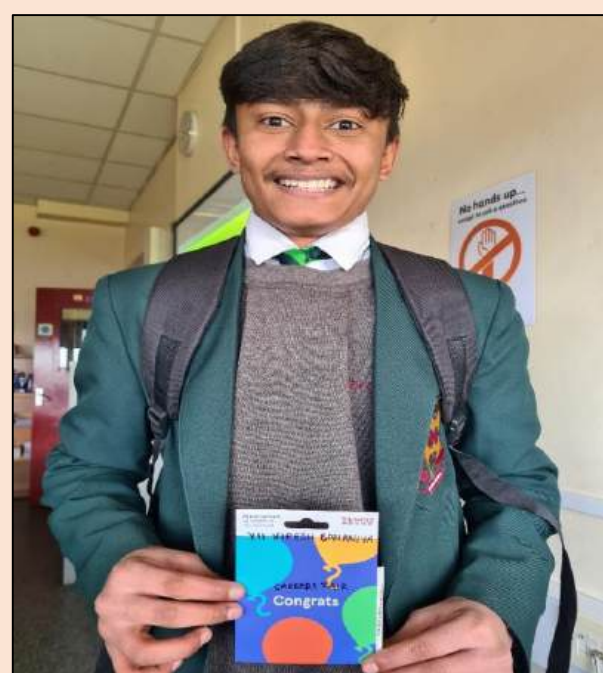
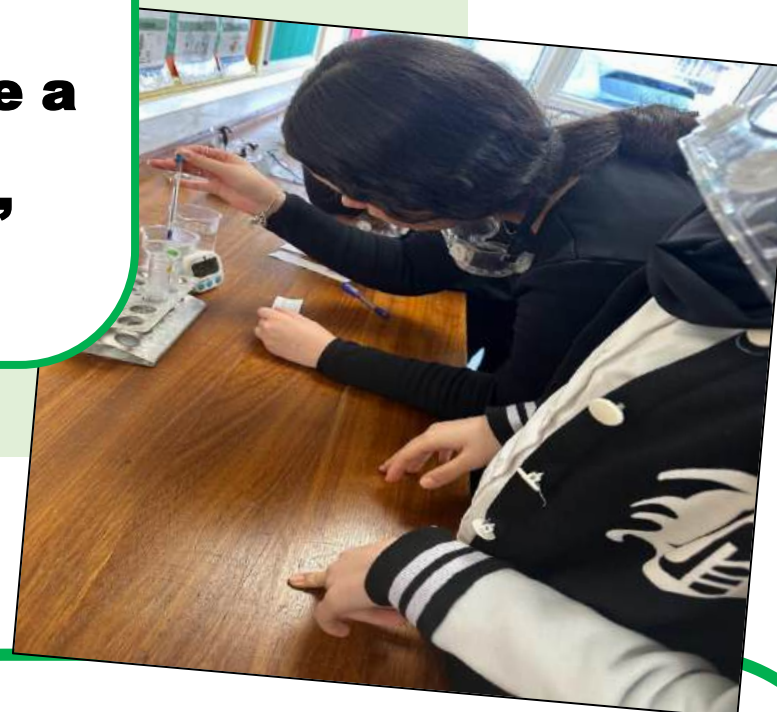


Students in Year 10 and Year 11 carried out science investigations to evaluate the melting point of different substances.



**“We learned about melting and freezing points. Carrying out practical investigations are a very good part of science lessons.”**

Mas



## NCC Careers Fair

**Vipesh visited the NCC Careers Fair and won a £10 voucher. “My experience of the careers fair was amazing. I met different employers and asked some questions, so now I have a better idea of which career to choose,” he said.**

## The EAL Science curriculum

EAL students follow an adapted national science curriculum which centres on clear, concise language, visual support, and hands-on activities.

Science provides a rich context for EAL students to develop their literacy skills. Practical experiments and investigations necessitate clear communication, both written and spoken.

Analysing data and drawing conclusions from experiments strengthens reading comprehension and critical thinking. Report writing and presentations help develop the students' writing and speaking skills, while the scientific vocabulary in science helps expand a student's overall language skills.

# Poetic inspiration

EAL

This term, students in P3A enjoyed learning about poetry and created their own poems.

## The Big Sea

The big sea on the Earth.  
Where the fish, octopus and more are.  
Blue like the sky,  
In the night it is black,  
but in the day shiny.  
The fish dance in the water.  
The big, blue sea is the light of the Earth.  
The sea crashes into rocks,  
still beautiful.

By Yobar



## The beautiful sea

The sea is a beautiful place because it's calm and funny.  
Go with your family and friends.  
The sea is blue, lots of sea animals.  
Shark, fish and others.  
I like the sea because I like swimming.  
The sea is blue like a pool.  
The sea is big, beautiful and blue.  
The water of the sea moves.  
I like to go in the summer.

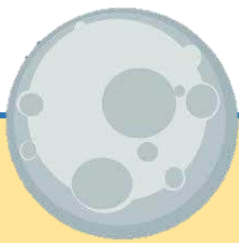
By Elmer



## The Moon

The moon is as big as a ball.  
The moon is a coin.  
The moon is smiling at me.  
The moon crashes into the sun.  
The moon cackles like an owl.  
The moon is glowing.  
The moon is like pizza.

By Shlokkumar



## The Park

The weather is hot, like the sun.  
I go to the park to play with my friend.  
I see a big, beautiful tree.  
I play football with my friend.  
The ball is black and white.  
I play football.

By Raxit

## The Moon

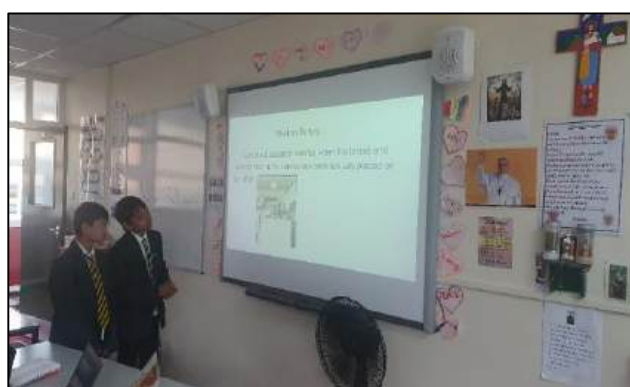
The moon is a big ball of cheese.  
The moon gives me a smile.  
The big, black ball on top.  
The moon crackles beautifully.  
White moon does not change its colour.  
A scary moon.  
The moon is dangerous.

By Maan



## Understanding the Mass

P3A has been learning parts of the Mass. They created a power point presentation and presented it to the class. They worked in pairs and learned how Mass is celebrated and its importance for Catholics, as well as some IT skills, such as using google slides, collating pictures and sending emails.



"I enjoyed learning about the mass and we also learned about other religions."

Daksh



"I learned about the Mass and we went to church."

Jaydip

# Creating a Website

EAL

Students in P4B and P4A have been working on Developing Digital Media in their IT lessons.

Students have been creating websites to advertise a fictional Victorian-themed murder mystery company. Many students demonstrated a real flair for graphic design!

A photoshoot was held where students played the roles of the actors, CEO, security, social media team and others, including catering!



**"It was fun dressing up as different characters for our photoshoot."**

Jenish

**"This unit was not just sitting in front of a computer and following instructions, it was practical and caught my interest. It was nice to get into character as the different members of the company - it made me more interested in graphic design."** Arthur



## Developing a logo

As you can see here my logo that I've designed I just designed it for one time that means no versions I choose the colours to be red and black to express the vibes of scaring things and let people think about what the company will be about and how it looks like I choose this font because it's a little bit strange and attractive I put a small symbol represent the murdering as the knife is one of the tools of the killing I put different shapes in one shape to make it organised and beautiful



**"It was very nice to learn about murder mysteries. The unit was interesting because it taught me how to make a website and about target audiences."**

Hamza

Student Work



This Year we have had 3 winners for the Jack Petchey award. This is an award that is based on the students being recognised for personal achievements outside of the classroom.

These students have been nominated by staff and their peers.

**January - Kaua De Morais - Year 8**

**February - Giuseppe Barragato - Year 11**

**March - Tom Donovan - Year 7**

Each of these young men have contributed to the school by giving up their time, supporting others and staff, overcoming challenges and seeing the positive impact it has had on them personally, plus helping younger students at events, amongst other achievements.

A huge 'CONGRATULATIONS'.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Are you aware that Newman Catholic College has a Breakfast club?

Your child can attend daily from 7.30 am until 8.25 am

We offer a free bagel, with butter or Jam

A hot chocolate or Squash {weather depending}

Cereal selections, porridge, breakfast bar or a piece of fruit.

Hash browns on Fridays {no meat day}

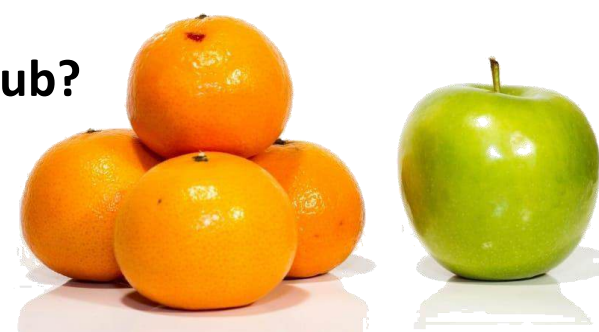
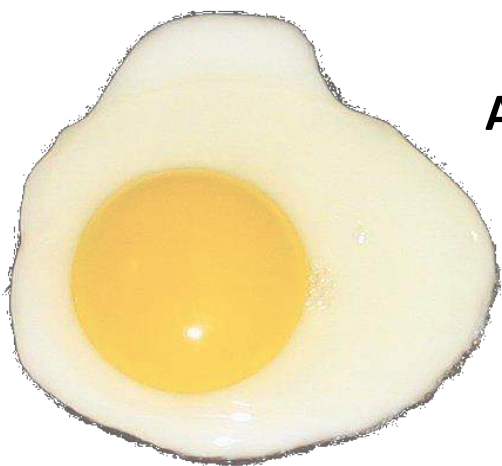
There are other items available at a small charge

Croissants, Fried egg, bacon, sausages, carton juice or water.

On special occasions, we may have promotional items available, like pancakes

Why not send your child to school early, to get breakfast, avoid lateness and have a positive start to the day?

Once they have eaten, they can access the Library to do homework, meet peers or enjoy some time playing games like chess.



# HOLY WEEK IN SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

Easter, or Semana Santa, is one of the most important religious and cultural celebrations in Latin America. Rooted in Catholic traditions brought by the Spanish during colonization, Holy Week is a time of prayer, reflection, and devotion, but also of festivals, processions, and culinary traditions. Each country has developed its own unique way of commemorating the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## 1. Processions and Religious Re-enactments

One of the most striking aspects of Semana Santa in Latin America is the large-scale processions that take place in many cities. Participants carry religious images, statues of saints, and representations of Christ through the streets, often dressed in traditional garments.

- **Guatemala** – The Processions of Antigua: One of the most famous Holy Week celebrations, where participants carry massive religious floats (andas) on their shoulders. The streets are adorned with intricate alfombras (carpets) made of sawdust, flowers, and coloured sand.



- **Mexico** – The Passion Play in Iztapalapa: In Mexico City, the Passion of Christ is re-enacted in Iztapalapa, featuring thousands of actors who recreate the journey of Jesus to the cross.



# HOLY WEEK IN SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

**Peru** – Holy Week in Ayacucho: Known as the “City of Churches,” Ayacucho hosts impressive processions, including the famous Resurrection Sunday celebration, where the city is illuminated with thousands of candles.



## 2. The Making of flower Alfombras (Carpets)

In countries like Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras, Holy Week processions are accompanied by elaborate carpets made from coloured sawdust, flowers, pine needles, and fruits. These artistic displays decorate the streets, only to be trampled by religious processions as a symbolic offering.



# HOLY WEEK IN SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

## 3. Fasting and Traditional Easter Foods

Since many Latin Americans refrain from eating red meat on Good Friday, Easter cuisine is filled with delicious seafood and vegetarian dishes:

• **Colombia:** **Mote de queso** (cheese soup), **sancocho de pescado** (fish stew), and dulces de Semana Santa like **dulce de papaya**.



• **Mexico:** **Torrejas** (similar to French toast), **capirotada** (a sweet bread pudding with cheese and nuts), and fish-based dishes.



• **Argentina and Chile:** **Empanadas de vigilia** (fish or cheese empanadas), **humitas** (corn-based tamales), and seafood stews.



• **Ecuador:** **Fanesca**, a thick soup made with grains, pumpkin, and dried cod, symbolizing the 12 apostles.



## 4. The Burning of Judas

In some countries, including Mexico, Venezuela, and some parts of Central America, a tradition known as La Quema de Judas (The Burning of Judas) takes place on Easter Sunday. Effigies representing Judas Iscariot, often filled with fireworks, are burned as a symbol of betrayal and purification.



## 5. The Visit to the Seven Churches

A popular Holy Week tradition in countries like Argentina, Colombia, and Peru is the Visita a las Siete Iglesias. This pilgrimage involves visiting seven different churches on Holy Thursday or Good Friday, symbolizing Jesus' journey before His crucifixion.

## 6. Religious Festivals and Indigenous Influences

In many Latin American countries, Catholic traditions blend with indigenous customs, creating a unique fusion of beliefs:

- Bolivia – Semana Santa in Copacabana: The Virgen de Copacabana, a sacred figure blending Andean and Catholic traditions, is honored with pilgrimages and feasts.
- Mexico – Mixquic's Day of Silence: In the town of Mixquic, Easter is observed with a solemn Procession of Silence, where participants walk through the streets holding candles.
- Guatemala – The Maya-Catholic Fusion: Some Holy Week celebrations incorporate Mayan rituals alongside Catholic traditions, such as offerings of incense and flowers.

## 7. The Resurrection Celebration

While much of Semana Santa focuses on Jesus' suffering and death, Easter Sunday is a day of joyful celebration, symbolizing Christ's resurrection. In many countries, people attend special masses, host family gatherings, and in some places, participate in Easter egg hunts (although this tradition is more common in Europe and North America).

## Conclusion

Holy Week in Latin America is a time of deep faith, cultural expression, and communal tradition. Whether through grand processions, artistic alfombras, sacred foods, or indigenous-Christian fusions, each country has made Semana Santa its own.

# MAS Macbeth trip

This term a joint collaboration between the Performing arts and English department saw 30 students go to see a theatre performance of Macbeth at the Hammersmith Lyric Theatre for free. The students were also fortunate to be seated 3 rows away from the front of the stage so they were able to see clearly all parts of the performance.

This opportunity was granted only to students in Year 9 and 10 who have been highlighted as a More Able Student across both English and Performing arts.

This version of Macbeth was engaging from start to finish and had our boys having the experience and benefit of witnessing a Shakespeare classic and seeing it performed professionally on stage which benefits them in the future as it part of the curriculum in both Performing arts and English.

The performance allowed our students to witness a Shakespeare classic performed with some fresh and modern adaptations. This allowed multiple students to experience the thrills and to immerse themselves into the production. Not only did it show our students just how accessible the theatre actually is but it allowed them to explore a part of London that is easily accessible to them.

The performance of Macbeth had quite a lot of interactive elements which also included a cast member interacting with the audience in the front few rows. It also included Ms Khalaj being a cast member for a small section of the performance up on the stage.

A huge thank you to Ms Harkisan, Ms Gunning and Ms Khalaj for supporting in the trip and helping with getting the students to and from the venue.

Thank you also to Ms Beirne Francis and Ms Saba for helping with the organisation of the trip and student nominations.



# Chess Club

This year the NCC chess club has been running as normal with a strong number of students participating every lunch time, the chess teams had to go through a rebuild due to the year 11's focusing on GCSE's and no longer being able to represent the school in any future tournaments.

Monday 24th March saw the three of our NCC chess teams represent the school against Ark Academy in a friendly tournament held at NCC.

The tournament showcased our Under 14's team, our Under 16's team and our brand new Pathways team.



The tournament was a huge success with many students being challenged by very difficult opponents from Ark Academy.

All our students played amazing games and had to dig deep to win their games. The students enjoyed their games so much that they are already asking about their next tournament. We will be travelling to Ark Academy in the summer term to play a tournament at their school.

The results of the tournament were that across 2 matches for each team are as follows;

The U14's gained 8/12 points.

The U16's gained 5 ½ /12 points

The pathway team gained 5/12 points

There will be a reverse fixture where we take our players to Ark academy in the summer term.



# Chess outside of school

Although it will be the holidays and chess at Newman will be paused. This does not mean that chess will stop, for our students and parents that are interested in honing their skills, socialising or finding activities to fill up their time, here are some recommendations to help.

As is recommended when attending these or any new events, students should attend the first few sessions with parents to help with navigation and safety as well as bring friends for maximum enjoyment.

Mr Lopes from the NCC chess club has been running a chess social event in partnership with Nillys flowers which is a local cafe located on Park Parade. This event starts from 7:00 pm and runs until 10:00 pm it is targeted towards those that are 18+ and are interested in socialising, playing or learning chess, having some fantastic cocktails/mocktails, authentic Sri Lankan food or just looking to find something to occupy their time.

It is £5 entry to the event and all entry money raised will be going towards the NCC chess club in order to purchase new boards, chess clocks, pieces and to eventually pay membership fees of students that show a lot of promise in playing chess for a regional team.

It would be amazing for you to show your support for a local business and our school chess club by turning up to the event one day.

Attached you will find a promotional video shoot promoting the event.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DGna4nhNAps/?igsh=MWo4bHMwbHB1cGd1bA==>

Willesden and Brent chess club are a local friendly chess club which offer many social opportunities and games of chess for adults and children of all ability levels. They host their chess club on two separate days and locations which are pictured below with all relevant information. Their website for directions, locations and information is (<https://willesdenchess.wordpress.com/>).

**We are operating out of two venues on Mondays and on Wednesdays.**

**Every Monday**, except Bank Holidays, from September 1 to June 30. At **Cricklewood Library**, 152 Olive Road, London, NW2 6UY

Main Session (Players of all abilities welcome): 6pm-9pm.

Junior Coaching: 6pm-7:15pm **except for school and public holidays.**

[Travel and Walking Directions to Cricklewood Library](#)

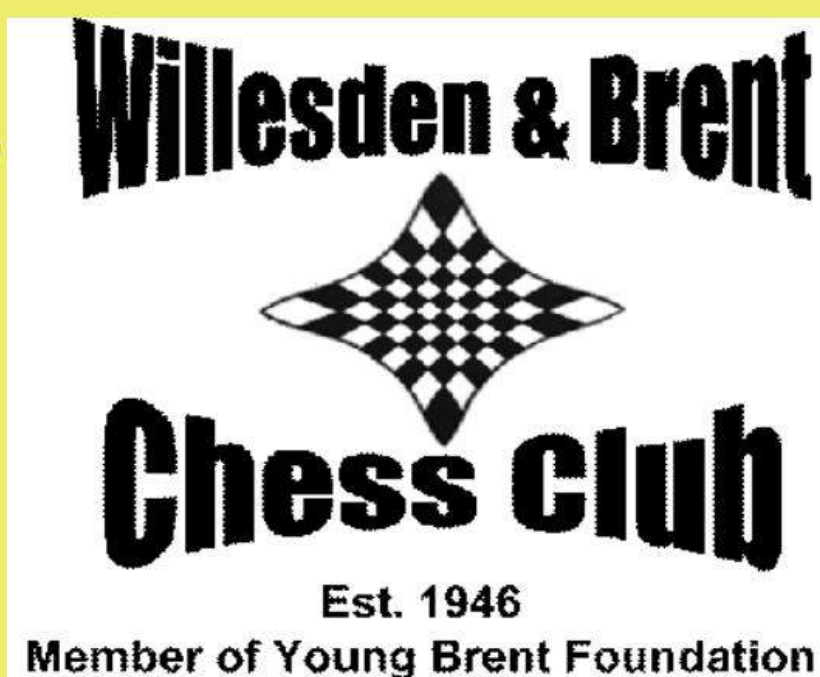
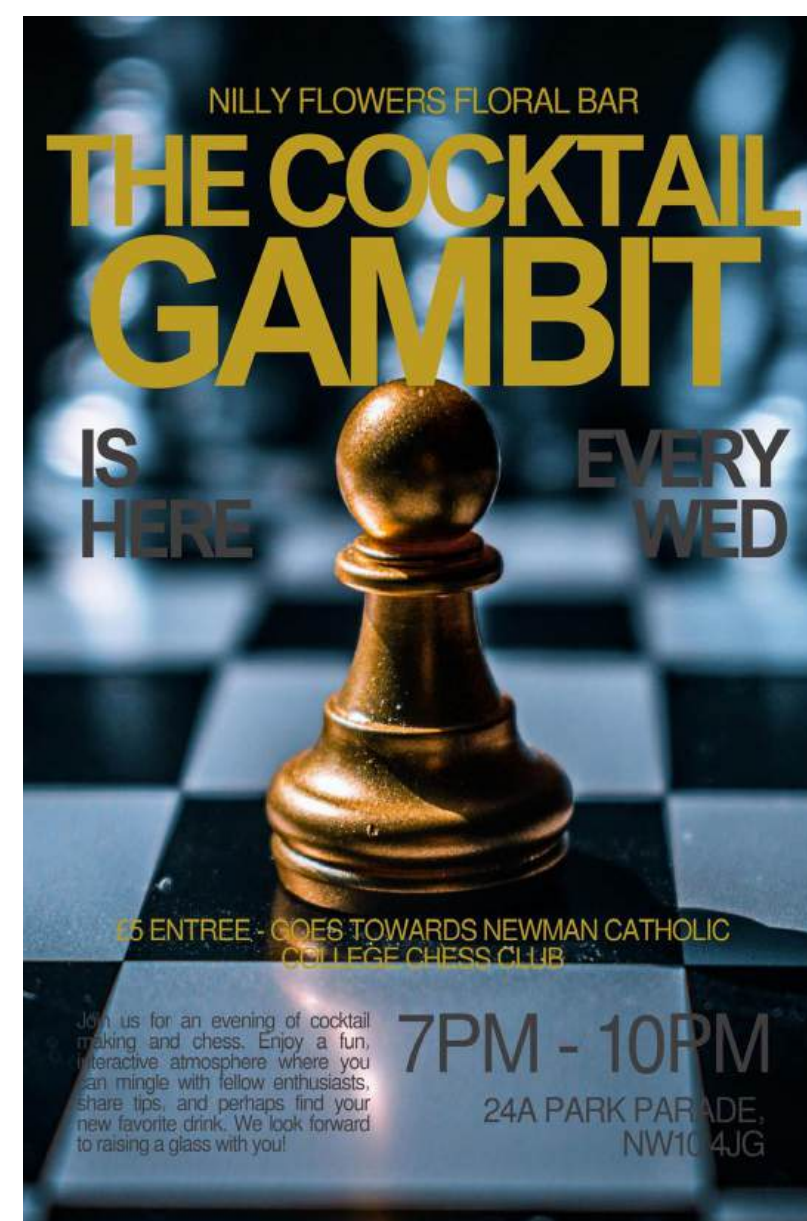
**AND:**

**Every Wednesday**, from September 1 to June 30. At **Chalkhill Community Centre (Welford Centre)**, 113 Chalkhill Road, Wembley HA9 9FX

Main Session (Players of all abilities welcome): 7:15pm-10pm.

Junior Coaching: 6pm-7:15pm **except for school and public holidays.**

[Travel and Walking Directions to Chalkhill Community Centre](#)



# FourCorner

Four Corner Club are a chess social club which is open to everyone and anyone regardless of ability, their aim is to make chess for everyone, for enjoyment, for connection and for free. They have an Instagram page called the four corner club which gives regular updates about the events on the day. As well as a website ([www.fourcorner.club](http://www.fourcorner.club)) They host free chess socials every Saturday in Farringdon

## Granary Square

Wednesdays

6pm - 9:30pm



## St. John's Square

Saturdays

12pm - 3:30pm



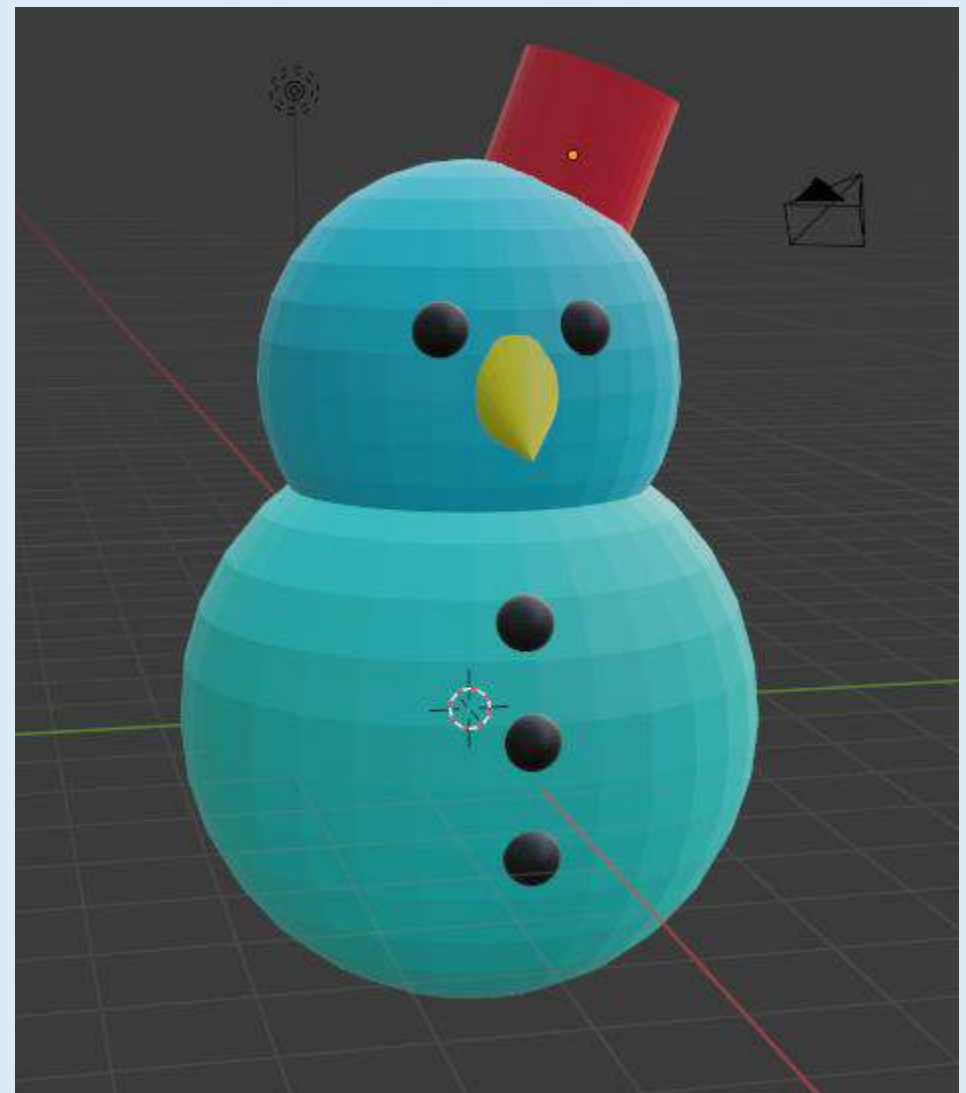
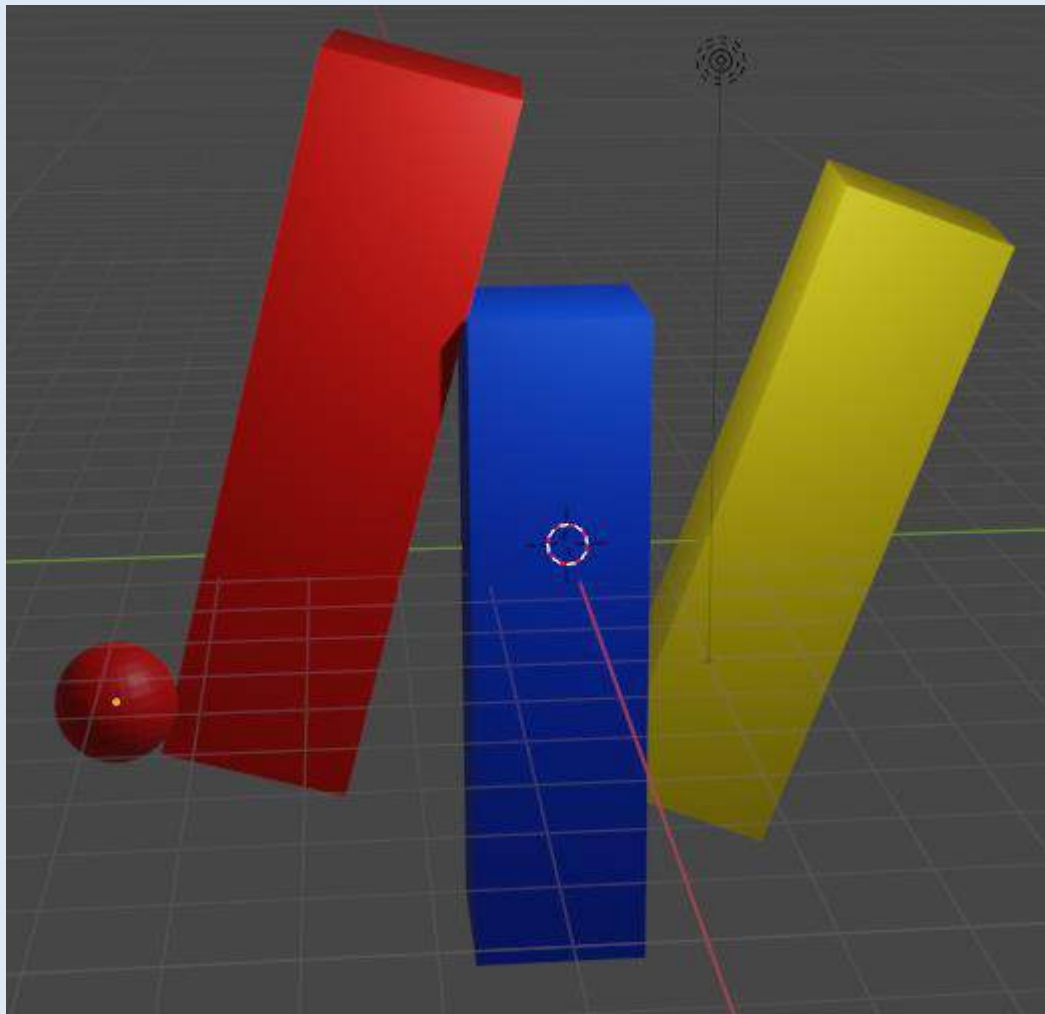
# Music



**Our Music students have been working hard towards their performances for Battle of the Bands!**

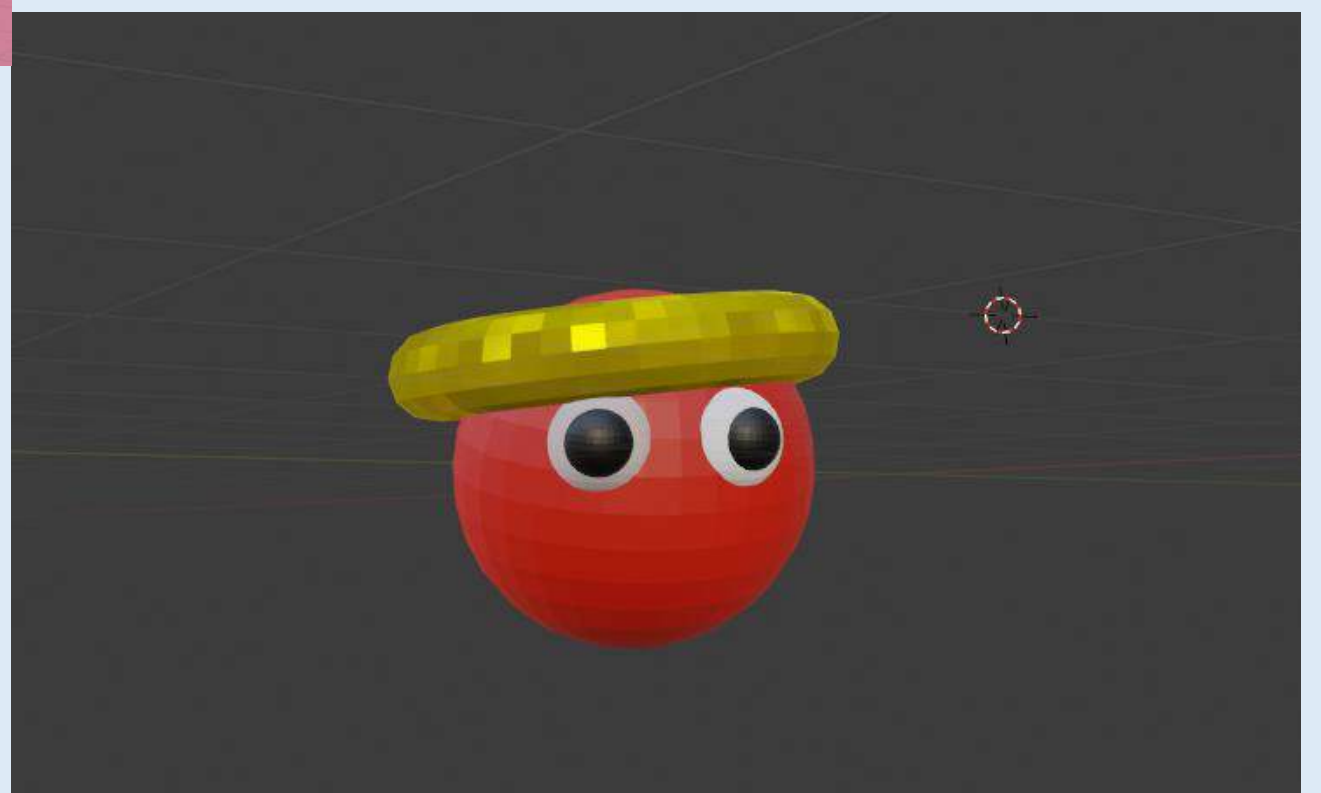
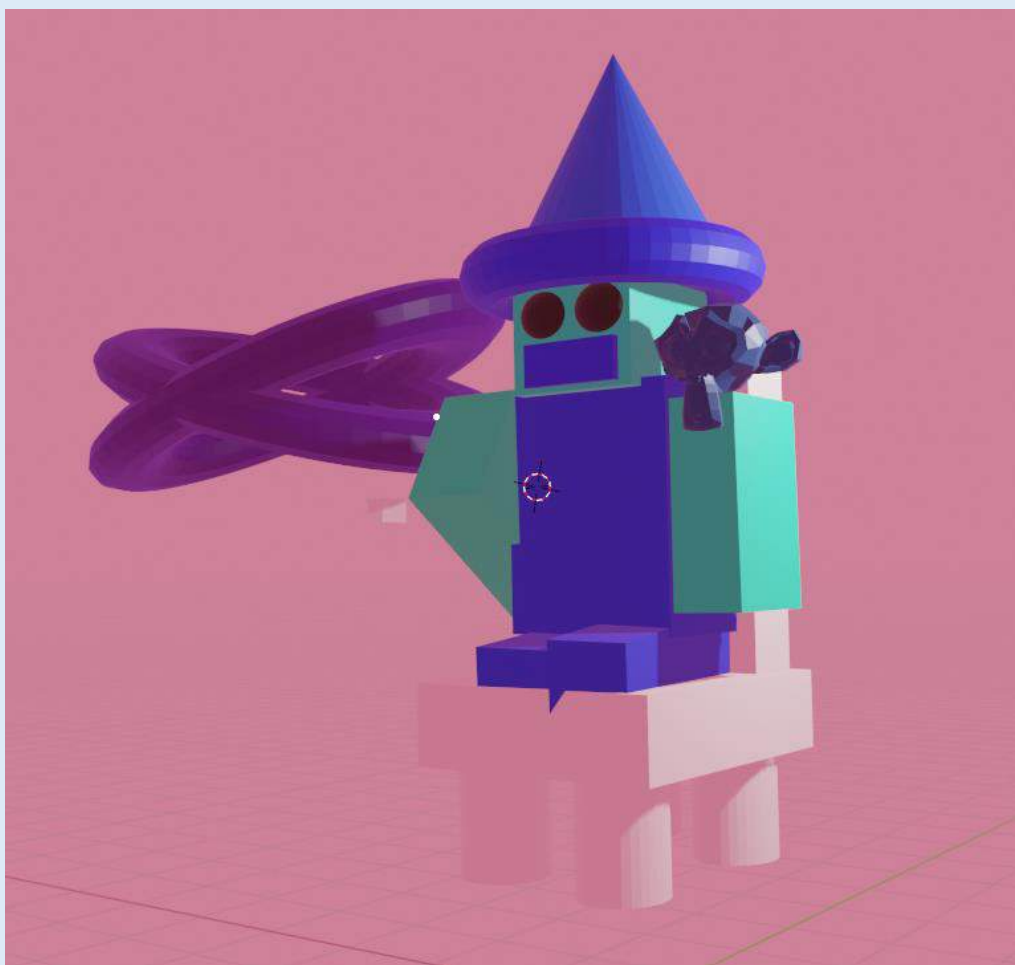
**Our Year 7s have also been performing some group work based on rhythms!**

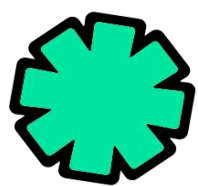
# Computing



Computing has taken a creative direction this term, with topics in 3D animation and vector graphic design!

Here are some projects from Year 9, showcasing 3D animation in Blender!





# ALLCHILD

Spring Term

This term has been a busy term for sure, we have had multiple interventions taking place. Starting off with:

## In your Corner

They are a non-contact boxing company who have been working with Year 8's for the term and helping with regulation! We even had Apollo join us one session which really went down well with everyone. The boys have been focusing on how they react when provoked or how to deal with BIG feelings. They have also had a lovely time learning the different boxing techniques which aids them if they are ever to go into a ring. Overall the boys have greatly benefited from this and have made great progress.



## Eastside!

Eastside is a poetry company where we have had the pleasure of working with mark, who has come in every week, working with Year 8's. Over the course of 10 weeks 7, year 8's have been working on different poetry skills and formulating their own poems. They have learnt different terminology and how to construct different poems. This was all then accumulated and showcased at the end of the program.

## Football Tournament

The Newman boys also took part in the Half Term All Child Football tournament, in which they were in different teams and played roughly 5 matches which included a semi-final and finals. The boys got nothing but compliments whilst they worked with young people they have never worked with before. The boys thoroughly enjoyed this and are looking forward to the tournaments in the Easter Holidays



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**Pope Francis starts off 2025 Jubilee year of Hope by opening the Holy Doors in Rome. We are on a pilgrimage of HOPE.**

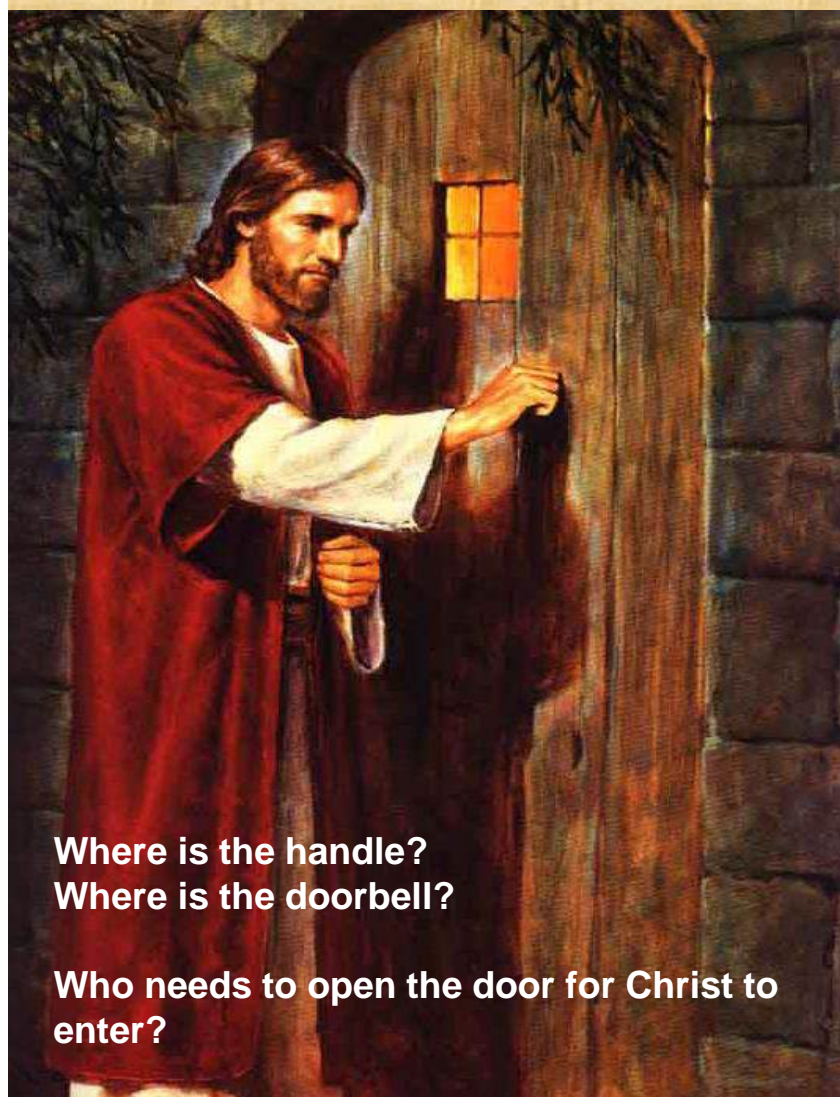
## What is a Jubilee Year?

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. A Jubilee Year is celebrated every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years.

## What is the theme of the Jubilee Year?

The theme is Hope. Pope Francis has invited us to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world. The Jubilee year began on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026.

In the Bible the Jubilee Year occurred every 50 years and involved the cancelling of debts, a period of rest for people and the earth, and land being restored to the landless.



Where is the handle?  
Where is the doorbell?

Who needs to open the door for Christ to enter?

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah, proclaiming the year of the Lord's favour: *"The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour."* (Luke 4:18-19)  
Jesus shows us what God's Kingdom of justice, compassion and freedom looks like. He invites us join him in making it a reality.

## What is a Holy Door?

*"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him. And he will eat with me."* Revelation 3:20

A Holy Door is one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome. The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. It is only during a Jubilee Year that these doors are opened.



What type of door are you going to be this year?

"The door of God's heart is always open; let us return to him! Let us go back to the heart that loves and forgives us! Let us be forgiven by him; let us be reconciled with him! God always forgives! God forgives everything. Often, we stand and stop at the threshold of that Door; we lack the courage to cross it, because it challenges us to examine our lives. Take a step towards, leave behind our disputes and divisions. Jesus awaits us at the threshold. He awaits each one of us." Pope Francis

# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



## The Jubilee Icon

An icon helps us pray visually, it draws us in to reflect. This Icon was commissioned by CAFOD, showing Luke 4:16-21, created by **Mulugeta Araya**. Look at the icon, read the gospel. What do you notice? What draws you in? Does the icon help you to see the story of the Gospel in a different way?

The icon portrays Jesus in the Northern **Ethiopian tradition**. It is full of meaning:

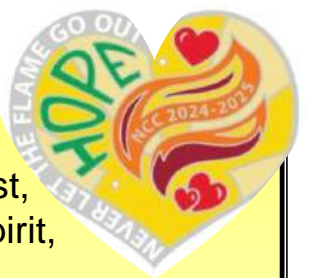
The crowd gathered to listen to Jesus includes men, women and children. Old and young. Their body language shows they are engaged with the Word of God. Their eyes are fixed on Jesus. The people are hungry for this truth. Jesus looks out into the world. His gaze encompasses all people, not just this crowd, and his teaching is for all time. The **golden halo shows that Jesus is divine and the Son of God**. Jesus' right hand is raised to show he is teaching.



The **rainbow** is a symbol of hope and of **Covenant with all people** - the Old and New Testaments. Reminding us of Noah's Arc. Jesus has come into an open space where the crowds can gather together on equal terms.

Christ Jesus, on whom the Spirit rests, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Christ Jesus, bringer of Good News, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Christ Jesus, liberator of captives and all who are oppressed, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Christ Jesus, restorer of sight, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Christ Jesus, proclaimer of the year of the Lord's favour, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Christ Jesus, in whom the Scripture was fulfilled, Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope. Lead us all to be signs of your hope in our world. Amen.

All staff and pupils were invited to design a badge for the Year of Hope. The winner's design would be the badge for 2025.



## The Jubilee prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

School Masses: The school has continued to celebrate Mass on Fridays at 12:20 thanks to the generosity of the visiting clergy. Each term starts with a Year 11 Mass. The liturgy group's, Fides Actio team, plan and take on leading roles in the liturgies: reading, serving, drafting, and reading bidding prayers, operating the PPT as well as singing the hymns and responding to the prayers in Mass. We have introduced an offertory during the Mass and an introduction at the start of the Mass. This allows the pupils to know the theme of the Mass and to give them space to focus and refocus on what is about to happen. 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 OMI, Fr Matteo, Fr Brendan CsSp, Fr Kamal and Fr Albert who continue being available for us in their parish life. We appreciate this. We are continuing our links with the tri-parishes of Harlesden (Our Lady of Willesden, Willesden Green (St Mary Mags) and Kensal Rise (the Transfiguration). Pupils (7, 8 & 9) are attending Masses in every Tuesday. Students are reading the readings and leading the bidding prayers. Each Form has a session with the Chaplain to prepare for the Mass. The walk there and back in driving rain adds to the occasion. Spring weather is welcome.



*Thank you*



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**Eucharistic Ministers:** How great it is having the boys from Y11 as the new Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers helping, when possible, in the Masses and liturgies in the College. We are planning to train another group after Easter. It is great to see the interest of Catholics in stepping up and taking on roles in the school and hopefully in the parish.

*Jesus, bless these hands you have chosen as your tools.*

*Jesus, always keep us aware and in awe of our sacred mission.*

*Jesus, make us worthy of this great ministry we have humbly accepted.*

*Jesus, send us out into the world to distribute your love.*

**Parish Masses:** Pupils are attending Tuesday Masses in the local parish churches. Every week a different form join with the local congregation for Mass. The pupils read, are reflective and responsive during these Masses. This gives each form an aspect of prayer and liturgical life outside the school and make Newman Catholic College participants in parish worship. The regular parishioners give great feedback and love having them there. We have added some singing during the Masses at the Transfiguration.



**Prayers:** Every week all staff and the Fides Actio groups receive a copy of the Prayer PowerPoint for the week. It contains a Reflection on a given topic for the week e.g. Lent. It also includes the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday and some questions to reflect upon. There is also a link to the 3-minute Retreat prayer site. These allow the pupils to have opportunity to prayer in their form time. The Chapel is open daily for private prayers and reflections. The Rosary is recited after school in the chapel. Staff and pupils are welcome to attend and join in. **Thanks Fides Actio pupils.**

## PRAYERS TO PRAY WITH THE SICK



Loving God, source and destiny of all life, we ask for your gentle and comforting presence with ..... as he/she/they struggle with illness. We pray that you will give them courage and hope of faith in your promises. Be near to their families in their fear and confusion and sorrow. Amen

## Pray for Pope Francis



**Pray for the Sick:** We continue to remember those who are sick and those in need of our prayers. We ask God the Almighty and all-powerful to strengthen those in need and comfort those near to their eternal rest.

Loving and merciful God, we implore You to look kindly upon Your servant, Pope Francis, Touch him with your compassion and consolation.

Restore his health and renew his strength in mind, body, and spirit.

Surround him with your peace and the support of the prayers of your holy people.

We place Pope Francis in your healing love through the doctors, nurses, and medical professionals who take care of him.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.



**Weekly Rosary:** Every Week after school there is a Rosary prayer session for those wishing to attend. Prayer intentions are announced, and the chapel is prepared for a time asking the Blessed Mother to intercede for us and those we mention.



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**CAFOD**  
Just one world



**The Big Lent Walk:** The staff and pupils were invited to support those taking part in the CAFOD Big Lent Walk, our annual London Bridge Walk during Lent to raise funds for the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development who believe that a green and just world, free from poverty, is possible.

Our goal: to get a team of up to 60 pupils walking on the day and as many as possible to walk as individual walkers. Hopefully, this fundraising and raising awareness of inequality across the world will move us to be better Catholics, better believers in the Divine plan. The money we raise will enable CAFOD to continue fighting global poverty and working through expert local partners to bring real life change to families overseas. Your sponsorship can and will change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries around the world. 780 million people - or 11% of the global population - live on less than £1.50 / day.



Meet the TEAM



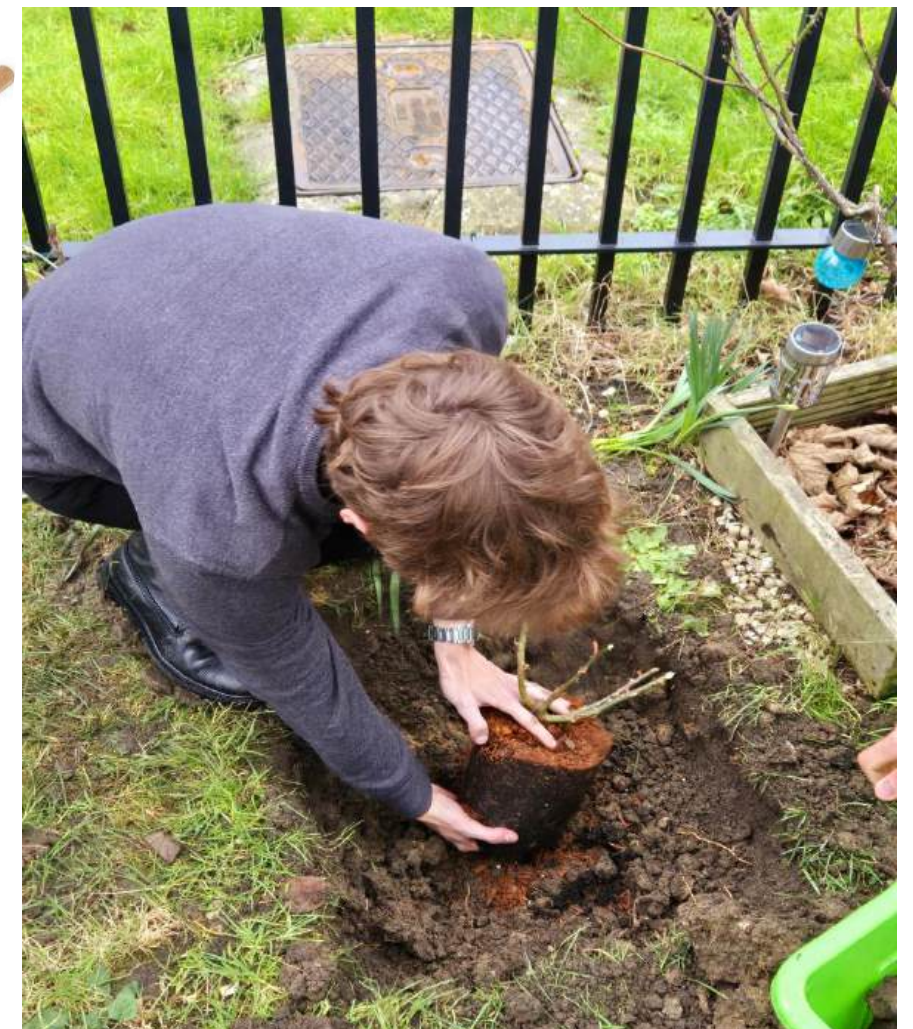
**NCC Big Lent walk for CAFOD.**

THE BIG LENT WALK

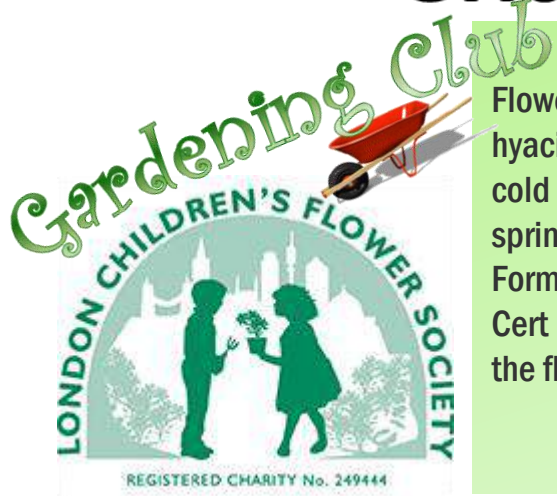
# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



This Year we had 42 Students and five staff. The weather was once again on our side. Tired legs and aching knees. We currently have raised almost £2442 but there are still weeks to go.



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**6<sup>th</sup> Former Gardening Enrichment:** This year we entered the London Children's Flower Society once again. For the Spring Bulb competition, we were asked to grow daffodils and hyacinths over the winter. This we did in NCC6 Garden and in the plant-boxes beside the astro-turf. It was a cold day in winter when these bulbs were planted and once they started to poke their heads over the soil in spring, the frost and various creatures started to root them up. It was constant replanting them. The 6<sup>th</sup> Formers were eventually awarded for their efforts, being awarded a group certificate by Caroline Scott. The Cert is framed and hanging in NCC6 Common Room. The next competition will be the vegetable patch and the flowerbeds.

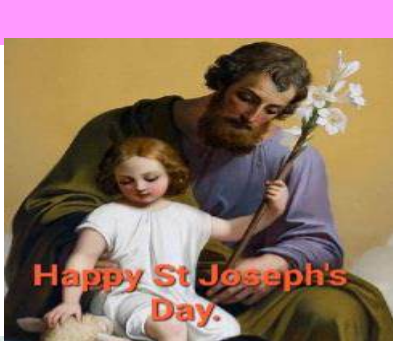
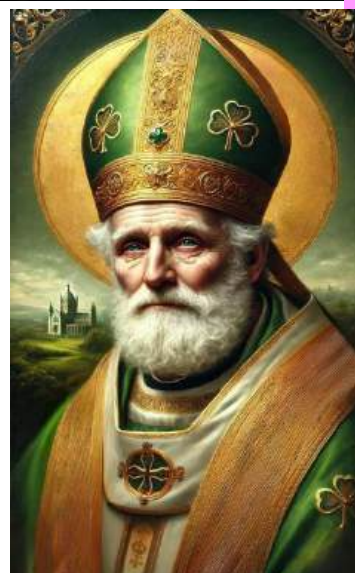


The Gardening Club planted a rose in the Memorial Garden for a beloved deceased member of staff. They students planting the rose would have known her. May she rest in peace. Work has started to regrow the lawn and restructure the planted area in the front of the school. We are focusing on the allotment post Easter. More planting, watering and the endless weeding.



**Feast Days and Festivals:** Pupils were processing with candles for the Mass on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas. The altar servers are improving and increasing. Training sessions continue.

The traditional Birthday tea in the RE department continues. I was blessed but the birthday wishes and cakes. Thanks to the front office staff for the cake for breakfast. What a way to start the day.



Spring is a season with some Holy Days: Presentation or Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, St David's Day, St Josephine Bakhita, St Patrick, St Bridget and recently St Joseph. Not to mention Chinese New Year, the year of the snake- 恭喜发财 "gong hei fat choy". When possible, the school had a Mass for the saints and the religious events. The Presentation (Candlemas) marking the end of the Christmas. We also celebrated international Education Day with national flags and colours.

St David, the patron of Wales and was influential in the preaching and setting up the Church in Wales in the 5th Century. He lives on vegetables and hence the leek as a symbol. He has a dove on his shoulder.

St Josephine, the patron of anti-trafficking of humans. She had a tough life right from the start. But God gave her the grace to move ahead. Pupils learnt about her courage and determination.

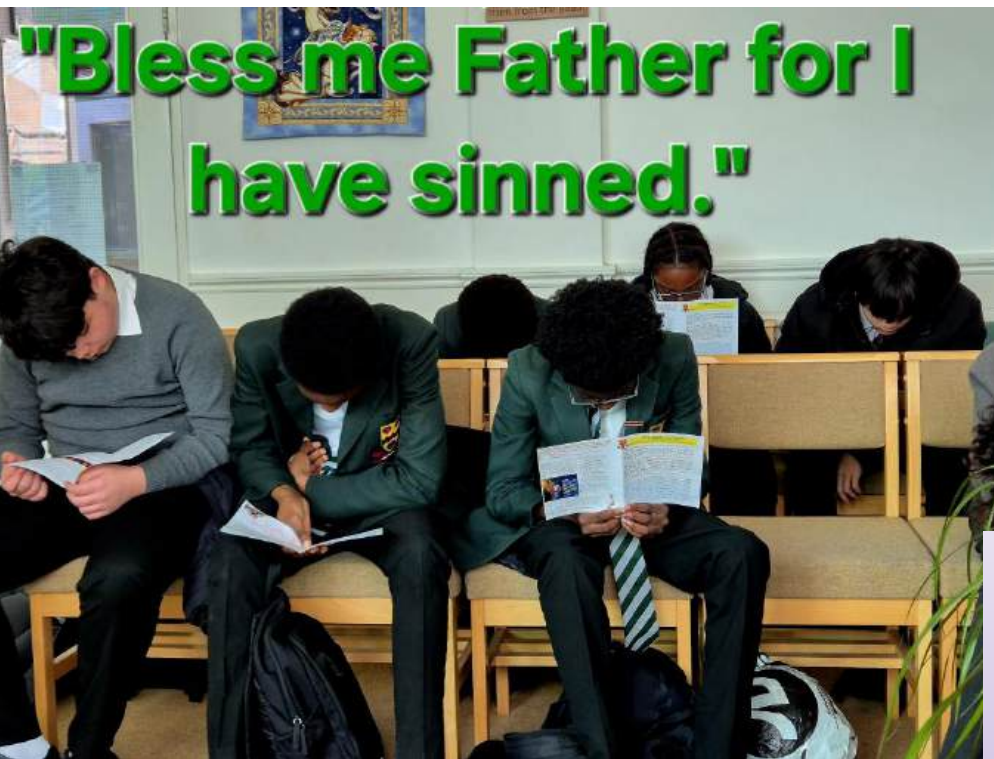
St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland and Nigeria, brought Christianity to the Irish and then Irish missionaries carried that faith to Nigeria.

St Joseph, patron of husbands and fathers, an example for the boys. St Joseph, the quiet man behind the Holy Family. The protector and the Lord's educator.

We started Lent, celebrating Masses in school and having students and staff being able to attend Ashing services. Ramadan and Lent are running concurrently this year so emphasis on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving / charity.



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



Newman Catholic College  
**LET'S WALK**  
**BIG LENT WALK**  
 We're walking this LENT.  
 Get sponsored  
**Join the TEAM**  
 And recruit some extra walkers! We can all walk together and raise as much sponsorship as possible! The money you raise will enable people around the world to fight poverty.  
<https://tinyurl.com/yc4dthh8>  
**London Bridge Walk**  
**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025**  
 Limited spaces.  
 Sign up now!  
 Application Letters Available  
 From Mr Roche  
 Chaplain's Office.



LENT: We had assemblies explaining the teachings around Ash Wednesday and Lent. Pupils were encouraged to take up an activity to raise money for Charity. I also made links to the Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving for Catholics to that involved in Islam. The School's designated Charity for Lent is CAFOD. The gym was made available for the Muslim staff and pupils to pray during school hours for Ramadan. Thanks to the priest who helped hearing confessions for those Catholics wishing to avail of the sacrament.



# Chaplain's Communique by J Roche



**Palm Sunday:** Jesus rides triumphantly into Jerusalem. The people throw palm leaves on the street in welcome they greet him in song and are overjoyed. Hosanna in the Highest.



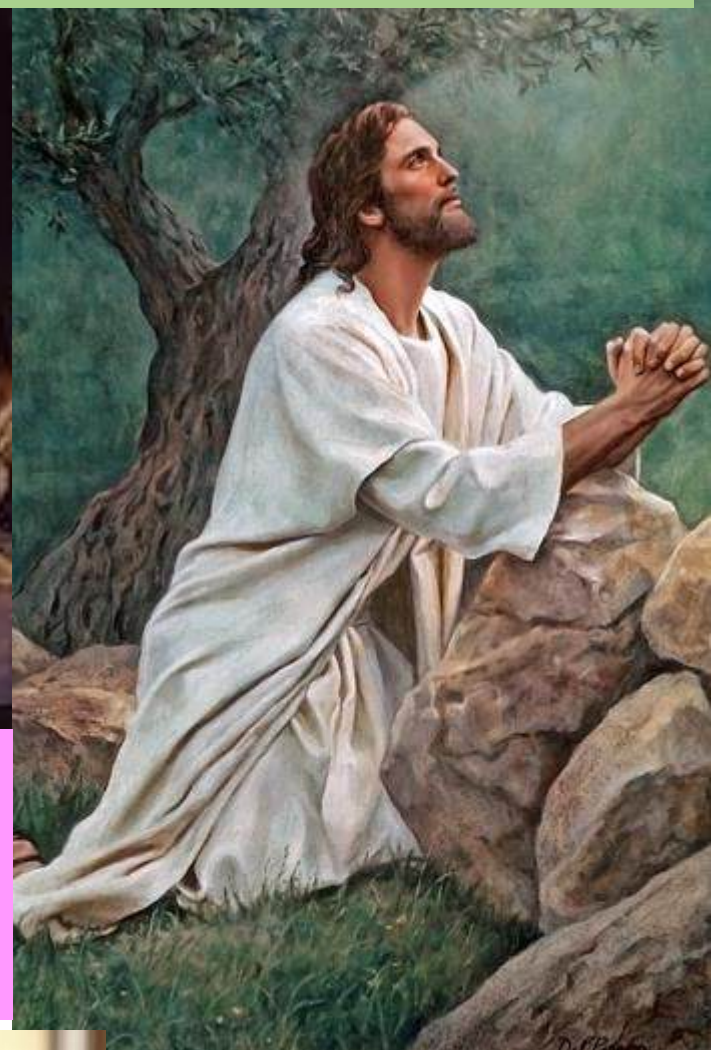
**Spy Wednesday:** Judas Iscariot has been plotting to hand Jesus over to the Scribes and Pharisees to be judges. He gets 30 pieces of silver.



**Holy Thursday:** Jesus is making plans for the Passover. Before the meal starts, he washes the feet of all his apostles. The Master has become the servant. A new Commandment.



**Holy Thursday:** After washing the feet of all his apostles, even though Peter objected, Jesus sat at the table and took the bread and said the blessing. Then he said "THIS IS MY BODY. Do this in memory of me". Then he took the cup and gave the blessing and said, "THIS IS MY BLOOD. It is a new covenant. The Passover Covenant with Moses has been upgraded. After they ate Jesus, and his disciples went to the garden nearby to pray. Jesus knew what was about to happen. He was going to be arrested, tortured and killed. The Lamb.



**Easter Sunday:** Jesus was placed in a tomb because of the Passover being on Friday evening and Saturday (Jewish Sabbath). Then early on Sunday morning, three women went to finish the burial rites for Jesus. They came to the tomb and discovered the stone rolled away and the grave empty. Where was Jesus they wondered.



**Good Friday:** Following his arrest, Jesus was put on trial, tortured, mocked and whipped. He went from one courthouse to another. The Temple court to the Roman court. All found the innocent man GUILTY, and the people cried out for his death. CRUCIFY HIM! Taking his cross Jesus went to die.



Arrested  
Tortured  
Mocked  
Punished  
Crucified } FOR YOU  
FOR ME  
FOR US!!

**"We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because, by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world."**

# 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. These are listed on our website.

<https://www.ncc.brent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2560&type=pdf>

## 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.

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

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April- Bingo Night, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May PTA Meeting, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June- PTA Meeting, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July- Community Day, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July- PTA meeting** are our next PTA events and meeting dates. Please come and join us.



Meet Chloe Edmonds, our PTA Chairperson

## 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, Mrs Kiernan or your child's Head of Year.

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



Click on the link for 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.  
<https://www.brentfoodaidnetwork.co.uk/help-available>



## 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.



# Parent Information



## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)



### **BURGER KING**

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

### **BILLS**

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

### **FARMHOUSE INNS**

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

### **TGI FRIDAYS**

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

### **ZIZZI**

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

### **CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE**

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

### **YO! SUSHI**

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

### **SIZZLING PUBS**

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

### **ASDA**

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

### **TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

### **GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS**

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

### **WHITBREAD INNS**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

### **BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

### **IKEA**

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

### **PREZZO**

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

### **COCONUT TREE**

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

### **PIZZA HUT**

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

### **PRETO**

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

### **SAINSBURYS CAFES**

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

### **BELLA ITALIA**

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

### **MORRISONS**

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

### **LAS IGUANAS**

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

### **TABLE TABLE**

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

### **PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM**

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

### **HUNGRY HORSE**

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

### **THE REAL GREEK**

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

### **SA BRAINS PUBS**

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

### **FUTURE INNS**

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

## Free School Meals Information

### **Brent Contact Number**

**020 8937 3110**

### **Website**

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals#ismychildeligibleforfreeschoolmeals>

Young people who receive income support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance in their own right are also entitled to free school meals.

All children in households with no recourse to public funds are entitled to Free School Meals, subject to maximum income thresholds.

If your child attends secondary schools, they could be eligible for free school meals, if their parents receive any of the following types of benefit:

- Universal Credit – if your annual net earned income is no more than £7,400 (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

### **Pupil Premium**

*This is an additional funding to the school that could help your child with some of the following opportunities:*


- **extra tuition**
- **learning support assistants**
- **breakfast club**
- **booster classes**
- **educational trips**
- **after school clubs**
- **resources for learning**

### **Free school meals Eligibility checker**

<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>



# Newman Values

- **Be responsible:** Think about how your actions affect others.
- **Be kind:** Treat others as you want to be treated.
- **Be respectful:** Value the beliefs and heritage of others.
- **Respect others:** Respect your own education and the learning of others.
- **Contribute:** Make a positive difference in school and in our communities.
- **Respect rules:** They keep everyone safe and happy.
- Communicate using only the **English language** 



**Ready Resilient Respect**

*As we celebrate Easter, a time of hope and new beginnings, may the resurrection of Christ inspire renewed faith and joy in our Newman Catholic College Community.*

*Let us use this Easter season to reflect on our lives, our faith, and our relationships.*

*Let us carry the hope of Easter with us throughout the year, allowing it to guide our actions and inspire our hearts.*

*May we be beacons of hope in our community, spreading joy and love to those around us, working to build a better world, one act of kindness and compassion at a time.*

# HOPE

