

# What's on Waverley?

Your E-Newsletter  
Winter 2023



Waverley Education  
Foundation Trust

## Executive Principal's Message

Dear Parent/Carer

As I write this newsletter, I cannot believe how quickly the year has gone and we are already looking forward to 2024. Once again, we have had another successful year at Waverley Education Foundation, with academic success as well as wonderful experiences and memories that will stay with our students for the rest of their lives.

We have tried to share some of these memorable events with you in this newsletter which we hope you will enjoy.

Academically, our students across all key stages achieved very good outcomes in 2023.

Our SATs and GCSE results both at Waverley School and Waverley Studio College showed improvements on 2022 and many of our Sixth Form students went on to gain places at university.

We also relaunched our alumni across the trust to try and connect with our former students. Many have gone on to achieve great success and we would like them to return to be a source of inspiration and be positive role models to our current students. We would like our alumni community to support our students with advice on careers, be mentors for them and provide work experience placements. We would also like to invite our alumni back for celebratory events, presentations, concerts and much more besides.

If you are or you know a former student who would like to stay in touch and give back to their old school, please ask them to sign up to our alumni network at: <https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/waverley>

We look forward to many highlights in 2024 including the production of Annie the Musical which will take place in July 2024. This will be the first production since Oliver! in 2018. We are all very excited and really look forward to this musical extravaganza. Students of all ages from Waverley School and Waverley Studio College will be taking part and rehearsals are already well under way. Further details about the dates, times and tickets will be shared in the New Year.

It goes without saying, that none of the above would be possible without the hard work of staff who always go the extra mile to support the students in their care.

I would also like to thank our parents and carers for all the help given to Waverley School and Waverley Studio College over the last year. I hope we can count on your ongoing support in 2024 and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Mr S. Farar Executive Principal



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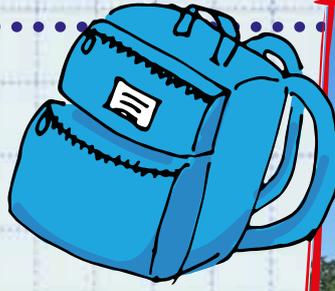


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# END OF SUMMER TERM EVENTS

## Drayton Manor Trip



At the end of the summer term our previous Year 6 pupils visited Drayton Manor Theme Park and Zoo due to their hard work and dedication throughout the year. The brave hearted had been twisted and turned at high speed on the Accelerator, climbing aboard the Bounty Pirate Ship and rotating faster and faster on the Wave Swinger. There was high energy, thrill and exhilaration in the air.

Thank you to all staff who supported and made this a special day for the children.



## Year 6 Pupils Make Virtual Decisions

Our previous Year 6 pupils were involved in the Resilience 2 Resolve workshop at the end of the summer term which was based on virtual decisions. Virtual Decisions is an immersive and interactive programme that delivers a real-life experience to young people through virtual reality. This workshop explored gang culture, criminal exploitation and anti-social behaviour. Through VR, the children were able to choose their own path which was discussed as a group following the experience. The discussion focussed on raising awareness and allowed children to think about the consequences of being immersed into gang culture. As a result, this session allowed children to understand what a gang is and how being associated with gangs can impact them and their families.



## Hats off to Year 6 Class of 2023!

Our previous Year 6 pupils had a memorable and joyous graduation ceremony on Tuesday 11 July attended by parents and carers. It was a remarkable event where we celebrated their immense dedication and hard work throughout the year. The ceremony was filled with proud moments as we acknowledged their accomplishments and bid them farewell. To make the day even more special, the Year 6 team organised a delightful lunch in the afternoon, serving a delicious meal to honour our graduating pupils. It was a wonderful opportunity for the pupils and staff to come together and create lasting memories. Thank you for your continued support in making these events memorable for our pupils.



## SPORTS DAY

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed performing their skills learnt throughout the year in front of their family members, taking part in the sprint, egg and spoon race, bean bag race, sprint relay and other exciting activities. They also enjoyed the competitive side of sports during Sports

Day where they learnt the importance of teamwork and how crucial this skill can be in achieving success. They were enthusiastic to compete with their peers and showed great team spirit by encouraging each other! Parents were overjoyed to see their children do their best.

A huge thank you to Mr Tonks, Ms Sheehan and all staff who supported in making special memories for our children.

# Olympian Danielle Brown MBE visit

To promote fitness and inspire our pupils, the primary phase had the honour to host the five-time Olympic Champion, two-time Paralympic champion and one-time Commonwealth games champion, Ms Danielle Brown MBE during the Sports Week. Danielle is a lawyer and an award-winning author too.

Danielle was immersed with many activities throughout the day at school. She visited the Resource Base to meet with pupils and spoke to them about their favourite sport. She also spoke to a group of pupils with special needs from across the primary phase and boosted their confidence by sharing her own story with them. Danielle raised the aspirations in pupils from across primary by giving motivational speeches.

Danielle delivered assemblies to pupils across the primary phase based on 'aspiration'. The pupils were fascinated to hear about her triumphs and even got to see her special Beijing and London Olympic gold medals and gold medal from the Commonwealth Games in India. The assemblies were inspiring as Danielle spoke wonderfully about the importance of 'mentality', and how having an 'I can' attitude led her to overcome adversity and be so successful. Our pupils listened intently and asked lots of thoughtful questions.

Some pupils' comments about Danielle were: 'She is an icon to all! Danielle is a legendary archer!'

Danielle says 'never give up'. I learnt from Danielle that girls can do anything and everything!'

Danielle supported pupils on the field during the sports day event and enjoyed interacting with our school community parents. Parents were thrilled to meet Danielle and thanked her for encouraging their children during the sports. Danielle showcased two of her Olympics gold medals to our pupils and

parents at the end of the sports event. Pupils were astonished to hear the facts about the medal, and they had a chance to hold and wear them. Pupils were shocked with the mass of each medal!

Danielle's words:

"I have been to many schools and Waverley stood out for me in my last visit. The infrastructure and facilities for pupils at Waverley are amazing! One can achieve

so much with the support of fantastic teachers here. Pupils behave so well and are well mannered. They listen well

and want to do well in future. I would love to return to Waverley again. It was so cute when a pupil from 1B came

and asked me if I was interested in swapping one of my gold medals with the medal, he won at the sports day today! What a genius!"



## SAPPHIRE TEA PARTY

Primary pupils that earned over 300 epraise points at the end of last term were invited to a wonderful Sapphire tea party. There were cakes, biscuits, tea, squash, floral centre pieces, candles and soothing music.

This was a fantastic reward for their sustained hard work, effort and attitude across the year. The children had a great time and will no doubt be talking about this event for a long time to come. Well done to all of the children who earned this special reward and a huge thank you to the primary staff who helped to organise and support the event.



## If Everyone Played the Ukulele the World Would be a Better Place - Jake Shimabukuro

Previous Year 4 pupils had worked extremely hard last year learning how to play the ukulele. Due to their determination and enthusiasm the pupils took part in the Summer Concert, where they showcased their musical talents. The class worked together as a team, encouraging one another to play to the best of their ability. They put on a great show for parents and other pupils of the school.

# AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS

## RECEPTION SETTLING IN

This term children joined us in reception for morning or afternoon sessions as part of their transition. Through sweat, tears and laughter pupils have enjoyed getting comfortable and confident around their peers and new teachers.

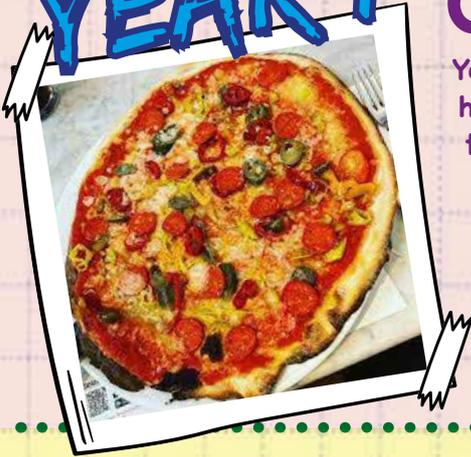
Some of the activities they have enjoyed and carried out include role-play in our small world, the home corner, play dough table and the outdoor learning environment.

### YEAR 1

## CHEFS IN YEAR 1



Year 1 have had an exciting start to the year. They had the opportunity to go to Pizza Express and make their own pizza to take home to enjoy. They went to three different locations (Resorts World, Bullring, Harborne). They all became mini chefs and made pizza. They started off by rolling the dough in to the pan and then they spread the tomato pizza sauce, and finally they added the cheese. Throughout this whole experience the children participated and thoroughly enjoyed this trip.



### YEAR 1 PUPILS SAY

# 'THAT'S ASDA PRICE!'

Year 1 visited ASDA superstore and had an exciting time touring the store and learning about different types of produce from around the world. They had a tour around the storeroom and experienced the sub-zero temperatures of the freezer area. Children were also lucky enough to have a go at scanning and packing their own shopping. Tracey (our tour guide) talked to children about the benefits of healthy eating and the variety of fruit and vegetables that are available in supermarkets. The experience will feed into their current design and technology project where they are designing and making a healthy and nutritious salad with local produce.

## Year 1 Pupils Visit Twycross Zoo

Year 1 had an amazing opportunity to visit Twycross Zoo this term, they loved every moment of it! The children started with The Gruffalo walk, which they really enjoyed.

They saw different types of gibbons in the Gibbon Forest as well as a baby gibbon clinging on to his mother and chimpanzees. The snow leopard with her cubs and the incredible tiger, were a highlight. Overall, Year 1 had an amazing time and learnt about different habitats and dietary requirements for the animals.



**tz**  
Twycross Zoo  
IN THE HEART OF CONSERVATION

# YEAR 2

## Class 2B in the Limelight for Attendance!

2B pupils were thrilled to visit Scallywags as a reward for winning the highest attendance in Key Stage 1.

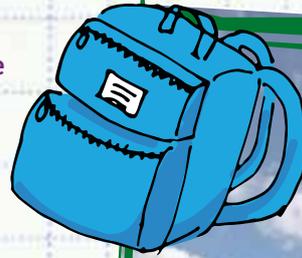
Pupils explored every corner of the soft play area and were challenged by the two tiers! Pupils tried balancing on inflated bouncy balls – this looked easier than it actually was! Pupils enjoyed sliding and travelling through the tunnels not knowing where they would end up. This rewarding visit inspired pupils to come to school every day.

## Enlightening Visit to St Paul's Church

To bring learning to life, Year 2 pupils visited St Paul's Church in the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham. We were welcomed by Reverend David at the main entrance and the learning started from there on. Pupils were captivated by the breathtaking architecture and the history that lies within one building; the history seemed to transport us to a different era.

Rev. David explained how Jesus served the community, teaching about the importance of love and forgiveness. He also explained the importance of generosity by talking about Holy Communion. Pupils were thrilled to see Rev. David's traditional attire as the minister and the artefacts at the main altar. Pupils were also taught about Baptism and how this compared with other religions.

Rev. David shared captivating stories behind the stained-glass windows, the pupils particularly loved the story behind Jesus blessing children as it showed them that Jesus was a caring and loving person who cared about every one of all ages. This was the first time the pupils had been to a church, and it was an exciting and memorable experience!



## Year 2 Pupils Learn About The Great Fire of London

Year 2 pupils have been immersed in the story of Toby and The Great Fire of London; a young boy who helped King Charles II and Samuel Pepys to fight the terrible fire that destroyed a neighbourhood of London in 1666. A child in 2A wrote this diary entry:

To further develop their imagination and discover new facts, pupils engaged in a drama workshop. The workshop facilitator was dressed up as the prime witness of this tragic event, Mr Samuel Pepys and invited children into the drama studio.

He asked pupils questions to assess their knowledge on the topic and he was impressed with the accurate responses received from the children.

Pupils were encouraged to compare and contrast how fires were tackled then and now. With the latter, pupils really impressed the facilitator with their knowledge of fire safety.

Children then had an opportunity to explore the artefacts from the 1600's and were able to get first-hand experience! The highlight of the workshop was when pupils in groups had to re-enact the story with chronology, drama and expression!

Dear Diary

On a sunny Sunday morning I woke up filled with confusion. People were screaming and I didn't know what was happening. I then realized something was happening outside. When I looked outside I saw red, blazing, huge flames that were coming from the bakery.

At that moment, I felt frightened and terrified, I smelled the burning smoke and it made my nose curl.

# YEAR 4

## Pupils as Art Critiques

Year 4 pupils had the fantastic opportunity to visit The New Art Gallery in Walsall as part of their topic: Ancient Greece.

Here they enjoyed taking a variety of tours to appreciate some great work of artists around the world. They particularly enjoyed touring the Garman Ryan which has been around for almost 50 years!

Thank you to all staff who supported with this trip and ensured it ran smoothly.



# YEAR 5 AND 6

## West Midlands Police Raising Awareness and Dangers of Drugs

A special assembly was delivered to our Year 5 & 6 pupils by PC Cooper about drug awareness. The session was not just informative; it was empowering.

Our pupils left the assembly with a deeper understanding of the risks associated with drug use and the confidence to say no when faced with difficult choices. It's moments like these that make a lasting impression on our young minds, helping them navigate the challenges of life with wisdom and resilience.



# 5A Celebrate International Day of Peace

Class 5A performed a wonderful assembly all about 'International Day of Peace'. The children shared how it is important to be peaceful with one another and how we can implement peaceful actions within our world and within our school community. It was great to see our children stand and deliver their lines from memory, with confidence. What a great start to the year! One of the children shared, 'I enjoyed practising for my assembly, and I think the message we shared was an important one where we can make our world better.'



# Footballers Show Good Team Work

On Monday 16 October, a team of 9 boys from Years 5 and 6 represented Waverley at a football tournament at Oasis Academy Hobmoor. The children were a credit to our school - they were competitive and determined, but also showed great sportsmanship too. They drew their first game 3 - 3 and narrowly lost their second, just missing out on qualification to the finals on goal difference. In addition to seeing the children enjoy playing for their school, it was fantastic to see so many parents come to support their children.



## Year 5 & 6 knitting club

Year 5 and 6 knitting club has really taken off over in the Primary Phase. Pupils of all knitting expertise whether beginner, intermediate or a knitting veteran have joined the club and shared their love of creating. Our pupils and teachers have mostly commented on the calmness of the clubs and how there is a stress-free atmosphere to knitting. Most of our pupils did

find knitting quite difficult at first as there was so much to learn about casting on, the knit stitch, the purl stitch and casting off but after just half an hour of knitting, most of them were able to make their first row of stitches.

This club really helps to build up our pupils' patience and endurance and in just half an hour they realise that they can achieve anything if they simple focus, work hard and practise, practise, practise! It is so nice to see our pupils come together and learn a skill outside of their usual lessons and it is also nice to have a chance to catch up with them as individuals and to develop tight-knit support circles and skills that could last a lifetime.

## CLASS 5B CELEBRATE DIWALI

Diwali (or Deepavli) was celebrated this week by many of our Sikh and Hindu community. Did you know that Diwali means a row or string of lights? It is a festival lasting from one to five days. It symbolises the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

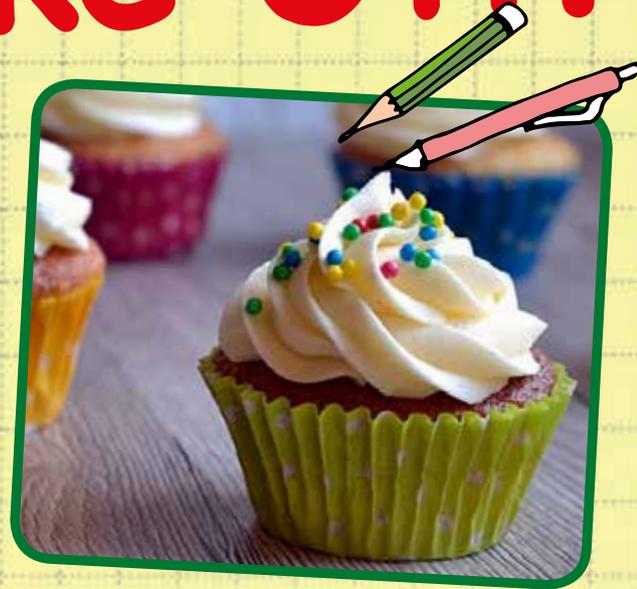
The children in 5B performed a class assembly all about the Diwali festival. The children enjoyed their performance and reflected upon the importance of the festival in that light will always overcomes darkness: that one candle in a small room can drive away the darkness. We were fortunate to have Mrs Dosanjh and Dr Bodhanker who gave an insight into their celebrations.

The assembly was informative, the visuals, music and props certainly helped entertain the audience. It was so joyful to see many of our 5B parents and carers who enjoyed watching the assembly. It was lovely to see them!



# Year 6 Bake Off!

The children in Year 6 made cupcakes, based on their English topic: instructional writing. They discussed the ingredients and equipment needed, which was an essential start to their writing. The children first watched teachers modelling how to use a measuring scale accurately and then in small groups made their cupcakes. After measuring their own ingredients, they stirred and mixed thoroughly. 'I love the taste of this mixture - it is very sweet' and 'I can't wait to eat my cupcakes' the children said excitedly. The children were enthusiastic to share their experiences with their parents and thoroughly enjoyed their time baking. After the cupcakes had cooked, the children selected their toppings and decorated them. They then had a yummy dessert to take home with them.



## Year 6 visit to a Buddhist Pagoda

Year 6 children visited a Buddhist Pagoda. The visit consisted of a tour of the centre which was followed by a presentation of the main features of the Buddha's life and teaching and about the Triratna Buddhist Community. This led to a short Q&A session with meditation. The children developed their understanding on Buddhism.

## Team Chess Championship

On Monday 20 November, students from Year 5 and 6 proudly represented Waverley School in the Primary Schools' Team Chess Championship run by Warwickshire Chess Association at Hallfield School.

Our lucky dream team were very excited to play in their first ever chess championship and they felt a great sense of responsibility in representing Waverley School. Our pupils were very well mannered and immediately made friends with the contenders from other schools through their shared passion for chess. Our team played their strongest and smartest strategies with a few of our students winning a

match! There were also many other close wins as our pupils gave their opponents a real challenge, however despite the amazing strategies our team sadly did not qualify into the finals finishing at 6th place in the competition.

Our pupils were not disheartened by the loss and overall, they all said that they had had an amazing day and that they absolutely enjoyed playing chess against new opponents and meeting pupils from other schools. We hope to re-enter the competition again more prepared than ever next year.

# The Adventures of our Primary Resource Base Pupils!

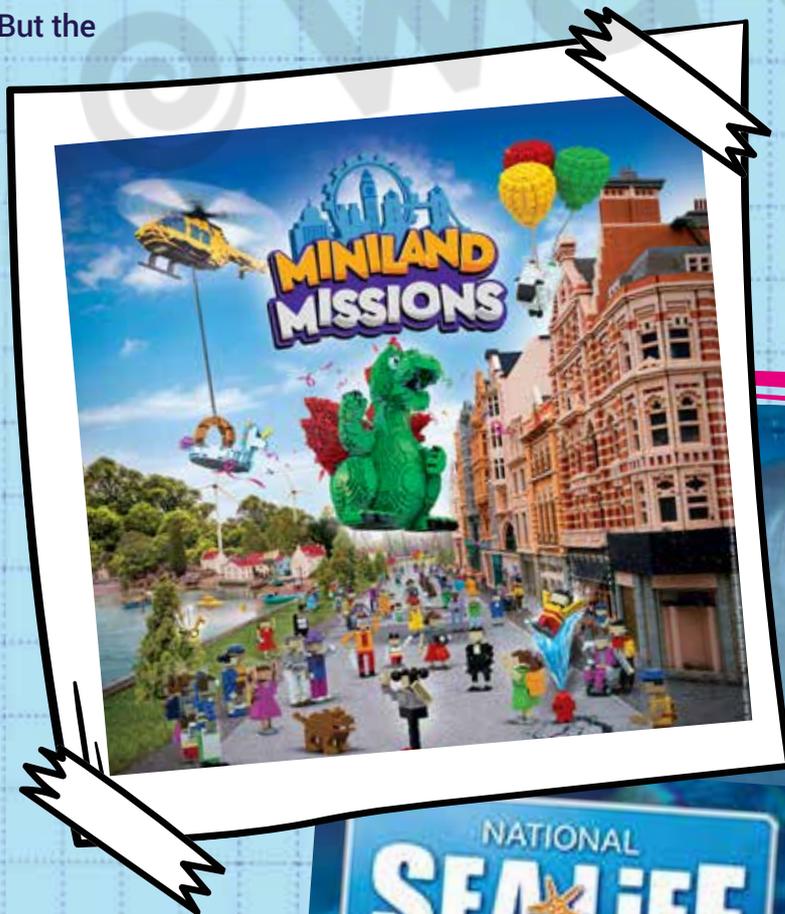
Our Resource Base children embarked on their first adventure this term, visiting both the magnificent Sea Life Centre and the thrilling Lego Land.

As they stepped into the Sea Life Centre, their eyes widened with amazement. Real-life penguins gracefully waddled before them, and KA was so astonished that her jaw dropped, and she found herself glued to the tank. "They're so cute!" she exclaimed, "I'm going to name him Mr. Cooley!" SZ was completely captivated by the playful otters. Watching them swim on their backs and munch on their food, SZ couldn't help but say, "I want to look at them forever!"

After their memorable time at the Sea Life Centre, it was off to Lego Land they went! The children were absolutely thrilled to explore the soft play and Lego Land areas. Of course, a trip to Lego Land wouldn't be complete without a visit to the 4D cinema. MB was so engrossed in the short movie that he couldn't contain his excitement, giving it a standing ovation at the end. But the

adventure didn't stop there! The children hopped on the Mervin's Adventure ride, where they paddled with all their might to see whose aircraft would soar higher. AY couldn't contain her excitement, paddling faster than ever before. Mr Jordan was amazed, saying he had never seen AY paddle with such speed!

Now, Resource Base can hardly wait for their next outdoor adventure.



# Class 2A Mark the Start of Black History Month

Waverley Primary opened celebrations of Black History Month with 2A class assembly. The young minds of 2A delved into the fascinating world of Black History. They learned about the vibrant cultures and remarkable individuals that have shaped the narrative of people of African descent across the globe.



Pupils recalled the heroes of freedom, civil rights champions, cultural riches and successful black people from different fields. The pupils discovered the courage and determination of abolitionists such as Harriet Tubman and many others, who played pivotal roles in the fight against slavery. The assembly resonated with the rhythm of jazz, the soul of blues, and the spirit of hip-hop as we explored the rich cultural contributions in music. We also explored the literary brilliance of authors like Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou.

The assembly introduced brilliant black scientists, mathematicians, and scholars like Katherine Johnson whose pioneering work has left an indelible mark in their respective fields to the audience present. Pupils spoke about the inspiring leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, like Martin Luther King Jr., and the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, which marked a significant step towards equality.

The assembly served as a reminder of the importance of diversity, inclusivity, and the ongoing pursuit of justice and equality. We hope the knowledge gained during this assembly will continue to inspire our young learners to be curious, empathetic, and open-minded citizens of the world.

Parents were absolutely mesmerised with the information they received on the Black History Month.

The highlight of the experience was the enclosed area with tall, lush, vibrant trees, where they discovered different types of birds, which live in trees and this habitat.

## Resource Base - Drumming Session



### EYFS and Resource Base - Drumming Session to celebrate Black History Month

The children had the wonderful opportunity to experience the art of African drumming. The children were excited to take part in creating rain dance music. They all used their listening skills effectively to start with light taps to create rain. They then moved onto beats that are more dramatic to create THUNDER!



Year 5 were really fortunate to have a special visit from an Aston Villa Coach.

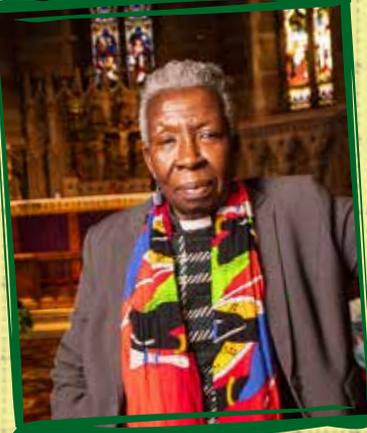
The workshop was all about racism and inequality within sport and beyond. We learnt about how important it is to stamp out racism and inequality, not only in the realm of sport but anywhere. We explored case studies about racism and inequality and discussed ways we can make a difference. It was an inspiring workshop, and we were extremely glad that we had an opportunity to discuss our views and perspectives on racism and equality.

## Inspirational Talk from Ivy Caesar

Year 5 were extremely lucky to have one of our Trust members visit us to speak about her personal journey as a young black woman living in Birmingham since the age of 15. She spoke to us about all the challenges she faced as a result of racism and gender discrimination, and how she used these adversities to inspire others in her local area, Small Heath. Her insightfully powerful talk had a huge impression on us and showed us how lucky we are to be living in a time where belonging to a particular race, culture and religion is celebrated and that we should feel proud of our heritage. We were very lucky to have the opportunity to meet her. She is a treasured member of our wonderful school.



## 'Your Pupils are your School's Pride' Reverend Eve Pitts



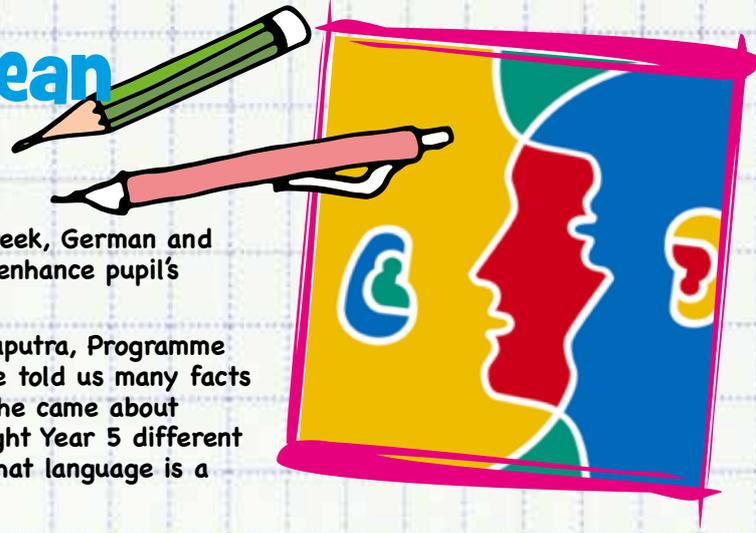
We were extremely honoured to be visited by Reverend Eve Pitts, first black female vicar of Church of England. Her animated story telling based on her life was interesting and utterly engaging! Although Reverend Eve experienced some challenging experiences

in her life, one thing that was crystal clear was that nothing held her back and it was with this steel determination and gumption that she not only achieved what she put her mind to do but inspired in the process.

Key messages taught pupils how to be confident in what they do and the importance of having high aspirations for themselves and the community. Some of the very ambitious experiences she has been able to participate in were: sleeping on the roof and making a remarkable amount of money for charity and good causes (£50,000). Mrs Pitts walked all the way from Birmingham to Canterbury in eight days and she raised £100,000 and again continuously never gave up and raised funds of £250,000 for good causes.

Mrs Pitts enjoyed working with children and she started as a youth worker, helping teens to keep them on the right path. Mrs Pitts taught us a very great lesson of never giving up our dreams and always persevering and trying your best. Children raised their eyebrows when they heard about Mrs Pitts' grandfather who didn't allow his daughters to go to school.

# Pupils Celebrate European Day of Languages



Pupils across the school embraced Spanish, Russian, Italian, Greek, German and French. There were guest speakers from around the world to enhance pupil's learning.

Year 5 pupils were fortunate to meet Wanphen Korotki Sreshtaputra, Programme Management Officer, United Nations ESCAP, from Thailand. She told us many facts about her exciting life all across the world. She told us how she came about learning many languages working for the government. She taught Year 5 different ways to greet one another. Wanphen reminded Year 5 pupils that language is a powerful tool and should be used gently and generously.

Year 2 pupils had a guest speaker from Romania. Mr Gabriel Voican, a Primary Headteacher who was so enthusiastic to teach the Romanian language. The pupils were well informed but also well entertained throughout the session. Mr Voican taught how to count numerals, how to say the alphabet in Romanian language and even shared a Romanian fairy tale!

Eleonara Vinante, a linguist and Primary school languages teacher in Italy took Year 3 pupils on a journey to Italy. The session was highly informative, with facts about the country, language, cuisine and culture. The pupils enjoyed learning how to count numbers in Italian, how to say the alphabets, rhymes and stories. Through images and photographs, pupils were immersed into the Italian countryside landscapes and vibrant cities.

The teaching of cultural capital through MFL encourages children to have a 'global' and 'outward thinking' view of the world. We want them to develop understanding, tolerance and an appreciation of the rich culture of other countries through learning languages. Well done to Ms Vryaparj for organising this special day and thank you to Dr Bodhanker for inviting esteemed guests from around the world to give our pupils a great experience.

## Diwali

At Waverley Primary, the air was infused with joy as pupils, teachers, and staff came together to celebrate a Diwali-themed day. The dining hall was adorned with the decorations, and the aroma of

traditional Indian food filled the hallways. Pupils showcased their creativity through various Diwali-themed art and craft activities; assemblies highlighted the significance of light, knowledge, and the triumph of good over evil.

This week's Religious Education lessons focused on Diwali customs, traditions, and legends, this not only fostered cultural appreciation but also promoted unity and understanding among pupils of different backgrounds, creating lasting memories and fostering a sense of community at Waverley School.

## Who has received a Golden Token?

The book vending machines have been in full use with three winners of the 'positive attitude towards reading' raffle using their golden token to choose their new book.

Each week all children who show a positive attitude towards reading have their name put forward to win a new book. Children won for: practising phonics at home, looking after the book corner and making sure books are treated with respect and volunteering to help stamp new books for the class libraries!

# Secondary & Sixth Form

On Friday 7 July, students in the Resource Base had a fantastic Sports Day. The students joined in some traditional sports day activities and really enjoyed themselves. It gave them an opportunity to work as a team and support and cheer their team members. The weather was great. A big shout out to the yellow team for winning the medals.

A big thank you goes to Mr Lloyd for supporting the RB team and leading the games and Mrs Taylor and Ms Malik for organising the medals for the pupils.

## Services for Education (SFE) Youth Proms 2023

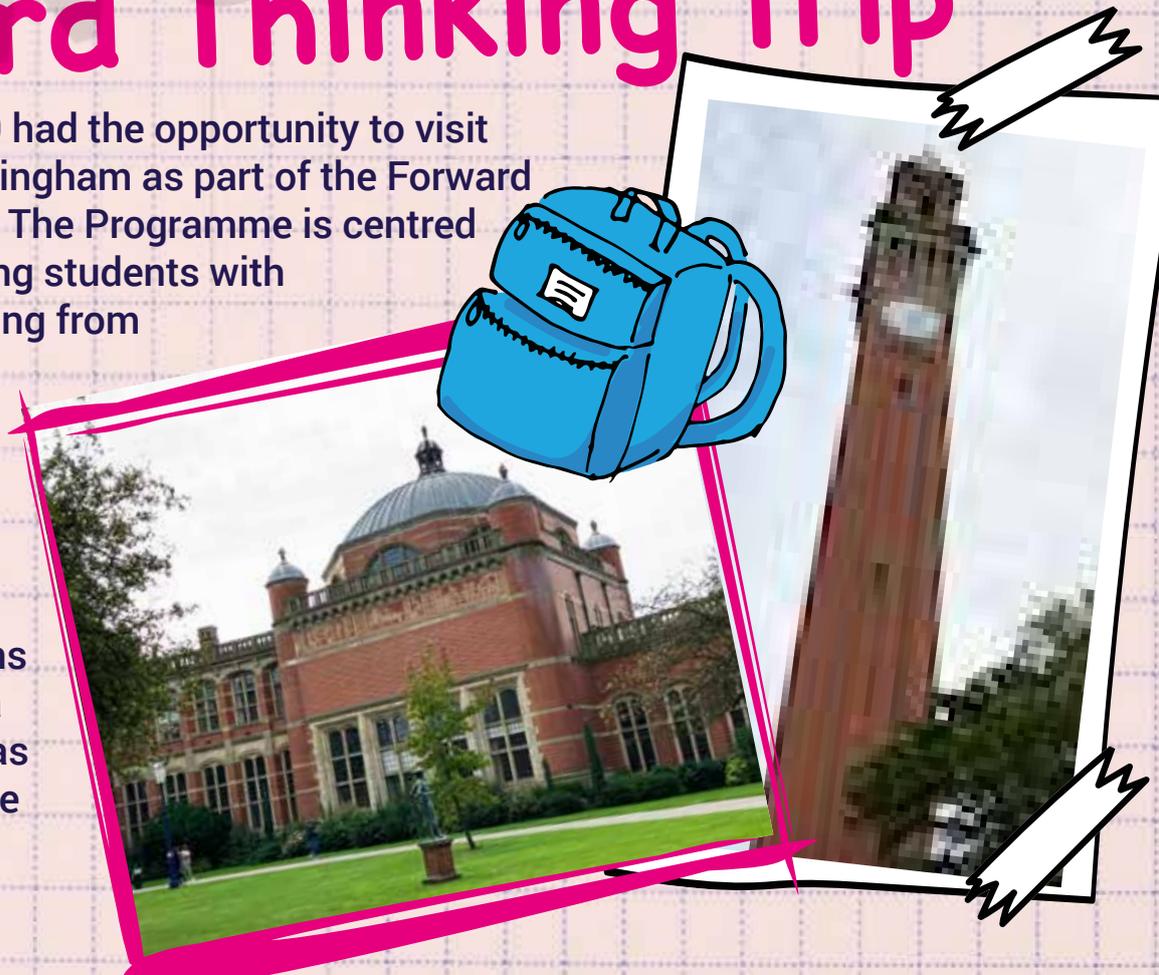


On Wednesday 12 July NT in Year 9 performed at the Services for Education Youth Proms concert at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham.

It was a fantastic evening with performances from the SFE primary choir, percussion ensemble, guitar ensemble and string ensemble. NT performed on her violin as part of the school-based ensemble. The ensemble performed four songs, including "the final countdown" and "sweet Caroline". NT did extremely well and even helped children from other local primary schools during the rehearsal and performance. It was a great opportunity to perform at the world-renowned Symphony Hall. Thank you to Mrs Davies from SFE who has been running the school ensemble weekly throughout the year. We hope to have more pupils taking part next year.

## Forward Thinking Trip

Six pupils from Year 9 had the opportunity to visit the University of Birmingham as part of the Forward Thinking Programme. The Programme is centred around providing young students with guidance and mentoring from Year 8 to Year 11 to ensure that they are informed about their post-16 options. The students were able to experience a few subject taster sessions and were later given a full campus tour. It was a great and worthwhile experience for the students involved.



# ART

## Pupils in Year 10 Investigate the Portraiture of Amedeo Modigliani

As part of their GCSE Art coursework, Year 10 have been investigating the work of Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani. The theme of their study is portraiture, and they are required to make connections with professional artists and practitioners.

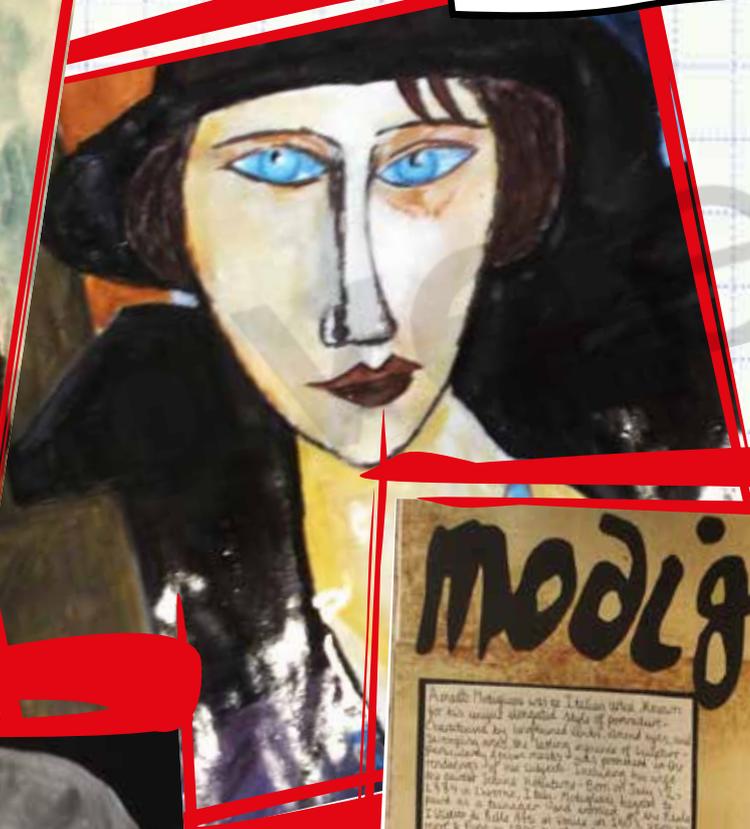
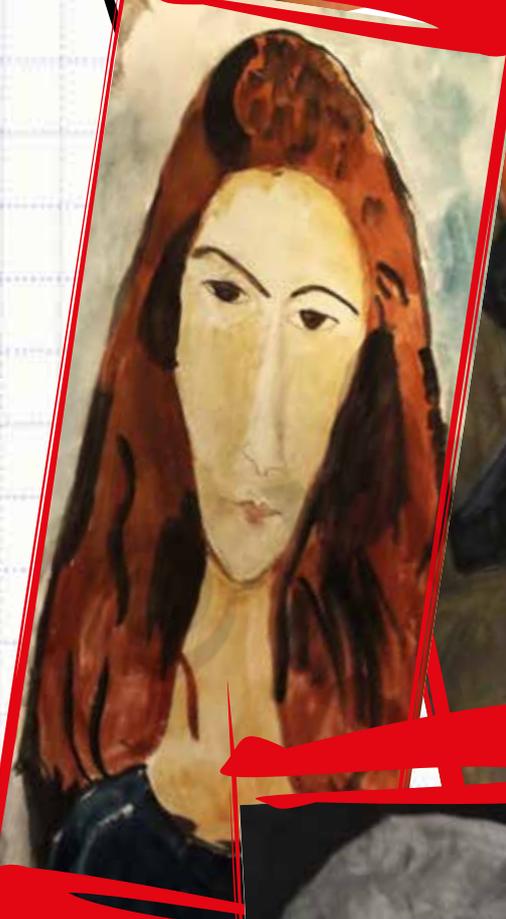
Modigliani was an Italian artist working in Paris in the first half of the twentieth century who was well known for his elegant portraits, exaggerated and elongated forms often sculptural in quality. Modigliani often omitted the eyes of these subjects, robbing them of life. He was heavily influenced by African sculpture, and this can be seen in his long, sometimes strange portraits.

Pupils have used a range of materials and techniques to make investigations into Modigliani's facture and palette demonstrating a solid understanding of his technique and style. Some students produced pen and ink studies of his drawings while others created chiaroscuro drawings and watercolour sketches, examples of which can be seen here.

Year 10 are currently working beyond expectation and will be using what they have learned about Modigliani's style to apply to a portrait of themselves. Mr Poole is excited to see how well they can apply their knowledge and realise their intentions.



*Modigliani.*



# Modigliani

Arnold Modigliani was an Italian born, Russian Jewish sculptor, painter, draftsman, designer, and the father of a series of sculptor-prototypes of the 1910s. Modigliani was born in 1874 in Livorno, Italy. Modigliani began to work as a designer and architect in 1892. He moved to Paris in 1906, where he met Pablo Picasso and other artists. He was a member of the Salon des Indespendants and the Salon de la Section d'Or. He was a close friend of Pablo Picasso and other artists. He was a member of the Salon des Indespendants and the Salon de la Section d'Or. He was a close friend of Pablo Picasso and other artists.

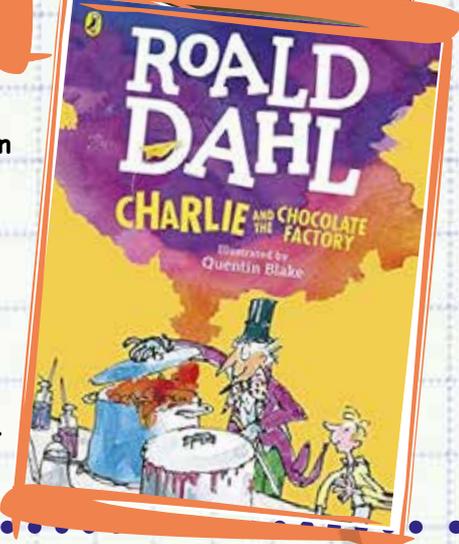
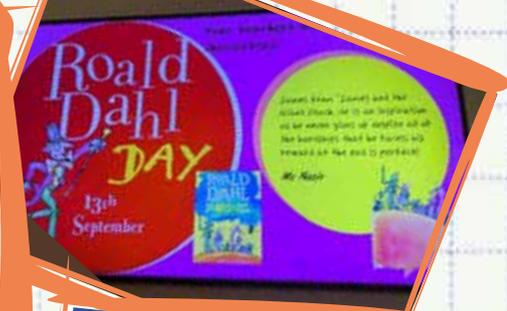
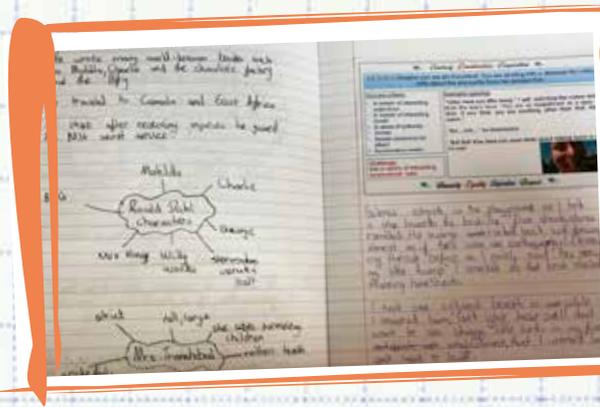
For a few years of his life Modigliani lived in the city of Livorno in Italy. He was a member of the Salon des Indespendants and the Salon de la Section d'Or. He was a close friend of Pablo Picasso and other artists.

# English

## ROALD DAHL DAY 2023

On Wednesday 13 September, Waverley celebrated the birthday of Roald Dahl: the illustrious author of so many unforgettable works of fiction, including *The BFG*, *The Twits*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, and *Matilda*. Just the mention of Dahl's name invokes memories of the magical worlds he lovingly sculpted for us. Worlds that at first glance seem eccentric and silly, but in reality shaped the lives of many through the profound lessons and messages layered throughout the stories. Students in English leapt into the many fantastical worlds Dahl created through the magic in his writing and created their very own 'Roald Dahl character'.

Team English ran a KS3 competition and though the competition was close and students sent in some humorous responses, two winners were chosen – M.S. (Year 7) and T.C. (Year 8) – and were given their reward during assemblies next week.



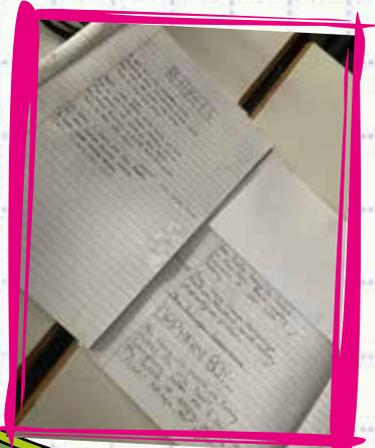
## National Poetry Day: Refuge

On Thursday 5 October, the English Department Celebrated National Poetry Day with students in KS3 and KS4. The theme this year was 'Refuge'.

The day proved to be a powerful and transformative experience as students delved into the world of poetry and learned about the struggles that refugees face. The students explored powerful poems written by renowned poets Imtiaz Dharker and Ilya Kaminsky; poems that shed light on refugees' experiences, their journeys, and the challenges they encounter along the way.

Students carefully crafted their emotive poems, weaving words together to create a poignant narrative of the refugee experience. Students not only honed their writing skills, but also developed a deeper understanding of the struggles refugees endure. It served as a reminder to all that, united in empathy, we can make a difference in the lives of refugees and create a more inclusive and understanding world. We ran a poetry writing competition too and the winners were: FC and AE in Year 9.

Well done to all the students that participated in the competition.



## Open Evening

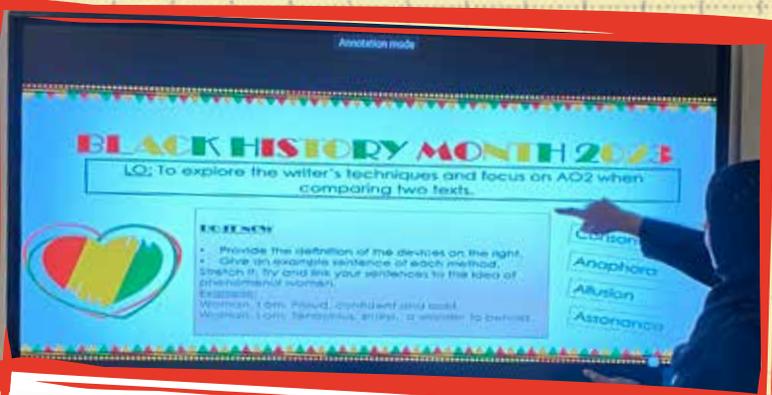
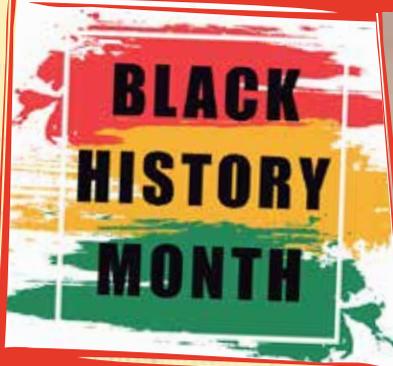
On Wednesday 28 September we opened our doors to perspective Year 7 classes to explore what we have to offer at Waverley School. Welcomed by our fantastic English teachers dressed as characters from books from Mr Tumnes to Inspector Goole showcasing our school passion for literature. Parents and children had the opportunity enjoy a range of activities from our murder mystery challenge to going on a treasure hunt, to diving into the world of Narnia creating their own mythical creature! Parents had the experience to speak to experienced members of the department and gain insight to potential text their children might study throughout their academic years here at Waverley School.



# Black History Month Celebrating Our Sisters

This October students dove into captivating lessons inspired by Black History Month: Celebrating Our Sisters. The enthusiasm from both KS3 and KS4 was palpable as they explored and expressed the rich narratives of remarkable women. It was a month of inspiration, reflection, and empowering stories that left a lasting impact on our young writers.

Delving into the eloquent verses of Maya Angelou, our students discovered the power of words to convey resilience, strength, and the beauty of the human spirit. Through her poetry, they were transported to a world where every line echoed the triumphs and struggles of powerful women.



Courtesy · Consideration · Cooperation

## Black History Month: KS3 - Creative Writing

LO: To analyse the influence of black culture in writing.

DO IT NOW

On the right you have warrior characters from the fantasy genre inspired by different cultures.

- Note down two differences between both portrayals of warriors.
- In which ways could both depictions be similar based on the concept of 'warrior'?

Stretch it:

- Based on the differences between the two images, what do you think could be said about each culture's perception of what makes a warrior?

African Influences

European Influences

Humanity · Equality · Aspiration · Respect

Maya Angelou's profound impact on literature served as a catalyst for our students to harness their own creative voices, making this Black History Month a celebration of both heritage and self-expression.

## Black History Month Assemblies

Mr Edmead and 5 Year 11 students; AB, HB, AJ, MS and AS prepared and delivered assemblies on Black History Month. The assemblies reinforced our HEAR values and raised students' awareness of why we celebrate Black History Month and the importance of it.

The difference between Migration and Immigration was discussed and personal stories about the challenges and sacrifices that our parents, grandparents and great grandparents had to endure to enable us to have the lives that we have today, were shared.

The assemblies were very thought provoking and gave us some very positive messages to remember.

## Romeo & Juliet Workshops

Embarking on a theatrical journey, Year 11 students have immersed themselves in the world of Shakespeare through engaging workshops led by a seasoned practitioner from the Globe Theatre.

Their first session this week was brimming with dynamic role play and expressive acting, and was a captivating exploration of structure and form in Shakespearean works. As our students embody the timeless characters, the remaining workshops promise to be a transformative experience, enhancing both their understanding of the Bard's craft and their own skills in dramatic expression.



# Ms Noor's goodbye to Waverley School

Hi, everyone.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the school for welcoming me in with kindness and sincerity.

To the staff I worked so closely with over the last few years, it is difficult to express how much I will miss you. It has been an honour to work alongside you and learn from your work ethic, generosity and passion. You all made coming to school each day such a pleasure! Each of you were a breath of fresh air on even the dreariest of days, so I thank you for making my days so bright, and for illuminating my path.

To my students I say thank you! For when I teach, I also learn. These past few years we have grown together. A little bit of each of you will always be with me.

Always remember - never back down from the challenges of life. Never give up chasing your dreams. Believe in yourself and the world will be yours. Most importantly remember to prioritise being good people first. I believe in each and every one of you.

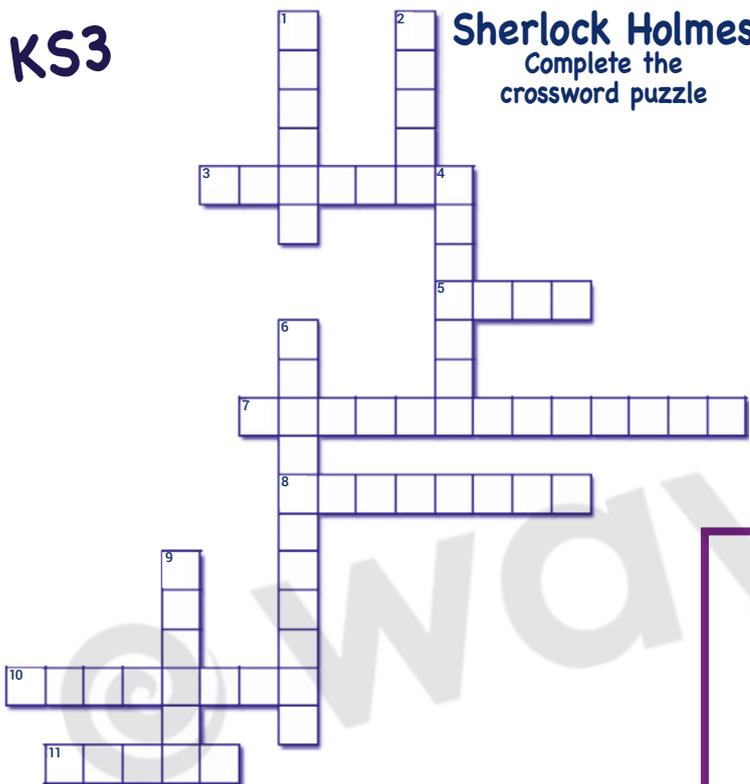
How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

My heartfelt good wishes to all of you at Waverley.

## CROSSWORD & ANAGRAM PUZZLES BY MR OMAR & MS RAZA

Name: .....

### KS3



### Sherlock Holmes

Complete the crossword puzzle

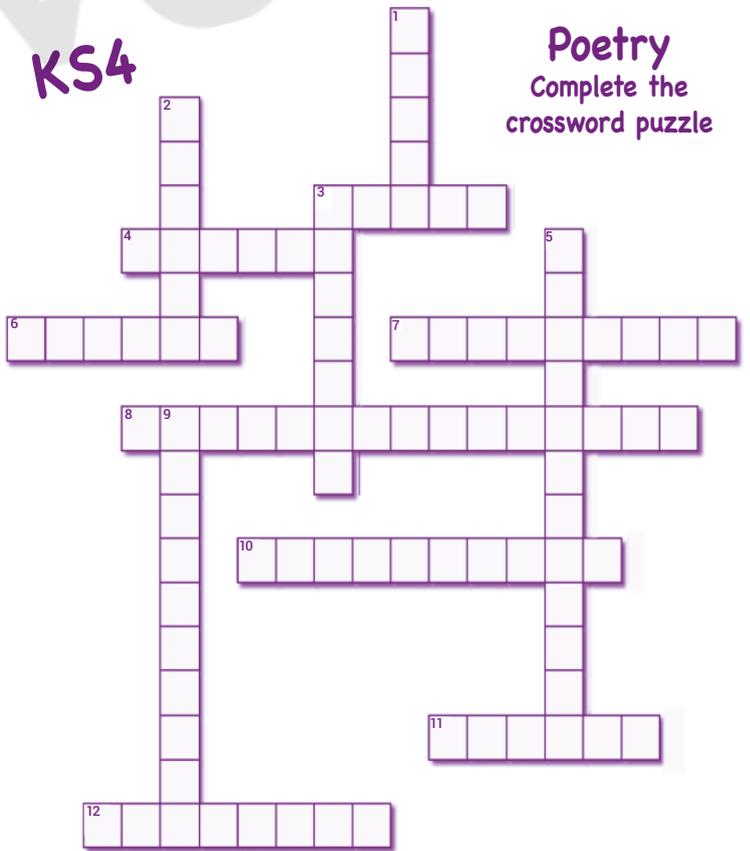
### Across

3. A person who sees a crime take place
5. Something Holmes uses to smoke
7. Looking at facts to find out what and who caused a crime
8. Proof that shows something is true
10. Holmes's partner
11. An action that is punishable by law

### Down

1. Responsible for something wrong that happened
2. Things that can help you solve a crime or mystery
4. Someone that may be guilty of a crime
6. Mark left on a surface by a person's fingertips
9. Someone that is killed or has been harmed because of a crime

### KS4



### Poetry

Complete the crossword puzzle

### Across

3. Repetition of similar sounds in two or more words
4. Poem by Imtiaz Dharker in the Power and Conflict Anthology
6. A fourteen-line poem
7. Repetition of 's' sounds
8. Giving human characteristics to something which is not human
10. Poem by Percy Bysshe Shelley
11. A group of lines in a poem
12. Comparison without using 'like' or 'as'

### Down

1. Poet who wrote 'War Photographer'
2. Comparison using 'like' or 'as'
3. Poem about an ex-soldier who is haunted by his involvement in a shooting
5. 'She sells seashells on the seashore' is an example of what?
9. The continuation of a sentence beyond a line, without a pause

## Solve the Anagrams

KS3: Rift Pen Ring

KS4 Poetic Device: Iron Fit Canopies

# KS3 Football Tournament



Girls from KS3 took part in a football tournament at Eden Girls School. They played 5 games winning 4, drawing 1 and only conceding 1 goal in all 5 games.

They came out the winners!! They are so proud of themselves and what they have achieved. Well done to them all.

Year 7 - NG

Year 8 - AA, AAs and AK

Year 9 - SA SM

The goal scorers were: SA and SM

## Year 11 Mock Interviews with a National Employer

We had 16 employees from Seven Trent Water conducting Year 11 Mock Interviews to support with the Post-16 transition and progression process. This process will help prepare students as they begin to make applications to Sixth Form, Further Education College, an Apprenticeship or employment as they embark upon making applications over the next few months and they begin attending interviews.

Many of the Severn Trent staff commented on how well-mannered and behaved the year 11 students were and how much they had enjoyed the day.

Thank you to everyone for all their help and support in the organisation of the day.

## Student Leadership Team

After a record number of applications and 2 days of intense interviews, we finally chose our Year 11 Student Leadership Team.

Head Girl: NF

Head Boy: YM

Deputy Head Girl: NM

Deputy Head Boy: SA

Publicity Rep: MH

Charity Rep: MA

Senior Prefect: AJ

Senior Prefect: SA

Pupils showed leadership, initiative, determination and confidence throughout the interview process which made it an incredibly difficult decision. We are proud to have such a fantastic student body that are willing to truly make a positive impact on the school.

Thank you to Mr Derry, Mr Gallagher, HA (Year 13) and NS (Year 13) for being on the interview panel.

# Macmillan Charity Fundraiser

Friday 29 September, the Year 11 Student Leadership Team led on their first charity event for Macmillan Cancer Support.

There were samosas, sweet cups, brownies, cakes and a chance to get henna done. It was great to see the excitement of all the students taking part. The Student Leadership Team did a fantastic job raising money for such a worthy cause.

Many thanks to all the staff who donated food for us to sell.

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**  
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU



## SSAT Leadership Legacy Project place

Congratulations to Ms Pervez who has been accepted onto the prestigious Leadership Legacy Project by SSAT, the Schools, Students and Teachers network. Ms Pervez will be part of an impressive group of future education leaders from across the country designated as SSAT Leadership Fellows.

Successful Leadership Fellows are all in their first 2-5 years of teaching and Leadership Fellows enrolled on previous years' programmes have achieved increased leadership responsibilities at an early career stage, through exposure to a wide range of knowledge and information which boosts confidence levels. We also know the activities that the Fellows undertake have impact at classroom and whole school level and bring additional benefits in terms of whole school performance.



## LIBRARY NEWS

Big thanks to everyone who visited our Autumn 2023 Book Fair.

Commission from Scholastics on the total amount is 50% therefore we had £429 to spend on new resources for the library.

Thank you if you entered our Halloween competition 2023.

'Create something spooky by recycling'  
13 winners... Spooky!

Also this Autumn

A prize was given to the person who brought in the biggest real Autumn leaf for our Autumn display.

It was fun seeing all the leaves.

There were two Library Christmas Competitions this year 'Create a Christmas tree bauble' and a 'Christmas Quiz'

Prizes were given to the winners.

**Takings totalled £858!**

Happy Christmas Everyone!



# Sixth Form Open Evening

Waverley School hosted its Sixth Form Open Evening. As part of our trust wide partnership, Waverley Studio College were also present.

As part of the opening presentation NS, Year 13, spoke eloquently to the audience. Although she was very nervous, she spoke from the heart, and we were all very proud of her.

There were a number of students from our neighbouring schools that attended. All the

departments showcased what they had to offer very well and all those who attended left with a very positive impression of the school.

Our student ambassadors who helped on the day were absolutely brilliant and a real credit to the school.

A very big thank you to colleagues for all their hard work and support in the planning and organisation of the evening



## Year 12 Law and Criminology students visit to Birmingham Crown Court

Year 12 Law and Criminology students attended Birmingham Crown Court.

This provided an invaluable experience that enhanced their understanding of the legal system in practice by observing real-life court proceedings enabling students to gain an insight into the roles of judges, barristers, solicitors and defendants, witnessing firsthand the application of legal principles.

## KPMG OFFICE VISIT

We had the pleasure of taking 50 of our Sixth Form students to the KPMG office in Birmingham City Centre and they were absolutely fantastic! KPMG invited students to attend a Social Mobility Opportunity Workshop based on the importance of teamwork and social interpersonal communication skills. The feedback from representatives was as follows:

"These students are fantastic; they are so engaged" "Miss, you must be so proud. They are a great bunch of students" "They are all so polite and respectful"

A big thank you to all the staff involved for making it possible!



# WAVERLEY STUDIO COLLEGE



## End of Year Trip

We had the pleasure of taking Waverley Studio College's students on our end of Year reward trip to Drayton Manor in July. Students from KS4 and KS5 had the opportunity to build up rapport with members of the staff, as well as celebrating the achievement of a very successful year.

Some of our students had the opportunity to experience a theme park and zoo for the first time, while developing their interpersonal skills, independence and collaborative work.

Even though the weather was not the best it did not dampen the students' spirits who all had a great time.

## UCAS Discovery Exhibition 2023

Our previous Year 12 students attended the UCAS Discovery Exhibition at the NEC where they had the opportunity to meet lots of universities based across the country and explore the different options and pathways available to them.

They were also able to meet apprenticeship employers face-to-face and listen to presentations from experienced professionals about various subjects such as nursing, midwifery and teaching. One student entered a course finder competition with Newman University and won an Amazon voucher! Overall, it was a successful trip that all students enjoyed as they had access to all the latest advice and information on career choices.

## Volunteer It Yourself (VIY) Project

13 students from Year 10 participated in a community project organized by VIY at the end of the summer term. It was a remarkable display of teamwork and craftsmanship.

Over the course of three days, they built benches and tables for the local community. Under the guidance of experienced carpenters, the students showcased their skills and left a lasting impact. The project not only empowered

- them with practical carpentry skills but also instilled a
- sense of responsibility and commitment to giving back. The
- students faced challenges, learned effective communication
- skills and gained a qualification in carpentry. The furniture
- they constructed will provide a comfortable space for
- members of the community while at the same time serving
- as a lasting legacy of their efforts.
- 
- 

## YEAR 11 & 13 CELEBRATION AFTERNOON

Waverley Studio College hosted an unforgettable celebration afternoon on Friday 7 July to honour the school leavers in Years 11 and 13. The event was attended by a number of students and teachers, creating a lively and nostalgic atmosphere. The sports hall was beautifully decorated with vibrant colours and banners, transforming it into a festive space. The afternoon began with a heartfelt welcome from the Principal, expressing gratitude for the students' hard work and dedication. The event showcased captivating performances by the graduating class, earning applause and cheers from the audience. It was a memorable occasion that celebrated the students' achievements and instilled a sense of pride within the college community.

As part of the opening, the science team also put on a thrilling fire display. Their impressive demonstration added an extra

element of excitement to the event, captivating the audience and setting the tone for the rest of the celebration. The science team's contribution showcased their expertise and creativity, making the event even more memorable for everyone in attendance.

We would like to extend special thanks to our Trustee, Ivy Caesar, whose presence at the celebration afternoon symbolises the strong partnership between the school and the Trust. This partnership highlights the shared commitment to providing a nurturing and empowering environment for the students. The Trust's support has played a crucial role in the students' academic and personal growth, and their attendance at this special event further demonstrates their dedication to the students' success.

# Year 12 Medical Science Visit to Huddersfield

Our previous Year 12 Medical Science students had an exciting and informative opportunity to visit a forensic science investigation in Huddersfield at the end of the summer term. The visit provided the students with valuable insights into the fascinating world of forensic science and its applications in solving crime.

During their visit, the students were immersed in a variety of interactive activities and demonstrations, designed to showcase the different aspects of forensic science. They had the chance to observe first-hand how evidence is collected, preserved, and analysed in a controlled environment.

One of the highlights of the visit was a mock crime scene investigation, where the students actively participated in collecting and analysing evidence. This hands-on experience allowed them to apply their knowledge of

medical science principles to real-life scenarios. They learned how crucial attention to detail, critical thinking, and teamwork are key in the field of forensic science. Throughout the day, the students had the privilege of engaging with expert forensic scientists who generously shared their experiences and answered their questions. The professionals provided valuable insights into their daily routines, the challenges they face, and the importance of their work in the justice system. The visit also ignited their curiosity about the various career paths available in forensic science.

The experience undoubtedly left a lasting impression on our students, inspiring them to pursue their passions in the field of medical science and potentially explore the exciting world of forensic science.

## COFFEE MORNING

Waverley Studio College hosted its first Coffee Morning for its Parents/Carers at the end of the summer term. The turnout was fantastic, parents/carers were happy to engage and put forward suggestions and feedback for the upcoming academic year.

It was a great opportunity for parents/carers to meet members of the pastoral team and become more aware of

the support services available to them and their children. We hosted speakers from Early Help Birmingham and Family Action who were on hand to answer any questions regarding the family support services available in the local area and how to access them.

Overall, it was a positive and productive event and WSC are looking forward to hosting more Coffee Mornings/ Evenings to communicate, engage and work alongside the wider community.

## AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS

### ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECT - THE TEA PARTY!

We are delighted to share the latest news from our Enrichment Programme, particularly the exciting initiative titled "The Tea Party!" led by the passionate Ms Gohir.

This week, we had the honor of hosting Liz Formby, Trustee of Waverley Trust and Chair Trustee of the Akamba Children's Education Fund (ACEF), who shared insights into the incredible work they do at the Brain House Academy in Africa. The academy is dedicated to providing education to underprivileged children, offering them a safe space to learn, prosper, and pursue their ambitions.

Liz Formby's impactful visit marked the beginning of a series of Enrichment sessions with a group of 15 Year 11 students. These sessions, led by Liz, will continue on a weekly basis until the end of the term, with a new set of students taking the lead in the Spring term.

The primary objective of this Enrichment Programme is to unite diverse local communities in organising a Tea Party event, entirely planned and executed by our students. This hands-on experience aims to equip them with essential skills such as communication, leadership, and teamwork. Additionally, the event serves as an opportunity to raise social awareness about ACEF and generate funds to support their commendable efforts.

The enthusiasm of our students was palpable during Liz Formby's session. They not only absorbed valuable insights into Liz's life journey but also expressed admiration for her dedication to the ACEF charity.

We are thrilled to share the positive feedback from Liz Formby herself: "The session was excellent and a little moving - Thank you." She commended our students, describing them as amazing, and expressed appreciation for the teachers who gathered in the classroom at the end of the day.

As we look forward to the upcoming weeks of collaborative planning and organizing, we anticipate the Tea Party event to be a testament to the skills and compassion of our students. Thank you to everyone involved for making this initiative a resounding success.



# Scientists of the week



It has been lovely to see the students back at school and enjoying their Science lessons. At Studio College as a way of rewarding our scientists we have started "Scientists of the week".

This week I am very pleased to announce VH and EB in Year 10 have been chosen as the Scientists of the week! Vojtech has produced some fantastic independent study where he researched the different groups of the periodic table and made a colour coded key to highlight the groups. Eesa has produced some fantastic work where he was able to recall separation techniques and got all his answers right in his set task. Both boys have also worked really hard to investigate how to separate mixtures this week.

Well done both!

## First Stem Club

We kicked off our first Stem Club session where the pupils had to work as a team to make the longest paper chain. The pupils had a few sheets of paper, scissors and tape and one group managed to create a 50 metre long paper chain! Our Year 12s also got their scientific hats on and learned all about enzymes and investigated the effect of catalase on the concentration of Hydrogen Peroxide. Last but not least the Scientists of the week are Najah Mohamed in 11.4 and Muhammad Munaf Ali for incredible effort in science lessons and for always trying their best. Well done to everyone!

They have also made a non newtonian fluid called Oobleck which has properties of a solid and a liquid depending on the amount of force applied to it. Pupils got to apply a shear force to the oobleck and discovered that it resisted the force by behaving like a solid. The pupils also put their engineering hats on and worked as a team to build the tallest structure out of marshmallows and spaghetti. I am hoping we have inspired our students to consider careers in STEM.



## Celebrating Success!

### DT Graduates from the EAL HUB to Mainstream Education

In the vibrant and supportive community of the EAL HUB, dedicated students like DT are making remarkable progress, and we couldn't be prouder to celebrate their achievements. DT's journey is a testament to his hard work, determination and the unwavering support of the EAL HUB team.

DT recently graduated from the EAL HUB programme, marking a significant milestone in his educational journey. This accomplishment opens the doors for him to fully participate in mainstream education within the Studio College, demonstrating that with dedication and support, every student can reach their full potential.

One indicator of DT's remarkable progress is the feedback received from his mathematics teacher. DT's teacher had the opportunity to sit with him as he tackled a baseline assessment,

and the results were nothing short of astounding. It's clear that DT's dedication and commitment to learning have paid off. Not only was he able to access each question, but he also demonstrated the ability to independently identify solutions to many of the problems.

DT's reading skills in English have also been taking into account, showing a remarkable improvement during the last 4 weeks, which will enable a successful transition into mainstream education.

This progress showcases the transformative power of education and the importance of tailored support. The EAL HUB's unique approach, combined with DT's determination, has unlocked his potential and paved the way for a successful transition into mainstream education.

DT's story serves as an inspiration to us all. It reminds us that with the right support, encouragement, and a belief in one's ability remarkable progress can be achieved. We congratulate DT on his graduation from the EAL HUB and look forward to witnessing his continued success in mainstream education within the Studio College.

As we celebrate DT's achievement, we are reminded of the potential that lies within each student, and we are committed to providing the support and resources needed to help them thrive. The EAL HUB remains a place where progress, growth, and success are celebrated, and DT's journey is a shining example of what can be accomplished through hard work and perseverance.

Congratulations, DT, on your incredible achievement! Your journey is an inspiration to us all, and we can't wait to see the great things you will accomplish in the future.

# EAL HUB Thrives in the New Term

The EAL HUB has started at WSC this term with enthusiasm and purpose, fostering individualised learning experiences for young learners and offering vital support to enhance their reading and writing skills to ultimately bolster their confidence.

The mission of the EAL HUB is to cater for the unique needs of the learners, a commitment underpinned by three key values thoughtfully established by the individuals the hub serves.

Value 1 - Humanity: "Humanity," reflects the hub's unwavering commitment to empathy for all. The EAL HUB recognises that each learner has their own distinct journey and needs, and as such, they prioritise understanding, compassion, and respect in their approach to education. This ethos creates an inclusive and nurturing environment where students feel valued and heard.

Value 2 - United in Learning: "United in Learning," signifies the hub's dedication to creating a collaborative and supportive atmosphere. It emphasises the importance of a collective effort where both students and educators work together, fostering a sense of community and shared growth. This unity strengthens the learning experience and encourages students to explore their potential.

Value 3 - Bespoke Education: "Bespoke Education" embodies the Hub's commitment to tailoring instruction to the specific requirements of each learner. The EAL HUB recognises that a one-size-fits-all approach to education does not work. Instead, we strive to provide personalised learning pathways that empower students to excel at their own pace.

The EAL HUB's dedication to these values has resulted in a remarkable start to the term, marked by the success stories of young learners who are gaining confidence and thriving academically. By putting "Humanity," "United in Learning," and "Bespoke Education" at the heart of what we do, the EAL HUB has positioned itself as a beacon of innovative and empathetic education in WSC. As the term progresses, it promises to continue its journey, shaping the future of its students one compassionate lesson at a time.



## KPMG - Work Ready workshop

Year 12 students attended the Work Ready workshop hosted by KPMG at Snow Hill. Students took part in designing and pitching a technology-based solution to delayed ambulance responses for the NHS. Students worked in groups with KPMG mentors and were able to pitch their ideas to the whole group. The workshop helped students to utilise their creativity and build confidence whilst developing teamwork and communication skills.

## Black History Month

During a lesson our Year 13 students were considering different businesses and how some really made a difference to people's lives. This led into a discussion about Black History Month, some students had heard of it, and some had no idea what it was. The students then decided that it needed to be celebrated.

The students worked on putting a presentation together, collaboratively online. I watched as the ideas flew around the room, in real time. They worked over the

weekend and came together to rehearse their sections and make improvements. More young people asked to join in to do the planning and delivery. It was so good to see how young people can achieve a goal when they pull together. Some I know, would never have dreamed of speaking to an audience before, but they did it. In all they delivered four assemblies.

## Drug Awareness Workshop for Parents

WSC hosted a Drug awareness workshop delivered by HOPE UK. The workshop aimed to raise awareness on the risks involved with nitrous oxide and vaping as this continues to be a key issue effecting our young people and the wider community. Parents were invited to take part in the workshop and were pleased to be more informed on the signs and symptoms of nitrous oxide and vaping, the dangers involved, how to tackle this issue with their children and how to support them effectively.

KS4 also participated in the workshops where they learnt new techniques and strategies to overcome the peer pressure involved with the aforementioned drugs. They used role play to practice these new skills and left the workshop with more confidence to make informed choices regarding drug use.

# OPEN EVENING

We had the pleasure of hosting our Open Evening where the Science team showcased what we love to do - using fire to teach Science! The pupils who came to the evening had a go at using flame testing on metal compounds to test for positive metal ions, setting methane bubbles on fire and the showstopper which was combusting milk powder. We even got Mr Farar involved too. In celebration of pupils this week, JH and WSY got Scientist of the week for hard work in lessons and obtaining a fantastic set of mock results which exceeded their expectations. Well done to them.



# Careers Fair

Waverley Studio College hosted its first Autumn Careers Fair.

Students from KS4 and 5 had the opportunity to meet with a variety of Further Education providers to get a head start with their planning. Students were well engaged with all the delegates and felt more positive about their future aspirations.

Delegates who attended the fair were very impressed by our KS5 students preparation for the event. Feedback on KS4 informed us that students were able to become well informed by the choices, options and entry requirements for the various destinations.

Below is some feedback that we received from Newman University:

“Just wanted to thank you for the opportunity I had today to meet so many of your students. The event was exceptionally well organised, giving all the colleges and universities a better opportunity to understand the needs and aspirations of your students. Thank you for the invitation, and for a wonderful lunch too – this was most appreciated.

With best wishes and thanks Director of Communications and Marketing Birmingham Newman University”

## Year 13 UCAS Personal Statements

Birmingham City University admissions team attended WSC to support the final group of Year 13 students with their UCAS personal statements. 1:1 consultations took place where students all received feedback and advice regarding their personal statements and university applications. Year 13 found that the service they received was highly beneficial and are looking forward to completing their applications and preparing for their subsequent interviews.

# Trust Events

## Celebration Evening of Music/Drama and Arts

WEF hosted its first Art and Music/Drama Concert since pre Covid.

The evening was opened by Kamal Hanif OBE and showcased the wonderful artistic and musical talents of our students across the Trust, across all ages and abilities.

The art work, music and drama performances were amazing and all who attended enjoyed a wonderful evening.

The evening also gave us a small trailer of our Trust Musical Annie that will take place in July 2024.

The event was well attended and supported by parents/carers/staff/trustees, and it was clear to see that that everyone who attended was extremely proud of our students.

A very big thank you to our colleagues in our Art, Music and Drama departments for making this wonderful event a reality and to all the colleagues who supported on the night.

Below are some messages from those who attended:

‘Artwork was amazing and really sorry I couldn’t manage longer for the performance but seeing the journey to where the pupils and staff are now is amazing. The warmth, love and family of Waverley is still there. Thank you so much to everyone’ – Kamal Hanif

One of our Trustees Ivy Caesar stated that she really enjoyed herself and wishes the children all the very best. She ‘thanks everyone for pulling it together’.

Our Chair of Governors James Sutton visited the school on Thursday and stated that he was ‘hugely impressed with the artistic talent on display’



Annie the Musical Auditions have taken place across the Trust.

What a fantastic turnout we had! Over 150 students took part, singing and dancing their way through a tough audition process watched on by Mr Depper, Mrs Harding and Mr McAuley. The students had to prepare their own audition piece (a song or a poem) and perform this in an

official audition process. The auditions went across the Trust with a great turnout from Waverley Studio College all the way to our wonderful primary learners.

A tough couple of days of casting will now take part with rehearsals hoping to begin the first week of October 2023.

A huge thank you to all those who took part and helped make the whole audition process run so smoothly!

Below are some comments from the WSC students:

“Began the audition feeling nervous and excited. What an amazing boost for my self-esteem, and it helped me to take new challenges in life”

“My experience today auditioning was amazing. The teachers were very supportive. I was able to come out of my comfort zone.”

“It was my very first time singing. Putting my passion into practical work was challenging at first, but the teachers supported and guided me through the chorus and thankfully it went smooth.”

“The teachers made me feel very comfortable and encouraged me. Overall, I enjoyed the auditions. Felt like being on X-Factor.”

# Two Minute Silence

The two-minute silence across the trust was impeccably observed with great respect. It gave us all an opportunity to remember all those who lost their lives in the wars and conflicts, both currently and over the years. Those remembered included our 646 former staff and students who attended Waverley Grammar School who we will never forget.

I would like to thank all the colleagues for putting up the wonderful displays across the trust, the presentations that were shared with the students, as well as all the work that colleagues have done in their lessons to remind our students of reasons why this day is so important. Thank you all.



# ACEF Fundraiser

On Saturday 4 November, I had the pleasure of being part of an event which involved hosting a table for a number of guests to share a very special afternoon for ACEF. This event took place at Henwood House in Catherine-de-Barnes.

The event involved setting up and designing our host table as well as offering tea, cakes and eateries for our guests. The objective of the afternoon fell under three key elements:

- 1) to raise much needed funds for Brainhouse Academy,
- 2) to raise the profile of ACEF and most importantly
- 3) to give everyone an enjoyable afternoon.

There were opportunities to purchase raffle tickets, bid for items and to donate small sums of money.

I am pleased to announce that all the effort that went into planning, preparing and being part of the event resulted in the ACEF charity raising a whopping £2103.94. Furthermore, this figure will be match funded by Barclays Bank resulting in a total of £3103.94.

I would like to say a big thank you to Sharon Chapman for creating the displays for the table - we went with the theme for Diwali!

A massive thank you to Askar and Khalida for attending the event and

supporting the set up and design of the table

A special thank you to Mr Hanif for baking some amazing cakes and to Mrs Caesar for bidding the highest for 3 beautiful plants.

Thank you to all staff at WSC and colleagues across the trust for their online donations.

Finally, thank you to Baroness Shaista Gohir for supporting the event and her interest in further involvement in events with ACEF and the WEF trust.

This was certainly an afternoon to remember in the company of some lovely people.



# WEF Teaching and Learning

On 12 October 2023, we were proud to host a world famous authority in the field of teaching and learning.

As part of our Waverley Education Foundation Staff CPD, we were thoroughly entertained and transfixed by an outstanding session entitled :

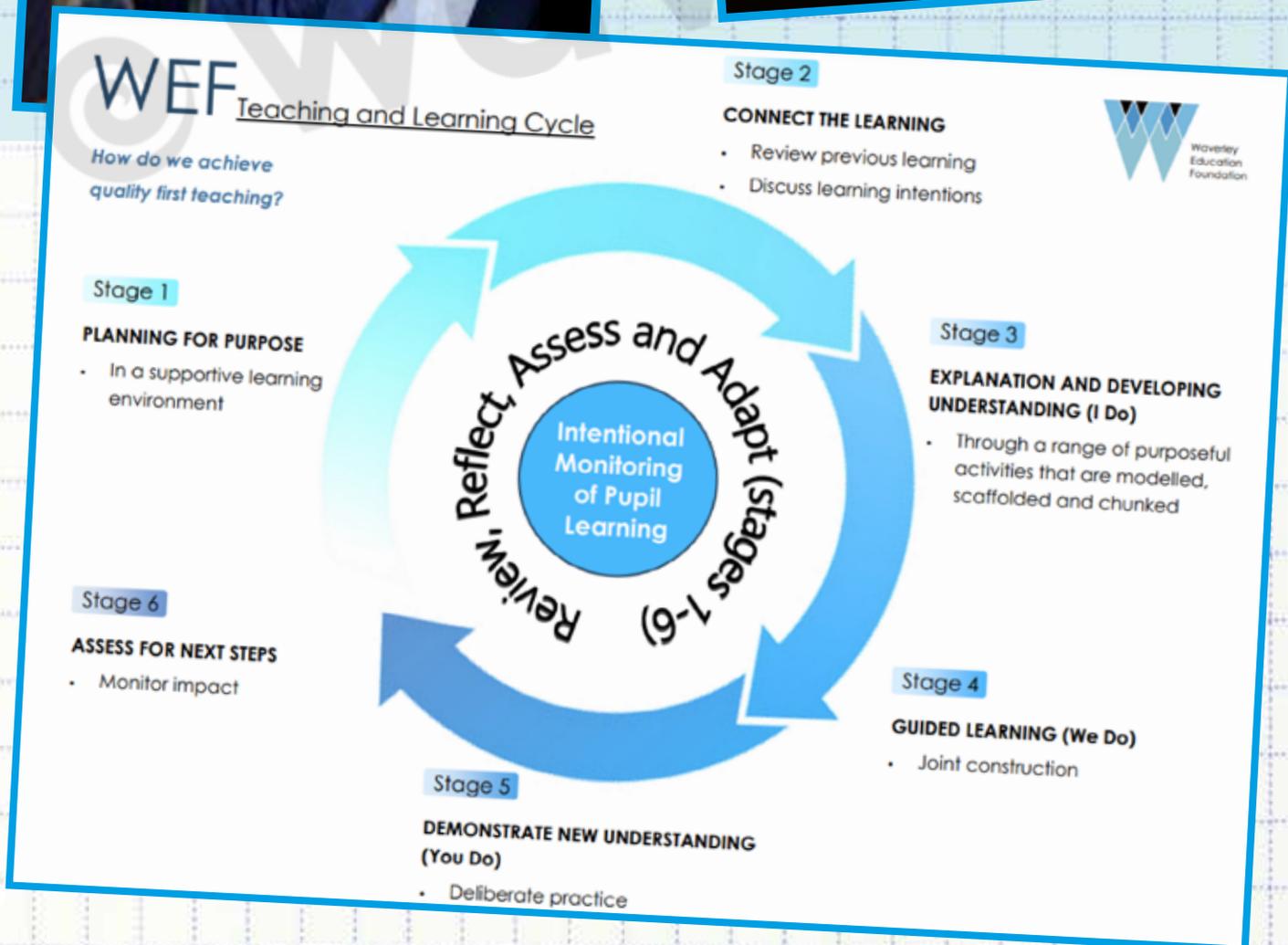
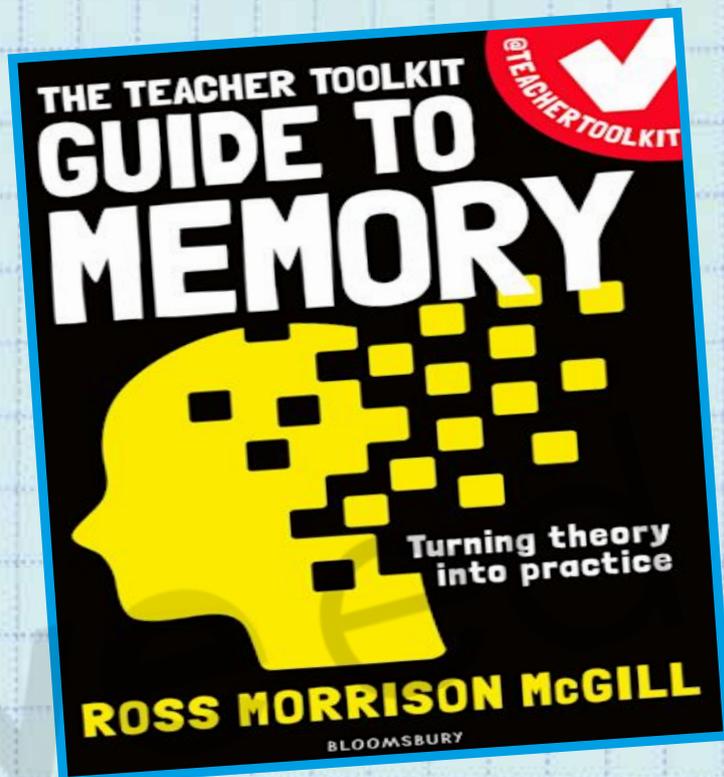
'Memory and How We Learn' by Ross Morrison McGill

Ross is globally known as @TeacherToolkit. To date, over 18 million people have read his website!

He began teaching in 1991 and taught for 26 years in some of London's most challenging secondary schools; 20 years as a school leader. Today, he works with students, teachers and school leaders worldwide, enhancing teaching and learning, workload and teacher mental health.

In 2015, he was nominated as one of the '500 Most Influential People in Britain' by The Sunday Times.

Since Ross's visit, we have had over 5000 hits on his 'X' page (formerly known as Twitter). This is truly putting our Waverley Education Foundation Teaching and Learning Strategy on the global map!



# Careers

## Welcome to WEFT Careers update Autumn Term 2023 We have been busy delivering Careers events, visits and statutory requirements across the Trust.

The academic year started by undertaking Key Transitional Point assemblies for our KS5 & KS4 Students across the Trust. The aim of these assemblies to begin preparing our students in these phases for Post-16 and Post-18 options and choices to support their progression and positive destinations.

KS5 Careers Activities – Delivering the KS5 Assembly and informing student of a range of routes post 18, which includes Higher Education studies, Apprenticeships and employment.

Statutory 121 Career Guidance Interviews – Y13 Students across the Trust have had their Statutory Career Guidance Interview.

UK Universities Search was booked for the 10th October 2023 at the Edgbaston Stadium in Birmingham. Students who attended found the event to be insightful on gaining information and guidance on a range of progression routes ie; degrees, Apprenticeship degree, finance talks and UCAS Personal Statement writing talks.

Regional and National Universities' – were booked to come into School and WSC to support Y13 Students across the Trust, who are applying for University degrees or degree apprenticeships. The support consisted of the Personal Statement checking Service. Students shared their UCAS personal statements and have been given valuable, confidential and impartial guidance on how to write more effectively and with impact, to support their applications to HE.

KPMG Visit – The visit to KPMG offices in Birmingham took place in October and November 2023. Students were able to participate working directly with KPMG Staff on a short project during the visit. Students gained valuable insight into the different pathways and routes into employment with KPMG.

Employer Engagement – SpeedNetWorking event saw 7 employers come in and answer questions about routes into their companies as graduates and non-graduates. Students fully engaged with the employers during this round table event where the employers' also shared their personal journeys' into their current role. Some of the companies that participated were – PWC, Santec, Beazley, Chapsticks, Netcompany.

WSC Autumn Careers Fair – This took place in November 2023. The purpose of this Careers Fair was a bespoke event aimed at our Y11, Y12 and Y13 Students to support in their decision-making and progression at post-16 and post-18 destinations. The Fair was a huge success with a variety of delegates participating, which included Further Education Colleges, Universities', employers and apprenticeship providers. Forthcoming Careers Fairs are scheduled for February 2024 at WSC and the whole Trust Annual Careers fair at Waverley school in the summer 2024.

Curriculum related Educational Visits – Y12 and Y13 Law and Criminology Students attended the visits to Birmingham Crown Court and to The Houses of Parliament.

KS4 Careers Activities – Delivering the KS4 Assembly and informing student of a range of routes post 16, which includes Higher Education studies, Apprenticeships and employment across the Trust.

Statutory 121 Career Guidance Interviews – Y11 Students at WSC have had their Statutory Career Guidance Interviews. Waverley School Y11 Students Career Guidance Interviews will commence in January 2024.

The Y11 Mock Interview – These have now been completed across the Trust. This has enabled Students in Y11 to prepare for when they begin making applications for Sixth Form, FE colleges in Autumn 2023 onwards. By participating in the mock interview process this had equipped students with some confidence in what to expect when invited for an interview at an FE college, Sixth Form, apprenticeship provider or employment. The mock interview were 15 mins long, students were asked a range of questions and responses were recorded. The feedback will be shared in due course. The employers' that participated in the delivery of this event were HSCB and Seven Trent Water.

Y11 PAL – To meet the Provider Access Legislation enacted upon schools this employer engagement assembly took place on the 29th Oct to inform students of technical routes post-16 by Seven Trent Water.

Next Steps after Y11 Career Guidance & Support – Y11 Parents were invited into Waverley school for an Information and Guidance evening. This enabled Parents, Guardians & Carers to ask questions about Post-16 options and choices for progression and destination. The evening saw the delivery of presentations to parents from the Principal, Y11 ACO, Head of Sixth Form and from myself WEF Trust Careers Lead, Ms Satti; with the focus on the Careers Software Unifrog.

KS3 – The rollout of the Unifrog Careers software will be completed within the current academic year. Y9 Key Transitional Point work will begin in the New Year as they begin to make GCSE choices.

Additional Updates – During the course of the current academic year we will see the complete rollout of the Unifrog Careers Software accost the Trust. Completion of all statutory careers requirements will be complete. Additional Careers Fairs will be taking place. Y10 and Y12 Work Experience will be launched.

Unifrog – is the Careers software which is the complete destination platform for our students, parents and staff to use. Parents are able to sign up through the following link <https://www.unifrog.org/code> and by using the following code – WAVSparents.

If you have any enquiry please contact me on the following emails - [Careers@waverley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:Careers@waverley.bham.sch.uk)

[WSC-Careers@waverleystudiocollege.co.uk](mailto:WSC-Careers@waverleystudiocollege.co.uk)

Best wishes, Ms Satti - Careers Lead & Practitioner

# WEF Alumni CALLING ALL FORMER STUDENTS

Waverley School

<https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/waverley>



**JOIN YOUR ALUMNI NETWORK TODAY!**

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US AND USE YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP CURRENT STUDENTS



[www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk) |   [futurefirstorg](https://www.instagram.com/futurefirstorg)   Future First

If you're a former student of Waverley School or Waverley Studio College, we want to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the schools.

We've partnered with the national education charity Future First, who specialise in helping schools like ours to stay connected with their former students.

You can choose how and when you help – perhaps you can act as a career and education role model, provide work experience, become a mentor in person or online, or help with donations, fundraising or even apply to become a governor.

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help.

In order to sign up, just follow the link below!

<https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/waverley-studio-college> Waverley Studio College



**JOIN YOUR ALUMNI NETWORK TODAY!**

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US AND USE YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP CURRENT STUDENTS



[www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk) |   [futurefirstorg](https://www.instagram.com/futurefirstorg)   Future First

## Thinking about becoming a teacher?

Are you, a family member or someone you know thinking about becoming a teacher? Applications are now open for our new secondary PGCE courses in partnership with Birmingham City University and local school partners. You must apply for courses starting September 2024 via the DfE Apply service.

To be eligible for a programme, candidates will usually have an honours degree and GCSEs in Maths and English at Grade C/4 or above. Please note that a degree needs to be in a closely related subject to the subject to be taught (approx. 50%).

If you want to make a difference to young people's lives, why not join

one of our ITT information events during the Spring term? Find out about the recruitment process, different types of programmes, and what being a teacher is like, with the opportunity to ask questions. These sessions run from 4-5pm:

**THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2024**

**THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2024**

To book a place, get in touch with the Waverley Initial Teacher Training team: [Training@waverley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:Training@waverley.bham.sch.uk). We look forward to hearing from you!

WAVERLEY SCHOOL - THE FIRST PURPOSE BUILT ALL - THROUGH SCHOOL IN BIRMINGHAM

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