

Whats on WAVERLEY?

“ DEAR PARENT/CARER

It only seems like yesterday that I was wishing everyone a Happy New Year, and here we are twelve months later, nearly at the end of another year. Where has the year gone?

As we approach the end of 2024, it gives us all the opportunity to reflect on the year. To consider our achievements and think about our hopes and aspirations for the new year.

It's been another eventful year across the trust with many wonderful memories made along the way.

Our examination outcomes across Waverley School and Waverley Studio College built on the successes of last year and many students achieved outstanding results. Our Key Stage 2 SATs results were the best in the school's history and many of our Key Stage 5 students across the trust gained places at Russell Group Universities, something that we are very proud of.

There have been many wonderful experiences and visits for students across the trust this year to enable

them to put their learning in the classroom into a real context and to develop their cultural capital. For many of our students, the memories of these experiences and visits will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

It goes without saying, that none of the above would have been possible without the hard work of staff who leave no stone unturned when it comes to helping and supporting the students in their care. I would like to put on record my sincere gratitude and thanks to staff across the trust for their continued loyalty and commitment to enable our students to be the best they possibly can be.

As we reflect on the positive achievements of 2024, I would also like to take a moment to remember Mrs Ivy Caesar, who sadly passed away in February.

During her long association with Waverley Mrs Caesar was a parent, staff member, governor, trustee and more recently a member of the trust. Mrs Caesar gave her heart and soul to serving Waverley and the local community and positively influenced generations of students and staff over a number of decades.

Mrs Caesar was a selfless, dedicated and loyal individual who only gave, expecting nothing in return. Our memories of Mrs Caesar will live long in our hearts, and she will be greatly missed by us all.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas holiday and I hope the new year brings you all success and happiness.

With warmest regards

-Sukhbir Farar
Executive Principal



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Events ...**(from page 2)



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Form ...**(from page 13)



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**Waverley Studio
College ...** (page 24)



Primary Winter Events

Reception

Reception Pupils Immersed in

Fairy Tales

Our Reception pupils completed their first full week at school, the children in EYFS wandered into the woods and stumbled across some footprints.

They were sure it was a dinosaur or a bear but were surprised to find they were actually the trotter-steps of the three little pigs. Children were enthralled as the EYFS team acted out the story, with the children enthusiastically joining in to 'BOO' the big bad wolf and save the pigs from being eaten.

The children have immersed themselves in the story throughout the week creating masks, stick puppet characters, reading and retelling the story.



Reception Pupils Make Kindness and Friendship Bracelets

Reception children had a lesson focused on the theme of kindness and building friendships. It began with a warm discussion about kindness, where children shared examples of kind actions they have experienced or witnessed. This encouraged a supportive atmosphere and set the tone for the day's activities.

Next, the children were introduced to the process of making friendship bracelets. They were provided with colourful beads, strings, and tools to help them create their designs. The teachers demonstrated the steps, emphasising the importance of patience and cooperation, especially when helping each other with tricky small beads.



Year 1

TWYXCROSS
ZOO

Bringing Learning to Life!

Year 1 pupils and staff were absolutely thrilled during their recent visit to Twycross Zoo. The children were buzzing with excitement as they explored the various animal enclosures, eagerly spotting the animals they had learned about in class. From the moment they arrived, the pupils used their knowledge from the Year 1 Science curriculum, confidently identifying mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. They were especially fascinated by the monkeys and giraffes, recalling the different body parts and animal features they had studied, such as fur, scales and feathers. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to connect their classroom learning with real-life experiences.

This exciting visit also allowed pupils to deepen their understanding of the basic needs

of animals, such as food, water and shelter. As they watched the zookeepers feeding the animals,

they discussed the differences between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores, linking back to their science lessons on animal diets. Staff were impressed by how engaged the children were, asking thoughtful questions and making connections between the zoo animals and the ones they had read about. It was a memorable day of hands-on learning, reinforcing the key concepts of the Year 1 Science national curriculum in an exciting, real-world setting.



Year 1

Healthy Eating Journey at ASDA

Year 1 pupils enjoyed an exciting visit to the local ASDA supermarket, linking to the Science curriculum - sources of food and healthy eating habits. The outing introduced them to the journey food takes from farm to shelf, with an emphasis on fresh, healthy options like fruits and vegetables. In exploring the different sections, pupils learned the importance of choosing a balanced variety of foods, with fresh produce as the foundation of a healthy diet. They also discovered how supermarkets store food safely, from chilled sections for dairy and meat to special aisles for long-life items, helping them understand how storage impacts the freshness and nutritional value of different foods.

The highlight for many pupils was stepping into ASDA's huge freezer rooms, where they experienced first-hand the chill that keeps foods fresh for longer. This hands-on experience brought the science of food preservation to life, showing how low temperatures slow bacterial



growth, allowing healthy foods to stay safe to eat. Building on this, pupils are now excitedly looking forward to an upcoming food tasting lesson where they will use their senses to try uncommon fruits and vegetables. This tasting experience will reinforce their understanding of healthy eating by encouraging them to explore a wider range of nutritious foods, using sight, smell and taste to develop their preferences. The visit and follow-up lesson have sparked curiosity and enthusiasm, giving pupils a deeper understanding of food, health and the science behind keeping food fresh.

Year 2

Exploring Christianity and the life of Jesus

Year 2 pupils had an enlightening visit to Birmingham City Cathedral as part of their Religious Education studies. During their visit, they learned about Christ and the origins of Christianity, with the cathedral's education officer sharing the story of Jesus' life and how it led to the foundation of the Christian faith. The pupils were particularly enthusiastic about recalling the story of the Nativity, which they had studied previously. They were also given the chance to explore various religious artefacts, enhancing their understanding of Christian worship and traditions. The

magnificent architecture of the cathedral, with its intricate designs and towering arches, left the children in awe, as they admired the historical beauty of the building.

The visit also allowed the pupils to compare Christian worship with that of other religions, particularly Islam. They noted the differences in prayer styles, the use of religious spaces and the role of certain symbols in both faiths. On the following day, during their English lesson, the children were tasked with writing a recount of their visit, carefully

organising the facts and experiences in chronological order. This activity helped solidify their understanding of Christianity, while also developing their literacy skills. The visit was both educational and inspiring, broadening the pupils' perspectives on religious practices.



Year 2

Primary Celebrate Black History Month

The start of Black History Month was marked by a class assembly from 2B. The assembly featured key figures such as Rosa Parks, who sparked the civil rights movement with her brave stand against racial segregation. The pupils brought this moment to life by enacting the famous bus scene, where Mrs Parks refused to give up her seat, a powerful portrayal of courage that led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

The assembly also celebrated Nelson Mandela, South Africa's first democratically elected president and global peace advocate, Oprah Winfrey, media

icon and philanthropist and Raheem Sterling, the celebrated footballer using his platform to speak out against racial injustice. Additionally, they highlighted the achievements of Misty Copeland, the first Black female principal dancer of the American Ballet Theatre and Wilma Rudolph, the first Black woman to win three Olympic gold medals in one event.

Celebrations ended on a high note with the pupils grooving to the song "It's Your History, It's All of Our History, I can be whatever I want to be", inviting everyone to celebrate



together. Parents were filled with joy, seeing their children perform confidently, standing tall in front of the audience. Teachers were proud of their pupils' articulation, knowledge and the confidence they displayed throughout the performance.

Year 2

Immersive Experience with Ward End Fire Services



Year 2 had an exciting time learning about 'The Great Fire of London' through an interactive workshop led by the firefighters from Ward End Fire Services. The firefighters came equipped with various tools, allowing pupils to compare firefighting equipment from the past to the modern tools used today. The firefighters were impressed by how much information the children could recall about the historical fire, and this made the session even more engaging. The workshop also included a valuable refresher

on essential fire safety practices, such as the "Stop, Drop, and Roll" technique. This hands-on experience allowed the pupils to connect what they had learned in class with real-life firefighting methods and reinforced the importance of fire safety.

The highlight of the workshop was the opportunity for the pupils to explore a real fire engine. They learned about each part of the fire engine and how it helps firefighters extinguish fires, rescue people and animals and protect buildings from burning down. Sitting inside

the fire engine was an unforgettable experience that left everyone thrilled and more knowledgeable. This memorable session is expected to enrich their current studies in English and History on The Great Fire of London, providing them with firsthand insights to help them write detailed narratives. This experience will not only deepen their understanding of the historical event but also enhance their ability to describe and narrate effectively.

Bringing History to Life: Year 2's Immersive Experience of the Great Fire of London

Year 2 pupils took part in an immersive drama-based workshop delivered by Past Productions, where they delved into the historical tragedy of the Great Fire of London. The pupils had the unique opportunity to watch a pantomime, don period attire and actively engage in reenacting this historic event. They experienced the art of writing with ink and quill, recording their observations just as people might have done in 1666. Adding to the excitement, the pupils embarked on a lively treasure hunt to uncover hidden items, such as cheese, bread and belongings of Mr. Pepys, which were famously buried during the catastrophe. This hands-on experience not only brought history to life but also deepened the pupils' understanding of the event, leaving a lasting, positive impact on their learning journey.

A Day of Discovery and Creativity

Year 3

What a fantastic way to introduce Year 3 pupils to our new topic on the Stone Age and Iron Age! Year 3 had a marvellous opportunity to step back in time and experience life as early humans. The day was filled with interactive activities aimed at sparking curiosity and deepening their understanding of this fascinating period. The children took part in creative

projects, such as building models of Iron Age roundhouses. Working in small groups, they constructed the roundhouses and caves using cardboard boxes, gathering leaves and twigs from outdoors to decorate, while learning about the construction techniques and lifestyle of the Iron Age people.

Additionally, the children explored

key facts about the Stone Age through an interest table filled with books on the topic. They also shared stories about famous Celtic heroes, enriching their understanding of Iron Age culture. To top it off, the children created their own Stone Age-inspired artwork, replicating designs seen in ancient caves as a form of communication.



Year 4

Art Speaks Where Words Are Unable to Speak

Year 4 pupils had a great day out at the New Art Gallery in Walsall. There were so many creative opportunities on offer which inspired and engaged the children, stimulating great discussions. Children took part in a wide range of memorable workshops, where they showcased their artistic skills by creating their own sculptures, sketched a still life and poly print which will support their learning in our upcoming Art lessons.



During the tour, pupils explored the Carlos Bunga exhibition which presented seen and new artwork by this Barcelona-based artist. Pupils discussed their own interpretations demonstrating the ability to critique, justify and interpret different meanings. Our Year 4 pupils were a credit to Waverley School as they represented the school brilliantly. What a memorable day!

Year 4

West Midlands Fire Service Workshop

Year 4 had an informative workshop all about fire safety which was delivered by firefighters from our local station. The children were really interested in finding out about fire safety. The SPARKS presentation that the Firefighters went through concentrated on fire and road safety. In the session, the children discussed:

- Smoke detectors
- Escape plans
- Emergency calls
- Fire hazards
- Stop, drop and roll
- Pedestrian safety
- In-car safety

Through insightful discussions, the children were able to think about various real-life scenarios related to hazardous incidences and were able to come up with ways to manage these safely. It was wonderful to see all the children show the visitors how much they already know about keeping themselves and others safe.

Year 4 & 5

Vicious Vikings and Groovy Greeks

The Viking period came alive with Professor McGinty's workshop. Year 5 pupils learnt all about Viking daily life, longhouses, longships and Viking weaponry in a fun and exciting way. Professor McGinty took the pupils back in time to explore what life was like back then. The first-hand experience with the artefacts and objects from the Viking period was a real highlight. Overall, it was a fun filled day for our Year 5 pupils!

Year 4 pupils were also fortunate to have a special visit from Professor McGinty who,

through his captivating storytelling, explored the Ancient Greeks. This was a wonderful way to introduce the new history topic to the children who studied the Ancient Greeks over the course of the term.

The children took part in story telling from the past and had an insight into the Greek Gods and their roles. Professor McGinty was amazed about how much the children already knew about the Greek Gods! The Children especially enjoyed exploring the artefacts from the Ancient Greek time



and had insightful discussions based on what they are used for. It was a great session which has really inspired the children and made them enthused about their learning.

Year 5

Stand up to Bullying and Build a Better Community

Class 5B delivered a powerful assembly on anti-bullying, beautifully tying their message to our school values of Humanity, Equality, Aspiration, and Respect. Through thoughtful performances, including role-play scenarios and personal reflections, they highlighted how every pupil has a part to play in fostering a safe and supportive environment. Their assembly emphasised Humanity by encouraging kindness and empathy, Equality by promoting inclusivity for all, Aspiration by challenging everyone to build a positive school culture, and Respect by reinforcing the importance of treating each other with dignity. Their message inspired the audience to live by these values, reminding us of our shared responsibility to stand up against bullying and build a better community together.

Year 5 & 6

What's in your Pot?



On Tuesday 12th November, Year 5 & 6 had the privilege of hosting a special assembly led by Anthony from the Young Gentlemen's Project, inspiring our pupils to reflect on what it means to be the best versions of themselves. The session encouraged our children to consider the qualities of a true gentleman, with a particular focus on our school's HEAR values. Anthony, the project leader, engaged Year 5 and 6 pupils with the thought-provoking question, "What's in your pot?" challenging them to think about the values and attributes they bring to their lives and interactions. Together, they explored the "recipe for success," discussing how qualities such as respect, kindness, and resilience contribute to positive character. This assembly marks the start of a series of special projects Anthony will lead with our Year 5 and 6 pupils, providing them with further opportunities to develop confidence, self-respect, and empathy in their journey toward becoming young gentlemen.

Year 6

Year 6 No-Bake Cheesecakes

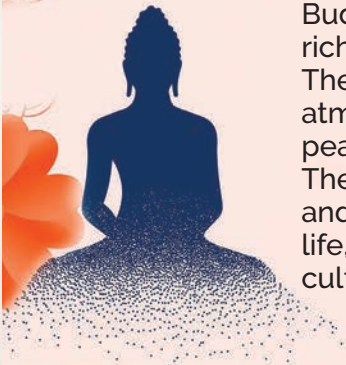
Our Year 6 pupils really immersed themselves in our first writing unit on creating instructional texts by making their very own cheesecakes. This practical experience not only made the learning process more enjoyable but also enriched their writing skills by providing them with a tangible context to apply what they were learning. Through practical rehearsal, the pupils could better understand the importance of clarity, sequencing, and precision in their instructions. Engaging in hands-on activities like this allowed them to see the direct connection between the writing task and real-world applications, enhancing their comprehension and ability to articulate ideas effectively.



Year 6

Journey into Mindfulness

Year 6 had the exciting opportunity to visit a Buddhist Pagoda, where they explored the rich traditions and teachings of Buddhism. The pupils were captivated by the serene atmosphere, intricate architecture, and the peaceful messages shared during their visit. They learned about mindfulness, meditation, and the importance of compassion in daily life, gaining valuable insights into different cultures and beliefs.



Year 6

A Theatrical Treat: Rewarding Hard Work & Attendance



David Walliams
AWFUL AUNTIE

Our Year 6 pupils were treated to a special rewards trip to the Alexander Theatre to watch *Awful Auntie* by David Walliams. This exciting outing was a well-deserved reward for those pupils who have shown excellent attendance and put in a tremendous amount of effort so far, this academic year. The trip served as a fantastic motivator for the children to continue their hard work. Well done and thank you to all involved!

A Trip to the Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park!



The Primary Resource Base trip to the Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park was a fantastic adventure! The children were thrilled to see monkeys swinging in their enclosure, kangaroos hopping about, and graceful antelopes roaming freely. "They look like they belong in a fairy tale!" exclaimed KA. The playful otters splashed in the water, while the adorable red pandas captured everyone's hearts. The highlight of the day was definitely the meerkat family, with one child shouting, "Look at how they

are standing!" and the delightful surprise of spotting a massive hedgehog nearby.

After exploring the wildlife park, we headed to Cannon Hill Park, where the children had a blast playing on the swings and slides. They enjoyed running around and sharing stories about their favourite animals from the day. It was a wonderful opportunity for learning and laughter, and we are incredibly proud of our children for their curiosity and enthusiasm. A big thank you to all the staff who made this trip possible!

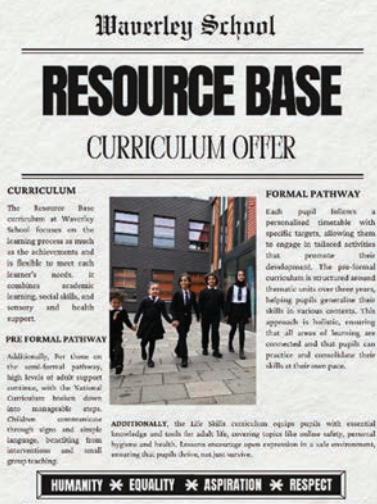
Resource Base Parent Workshop

On Thursday 19th September, the Primary Resource Base team held their first parent workshop of the year. The focus for the session was to share with parents and carers what school does based on evidence-based research.

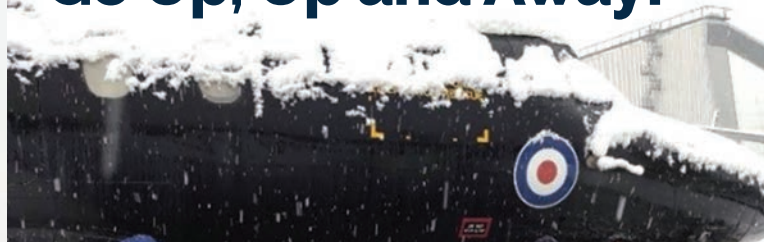
Colleagues informed parents and carers that the personalised curriculum in the Primary Phase aimed to enable our pupils 'to have the skills to live the life they want'.

Parents and carers engaged attentively throughout the session and participated in a practical Disco Dough session. The parents and carers commented how supportive they found the session and were keen to embed the strategies at home.

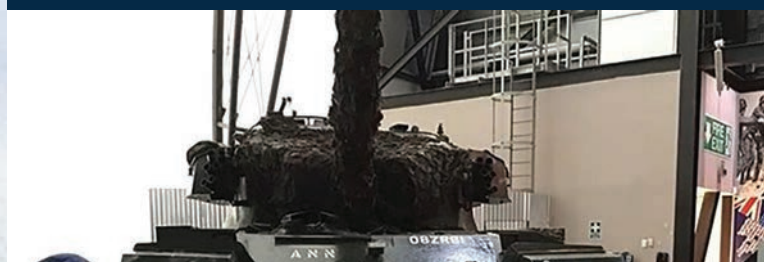
Primary aim to develop partnership work with parents throughout the year, with a series of workshops, hands on sessions and with external agencies.



Resource Base Pupils Go Up, Up and Away!



Our Resource Base trip to the Royal Air Force Museum was a soaring success! The children were absolutely amazed by the incredible aircrafts on display, getting up close to marvel at their size and design. The highlight for many was stepping into the cockpit, where they eagerly pretended to be pilots, shouting, "I'm going to fly this!" and the thrill of taking off, banking left and right. The 4D cinema was an exhilarating experience, making them feel as if they were truly flying an aeroplane. Paired with the flight simulator, it brought the magic of flight to life. It was a day full of discovery, adventure and unforgettable moments that perfectly captured the excitement of going "up and away!"



Celebrating Black History Month: A Journey through Heritage, Heroes, and Hands-On Learning



Primary began Black History Month celebrations with an exciting lineup of events aimed at recognising the significant contributions of Black heroes and African culture. Pupils have been learning about key figures such as Rosa Parks, Bessie Coleman, Marcus Rashford, and Benjamin Zephaniah. In our topic lessons, we explored the stories, struggles, and achievements of these individuals, gaining insights into their lives and developing a deeper understanding of Black heritage and its impact on society. The figures we covered spanned

a wide range of fields, from civil rights leaders to inventors, artists, educators, and beyond.

This week, we kick-started our celebrations with a vibrant African drumming workshop. The workshop brought a dynamic energy to our school, where pupils had the opportunity to experience traditional African rhythms first-hand and understand their cultural significance. It provided an engaging and interactive way for pupils to connect with African heritage through music.

KS2 Parent Workshop Success

It was wonderful to see so many of our parents and carers attend our KS2 SATs workshop.

The session provided parents with all the essential information about the assessments, including how we will work to ensure that every child achieves the best possible outcomes.

Parents were also given guidance on how they can support their children at home by working collaboratively with the school, helping to create a supportive environment for learning.

EMBRACING KINDNESS:

An Inspiring Story about Sharing and Caring

Birmingham City Mission delivered an engaging and interactive workshop to pupils in Years 1-3, centred around the story of Ruth. The workshop highlighted the importance of sharing and caring for others, drawing valuable lessons from Ruth's dedication and kindness. Through the narrative, pupils explored themes closely aligned with the school's values of Humanity, Equality, Aspiration, and Respect. Ruth's selfless actions exemplify the essence of humanity and respect for others, regardless of background or status, while her perseverance and humility reflect the aspirations we hold for a compassionate, inclusive society. The workshop encouraged pupils to embrace these

values in their everyday lives, fostering a spirit of kindness and unity.

Anna from Birmingham City Mission delivered a thought-provoking assembly to pupils in Years 4-6, on the bible story of Ruth and Boaz. Anna used paint to create a picture as she told the story, which brought the assembly to life. The story of Ruth teaches us an important lesson about being kind to others. The story also teaches us about friendship as Naomi and Ruth shared a deep friendship. At the end of the assembly, pupils reflected on the content and how it relates to our value of 'Humanity' and one of our primary golden rules 'We are kind and look after each other'.

Lighting Up Learning: Primary Celebrates Diwali & develop Cultural Capital

Pupils celebrated the Religious Education-themed festival of Diwali with great enthusiasm. They greeted each other with cheerful calls of 'Happy Diwali!' and enjoyed engaging Religious Education lessons where they learned the story of King Rama and Queen Sita, gaining a deeper understanding of the festival's origins and significance. The excitement continued as they gathered for a delicious lunch, sampling traditional dishes that enriched their experience of the celebration.

Through activities like these, pupils not only learn about different cultures and beliefs but also build Cultural Capital, broadening their understanding of the world and fostering respect for diverse traditions and communities.



Young Voices 2024

Below is a link to a short video made of our Primary children who participated in Young Voices earlier this year. It is a beautiful watch and the expressions on the children's faces throughout the video shows the value and importance of such experiences for our children.

I would like to thank Ms Harding and Mr Abley for all their hard work in the organisation and planning of the event. I am sure that the memories of the day will stay with the children for the rest of their lives.

[Waverley School Birmingham - Young Voices 2024](#)

Pupils Go SPOTacular for Children in Need

Our primary pupils enthusiastically observed Children in Need with the theme "Make Life Lighter for Children." As part of the celebrations, pupils were invited to come to school dressed in spotted clothing—be it spotted socks, t-shirts, hats or any other polka-dotted attire they could find. This added a vibrant and joyful touch to the school atmosphere, making it look truly SPOTacular. Each child participating was encouraged to bring a £1 donation, with all funds going directly to Children in Need. This fundraising effort contributed to essential projects supporting children in need across the UK, providing them with emotional, educational, and practical assistance. The community's combined efforts made a meaningful impact, helping "make life lighter for children" who needed it most.



Chess Stars Shine at Warwickshire Primary Schools Championship

On Monday 18 November, four of our most talented chess players – HA (3B), AM (5B), EK (5B) and MO (5B) proudly represented Waverley School at the Warwickshire Primary Schools Chess Team Championship, organised by the Warwickshire Chess Association. They approached the competition with confidence and a strong sense of responsibility, recognising the honour of representing their school. Demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, they were courteous and polite throughout the event, quickly building friendships with fellow competitors from other schools who shared their enthusiasm for chess.

Our team played with remarkable skill and determination, employing their most thoughtful strategies

in each game. Their participation was not only about the competition but also about the joy of engaging with new opponents and learning from their experiences. The pupils reflected on their day with enthusiasm, expressing how much they enjoyed both the challenges of the tournament and the opportunity to meet other players. This marked the second time Waverley School has participated in this prestigious championship and we are incredibly proud of the dedication and positivity shown by our team.

Thank you to Ms Vryaparj for conducting after school chess club every week and finding such opportunities for our pupils to shine. Thank you to Ms Akhtar for assisting pupils with the visit.



Pupils Take Bullying Down

The primary pupils had an EPIC day with sunglasses, bandanas, inflatable guitars, biker boots, and ripped jeans in abundance—and that was just the staff!

We hosted our second **Rock Kidz** rock concert, giving every child in primary the chance to take part in an unforgettable concert-style assembly. The atmosphere was electric as pupils sang, cheered, jumped, and rocked out with boundless enthusiasm.

The event focused on the powerful theme of **anti-bullying**, with the Rock Kidz crew delivering an essential message about kindness and standing up to bullying in an incredibly engaging and memorable way. Their message perfectly aligned with our school value of **Humanity**, making the experience even more impactful.



It was truly a one-of-a-kind event that left a lasting impression on our pupils. And let's be honest—they'll probably never forget some of the teachers' dance moves either!

Parent Sessions

Parents Embrace Phonics and Early Reading Strategies

The English team in Primary held a workshop focused on phonics and early reading strategies for parents and carers, and it was an incredibly valuable experience. The teachers shared practical scaffolding techniques and strategies that can easily be implemented at home to support children's literacy development.

The session began with a clear overview of phonics and its importance in early reading. The English team provided engaging examples and demonstrated how to break down sounds and letters, making the process accessible for both parents and children.

One highlight was the live modelling of how phonics links to

early writing. Phonics games and tools that can be incorporated into daily routines were shared that can be both fun and informative. The teachers emphasised the significance of creating a positive reading environment, sharing tips on how to foster a love for books at home.

Parents left the workshop feeling empowered with new knowledge and practical resources. It was reassuring to know that small changes in our reading practices could significantly impact children's literacy skills.

Parents Learn About Sensory Breaks and Regulation

Sensory Circuits training was offered to parents and staff to support pupils' sensory intervention. Circuits intends to engage pupils who require sensory breaks and regulation activities. During the training, a range of physical activities designed to alert, organise and calm were actively participated in.

Parents' feedback was incredibly positive about the ability to engage with such specialised training. Since the training, the impact of facilitating sensory processing has supported staff to ensure children are able to regulate and organise their senses. This has resulted in pupils achieving the optimum level of alertness for effective learning. Thank you to Mr Tonks and Ms Yedale for being champions in this area.

WS Primary Partners up with Birmingham Adult Education Service

On Wednesday 18th September, Raheel from Birmingham Adult Education Service joined us for a Primary coffee morning. The purpose was to inform parents and carers about the ESOL course that will run here at Waverley throughout the Autumn. This is something that our parents and carers regularly ask for and a vital service in our community. Some parents and carers signed up and joined as the term went on. After the ESOL course, we will look to provide some other opportunities.

Secondary Winter Events

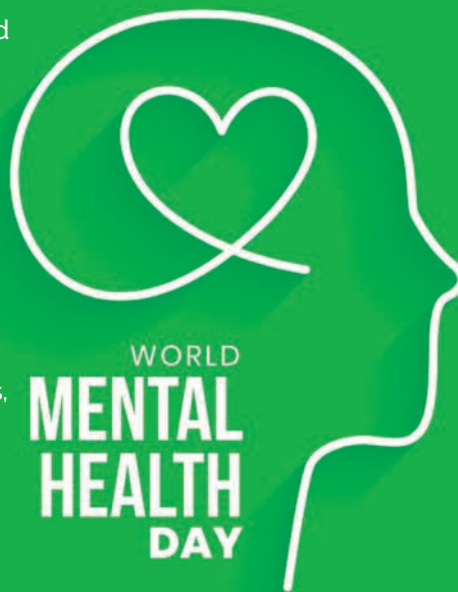


The Brilliant Club

We had 20 students submit their final assignment for The Brilliant Club, Scholars Programme in Summer Term 2 last academic year. 14 of those students achieved a 1st or a 2:1 mark which is incredible! All KS5 students that submitted have also been offered a place to apply for a contextual offer from the University of Bath as one of their 5 University choices, which again is incredible! Thank you to all staff that supported this and please congratulate students that were part of The Brilliant Club, Scholars Programme.

One of our dedicated mental health ambassadors, took the lead in our assemblies to prepare for World Mental Health Day. She delivered insightful talks on the importance of speaking up about mental health issues, emphasising that it's okay to seek help and share one's struggles. She also addressed the challenges

of managing school workload, providing practical tips and strategies to help students balance their academic responsibilities with their mental well-being. This aligns perfectly with this year's theme of workplace mental health, highlighting the importance of creating supportive environments both in schools and future workplaces.

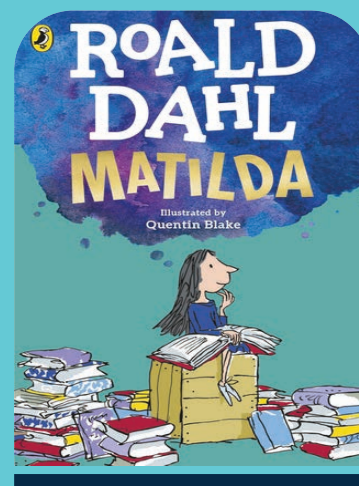
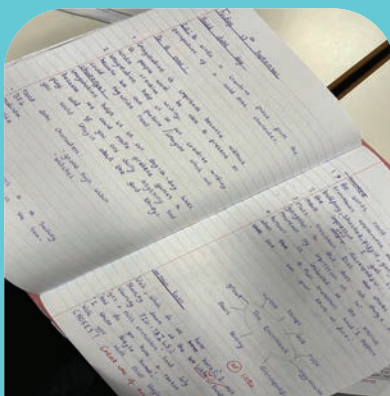


Roald Dahl Day

On September 13th, we marked *Roald Dahl Day* by celebrating the incredible legacy of one of the most beloved authors in children's literature. Famous for unforgettable classics like *The BFG*, *Matilda*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, Dahl's stories have sparked imaginations for decades.

During the day, students immersed themselves in the extraordinary life of Roald Dahl, exploring the events and experiences that inspired his whimsical tales. It was an opportunity to reflect on how his books have shaped young readers, fostering a love for storytelling and opening the door to the boundless world of creativity.

Students focused on the classic tale of *Matilda* before taking on the challenge of crafting their own imaginative stories, drawing inspiration from Dahl's signature style of blending humour, wonder, and deeper meaning. *Roald Dahl Day* was a joyful reminder of the magic of books and the timeless power of a great story to influence and inspire.



Name: _____

literacy wordsearch

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W F C N C M Y N H I I H U M L A E
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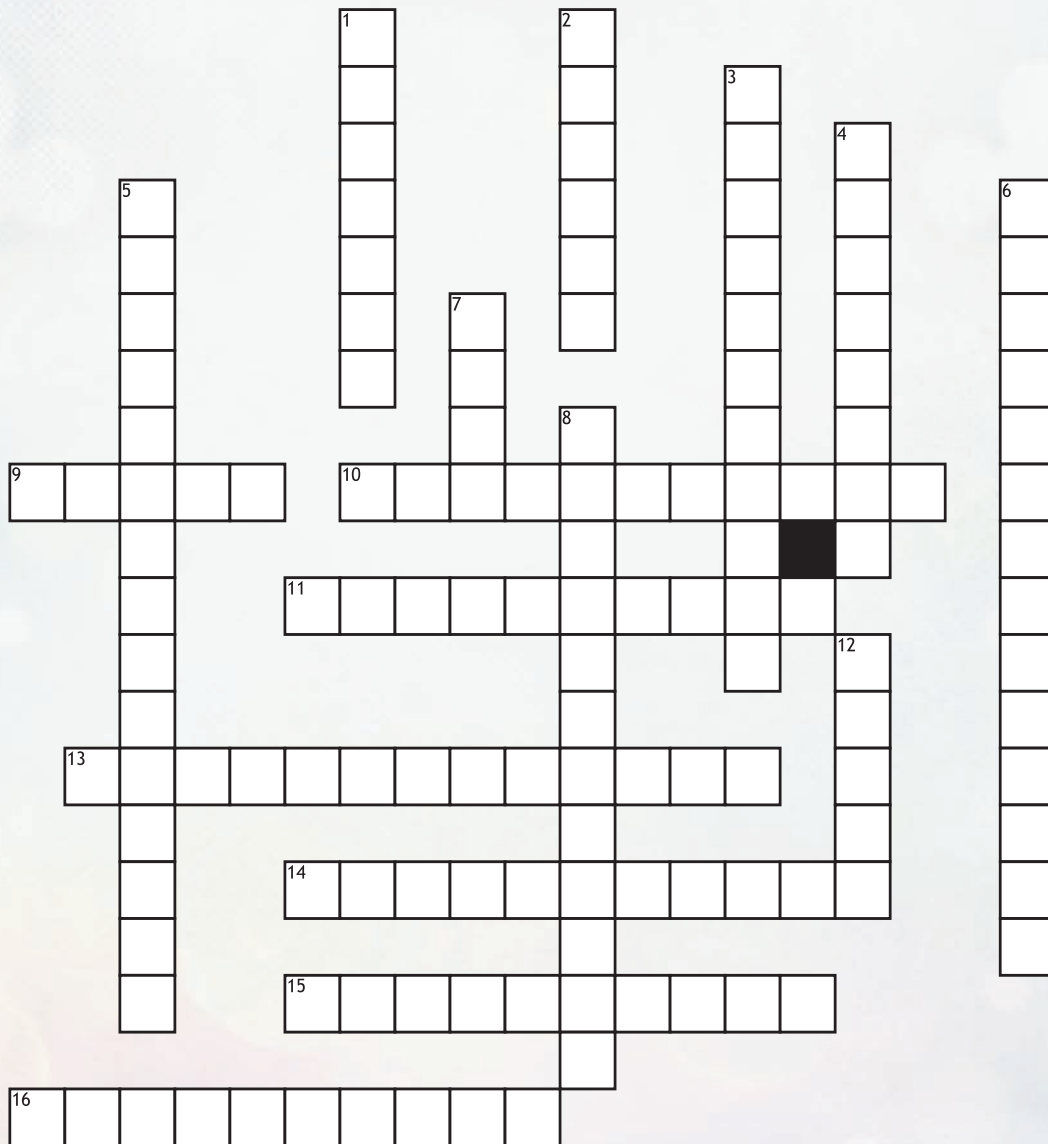
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onomatophea
literacy
grammar
verb

punctuation
metaphor
simile

Create your own puzzle at [WordMint.com](https://www.wordmint.com) or print one of our 500,000+ pre-made word searches, crosswords, and more.

Literacy



Across

- 9. used to separate words in a sentence
- 10. used to connect phrases, clauses and sentences
- 11. belonging to
- 13. used to indicate speech or quotation
- 14. used to introduce nouns or phrases

- 15. to show possession or to show omission
- 16. words that are used to modify nouns

Down

- 1. used in place of a noun that is already known
- 2. gives information about a verb or adjective
- 3. used to show relationships between nouns and other words in the sentence

- 4. used at the end of a sentence
- 5. use when ending a sentence expressing exclamation
- 6. to show omission
- 7. words that identify a person, idea or thing
- 8. used to end a sentence which poses a question
- 12. words that express the actions of a noun, a 'doing' word

Secondary Rewards

We hosted our second golden ticket reward event of the year. 50 students from Years 7 - 11 participated in a 'Cinema' event, watching Harry Potter in the hall.

It is amazing to see so many students receiving golden tickets and the 50 students present really enjoyed the experience. Next week the prize is participating in an indoor football tournament!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

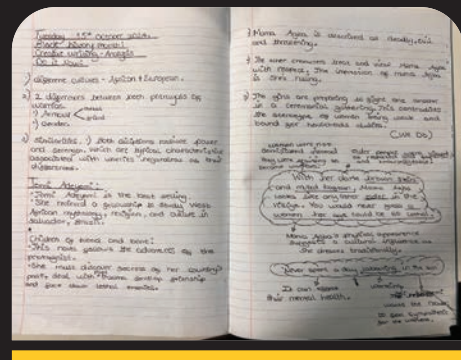
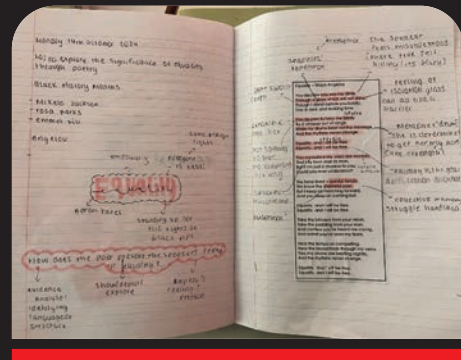


The History department prepared and delivered assemblies on Black History Month. The assemblies portrayed the impact and sacrifices that black people had made during the course of history to enable us to live in a society based on mutual respect and understanding. A number of personal accounts were shared as well as the true story of E. R. Braithwaite, who was born in Guyana and was one of the first black teachers to teach in the East End of London. The story described the challenges E. R. Braithwaite faced and how he overcame them. The assemblies were well received by the students and gave everyone plenty to reflect and think about.

but a continuous commitment to understanding and supporting the Black community.

Below are some pictures to go with the narrative written by IA:

The English department has taken a proactive approach to celebrate Black History Month by focusing on the achievements and contributions of prominent Black figures throughout history. We organised a series of engaging lessons that highlight the works of influential authors, poets, and activists, allowing students to explore their narratives and understand the significance of their legacies. The department has encouraged discussions around reclaiming narratives, emphasising the importance of diverse voices in literature and history. By fostering an environment of allyship, we've also provided resources and support for students to learn how to be effective allies in advocating for social justice and equality, ensuring that the celebration of Black history is not just a moment,



Student Ambassador Assemblies

Our Year 9 student ambassadors, EF and NR, delivered an assembly on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. They addressed the issue of poverty to pupils in Years 7 - 10, emphasising that it is not just a problem faced by people in distant lands, but one that exists within our own communities here in the UK. Their presentation emphasised the importance of taking small, meaningful actions to combat poverty, highlighting that even raising awareness through conversation can make a significant difference.

What was notable about this assembly was the fact that our ambassadors planned and delivered it themselves. The initiative they displayed is a perfect example of good leadership and responsibility in our school, and we are proud of the fact that not only did they provide valuable information, but also inspired others to think about how they can contribute to the fight against poverty.

Humanities Faculty

Celebrating Achievements and Upcoming Events

We are thrilled to share our achievements, key dates, and exciting events with you. The past few months have been filled with remarkable accomplishments, and we look forward to even more successes in the coming term.

Recent Events

- **Remembrance Day Assembly:**
A moving assembly where students and staff honoured those who have served and sacrificed. Our History department led the assembly, sharing moving stories and reflections.
- **Black History Month Assembly:**
Talks to honour and educate about Black history and achievements.

Continuing Excellence:

We are immensely proud of our students and staff for their hard work and dedication. Stay tuned for more updates and continue to support our Humanities Faculty as we strive for excellence in education.

Thank you for being a part of our journey, and enjoy the Christmas break!

Upcoming Events - 2025

Field Trip for Year 11 Geography:

- **Dates:** 13th & 20th January
- **Details:** Paper 3 fieldwork in Shropshire and Birmingham New Street, focusing on fluvial processes.

Doctor's Show for Year 11 History:

- **Dates:** Monday 10th February
- **Details:** A theatre production for the GCSE module "Medicine Through Time."

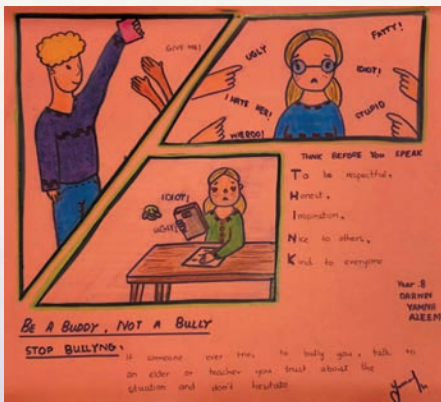
Medicine Time Travelling Man for Year 10 History:

- **Dates:** Monday 24th March
- **Details:** An engaging theatre production exploring historical advancements in medicine.

Anti Bullying Week

Our Year 7 and Year 9 Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Ambassadors teamed up for Anti Bullying Week 2024! This year's Anti-Bullying Week focus was 'Choose Respect', and our ambassadors, LW (7 Franklin), AA(7 Franklin), NR (9 Hawking) and EF (9 Hawking) spent valuable time planning a series of competitions to engage and educate their peers. Additionally, they planned and delivered an assembly to various year groups, spreading important messages about kindness, the impact bullying can have on mental health, and the importance of standing up against bullying. The assembly explored the ways people can be impacted by bullying and emphasised how important it is to speak out.

Congratulations!
to our competition winners:
Winning Posters:



Winning Poem Entries:

Bullies hurt people

By AA, 7 Seacole

Bullies hurt people
And they don't let you play
They are very loud
And have mean things to say.
Feeling locked and trapped inside a room
Their words always fill people with doom
We need to be strong and say how we feel
Because to be hurting inside IS a big deal!

Winning Poem Entries:

Untold Whispers

By MF, 10 Franklin

The untold whispers of the mind,
The pain hidden within the fragile figure,
The words that told the pain, and
The words that could never be expressed.
Trauma stuck in the head,
Hidden hurt and joy that is never felt,
Darkness spread all around,
Wish there was someone to hear me out.
The heart that felt so much pain,
No-one asks me if I am ok
Now that I am stood
They all ask if I am good.
Stand up again.

Anti-Bullying Workshops:

On Tuesday 12 November, Memorhyme came into school to deliver anti-bullying workshops to students in Key Stage 3.

The focus for Year 7 was 'Bully Vs Banter', where students explored the thin line between bullying and banter, the social and legal impact, and personal responsibility. The focus for Year 8 was 'Forbid & Forgive', where students explored the value of being able to avoid being mis-

characterised by mistakes made with words. The focus for Year 9 was 'Words of Wisdom', where students imparted Words of Wisdom: advice, knowledge and lived experiences to support successful learning and character development.

Students 'raised the roof' with their engaging poems and raps, relishing the opportunity to make their voice heard.

Two Minute Silence

On Monday 11 November, at 11am, Waverley held a 2-minute silence to remember all those who sacrificed their lives in the wars and conflicts, both currently and over the years. Those remembered will include our 646 former staff and students who attended Waverley Grammar School who we will never forget. Their names are on the poppies currently displayed in the library at Waverley School.

Thank you to Mr McAuley and Ms Lowes for creating the wonderful display.



Birmingham City Mission's Harvest Appeal 2024

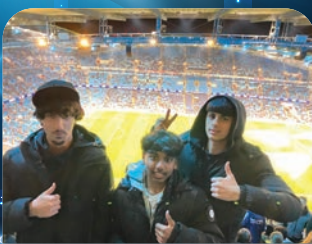
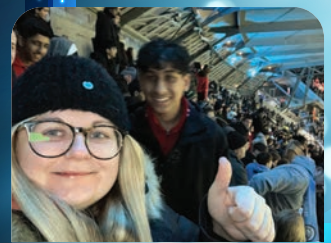
On behalf of Birmingham City Mission, Anna expressed her heartfelt thanks to Waverley School for their continued generosity in donating the harvest collection for the past six consecutive years. She emphasised how these contributions have made a significant difference to those in need and praised the school for their unwavering support and commitment to helping others in the community.

MANCHESTER CITY VS FEYENOORD FOOTBALL MATCH



Year 10 and 11 students were treated to an exhilarating 3-3 draw on their visit to the Etihad Stadium on Tuesday 26th November to watch Manchester City v Feyenoord. The English champions raced into a 3-0 lead only to collapse in the second half to allow Feyenoord to complete a miraculous comeback with an equaliser in the 89th minute to leave the home fans shell shocked, and spark mass hysteria in the packed out Feyenoord end.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the game and were a credit to the school with outstanding conduct throughout the visit. A big thank you to Mr Sheek, Mr Griffiths and Miss Chester who supported Mr Horsfield on the trip, and to Mr Derry for supplying the coffee on our late return!



Thinking about becoming a **TEACHER**



Are you, a family member or someone you know thinking about becoming a teacher?

Look out for our secondary PGCE courses in partnership with Birmingham City University and local school partners. Applications are now live for courses starting September 2025 via the DfE Apply service.

To be eligible for a programme, candidates will usually have a 2:2 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 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.

To register your interest, get in touch with the **Waverley Initial Teacher Training team** and we will get back to you with more information:

✉ Training@waverley.bham.sch.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sixth Form

The Access Project

We have launched The Access Project with KS4 and KS5 students and now have 20 more students participating in weekly workshops focused on developing key skills for the future. All 20 students also receive free private tuition weekly for a chosen GCSE or A Level subject.

Radiography Week Sixth Form UCAS Support

During Radiography week we had a representative from Heartlands Hospital come to deliver a workshop to our Year 13 students who are applying for Radiography at University. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain a better understanding of the demands of the role and ask questions to an NHS employee currently doing the role.

UCAS

We have launched our UCAS countdown with year 13 students. Students have received personal statement workshops from Aston University and online webinars from Sheffield University to support with this process. We

look forward to welcoming parents and carers on Wednesday 4th December to go through their son/daughters UCAS applications and discuss next steps.



Year 12 Visit to the KPMG Office

On Monday 18 November we had the privilege of taking our Year 12 students to the KPMG Office in Birmingham for an 'Opening Opportunities' social mobility workshop. The students were exemplary and had a fantastic time understanding more about career opportunities with KPMG.



Thank you to Mr Gonzales and Ms Abdi-Adan for their support on the visit.



Sixth Form Rewards Trip

On Wednesday 23rd October Miss Chester, Mr Gonzales and Miss Finlayson had the privilege of taking 30 Sixth Form students bowling. This was the Autumn Term 1 rewards trip to celebrate excellent attendance, punctuality and attitude to learning.



The students had a fantastic time and for many of the students it was the first time they had been bowling or played pool.



Library News

Thank you to everyone who visited our Autumn term 2024 book fair.

Takings totalled over £800 therefore we achieved 50% commission, that's over £400 for new library resources for our pupils and staff to enjoy!

In October we had many entries in for the Halloween competition to 'Design a Spooky Bookmark or Petrifying Pumpkin'. It was difficult to choose the prize winners as the entries were so good.

Thank you to all who entered our Christmas competition to create a 'Christmas theme Gingerbread House and/or a Christmas themed Snow globe'.

Happy Reading and Merry Christmas!





DOWNLOAD CLASS CHARTS TODAY

Is your child in Secondary or Sixth Form?
Download Class Charts today
and you will have access to:

LIVE UPDATES ON YOUR CHILD'S ACHIEVEMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

HOMEWORK UPDATES AND SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS.

Please download the '**Class Charts**' app on your phone and follow the instructions in the [online guide](#)

Alternatively, go to www.classcharts.com
to access it via your desktop/laptop.

An invite code (when you login for the first time) has already been emailed to you separately. Please check your junk email if it has not appeared. A copy will also be sent to you via post.

From 31st January 2025, all communication between parents/carers and the school will be through Class Charts and Parent Mail will no longer be used to communicate with Secondary and Sixth Form parents.

For more information please refer to our website
[Waverley School - Class Charts](#)
or if you have further enquiries please email:
enquiry@waverley.bham.sch.uk

Waverley Studio College

New House System

In the promotion of collaboration, developing leadership skills, peer mentoring, humanity, equality, aspiration, respect and a positive impact on our college culture, we have rolled out a new house system and further developed our rewards system this year. We wanted to honour the late Ivy Caesar who was one of our long-standing Trustees and Members of Waverley Education Foundation and sadly passed away this year. She devoted a large part of her life in serving the Waverley Family. Our House system is in part a homage to her and one of her favourite motivational phrases "Reach for the Stars and achieve your dream".

We used this to create our 4 houses: Hubble, Explorer, Apollo and Rover. The names are based on space exploration which ties in nicely with having high



These are our 4 houses at WSC.



aspirations and reaching for the stars that is engrained in our trust values. This led us to opening up applications for our House leadership. We had a successful round of applications from the students for the House leadership roles. It was an absolute pleasure reading through applications

for house leadership with the staff and selecting students who will reflect and propagate our values within the college and our local community. We chose students across all year groups. Well done to U.A - 13MS, I.A, 11.2, F.F 12Bs, Q.A 11.2, U.R 11.1, Y.A 10.1, S.C 10.1 and A.H 11.1. Well done to our house leaders!

Young Writer's Survival Sagas: 'Mission' Chaos Creative Writing Competition

Last term students had the opportunity to partake in a national creative writing competition. They were to write a thrilling mini saga on the theme of chaos with a hundred-word limit.

The English department were impressed with the tenacity pupils demonstrated during the composition of their works. They accepted constructive criticism readily and their positive mind-set towards the arduous writing process was inspiring.

A highlight was witnessing our pupils tapping into their imagination, nourishing their creativity and challenging themselves to produce tales of quality and innovation.

Therefore, it is with pride that we announce that three of our student's submissions have succeeded in receiving offers for publication by 'Young Writers'. We would like to offer massive congratulations to AH, EB and MAA for their incredible literary accomplishment; their hard

work and talent has certainly been recognised.

The anthology is available to purchase through 'Young Writers'!



Fundraising for Children in Need



Waverley Studio College have been raising money towards Children in Need. Students came in today, Friday, wearing trainers and donated money for the charity. We also had a house competition where students made posters for Children in Need and were able to add 5 house points towards their house

totals. It was lovely to see the posters and the effort the students put in.

Well done Childcare students for the collective effort in their poster that won the house competition.