



# BHBS Term Times



## Summer 2 2025

*Always Faithful with Christ*

July 2025

As the long days of summer continue to unfold, we look back on an extraordinary term at Bishop's, where sunshine and determination have gone hand in hand. This term has been both demanding and rewarding - especially for our students who have recently completed their GCSEs, mocks and end of year examinations with commendable focus and resilience.

Across classrooms and beyond, we've witnessed inspiring commitment from students, whether deep in revision or immersed in the breadth of our extra-curricular offerings. Their energy and perseverance have truly made us proud.

- This progress and enthusiasm wouldn't be possible without the steadfast dedication of our staff, who continue to guide and support with passion and care. As we step into the summer holidays, there's a real sense of accomplishment - and a well-earned opportunity to rest and recharge.

The end of the term and academic year is filled with mixed emotion as we say farewell to some members of our school community and prepare to welcome many new ones. Several members of staff leave us this summer for new adventures and challenges elsewhere. Mr Jordan leaves the PE department to teach in other local secondary schools in Herefordshire and Worcestershire whilst Mrs Harley moves to teach English at a school in the Forest of Dean. Mrs Metcalfe leaves Bishop's after many years of expert languages teaching to join Hereford Sixth Form and teach A-level courses whilst Mrs Roberts leaves her position as a Pastoral Mentor to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. Of course, after months of revision, weeks of GCSE examinations and a very celebratory prom at Hereford Racecourse, we also say farewell, good luck and best wishes to our 2024-25 Year 11 cohort. We wish them the very best of luck with their wait for exam results and next steps in education and training. The new academic year in September will see us welcome 220 new Year 7 students, and some new staff members, to Bishop's. Mrs Jones will return to Bishop's and rejoin the Maths team, Mr Mills joins us from a local secondary school to join the DT department and Mr. Hothersall will join the PE team. We are also very pleased to announce that Ms Dockerty will resume her previous role at Bishop's as a teacher of Languages, after a period in a Cover Supervisor role, and the forthcoming arrival of Mrs Johnson to the position of Pastoral Mentor.

Over the course of the term I have been delighted to see so many students receive awards and gain well deserved recognition for their achievements. Our new Prefects were appointed and many took on the challenge and rigorous process to

successfully become House Prefects; we proudly announced Lois and David as the new Head Prefects of the school and we have recently completed the selection of KS3 Prefects, well done to each one of you. Earlier in the term it was wonderful to be a part of the KS3 Awards Evening, an opportunity to celebrate the success of Year 9 students at the end of their first 3 years at Bishop's and an opportunity to watch some fabulous artistic performances.

The summer term has been full of a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, fixtures and trips. Seven Bishop's football teams made it through to cup finals, you may recall that I shared the outcomes in a previous correspondence. Students have also participated in fixtures for rounders, cricket and athletics. During enrichment week Year 10 students embarked on a week of work experience whilst students in Years 7-9 visited France, Alton Towers, Flip Out, Llanrug and the local swimming pool, many also engaged in a wide range of different activities and experiences at school. A full 'Shake Off' music evening and inclusive sports day also formed a part of a busy, yet successful summer term.

You can read much more about the events and achievements I have mentioned, plus many others, in the pages that follow.

I finish by wishing all our community members a restful and joyful summer break. We look forward to seeing students back in school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025.

Kind regards,

Mr T Williams  
Headteacher

# Uniform Expectations

## General Uniform

- Blazers - are compulsory and should be worn at all times in the building unless a member of staff gives permission for them to be removed.
- Jumper - Jumper – Navy blue
  - \*A navy blue v neck jumper may be worn under a blazer, the jumper must not have buttons or emblems of any type.
  - \*Jumpers are an optional item and are not a replacement for the blazer.
- Tie – only one shirt button should be seen below the tie. This creates a consistent and appropriate length.
- Shoes - Black (no colour visible on the outside including the sole), smart, safe and sensible (with a heel not exceeding 2 inches).
  - \*Shoes should be polishable
  - \*Trainers and canvas shoes are not allowed.
  - \*There should be no sports brands identified on the outside of the shoe.
  - \*Boots are not acceptable.
- Shirt - Pale blue
  - \*Tucked in all the way round on the waist
  - \*Top buttons are to be used at all times, so please make sure that the neck size is appropriate.
  - \*The shirt can be long or short sleeved in length.
  - \*No brands or logos are permitted
  - \*Shirts are not permitted to be button down collar

# Uniform Expectations

- Skirt - Regulation tartan school skirt
  - \*All skirts have a minimum length of 20", in exceptional circumstances only the school will authorise and sell, an 18" skirt – alternatives are not acceptable
  - \*Skirts must not be rolled up.
  - \*The bottom (hem) of the skirt must be as close to the top of the knee as possible.
  - \*Adjustments to the length of the skirt are not permitted
- Trousers - Black straight cut.
  - \*Casual or drainpipe style trousers are not acceptable this includes jeans, cords, and denims
- Socks - black socks (ankle or knee length).
  - \*No coloured patterns and motif/logos visible when shoes are worn.
- Tights must be plain black and they must have no rips or holes.
  - \*Plain black socks may be worn underneath the tights.
- Warm coats should be worn to and from school.
  - \*They can be worn in the building but must be removed when entering a classroom and placed over the chair.
- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn on the school site.
- Tailored unisex shorts are also available from the school shop which have the school initials.
- No other designs are acceptable.

## Exams and Uniform

Full school uniform is expected in all school exams. Failure to attend appropriately attired could result in not being able to complete the exam

# Uniform Expectations

## Hair

- Hair should be neat, tidy and of natural colour and in a non-extreme style.
- The school reserves the right to judge what is considered natural or extreme.
- There should be no evidence of colouring of any kind
- Students with long hair should tie it back during particular lessons for safety reasons.
- All beards should be trimmed and neat in appearance.
- Hair will be cut no shorter than a grade four on the top of the head. Patterns or lines are not acceptable in the hair or eyebrows.
- If you are in any doubt please contact the school before any new style is introduced.
- Any student wishing to wear headwear for religious reasons must ensure that it is navy. No other colours are acceptable.

## Jewellery

- One small pair of gold or silver stud earrings can be worn in the lower lobe of either ear, but **no more** than **one** earring in an ear.
  - \*Hoops style earrings are not acceptable
  - \*Studs must not have patterns, colours or designs
- Rings, bracelets and necklaces **are not** allowed.
- Facial or body piercings **are not** allowed.
  - \*Any other forms of **jewellery** must not be worn.
- **Only** badges and flashes provided by the school can be worn on the blazer, with the exception of poppies for Remembrance.

# Uniform Expectations

## Make-Up and Cosmetics

- Staff should not be able to see the use of make-up. If make-up can be seen it means it is not discreet enough for our school environment.
- Nails should be natural in colour with no nail varnish.
- False nails or acrylics are not allowed, there are no exceptions to this.
- False eyelashes/extensions/eye liner are not allowed.

Should a student arrive at school incorrectly dressed every effort will be made to solve the issue, failure to accept the support may result in normal school sanctions being applied.

**The School's decision on all queries is final.**



# Term Dates 2025/26

## Autumn Term 2025

Term Starts: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025  
Inset Days: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025, (school closed)  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025, (school closed)  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (school closed)  
Half Term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025  
Inset Day: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (school closed)  
Term Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Spring Term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Half Term: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
Term Ends: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## Summer Term 2026

Term Starts; Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Bank Holiday; Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Half Term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Term Ends: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
Inset Day: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026 (school closed)

# School Houses

## Ashley House

Celebrating our values with Ashley the Donkey

At Ashley House, we are proud to have a rather special mascot — Ashley the Donkey! Ashley lives at the Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary and is sponsored by our house as a symbol of the kindness, care, and community spirit we strive to show every day.



Each year, Ashley is “adopted” by the form that best embodies our school values — equality, kindness, trust, love, honesty, peace, and forgiveness. This year, we are delighted to announce that ALX has earned the honour of caring for Ashley! Their consistent demonstration of a positive attitude, unity, and compassion has truly set an example for the rest of the house.

As you can see, he has had quite a few adventures with ALX this year:



Ashley serves as a reminder that small acts of kindness and responsibility make a big difference — both in school and beyond. Congratulations to ALX, and thank you for being shining ambassadors of what Ashley House stands for.

### House Charity Update – Supporting Cancer Research

We are proud to support Cancer Research UK as our Ashley House charity this year. Our amazing charity committee has been working hard to come up with creative fundraising ideas — and their latest is a colourful and fun challenge just in time for summer!

# School Houses



Guess How Many Skittles in the Jar!

- 50p per guess
- OR £1 for 3 guesses The person who guesses closest to the correct number will win the entire jar of Skittles!

Entries are still open, so if you haven't had a go yet, now's your chance! All proceeds go directly to Cancer Research, helping fund life-saving work and making a real difference.

● The Great Ashley House Sunflower Challenge

● Our annual Sunflower Challenge is well underway, and we've already had some exciting updates from a few forms!

● Each form is growing their own sunflower, and the competition is on to see which form can grow the tallest by the end of the school year. It's been fantastic to see the effort, care, and teamwork going into nurturing these plants.

Will your form take the title this year? Keep watering, measuring, and updating us with your progress — we can't wait to crown the sunflower champions in our final assembly!

Welcoming Our Prefects

We are proud to introduce our Ashley House Prefects for this year, a team of dedicated, enthusiastic students who have shown exceptional leadership, responsibility, and commitment to our house values.

Please join us in congratulating:

Sophie K, Daisy S, Isabel O, Mazen El, Uzair U, Caitlin R, Omoyosola A, Lucy T, Ellie H, Maya F, George H, Bohdan Z, Kieran R, Riya B, and Natalie H.

# School Houses

A heartfelt thank you to all of them for the hard work they've put into their roles so far. From mentoring younger students to helping with house events, they've been a credit to Ashley House.

We are also currently selecting our Junior Prefects from Year 7. We look forward to announcing them at the end of the year and welcoming them into their new roles in September.

As we approach the end of another busy and successful term, I want to take a moment to congratulate every single member of Ashley House. Whether you've been involved with Ashley the Donkey, taken part in our charity fundraising, grown a sunflower, or supported your prefect team — you are what makes our house so special.

● Let's keep up the great spirit, kindness, and teamwork that define Ashley House as we move toward the end of the school year. I'm proud of all your efforts and excited to see what we will achieve together next year.

● Keep shining, Ashley House!  
— Mrs Collingbourne

# School Houses



## CHESHIRE HOUSE

### PREFECTS:

Across the past couple of months, our Year 10's had the opportunity to apply for the role of Cheshire House prefect. After a stringent application and interview process, our new Cheshire prefects have been selected. A huge congratulations to Finely, Kian, Ava, Zara, Saina, Sarah, Samuel, Lena, Alvin, Courtney, Ranulya and Stan, with Lois and Edward made our Cheshire House Senior Prefects. With our Year 11 prefects busy revising and sitting their GCSEs, they passed on the baton to our new Year 10 prefects, who have taken on full responsibility and made a great start in their new roles.

Our Senior Prefects were also given the opportunity to apply for the prestigious position of 'Head Prefect', a role only given to two students, who must have demonstrated excellence and commitment to the school throughout their time here. After a vote by all members of staff within the school, it is with great joy that one of our Cheshire prefects Lois has been successful in her application. Congratulations Lois, we are all very proud of you and are privileged to have you as a role model within our house.

Year 7's have also been busy applying for the role of Junior Prefect. We look forward to announcing these over the next couple of weeks.



Lois D (Head Prefect) & Edward H (Senior House Prefect)

### ACHIEVEMENT POINTS AND ATTENDANCE:

After a slow start to the year for Cheshire in terms of achievement points, with 4000 points behind in 3rd place at Christmas, our hard work and continued determination has seen us climb up the leaderboard to 2nd place – back where we belong competing with the other houses! Alongside this, we have maintained our 1st place position for attendance, however, with the other houses very close behind, these remaining days are going to be imperative if we want to be the overall winners. One big final push could see us come out as winners in both categories!

# School Houses

## INTER-FORM CHALLENGE:

Over the last half term we have launched the Cheshire House inter-form challenge. This involves a series of challenges that each form competes against one another in order to be crowned champions and win a prize! Our first competition saw each form complete a House Quiz, with each question linking to our house and our progress across the course of the year. With only 1 point in it, CLY managed to take the top spot and become the first winners of our competition. Our second challenge involves each form attempting to accumulate the highest amount of 'keep-ups' with a table tennis bat and ball within a 25-minute form time. Good luck to all forms, I look forward to seeing which form can claim top spot and knock CLY off the top step of the podium! Our third and final challenge will be running across the summer break, and will be announced in our final assembly.

## HOUSE MASCOT:



Introducing our new house mascot! After casting their votes, the form tutors of Cheshire have chosen - THE WILDCATS!

## STUDENT SUCCESS:

As a house, we love seeing our students' successes, new experiences and challenges that they undertake outside of the school setting. Across the year it's been great receiving emails with pictures and messages about what they are getting up to. Below are just a few of our Cheshire students getting out and living life in all its fullness! Please continue sending these in across the summer, it would be great to share some of our student's summer adventures with all members of our school community when we come back in September. Please email to [ngibbons@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:ngibbons@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk)



Have a fabulous summer, stay safe and see you in September!

# School Houses

## Livingstone House

### Hospice Visit

Chim, Eniola, Jacob, Daisy, Summer and Nikoleta



On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April the above group came with Harry Sutton and myself to St Michael's Hospice to have a look around and to see what Livingstone are raising money for. I think they deserve a shout out as they all behaved really well, were polite and remembered their manners when talking to people. They were a real credit to the school.

In addition to this, the following Livingstone Students have achieved:

- Jem, Evie and Kiah were part of the Tupsley Girls U16 team who retained the county title.
- Betsy, Esme, Lyla, Izzy, Jess and Layla all played for the U14 Tupsley Pumas who won the Hereford Girls Shield.
- The Hereford U14 Vixens, with Freya, Ellie, Aimee, Bella, and Heidi won the Hereford cup.
- Ryan has taken up running to help keep him fit throughout the exam season.
- Jack has been playing football with people from 20 nationalities, using football as their common language.
- Tom and Dan have both been selected for Gloucester County U17s at the National Hockey Tournament in July.
- Megan and others took part in the 2025 Wyvern League as part of the City of Hereford Swim club, where Megan gained a PB in the 100m freestyle.
- Archie has taken up fishing and had a go at off road driving in a Land Rover Defender.
- Raiya and the Tupsley Tigers won the Shield Cup Final against Westfields.
- Arthur won the U13 Players Player of the Season at the awards for Luctonians Rugby.

# School Houses

## Bishops Awards Stages 1 and 2

The Bishops Award is designed to encourage our students to make the very best of all the opportunities school and life has to offer. Stage 1 is aimed at Year 7 students, and stage 2 is aimed at years 8 and 9. This then leads in to the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Students have to complete tasks like attend an extra curricular club for 3 months, help with charity work, learn some resilience through a physical challenge, team work and supporting the school ethos. This is linked to the number of house points achieved.

The following students in Livingstone have achieved their Bishops Awards Stage 1 this term:

Amelia	LRA
Eniola	LRA
Sophie	LRA
Marcel	LRA
Lexi	LLA
Daisy	LLA
Arshya	LLA
Blake	LLA
Evie	LRA
Lola	LRZ
Rosie	LLA
Gina	LLA
Millie	LLA
Poppy	LLA
Esther	LLA
Shay	LLA
Chinemelum	LRA
Nevaeh	LRA
Liv	LRA

The following have got their Stage 2:

Szymon	LRZ
Elynn	LRZ
Joe	LRZ
Raiya	LRZ
Layla	LRY

# School Houses

## New prefects

Congratulations need to be given to our new prefects:

Julia, Summer, Evie, Jess, Ella, Willow, Ted, Ava, Chimdike, Nick, Finley – LLX

Charlie, Abigail, David, Lilly, Jasmine, Olivia - LRX

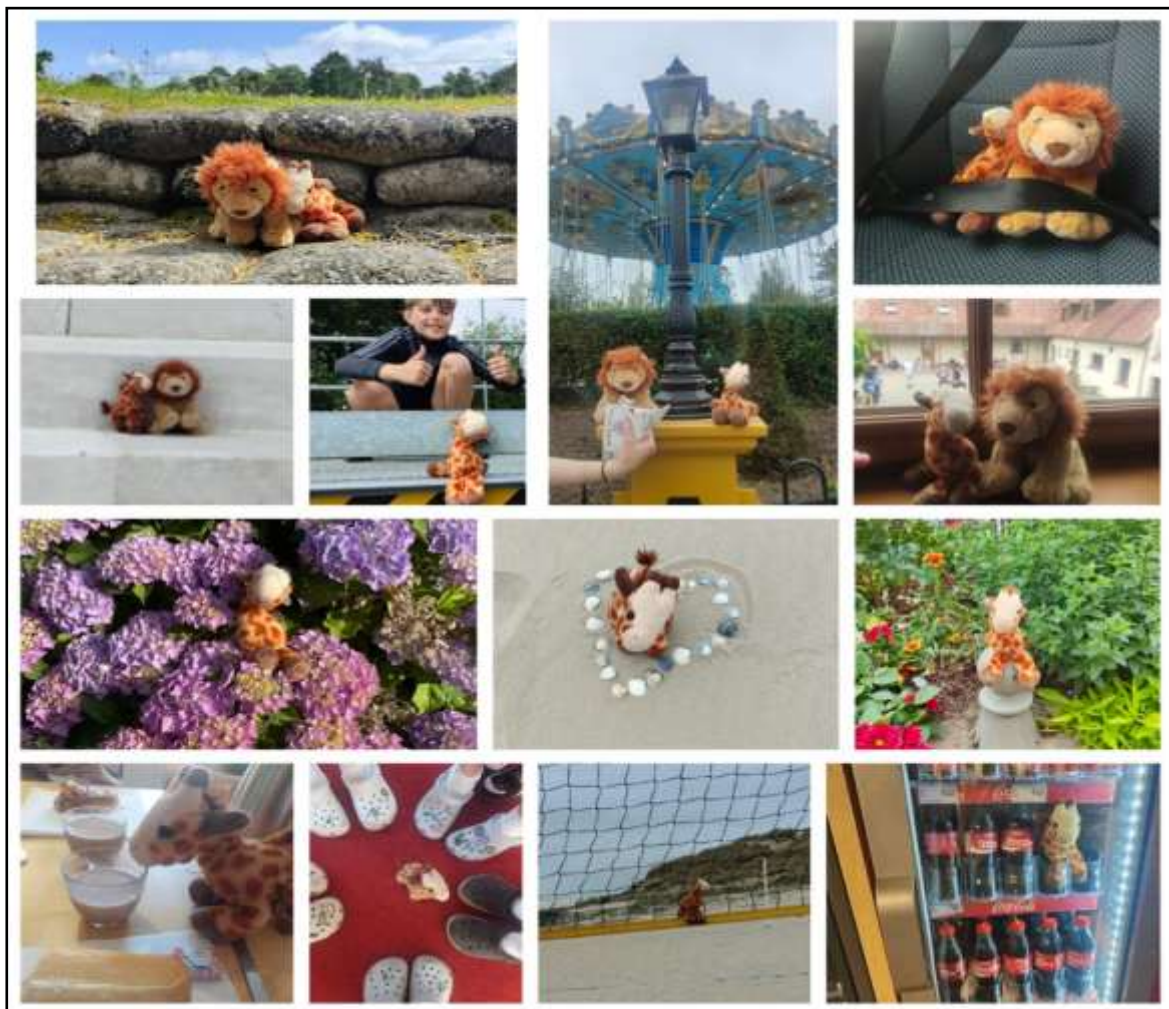
These are just the successes that I have been told about. What a talented bunch the Livingstone students are.

Congratulations everyone.

Emma Robertson

And finally ...

Our House Mascot Livingstone the Giraffe, and his pal, Elsa, from Shaftesbury, enjoyed a week in France doing French and History on enrichment. Below is a photo of him and his escapades.



# School Houses

## Shaftesbury House Celebrations

Tupsley Vixens' Under 14 team thrashed Tenbury 12-3 to win the Herefordshire Cup.

They're still contesting the league and cup in Gloucestershire too and have only lost one match all season.



The team includes Bishops' players Aimee B (SRY), Erin F(SLY), Freya M(LLY), Bella C (LRY), Ellie B(ARY)

### Erin M SRZ

She starred in her Musical Theatre Company's production of Seussical in March. She also took dance exams at the beginning of April and passed with high merit with scores of over 90.



### Isla P SRA:

Isla has completed her Level 10 and stage 1 mile distance badge in swimming. She also took part in the Swimathon 2025.

# School Houses

Evie H SRA

Whilst away for a few days walked / scrambled to the summit of Snowdon. Many stopped before the summit due to the weather.



She also took part in an Aquathon (Swim / Run) competition at Shrewsbury organised by the Tri club. This was her first aquathon and went in with no experience or help.

Eleanor P, Kiah P (SRX), Sounar Q, Ella D (SLX)

The four girls took part in the Business Enterprise day and won first place for their business idea.



Lilly G SLX

Lilly G was awarded Coaches Player at U16.

Millie B SLY

Had a successful season joining Lucs RFC U14 girls and was awarded players player award at the end of season dinner.

# School Houses



Noah W SLY

Noah recently took part in the 2025 Wyvern League along with other swimmers from city of Hereford swim Club.

Their combined efforts resulted in them winning the league for 2025, the first time since 2000! Noah had some great swims including a personal best in the 100m fly taking 4 seconds off his previous best.

Miles E SRA

His team 'Lads Club Lions' won the league title May 25. They also won the annual lads club tournament on the 10th May 2025 (left picture).

On the 8<sup>th</sup> June in Ledbury, 'Lads Club Lions' won a tournament in Ledbury 8th June (right picture).



Francesca E SRZ

Francesca E represented at West Midlands at her gymnastics competition. There were only 5 spaces available for the whole of the West Midlands. She secured her place by placing second in her performance grades competition in April. She finished in an amazing 5<sup>th</sup> place.

# School Houses

## Millie B SLA

Millie was awarded Managers player of the season 24/25.

Millie's girls football team won the County Cup final for U12, not only that, the same day the team collected medals for coming runners up in the girls league.



## Chloe S SLZ

She took part in the Youth Development League and did some amazing throws!

Her first throw was hammer which she threw an amazing 23.24metres which puts her 6th in the West Midlands and 74th in the UK - her first time throwing this at a competition and a big PB for her!

Next she threw the discus and got another PB of 19.25 metres putting her 5th in the West Midlands, 93rd in the UK.

She then threw the javelin, 23.58 metres so not quite a PB but she's sitting nicely at 3rd in the West Midlands and 53rd in the UK.

# School Houses

Olha R SLY

Olha wrote an amazing piece of writing for her latest English assessment. It is a fantastic piece of writing and really inspiring to have been written by a refugee who we've welcomed here.

Imagine walking into school, and not a single person looks up. No "hey", no smile, not even a glance. Now imagine the opposite - one person smiles, says "hi", they even compliment your shoes. That tiny moment? It can change your whole day. That's the power of kindness - small, simple, and unbelievably strong. Kindness builds connection. Kindness creates community. Furthermore, on those lonely, rainy days, kindness is everything. — Tanziya

Kindness is not just being "nice". It's action. It's courage. It's noticing that someone's quiet and asking if they are okay. It's holding the door open for somebody in a rush. It's listening - really listening - when someone needs to talk. We often underestimate kindness only because it's not loud and dramatic. But that's exactly that quiet strength, that makes it so powerful. Like drops of water, carving through rock. Small acts of kindness ~~start~~ can change lives.

# School Houses

When one person is kind, it starts a ripple. You smile at someone; they feel seen <sup>AFTERWARDS,</sup> They help someone else. That person passes it forward. It spreads, like a chain reaction — not of fire, but of light. Communities aren't built by massive moments; they're built by everyday choices. A teacher who believes in a student. A student who believes stands up for a friend. A stranger who picks up your dropped books without saying a word. These things seem small — but they aren't. They're the glue that holds us together. //

So what now? Do we wait for someone else to go

first? Or do we become the person that starts the ripple? Community begins with kindness, and kindness begins with us. Not tomorrow. Not someday. Now. So smile at that person. Say hello. Ask the question. Open the door. Be the reason someone remembers, that the world still has good in it — because of you.

# School Houses

## Shaftesbury Charity

Shaftesbury have been raising money for the West Midlands Air Ambulance. We have raised £1466 over the last year and I was honoured to share this with Kate Bristow who oversees the fundraising for the charity.



# Maths & Computing

## Staff Update

We are excited to welcome back Mrs. Jones, who will be rejoining the Maths department this September. Many students and parents will remember Mrs. Jones (formerly Miss Tunna), who taught here until the summer of 2024. We look forward to her return and the valuable contributions she will make to the team.

We are also pleased to announce that Mr. Carpenter has been appointed Subject Lead for Computing. Mr. Carpenter will be moving to the newly renovated Computing suite in Room 51, which promises to be a fantastic space for both teaching and learning.

## Year 11 GCSE Exams

A huge congratulations to our Year 11 students for their outstanding dedication and resilience during the lead-up to their GCSE exams in May and June. So many students took advantage of after-school revision sessions, intervention classes, and pre-exam morning prep, demonstrating an exceptional commitment to their studies. We eagerly await the results in August and hope that they enjoy a well-earned break in the meantime!

## Enrichment Week



Enrichment Week was a fantastic opportunity for students to engage in activities that enhanced their mathematical skills, from problem-solving to strategic thinking. Some highlights included code-breaking activities in the Taskmaster sessions with Mrs. Oosthuizen and Mrs. Braidley, as well as board games (especially Qoridor) with Mr. Bridgewater. It was wonderful to see so many students enjoying these enriching experiences!



## UKMT Maths Challenge

This year, students in Year 7 and 8 participated in the Junior Maths Challenge, and we are thrilled with their achievements. A total of 4 Gold, 13 Silver, and 33 Bronze certificates were awarded. Special congratulations to the Gold award winners: Adeoluwa A (Year 7); Esther J (Year 7); Austin N (Year 7) and Reuben C (Year 8). In addition, Adeoluwa achieved the highest score in the school! Well done to everyone who took part.

## Maths Drop-In After School

Just a reminder that our weekly Maths help club is available to all year groups. If you have any homework or classwork queries, simply come along to Room 23 on Mondays after school, where a Maths teacher will be on hand to offer support. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for extra help!

# Maths & Computing

Maths Homework Update: Sparx Maths from September

## Sparx Maths

Over the past term, most of our students have been using Sparx Maths to complete their homework, and the feedback from students, parents, and teachers has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you for bearing with us during the trial as we have been getting used to it ourselves. With the trial period now complete, we are pleased to announce that from September, all classes will use Sparx for their maths homework.

To ensure consistency and simplicity, homework will be set and due on the same day each week for all students.

Sparx includes a Parent Portal, which provides detailed updates on your child's progress, along with tips and resources to help support them effectively at home.

Sparx is carefully designed to allow students to complete their work independently. While your encouragement is invaluable, over-helping or completing tasks for your child can mislead the system, making future homework more difficult than necessary.

To help your child succeed with Sparx, we encourage parents to:

- Provide a quiet, distraction-free space for homework
- Encourage independent problem-solving before offering help
- Remind students to watch the built-in support videos **when they're stuck**
- Ensure students write down their working, as required by Sparx
- Suggest to students that they come along to Monday drop in after school to get help if they are finding the work hard
- Contact the class teacher if your child is consistently finding the homework too challenging

We're excited to move forward with Sparx and appreciate your continued support in helping every student thrive in maths!

# Maths & Computing

Computing



It's been a busy and exciting time in the Computing and iMedia departments. Our Year 11 students have now completed their GCSE exams in both subjects. We wish them all the very best with their results and hope their hard work and revision pays off!

Meanwhile, Year 9 students have recently made their option choices, and we're delighted to see strong interest in both Computer Science and iMedia for next year. It's especially encouraging to note a significant increase in the number of girls choosing Computer Science – a fantastic step towards greater representation in the tech industry.

Year 10 students are now halfway through their courses

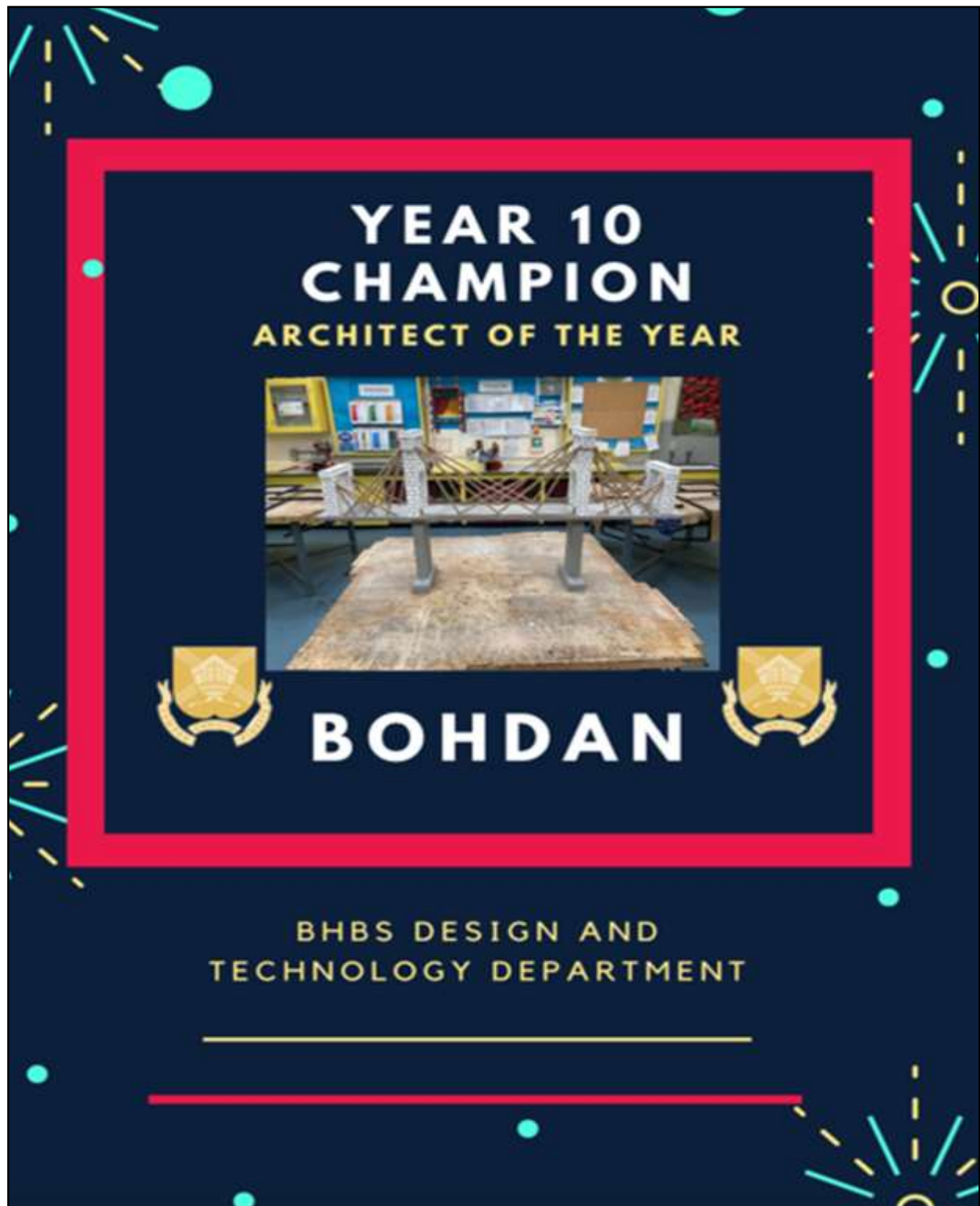
and are turning their focus towards their upcoming mock exams. They have been working hard and developing their understanding of key concepts, and we're confident they'll do themselves proud in the assessments ahead.

(Artwork - examples of year 10 Creative iMedia NEA original comic creations).



# Design & Technology

The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat school's Design and Technology department would like to congratulate Bohdan on winning our 2025 'Architect of the year' competition. Bohdan constructed a functioning suspension bridge out of materials he had at home.



# Design & Technology

## Scrap Mechanics

### Design & Technology - Links with local primary schools



The Technology team have been working on a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) project to support the growth of Design & Technology with our local feeder primary schools across south Herefordshire, as well as working with a number of local businesses to support this initiative.



BHBS would especially like to thank *Tudors* and *Forbes Group* for their help and involvement, these projects would be impossible to run without their generous support.

- We have provided both training and resources to staff to deliver a fun, engaging and sustainable project for students. The project has been designed by the Technology team at BHBS, all schools receive everything they need for the project including modelling materials and a workbook for every student. We hope this will enable primaries to give students in Year 5, the opportunity for practical activities in Design & Technology before they come to us in Year 7. Special thanks also to staff at BHBS for providing the materials and tools to complete the project.



# Design & Technology

On July 1<sup>st</sup> we were delighted to welcome forty Year 5 students from St Mary's Fownhope and Mordiford Primary schools. This is our third such project with the schools and we would like to thank the Klara Jones and Ann-Marie Cooper for their respective support of BHBS.

The children were amazing, their creativity and independence was wonderful to see and there were some fantastic design ideas which included a remote controlled robotic 'Block Monster'. Well done to everyone involved.

Mr J Bohan and Mrs A Shaw

Teachers of Design & Technology.



# Design & Technology

## Jamie Oliver's Guinness World Record Attempt

On Tuesday 1st July, 39 Year 9 pupils took part in Jamie Oliver's GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ attempt for the largest cookery lesson (multiple venues).

Jamie had recruited his best chefs at the Cookery School to lead a live, virtual cooking lesson, where pupils made a delicious dish of homemade pasta in a tasty tomato sauce along with hundreds of other pupils at other schools. Jamie himself also was there to support.

The pupils did an amazing job, demonstrating some great pasta making and shaping skills, and all got to sample their food after.

We have recently found out that we were successful and are Guinness World Records holders!



# English

## Carnegie Shadowing Group

Twelve avid readers met at regular intervals to swap books shortlisted for the Carnegie Award 2025 and 'shadow' the judges by reading the shortlisted books for this year. It was a great opportunity to meet and discuss our thoughts having read the books, including 'The Final Year' which was our favourite.

It was a big disappointment that the Shadowing event at the town hall was cancelled but we held our own in school! The mix of Year 7, 8 and 9 students bought readers together to discuss this year's books and books that we felt deserved awards in previous years.



What our Carnegie group said:

"I loved 'The King of Nothing': great humour and a great read!"

"I read books I wouldn't normally read."

"Once I started a new book, I couldn't wait to find out what happened next."

"It was a great way to feed my love of books."

"Not all the books were accessible for our age group, which was a shame."

# English

## Year 8

Year 8 have had an eclectic mix of texts and stimuli throughout this year! This term students have been following a new Space module, writing for different purposes and looking at a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts.



Here, two students are working on a speech debating whether we should travel 100 years into the past or the future!

### What our students said:

"I liked it when we wrote an epitaph and put in an old-looking paper and stamped it."

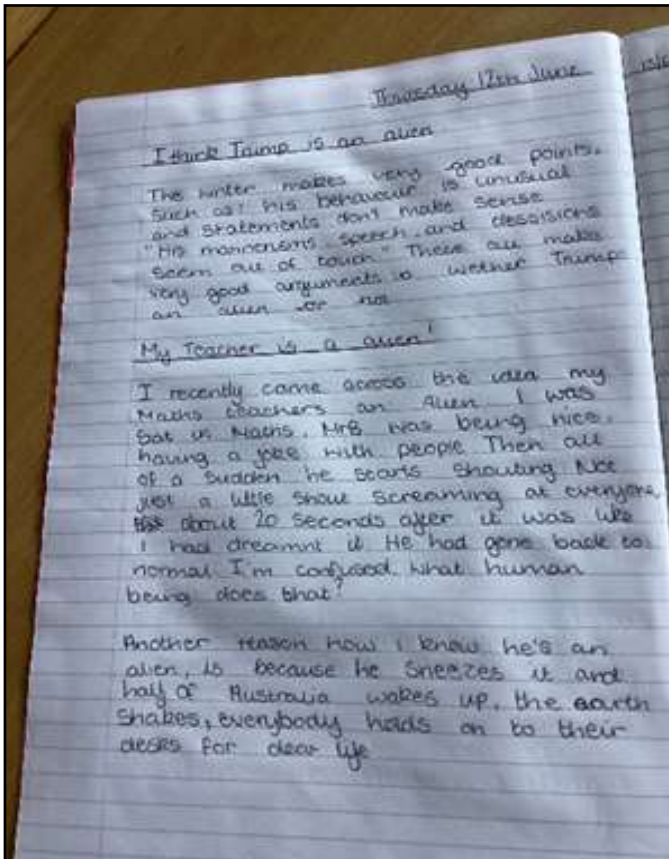
"I enjoyed learning about 'Romeo and Juliet' and looking at Shakespearean language."

"I have enjoyed our Space module the most. Every lesson has been different to the lesson before. We never know what we'll be doing next!"

"I have really enjoyed debating issues relating to aliens and the idea that we are not alone has got us discussing some really interesting ideas!"

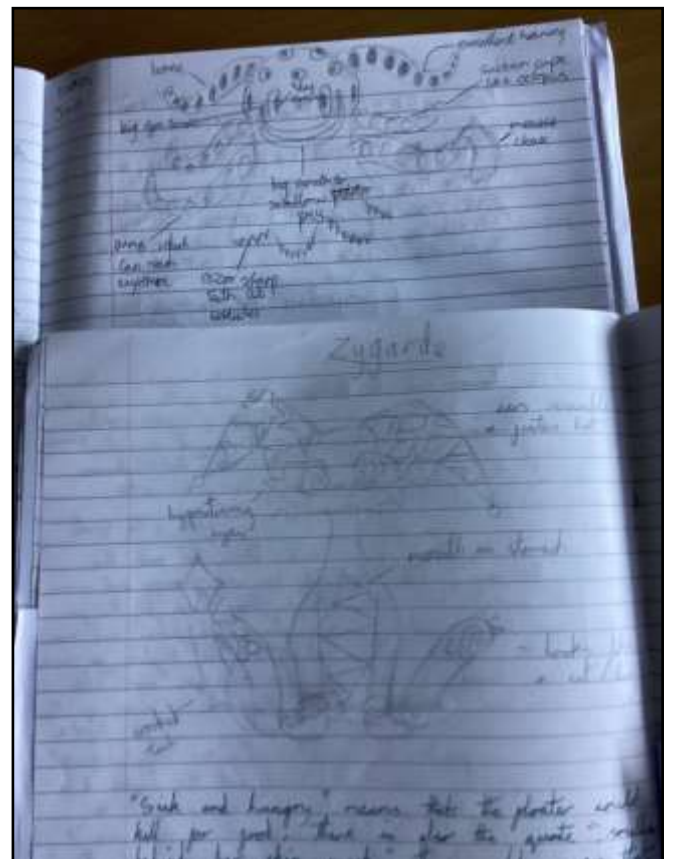
# English

Examples of work



My Teacher is an Alien!

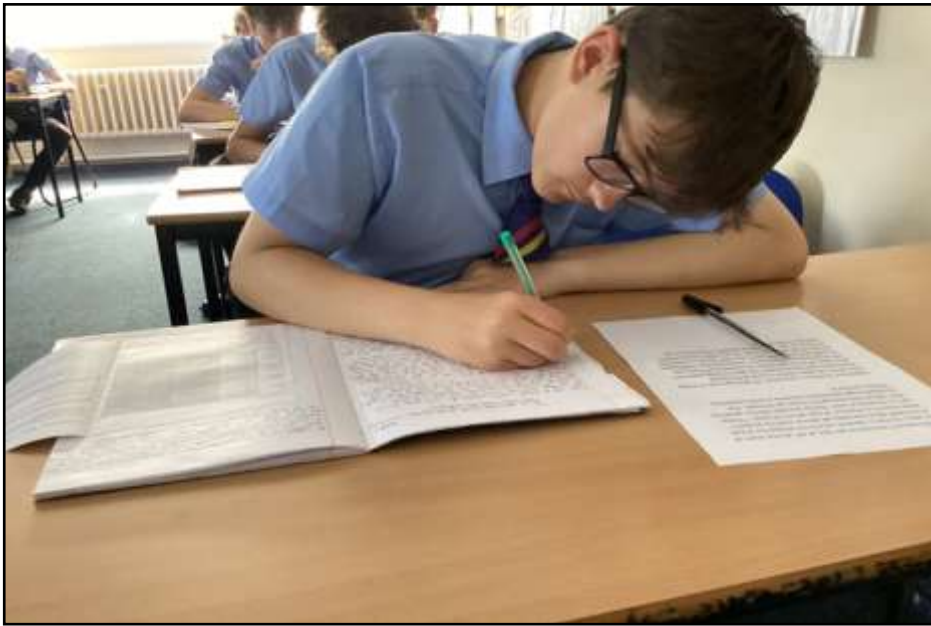
Alien Designs!



# English

## Year 9

Year 9 have had an exciting year studying a novel, the dystopian genre and a play ('An Inspector Calls') Here are some images of work from the year.



Transforming a dystopian assessment



Analysing 'An Inspector Calls'

# English



Bringing 'An Inspector Calls' to life!

What Year 9 said about their year in English:

"I have particularly enjoyed the group work this year. This is because it helps us share different ideas and views, push our vocabulary and help each other with our writing."

"I loved 'Heroes.' It's a great book and so many issues and interesting characters."

"Reading dystopian stories was my highlight of Year 9. It helped me consider how I feel about the world we live in and what that world might look like a few years from now."

"I have enjoyed working on 'An Inspector Calls' as there are many mysteries within this play."

"Year 9 has been great and made me feel prepared for GCSE next year!"

# Pupils 2 Parliament

## PUPILS 2 PARLIAMENT

Our final live debate of the year was on how we could protect nature when building new homes.



### What our organiser, Dr Roger Morgan, said:

"I really enjoyed the students' thinking and contributions this afternoon. At the end of the session, one of the students said he thought that our discussion was much better than he had seen on TV coverage of Parliament itself, where everyone was arguing and never accepted anything their opponents had thought of, however good it was! He said he thought they would really do much better if *they* tried a bit of Hegelling in Westminster! Students' views always demonstrate fresh thinking around even complex policy issues, and willingness to build opinion and proposals between them without debate having to descend into conflict between 'sides'.

### What our students said:

"Another great debate. I love being challenged on these topics. It's great to know my views will be heard in Parliament too!"

"I can't wait for the next debate. They go too quickly!"

To be involved in debates next year, please see Mr Merrick.

# Science

NMITE visit – 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 12 students spent an afternoon at the New Model Institute of Technology and Engineering (NMITE) at their Skylon campus on the Rotherwas industrial estate.

While at NMITE, the students learnt what engineers do, participated in an engineering challenge and met some of the current masters students, who gave them an incite about their masters projects and what it was like being part of NMITE.

The challenge itself was about solving a unique problem for a customer who was born with no right forearm, who likes to eat bananas. The students had to design a solution to this problem, using what they knew about engineering. NMITE staff guided them through the design and engineering process. Out of 4 groups, our students came up with 6 workable ideas.

Following a successful trip, these students gained a glimpse of the world of engineering, which they will hopefully use to make decisions in their later life about choosing a career to suit them.

D Jones June 2025



# Science

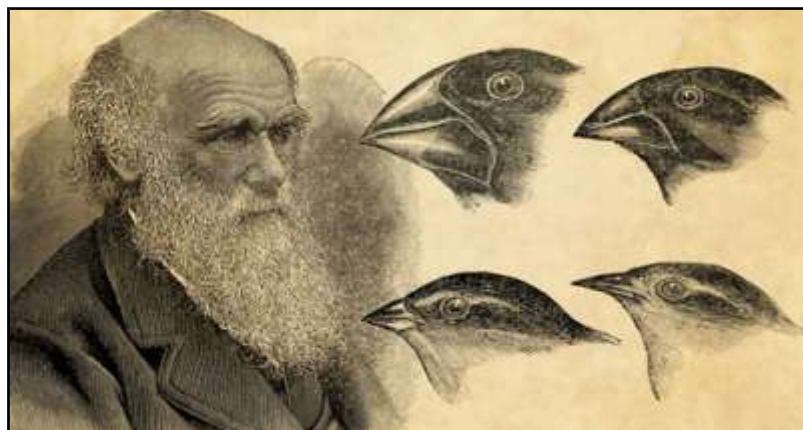
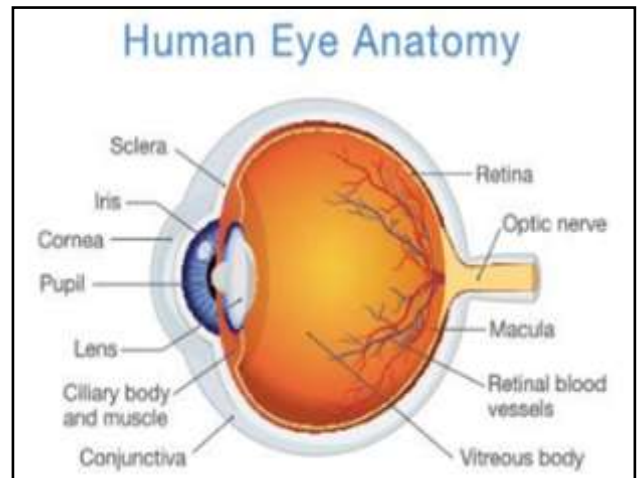
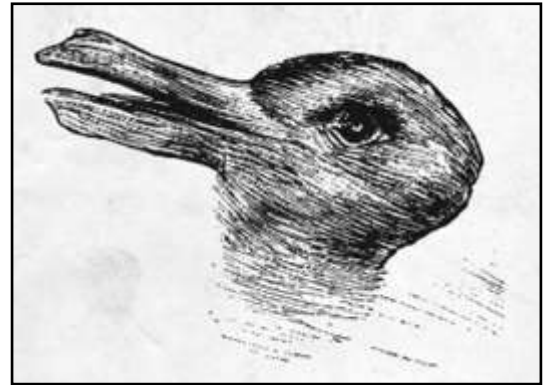
Mordiford Primary School

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, Mordiford Primary School were treated to 4 sessions of amazing Science.

In a practical way, the year 6 pupils learnt about evolution, using 2 interactive practical activities. Year 5 learnt how the human eye works, optical illusions and how different lenses affect rays of light. Year 4 collected some invertebrates using pooters and then classified them using classification keys. Year 3 were very excited to learn about the geology of Herefordshire and what various rocks can tell us about the ancient past.

Overall, the pupils enjoyed their Science lessons and were wowed by the magic of Science.

D Jones



# Science

## Institute of Biomedical Sciences Poster Competition

We were delighted that we had so many entries from our students for The Wye Valley NHS Trust's competition;

'What does a Biomedical Scientist do in the Hospital Laboratory?'

This competition was open to all primary and secondary schools in Herefordshire and students had to design an A4 poster of "What does a Biomedical Scientist do in the Hospital Laboratory?" with entries needing to be visually attractive, including explanations about the functions of this role.

One of our student's, Joseph R (SRA), entry was judged to have been the winner !!

He will be invited to take part in a tour of the laboratory facilities at Hereford County Hospital to find out more about Biomedical Science and will receive a competition winner certificate to take home. Joseph has also secured a £175 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) voucher for our Science Department and we will involve him in how this is spent.

In addition we received some really lovely feedback about our students' entries from the hospital.

*"It has SO cheered me up today. Some of what the students wrote gave us goose bumps when we had a quick look though. I cannot thank you enough for encouraging the students to take part. I am very passionate about careers in Science in general and I don't think people realise the hospital has over 50 different types of scientist!"*

*"A student at Bishop's has been successful in our IBMS day poster competition. I am delighted to let you know that our Clinical Director chose Joseph's (SRA) entry as the winner."*

Andrea Johnson BSc, MSc, FIBMS

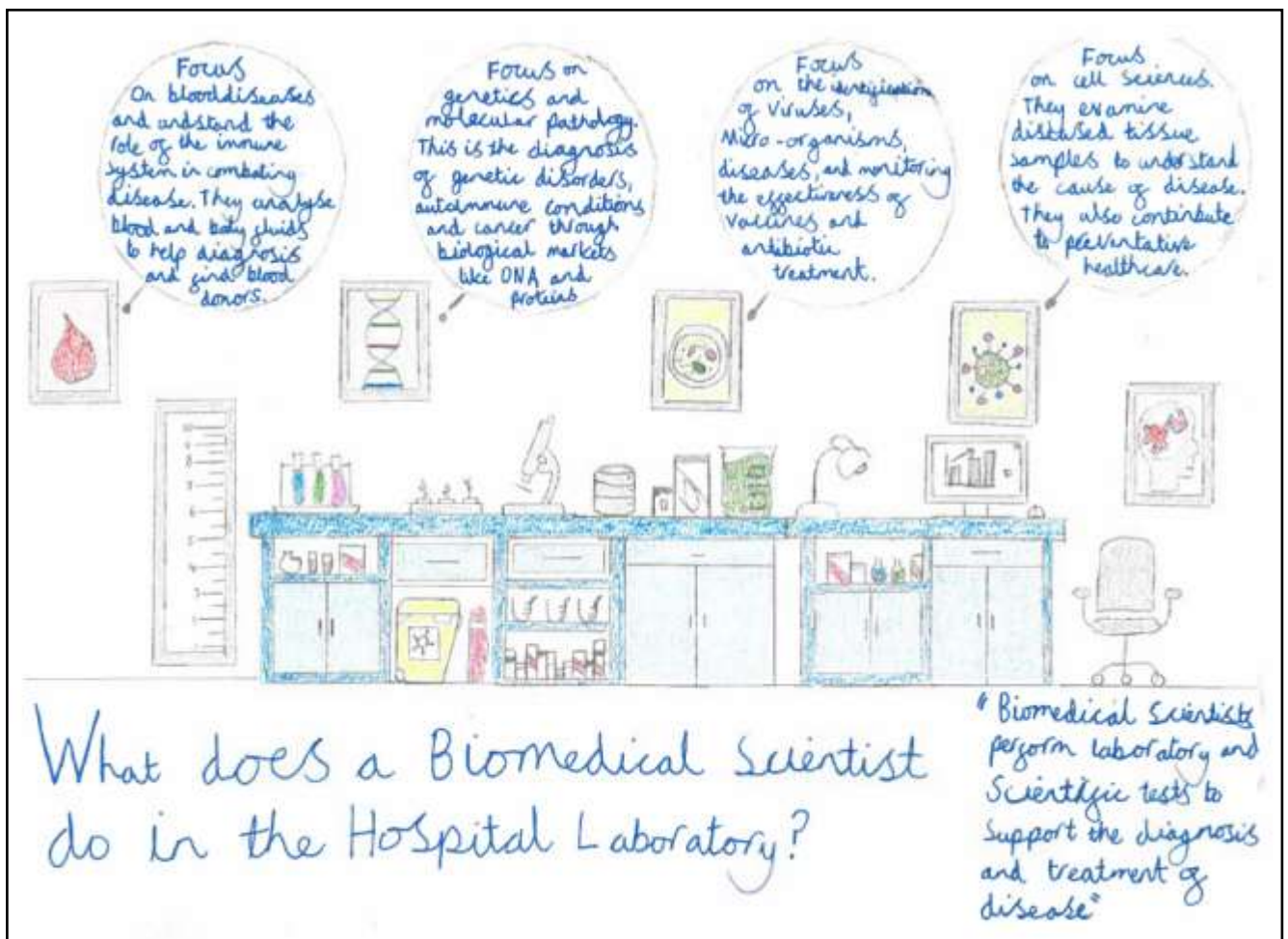
Cellular Pathology Manager and Microbiology Manager

# Science

Joseph's winning entry can be seen below.

For anyone who may be interested in this exciting field please visit the website:

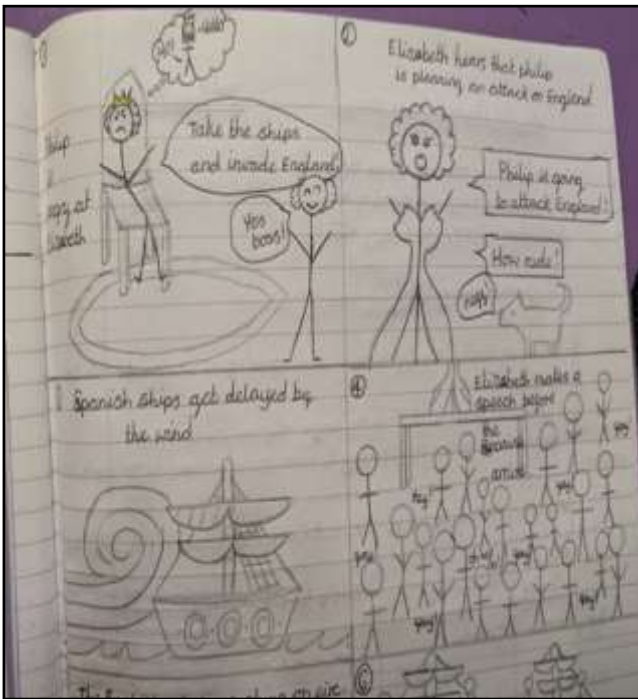
[IBMS, Institute of Biomedical Science](http://IBMS, Institute of Biomedical Science)



# Humanities

## Year 7 History

Year 7 Historians have been studying Tudor England and investigating the story of the Spanish Armada. Students then retold this story using storyboards such as these creative examples!



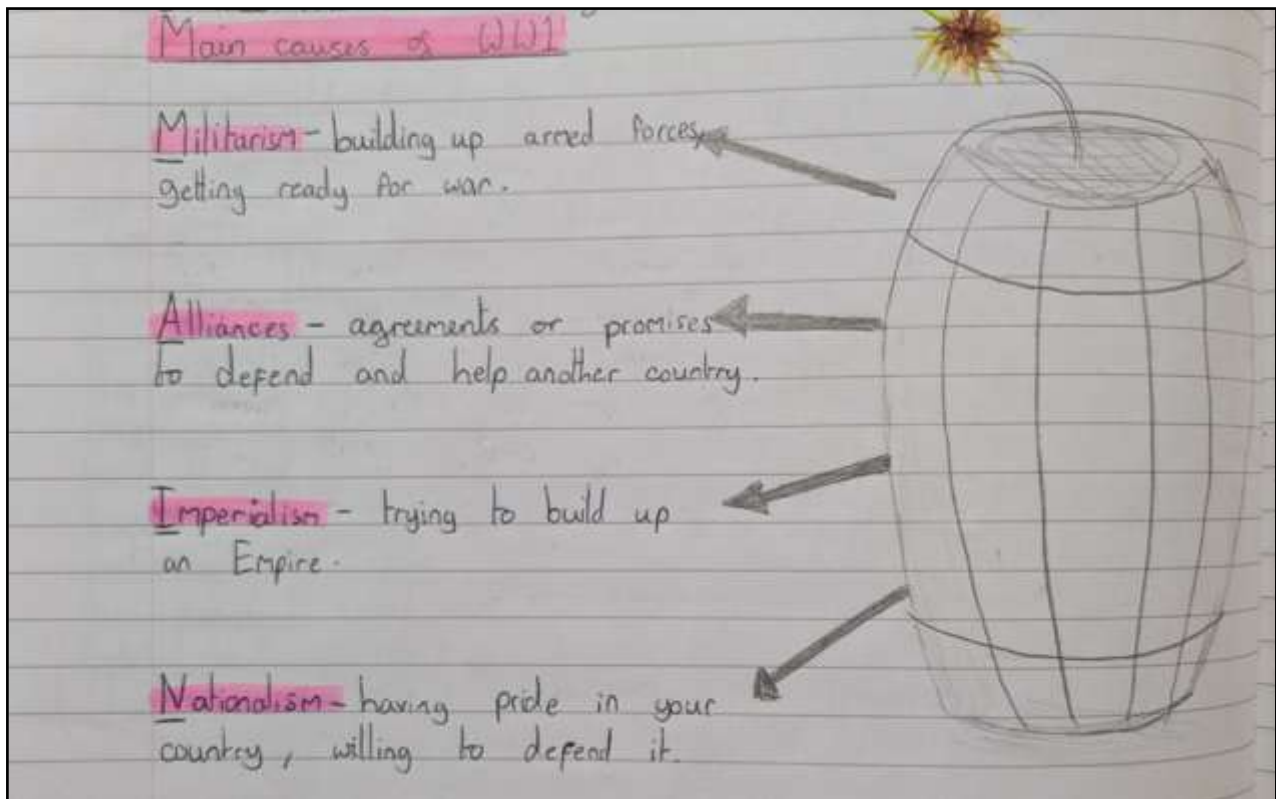
## Year 8 History

Year 8 have been investigating the question "What has the world learnt from 100 years of warfare?" focusing with a study of the First World War. One student produced this infographic demonstrating key knowledge and themes of conflict.

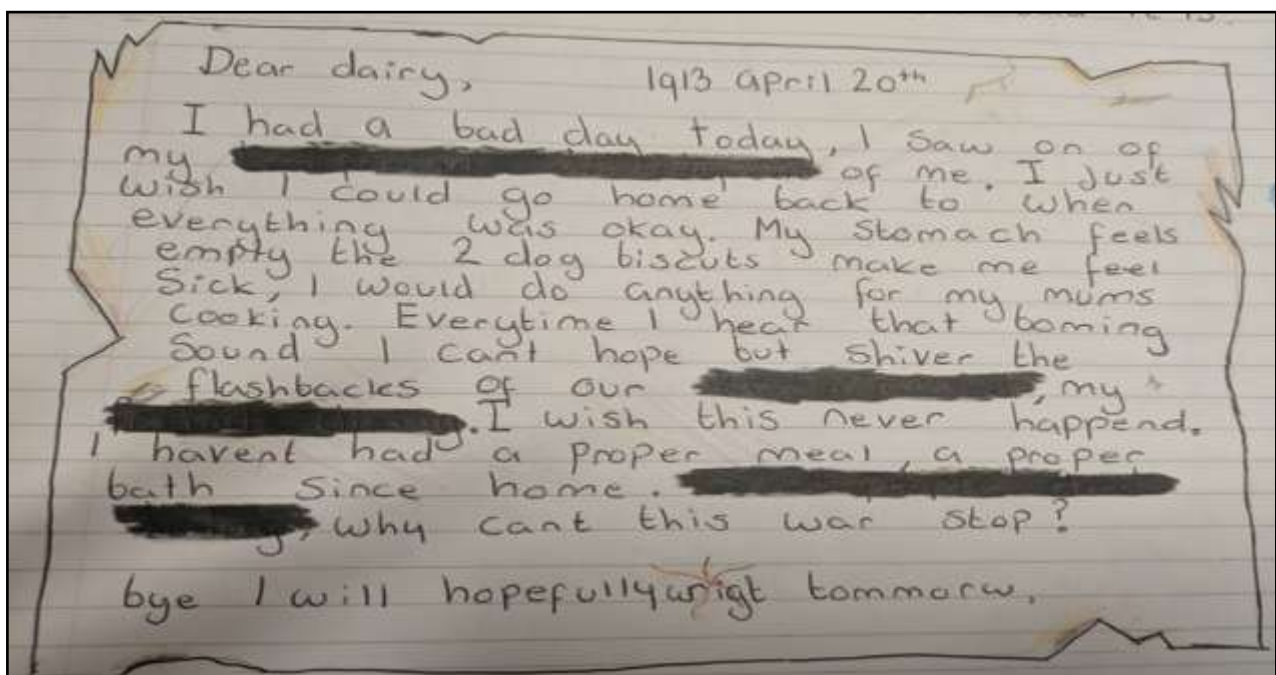


# Humanities

Year 8 investigated the different causes of the conflict as explained below:



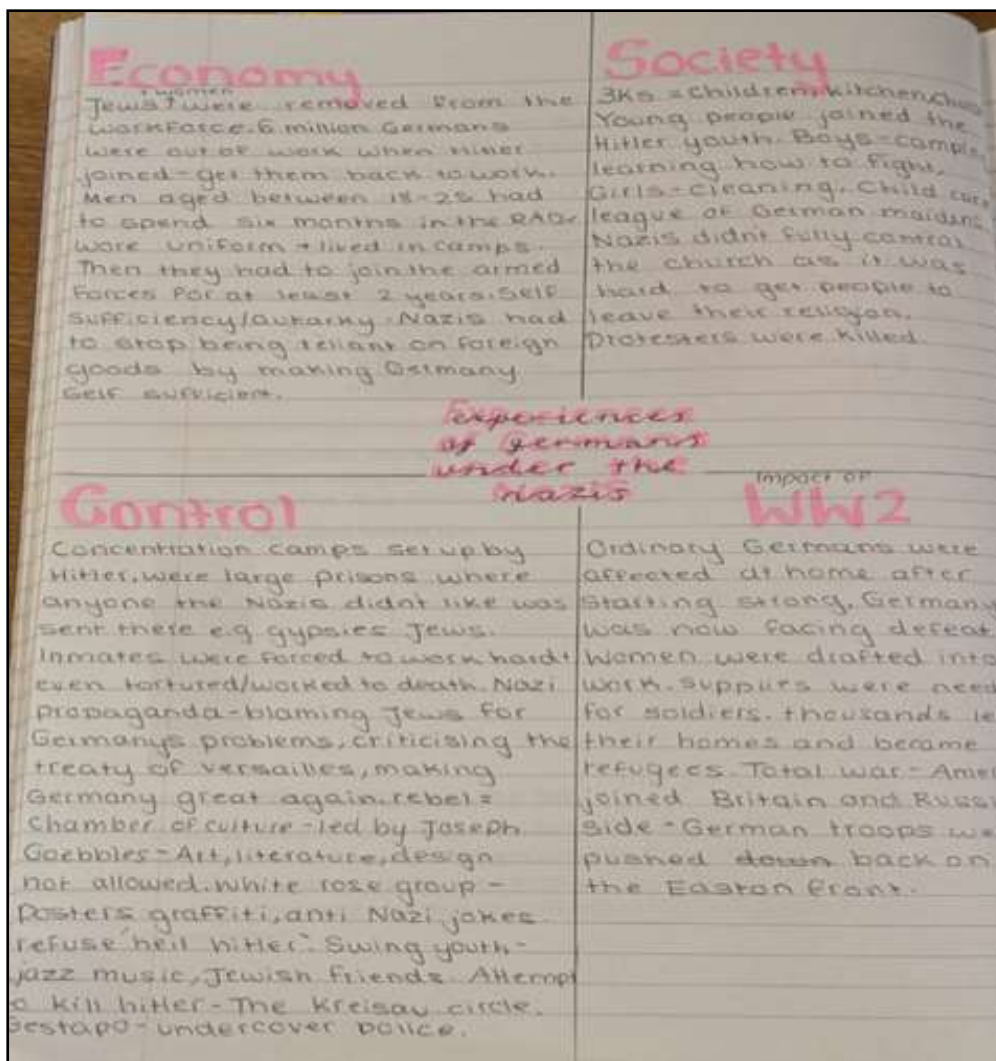
Students wrote their own diary entries of a soldier on the western front and then 'censored' their work by removing details that may be too graphic for loved ones to



# Humanities

Year 9 History

Year 9 Historians have been finishing their final topic experiences of Germans under the Nazis and have prepared some excellent revision materials such as this:

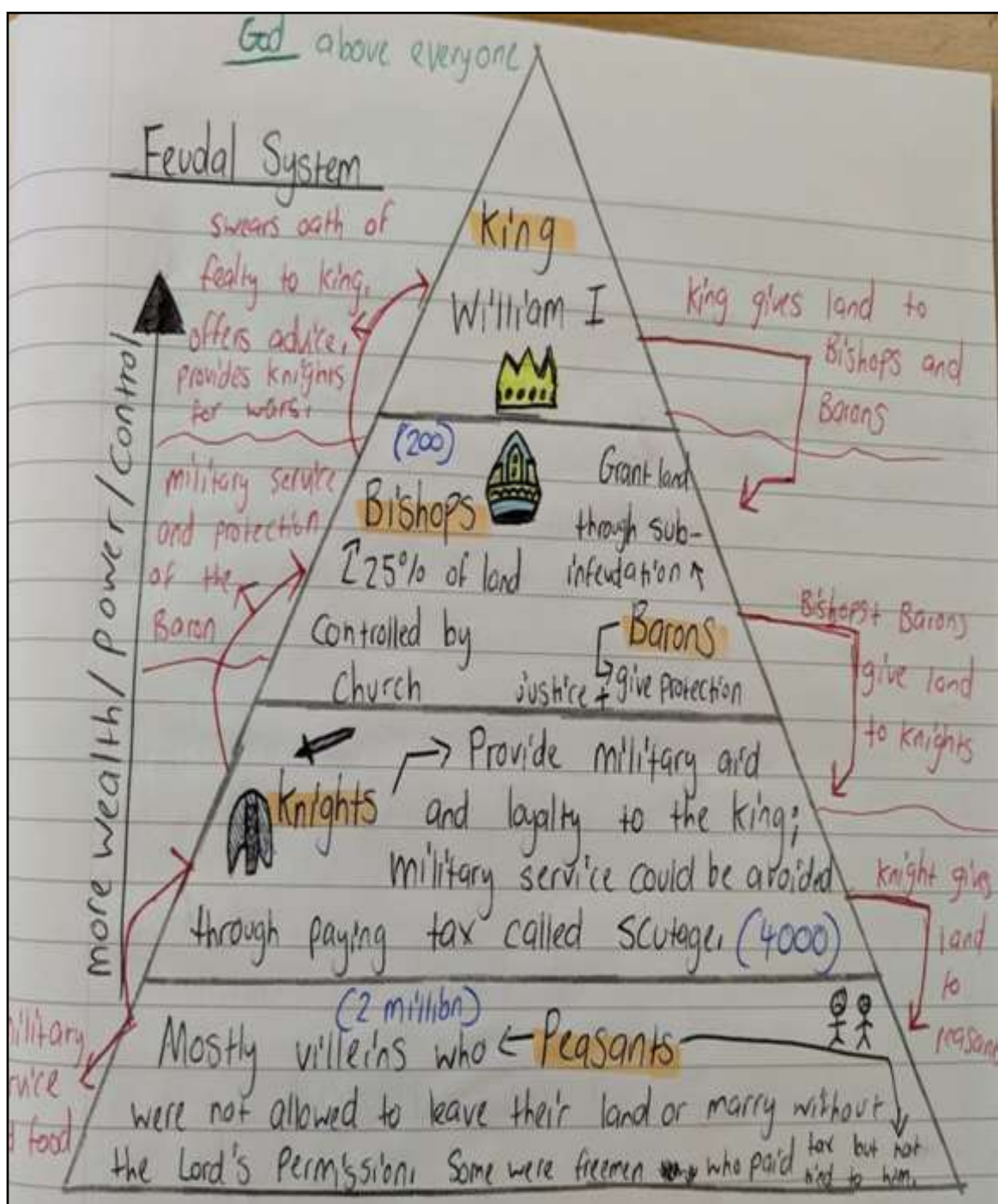


Year 9 have now begun the topic of the Holocaust, studying the history of anti-semitism and other victims of Nazi terror and control

# Humanities

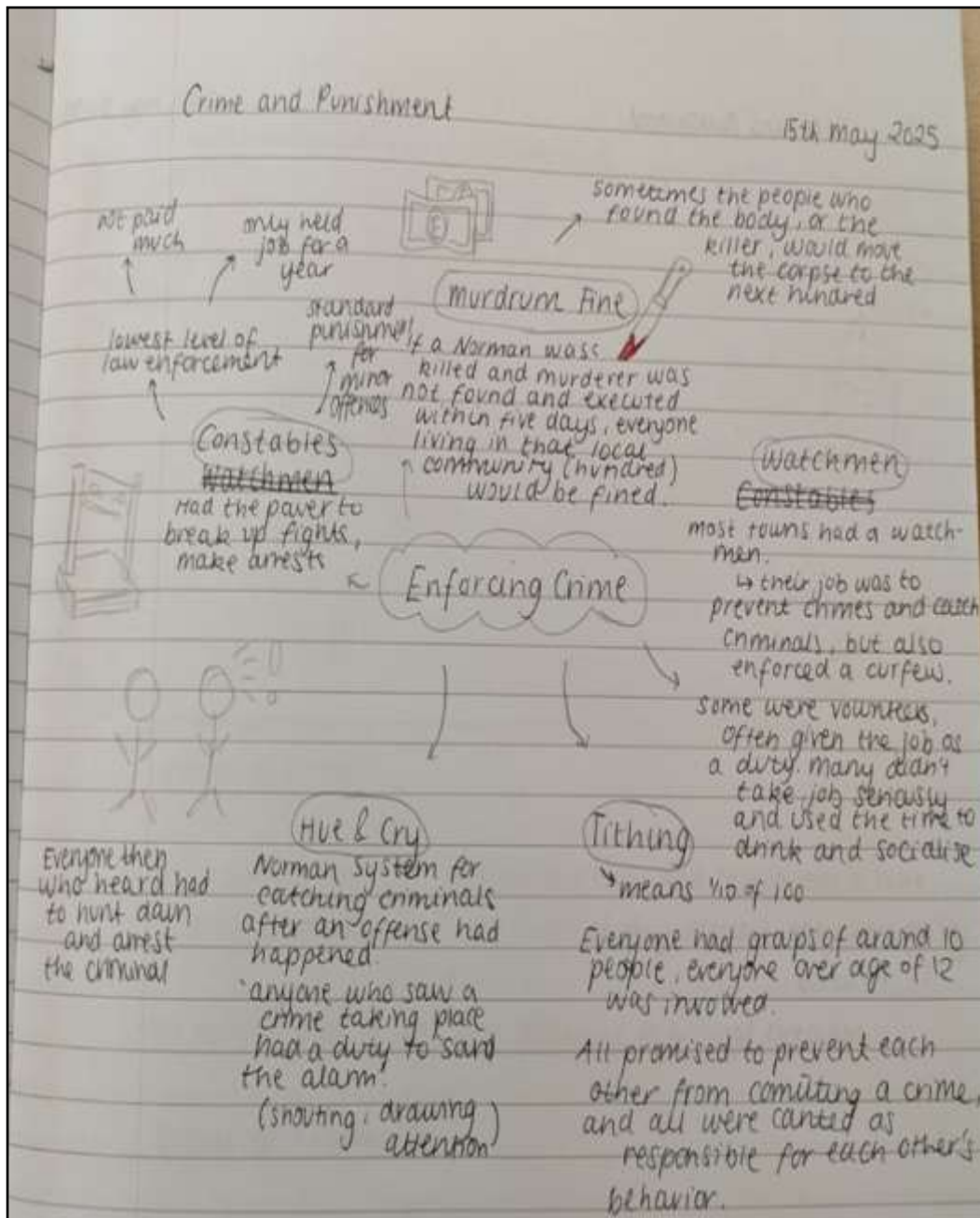
Year 10 History

Our Year 10 Historians have been assessing the impact of the Norman invasion of 1066 on England. One way the Normans took control was through the Feudal System, as shown by a student below, including the roles of each individual.



# Humanities

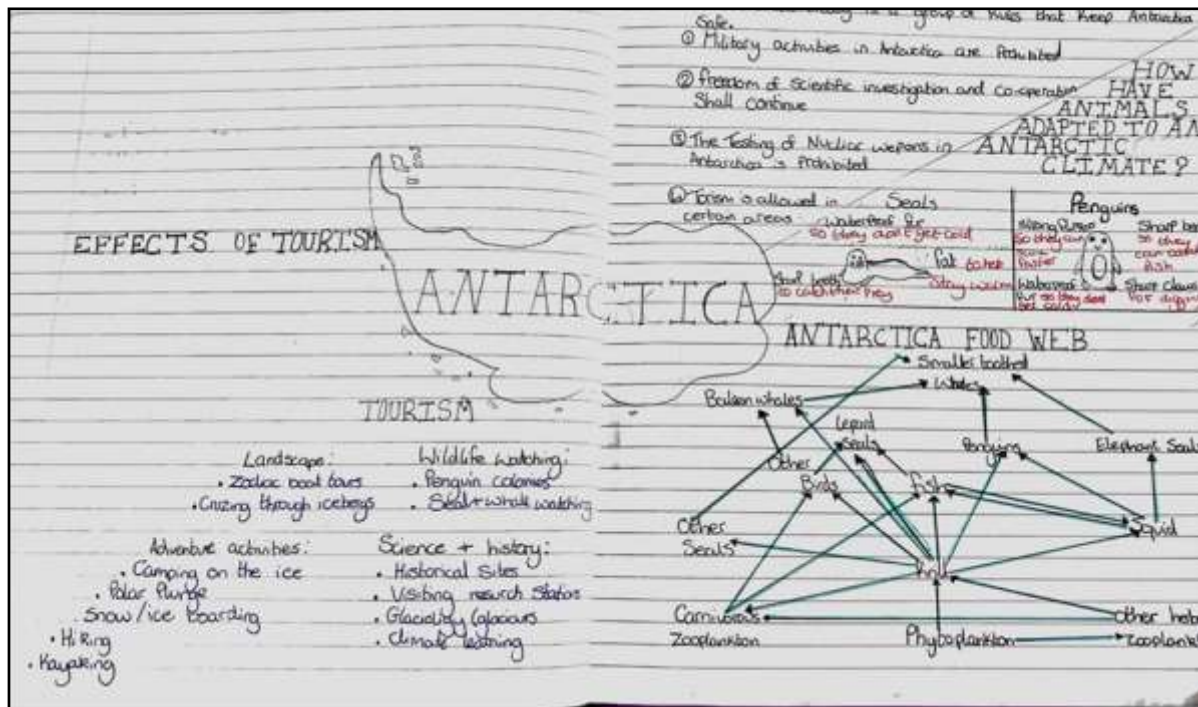
Year 10 also considered the role of law and order and how the Normans could take control without a police force



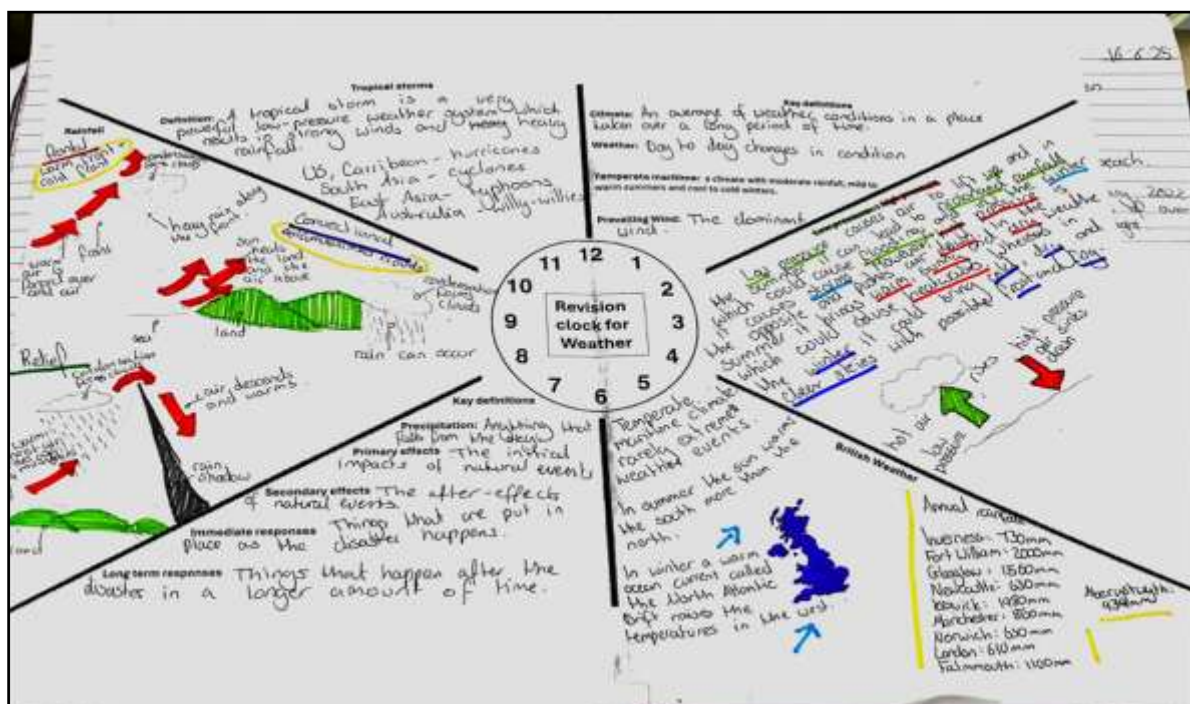
# Humanities

Year 8 Geography

In Year 8 Geography we have been studying Antarctica; this student demonstrated their understanding by creating an Antarctica poster on the key areas of the topic.



We have also been studying weather. This student demonstrated their understanding by consolidating information covered across lessons using a revision clock format.



# Humanities

## Year 7 Geography

Year 7 students were studying a physical geography unit on rivers and flooding. They went to the Lugg Meadows to look at the characteristics of a floodplain and features of a river meander and straight section. Students learnt about Fieldwork techniques and risk assessing and upon returning to class were able to complete a field sketch of a meander on the Lugg.



The Humanities Team have had two wonderful trainee's with us this year, Miss Bennett and Miss Inglis. We wish them all the best for their future careers in teaching.

# Physical Education

## BHBS PE DEPARTMENT



Term Times  
June 2025



### Sports Leaders

Our dedicated sports leaders have continued to support the local community by providing sporting opportunities for primary schools. These include rugby sessions, inclusive sports activities, year 6 taster day and a multi-sport festival —helping to inspire younger students and promote active, healthy lifestyles

### 'Football school of the year' –3rd year in a row

This term has seen the thrilling conclusion of the school football leagues, with seven BHBS teams making it to the finals—one more than last year! Due to this incredible achievement we have retained the 'Football School of the Year' title for the third year running and once again presented with the 'Wydenback Cup'

With the football season now concluded, the focus shifted to cricket and athletics. BHBS PE have been honoured with the responsibility of coordinating all county athletics events. These exciting events offer a unique opportunity for all schools across the county to come together and compete. As always BHBS students showcased their sporting talents with special recognition to Cam (LRY) and Chloe (SLZ) who have qualified to represent Hereford and Worcester county at the Mason trophy.



@BHBS\_PE

# Creative Arts

As the academic year draws to a close once more the Performing Arts continue to be central to all the school's significant events in the calendar. In its first year after a hiatus, the Guitar Army performed for the Year 11 leaver's service at St Paul's Church, including a surprise guest performance from Grace Griffiths who stood up from the congregation to sing the third verse of 'Teenage Dirtbag'.

Shortly after we had the KS3 Celebration Evening with all our ensembles performing, as well as Mrs Goodall's Drama Club (Alex E, Amma B-H, Cybela M, Hannah C-D) who delivered two short sketches. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the strength and variety of music making and performing this school is able to offer, with solos from David J and Dariya D. As usual we finished with a massed item, 'Teenage Dirtbag' again, making it's penultimate appearance in the repertoire ahead of...

Our third Shake Off event, this titled Friday Night Fever. As it turned out a rather apt title as a full hall and 70 plus students as well as event band The Hey Yahs took on the ever increasing temperatures to have a fundraising party for the school's communal areas. Each of our musical ensembles joined the band for a feature song, and each set provided opportunities for all our ensembles to be onstage at the same time. Highlights included Jude L singing 'From Now On', and special mention must go to Sam W who arranged 'Money For Nothing' for all the students, then sang and played guitar for the performance despite having broken his wrist. The show must go on.

We then segued to Enrichment Week with Drama and Music providing the opportunity to prepare and perform an hour-long pantomime in 5 days. Which also included a day trip to London to see 'Wicked' and have a quick detour to see Buckingham Palace! This is an incredible week with our students really showing what's possible with a great mindset, lines learnt, twenty pieces of music prepared by the band and an audience of year 8s and Hampton Dene thoroughly enjoying their efforts on Friday afternoon. 'Cinderella' will be viewable to the general public in the Autumn Term.

2025-25 is promising to be just as ambitious. Dates for performers's diaries are currently-

Open Evening- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Cinderella Pantomime- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Carol Service at Hereford Cathedral- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

# Creative Arts

The Addams Family- school show- 25<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026

KS3 Presentation Evening- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Should your child wish to start instrumental lessons, please contact [hsuton@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:hsuton@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk) for further details. We have eleven fantastic peripatetic tutors who can cover most typical requests.

We are also excited to share the artistic journey our students have taken in their art classes. Throughout this year, we have explored a wide range of themes and techniques that explore creativity, critical thinking, and personal expression. From developing foundation skills in drawing and painting to engaging with contemporary art, our students have explored expression while gaining an understanding of the role of art in society.

## Year 7

- Year 7 have spent their year exploring the Formal Elements and have shown tremendous success when creating a spectacular display of Colour in response to the Austrian Artist Fredrich Hundertwasser. This project has led well into our final topic for the year, Pattern, influenced by the work of Yayoi Kusama. Students are enjoying exploring the mental health and wellbeing benefits of Art.



# Creative Arts

Year 8

We have been exploring personalities in Year 8. After starting the year exploring Cubism and developing Portraits, we moved onto our likes and dislikes when it comes to food! Taking inspiration from Pop Art Artists Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, we are working towards an Anamorphosis outcome! An opportunity to participate in observational drawing sessions featuring sweets, biscuits, and cakes was a real highlight for everyone.



Year 9

We posed the question 'Is Graffiti Art or Vandalism?' to Year 9, who have enjoyed exploring the work of Banksy, Keith Haring and Lady Pink. Using typography, tagging, and illustration, the students are concluding their year with a collaborative outcome that showcases the messages and meanings used in Street Art and Graffiti.





# Creative Arts

## Enrichment Week

During enrichment week students were taking inspiration from the Creative Arts pantomime and created newspaper outfits for either Cinderella or the Ugly sisters. There were so many wonderfully creative designs with an eclectic catwalk show to showcase their makes.



# Languages

In September, new students joined the Bishop's family, eager to explore and start learning French. Although the country of France may be close, just across the English Channel, it has its own unique culture, including driving on the right hand side of the road and particular food delicacies such as croissants, snails, mussels and frog's legs.

During the year in lessons, our young learners described themselves, their families, likes and dislikes, school, pets, and breakfast in French. This culminated in a long, written piece of work, in which they had to use all this newly acquired knowledge to show off their language skills. They also delved into French culture, learning how to celebrate Christmas, Easter, and Bastille Day, discovering traditions, foods, and festivities.

A true celebration of our neighbourly differences!

## Language Competitions

The Languages Department has run many competitions throughout the year in order to promote the use of languages.

### Christmas Card Competition

The theme for this year was 'Christmas traditions of other countries'. All of the entries were sent to a regional competition run by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Warwick. We had lots of interesting cards in a wide range of languages: Polish, Spanish, French, Welsh, German, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, amongst others. Here are some of the winners.



Especial  
Multilingual  
Prize



Winner  
Cultural  
Content



Winner  
Top Artwork

# Languages

## French and Spanish Flash Fiction Writing Competition

In March, we encouraged all our Language students in both KS3 and KS4 to enter a national writing competition run by the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages at the University of Oxford. Students who decided to take part sent a short story of about 100 words, written in Spanish or French, showing their imagination, narrative flair and linguistic ability. Here are some examples of stories sent by our students.

Year 7

*Le Secret de la Tour Eiffel.*

Chaque nuit, quand Paris dort, je me transforme. J'ai la tête dans les nuages, mes lumières deviennent des ailes, et je vole au-dessus de la Seine.

Les gens ignorent que je suis magique. Ils croient que je reste immobile, mais moi, je visite le monde !

J'ai vu la Tour de Pise, la Statue de la Liberté... et Big Ben !

Big Ben soupire souvent : « Moi, je suis toujours à l'heure, mais personne ne m'attend jamais. »

Year 8

*The Dark*

La mirada de la luz de la luna revoloteó sobre la desarrapada abundancia de estructuras. Su espectro contaminado con una pantomima de crepúsculos danzantes. La luz de las estrellas puntuaba el cielo de ébano.

Un gruñido anunció la figura de un hombre de hombros cuadrados, se desplomó suspirando con fatiga cansada. De repente, dedos de oscuridad sofocaron el brillo apagado de las velas. La ventana torcida se abrió permitiendo que la brisa helada acariciara su piel. Una mirada confusa contorsionó el rostro del hombre mientras miraba a la ventana desconcertado. Juguetó frenéticamente con la cerradura oxidada, cerrando suavemente la ventana. Desde la penumbra, un par de ojos veloces observan.

# Languages

Year 10

## *La Amistad*

Sara lloraba en silencio en el parque. Nadie la entendía. De repente, Julia se sentó a su lado. No dijo nada, solo le dio la mano.

Estoy aquí. Susurró suavemente. Sara levantó la vista y sonrió entre lágrimas. Era su mejor amiga desde los cinco años. Aunque todo cambiara, Julia siempre estaba allí.

El sol empezó a salir entre las nubes. Sara ya no sentía sola. A veces, una amiga no necesita decir mucho... solo estar.

## Multilingual Easter Egg Competition

In order to get us all into the spirit of Easter, we ran this fun competition where students were asked to design a multilingual Easter egg which would promote other languages. We were blown away by the inventive designs that students submitted. Here are some of them.



# Languages

## 'Picture a Language' Photo Competition

The Languages Department ran this last competition of the year to promote the value of languages. We wanted students to find images that were thought-provoking and inspiring and that they captured what languages meant to them. Here are some of the entries.



Year 7

Photo from Auschwitz. This reminds me of languages. Different languages allows freedom.



Year 7

These are communication boards in play parks in Wales to support children communicate in both Welsh and English.



Year 8

This photo shows how romantic languages can be. The flowers show that languages are beautiful.

# Religious Studies and Skills for Life



## Religious Studies



Year 7 have been exploring qualities of a prophet, linking this to prophets in Christianity. Students had to produce wanted posters for a modern-day prophet looking at the qualities and tasks needed. Students then created revision resources looking at prophets studied in class such as Oscar Romero, Bishop Dinis and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Year 8 have been considering salvation and the four models of atonement. Students were asked to consider situations where they thought people may need to be saved from. Looking particularly at the plane landing in the Hudson River and how this impacted people. They then applied this learning to the four models of atonement and Christian teachings.

Copyright © 2016 Emma Yarlett.

Year 9 have continued with their preparation work for the AQA GCSE. This half of term was a focus on Christian beliefs, analysing views and gaining a deeper understanding into these beliefs.



Copyright © 2016 Emma Yarlett.

# Religious Studies and Skills for Life

Skills for life

Year 7 are progressing through their RSE and changing relationships scheme this term.

For advice about how to support your child with learning about careers please look at

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-advice-help/>

Year 8 are completing their unit on RSE, they have looked at risks and how to stay safe.

For advice about how to support your child please look at:

[Personal Hygiene \(cnwl.nhs.uk\)](http://cnwl.nhs.uk)

[Healthy relationships | NSPCC](#)

They will be moving onto looking at smoking and other drugs to ensure they have an understanding of the risks associated. [Children and drugs | NSPCC](#)

- Year 9 have been looking at how to stay safe with alcohol and drugs. [Children and drugs | NSPCC](#)
- They have also explored issues linked to exploitation.

# Enrichment

Y7 Llanrug residential

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June an intrepid 48 students left BHBS to spend an action packed week at Llanrug where the Arete Outdoor Centre deliver a high-quality Outdoor Education course. BHBS students sampled numerous adventurous outdoor activities ranging from gorge walking and canyoning the rivers to coastering the beautiful coastline of Anglesey. BHBS students also squeezed and burrowed deeply underground sampling the mines whilst weaselling through boulders and narrow passes.



If this wasn't enough, students also zip lined across quarries, climbed the mountain of Snowdonia and paddled the lakes of Eryri.

The students rose to each and every challenge they faced and throughout the week their resilience, character and strength shone through. The instructors at Arete continually pushed the groups to their full potential and even when the students were tired and exhausted (late night's from their own making!) they rallied and supported one another developing superb team work and cohesion.



# Enrichment

There are too many highlights of the week to mention and it's simply impossible to pick one or two highlights above the rest. I hope and believe that all the students who went to Llanrug will take away long lasting memories of this trip.

Thank you to the staff who supported this trip and to all the students who made this trip so enjoyable to be a part of as you were all amazing.

Well done again to all involved

Mr J. Handley

Trip Lead



# Enrichment

## French Trip

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June we departed for our joint French and History trip to France. The trip down was straight forward and the crossing was really smooth. We stopped at Wimereaux Cemetery on the way to see if we could find the grave of Col. McCrae who wrote the famous poem, "In Flanders' Fields the poppies grow...".

The days were all busy learning and speaking French, ably helped by the team of animateurs from the hotel. Students got quite proficient at asking for more bread, hot chocolate and water at breakfast time.

One of the activities was bread making and you can see some of the creations, along with the photos of the sandwich making activity. For the sandwiches students were given a budget of 3 euros each and had to buy what ever fillings they chose, using their French to speak to the stall holders in the market. There were some very interesting choices of filling!!!



On Wednesday, lots of fun was had at the Bagatelle Theme Park. Luckily the weather was not too hot, so lots of rides were partaken of.

The History day was on Thursday and we visited the cemetery where Ms Poole's ancestor was buried in Arras. We then went to the Thiepval Memorial, where we did a small act of worship, before heading on to the Loch Nagar crater.

Coming home on Friday went smoothly this year, with crossings and ferry ports all running to time. Despite the mosquitos we had a very busy and engaging week.

# Enrichment

## Dudley Zoo, Alton Towers and Drayton Manor



Our students enjoyed a fantastic week of personal growth, and unforgettable fun. The week offered a perfect blend of wildlife encounters, thrilling rides, waterpark adventures, and valuable time spent developing resilience, confidence, and friendships.

Students visited Dudley Zoo, enjoyed two incredible days at Alton Towers Theme Park, splashed their way through Splash Landings Waterpark, and concluded their journey with a fantastic day at Drayton Manor Theme Park. We stayed for three nights at the Splash Landings Hotel, giving students a comfortable, lively base to rest, reflect, and spend quality time with friends and staff.

Day one we met at school and headed out to our first destination. We arrived at the fascinating Dudley Zoo, set within the historic grounds of Dudley Castle. Students had the opportunity to see a wide range of animals, including lions, lemurs, penguins, and a firm favourite—the capybaras. These gentle giants quickly became a talking point among the group.

One of the standout experiences of the day was the chair lift, which gave students panoramic views of the zoo and castle. For some, it was a chance to tackle a fear of heights, and it was heartening to see friends supporting one another as they tried something new.

On day two we enjoyed our first of two visits to Alton Towers was a huge success. Students were free to explore a wide variety of rides, attractions, and themed areas. While thrill-seekers headed for rides such as Oblivion, Wicker Man, and The Smiler, others found joy in more relaxed attractions such as Hex, Duel, and the gardens.

It was particularly inspiring to see many students challenge themselves by stepping onto rides they had previously avoided. The day was full of laughter, encouragement, and shared excitement.



# Enrichment

After the excitement of the theme park, students welcomed a change of pace on day three with a full day at Splash Landings Waterpark. With its tropical atmosphere, wave pool, lazy river, and twisting slides, it was a brilliant opportunity for students to unwind while still staying active.

Many students took this chance to improve their swimming skills, build water confidence, and have fun in a different environment. The Master Blaster water coaster and giant tipping bucket were particularly popular, and even some of the more hesitant swimmers were soon splashing about with confidence thanks to the support of their peers.



Later that evening, the fun continued with a mini golf tournament at the on-site Extraordinary Golf course. With laughter echoing across the course, students formed teams and took part in some friendly competition. Whether aiming for a hole-in-one or simply enjoying the challenge, the tournament was a brilliant way to finish the day, and provided another opportunity for teamwork, light-hearted rivalry, and shared celebration.

Returning to Alton Towers on the fourth day allowed students to revisit their favourite rides, explore new areas of the park, and see just how far they'd come in terms of personal growth. Many who had been nervous on day two were now running to the front of the rollercoaster queues with wide smiles and growing confidence.



It was a joy for staff to witness students actively encouraging their friends, setting personal goals, and celebrating their own and others' achievements—whether conquering a fear of heights, trying a new ride, or simply enjoying being away from home in a new environment.

Our final day was spent at Drayton Manor, a park that offered something for everyone. The mix of thrill rides, a zoo, and family attractions meant that students could relax and enjoy the day at their own pace. Highlights included the classic rollercoasters, the 4D cinema, and a nostalgic visit to Thomas Land for a few final laughs before heading home.

# Enrichment

The park provided a fitting end to a trip that had been packed with new experiences, strengthened friendships, and memories to last a lifetime.

Throughout the week, we were incredibly proud of the way students conducted themselves. They showed kindness, patience, and courage in abundance. From looking out for one another to thanking park staff and keeping their rooms tidy, they consistently demonstrated the values we promote at school.

We would like to especially recognise the resilience and positivity of those students who overcame personal fears, whether that was riding a rollercoaster, swimming for the first time in public, or simply spending time away from home.

A heartfelt thank you must go to the dedicated and energetic staff team who made this residential possible: Miss Wilkins, Mr Bohan, Mr Wood, and Mr Preece.

Their care, enthusiasm, and round-the-clock support ensured that students felt safe, encouraged, and included every step of the way.

● Mrs Barker



# Enrichment

## Year 8 Flip Out

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, over 80 students walked to the Flip Out inflatable park where they were able to enjoy over 2 hours of bouncing as well as lots of eating from the park's cafeteria.



## Year 7 Hereford Leisure Pool

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June all remaining year 7 students walked to the Bishops Meadow Park, next to the river Wye. During the time more than 90 students were able to go into the Hereford Leisure pool where the wave machine and the slide provided lots of fun.

When not swimming, students were able to play rounders and use the play park and outdoor gym equipment.



## School Shop

To place an order with the school shop please click [here](#) or email [schoolshop@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:schoolshop@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk). We will contact you directly to arrange



Should your son or daughter require a lift key for medical reasons, we require a letter confirming the reason why and a £10 deposit which will be refunded when the key is returned.

We have been asked by local residents to ensure parents/carers do not park across driveways when dropping off or collecting students.



We respectfully request that parents/carers refrain from driving on the school site at the start (8.15am - 9.00am) and end of the school day (2.45pm - 3.20pm). Too many vehicles on site causes congestion and increases the chance of an accident, with so many students either entering or leaving the buildings.