

Newsletter - July 2022

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

Psalm 28:7

Message from Ms Phillips

Induction

We were delighted to be able to welcome our new Year 7 cohort to school for Induction events in the Summer Term, including Induction Evenings in Form Groups when pupils were able to meet key staff and familiarise themselves with the school building.

Parents and Carers were also welcomed into school to hear about Curriculum Evenings to take place in the Autumn Term, our values and expectations at Woodchurch High School.



SEND pupils have had additional visits to school in smaller groups, as well as a separate SEND evening meeting with their families. These visits will ensure our most vulnerable pupils are well prepared for the move to secondary school.

Year 10 pupils have enthusiastically embraced the opportunities offered to them in the form of 'Period 6'. We have over 200 pupils attending each evening after school, receiving additional lessons which equates to an additional 8 weeks of learning. This is the third year we have offered this additional service to pupils and we have been delighted with the commitment the pupils have shown.

On behalf of staff and Governors at Woodchurch High School I wish you all a relaxing summer and we look forward to welcoming our pupils back on **Friday 2nd September 2022, rested and ready for another year.**

Mayor's Charities

The Woodchurch High School Charity Team (Interact) welcomed the Mayor of Wirral, Cllr Jeff Green, along with representatives from two charities, Incubabies and Maggie's Wirral. The Mayor explained his reasons for choosing these two charities to raise funds for during his period in office and our pupils heard about the excellent work both charities do for our local community.

The Interact Team will now reflect on all the information shared and make a difficult choice as to which one of the two will be our school's Mayor's nomination for us to raise funds for next academic year. Whichever they choose we know our pupils will be making a significant impact to families here in Wirral.

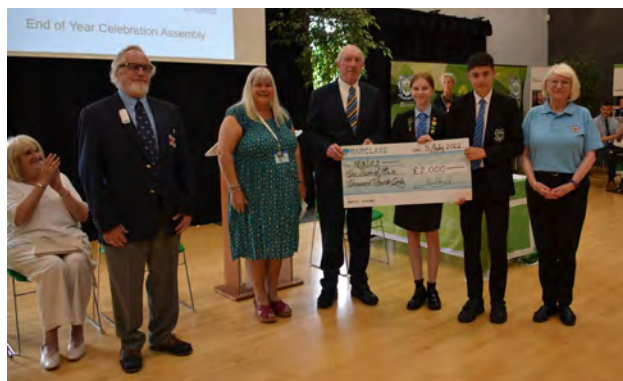


Former Mayor's Visit

It was lovely to welcome the former Mayor, George Davies and his wife back to Woodchurch High School for the Year 8 Celebration assembly at the end of term. Along with Mr and Mrs Davies we were delighted to welcome volunteers from the RNLI at New Brighton Boat House. During their visit we were able to present the Mayor and the RNLI with a cheque for £2,000, money raised by Year 8 during their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Sponsored Walk. In return we were honoured to receive a prestigious plaque from the RNLI for our donation to their charity. We learnt about how the money will be spent over the coming months and how our pupils will have such a massive impact in ensuring people who visit New Brighton will be kept safe and sound.

We look forward to visiting the Boat House in the new academic year.

Well done again to Year 8.



ECAD

3D Art

Year 8 have been looking at how other people live. They have been researching a wonderful village called **Kampong Phluk**, Cambodia. These villages are very different to the way we may live and their buildings are built very differently. Year 8 have shown real endurance to master traditional ways of binding withies together and create individual buildings that are in the style of Kampong Phluk. Well done Year 8!

Kampong Phluk is a stilted fishing built on a lake in Cambodia. This is the inspiration for our pupils.



Year 9 have taken inspiration this year from Stage and Set design, specifically focusing on the work of Brian Froud in the Dark Crystal and Labyrinth.

Pupils have designed, and created their own Mythical creature, and I have to say the outcomes are FANTASTIC! Well done Year 9.

ECAD

Primary School Art Festival

Our annual Art Festival was a huge success again this year, it took place over the course of 5 days. We welcomed 180 Year 5 pupils from: Prenton Primary, Overchurch, St Michael's, Woodchurch C of E, Fender and Townfield. Each pupil made a mixed media plate inspired by the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The pupils got to explore a range of art techniques, including painting, chalk transfer, string relief, and quilling. They designed and transferred Christian Values that they felt represented themselves and we had some amazing discussions. It was a pleasure to get to know the pupils across all schools. Our Art Ambassadors on the day awarded certificates to pupils they felt best encompassed our school's Christian Values.



Each and every pupil's work will be exhibited in our digital online gallery...watch this space!

Digital Workshop

During the Summer Term fourteen of our Year 8 pupils took part in a digital workshop using Adobe Photoshop, led by a digital artist Adam Sadiq. Adam showed the pupils how to use satellite images of rivers from around the world. The group focused on three different rivers - The Ganges, The Yangtze and The Mekong river, where each group researched and presented their findings.



The pupils learned how to source and download satellite images in the infrared spectrum of various rivers. The class was assigned a continent and sourced infrared satellite images to reveal different planetary forces of freshwater, saltwater, vegetation and human influence. Rendered in the infrared, these images reveal wavelengths of light hidden to our eyes that allow us to better read these interconnected influences on the planet.



The artist then used the pupils' work and created a flag that was printed and paraded down The Mall in London for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

ECAD



GCSE Photography Trip to Liverpool City Centre and The Palm House, Sefton Park

In June the Year 10 Photographers spent the morning at the docks in Liverpool and then travelled on to Sefton Park to photograph the amazing architecture the city has to offer and the 126 year old Palm House, photographing the range of tropical plants from four different continents. Upon return to the classroom the pupils are now beginning to manipulate these images in the style of the Italian Photographer Giacomo Costa, creating their very own Cyber Cities.

English

Year 7

Year 7 have had a very busy final half-term at Woodchurch High School. Building up to their final assessment of the year, Year 7 worked hard to decipher and understand the language and plot of William Shakespeare's 'Romeo & Juliet'. Year 7 have continued to diligently complete their independent writing, and have worked through several extracts from the play.

Year 7 recently completed their 'Romeo & Juliet' written assessment, and demonstrated real integrity and maturity as they completed a difficult assessment to the best of their ability. Well done!

Since their assessment, Year 7 have been tackling difficult themes such as abandonment, loss and growing up through their study of the poetry of Simon Armitage. Year 7 have again shown real maturity and thoughtfulness during their shared discussions and analysis of these poems.



Through their study of poems like 'The Manhunt' and 'Kid', Year 7 have been able to examine and analyse metaphor, direct speech and alliteration. Year 7 have used knowledge of literary techniques gained throughout the year to aid them in their extended writing. They have been learning how to reference the structure of poetry in their writing, and have added to their subject terminology using learning homeworks, reflection activities and the English Subject Site.

Just before the end of this term, Year 7 watched a performance and completed a workshop with the performance poet, Mark Grist. After watching the performance, Year 7 wrote a review of their experience and even had a go at writing their own poetry in the same style as Grist. This allowed Year 7 to see poetry in a different way, and will enable them to achieve an Arts Award.

Year 7 have shown real growth this year in English, and everyone in the English department is looking forward to seeing that growth continue into Year 8!



English

Year 8

This half term, Year 8 have continued their studies of Willy Russell's hilarious (and heartbreaking) play, *Blood Brothers*, focusing on the key topic of 'Conflict and Class.' Pupils have explored themes of class, equality, and nature vs. nurture, as well as examining the history of Liverpool, where the play is set. The play follows the story of two twin brothers, Mickey and Eddie, who are separated at birth, and pupils in Year 8 have shown great compassion when considering the effect of different upbringings on each twin. Pupils have continued using the English Subject Site to support their learning and to help them complete learning homeworks.

Pupils have also begun studying non-fiction writing, exploring a range of persuasive writing techniques to suit different non-fiction formats. This includes writing letters, speeches, articles, and guides. For their English assessment this half term, pupils wrote a guide to a place they know really well, with lots of pupils opting to write about Liverpool due to its close proximity to Woodchurch, and its links to *Blood Brothers*. Year 8 worked extremely hard to ensure that their guides were persuasive and captured the reader's interest.

Teachers of Year 8 are extremely proud of the commitment to learning shown by pupils this half term, and their responses to extended writing tasks have been extremely thoughtful and engaging. It is evident that pupils have engaged with this topic and these skills will prepare them for their future learning in English at Woodchurch. The English department could not be more proud of how thoughtful, engaged, and enthusiastic Year 8 have been in their lessons this half term. They have definitely let their light shine through their level of engagement and enthusiasm with *Blood Brothers*.

Well done Year 8, and we hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday!



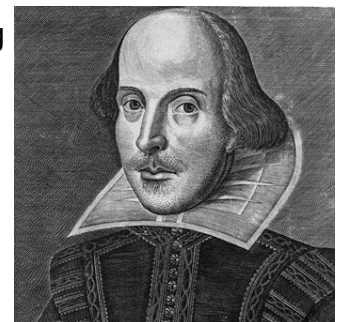
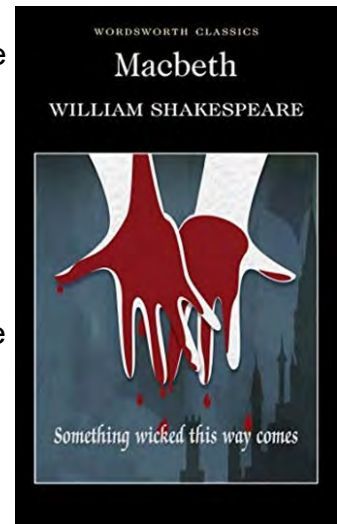
English

Year 9

Year 9 students have continued to make fantastic progress in their English studies this term. Year 9 have started to explore the first section of their English GCSE content and will be starting their studies of the play 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare. 'Macbeth' begins with three witches telling the Scottish general Macbeth that he will be King of Scotland. Encouraged by his wife, Macbeth kills the king, becomes the new king, and kills more people out of paranoia. Civil war erupts to overthrow Macbeth, resulting in more death. This has been a fantastic opportunity for Year 9 students to begin their transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 and make a positive start to their GCSE studies.

Year 9 have continued to practice their extended writing skills by analysing the play text, discussing language and how a playwright can have an impact on an audience. Students have also considered the complexities of Shakespeare's characters and discussed important themes that the playwright explores, making a satirical comment on society. They have also been exploring the theme of witchcraft in lessons, drawing comparisons between 'The Crucible' and 'Macbeth'. Students have enjoyed exploring the historical context of the play learning about King James I and the Jacobean period, discussing this in relation to the play.

Year 9 have demonstrated dedication and endurance for learning this academic year and we would like to congratulate them on their success and continued commitment. We look forward to seeing them excel in Year 10.



English

Year 10

As Year 11 have completed their exams this half term and left WHS, Year 10 have stepped into their position as the eldest pupils and therefore role models of the school. Not only have Year 10 completed their Literature Centre Assessed Examinations this half term, but they have also begun Period 6. The whole English department is so impressed with pupils' commitment to their GCSE studies in English, particularly with independent study and attitude to learning in the classroom.

Pupils have worked hard towards their CAEs this half term, completing exams in *Macbeth*, *An Inspector Calls* and *A Christmas Carol*. Despite the fact pupils were focused on characters from each of these texts for their CAEs, they have explored themes and plot also to ensure they have a secure knowledge and understanding ready for their official GCSE exams in Year 11. To prepare for Year 11, pupils should keep up their commitment to revision, making use of the WHS Big 4 independent study strategies, to ensure they reach their full potential.

After the Summer break, pupils will be moving on from Literature for the majority of their lesson time to focus on Language - exploring shorter texts, answering questions and writing their own fiction and non-fiction texts. If any pupils would like to get a head start on this work, they should read short stories and articles, both of which can be found easily online. Of course, if pupils would like any guidance around what to read, they only have to send a quick email to their English teacher who will be more than happy to share some useful resources.

Well done with your hard work so far for your English GCSEs, Year 10. Onwards and upwards to Year 11 now - keep it up!

Year 11

This term has been bittersweet for our Year 11 pupils. On one hand, they got to witness all of their hard work paying off as they embarked on their final examinations, whereas on the other it came time for us to bid them a fond farewell. As an English team, we would like to take the opportunity here to wish Year 11 every success for the future, on whatever path they have chosen to take.

English

r The Reader



Did you know your school has a Reader in Residence? I'm Emma and a bit like a DJ in Residence brings you the best tunes to groove your way into the evening, I bring you the best literature to escape from the everyday, explore the world and other worlds, travel through space and time and connect with what it means to be human. I run Shared Reading groups on Tuesday mornings and Thursdays with Year 7 pupils but am happy to chat through all things literature if you ever see me in there, so come and say hi!

There are so many fantastic things we've been reading this term, but if I had to pick one book to recommend I'd go for *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern. It's a gripping adventure about illusionists set against one another in a game of sorcery and power.

Shared Reading is a bit like having a collective brain, where everyone in the room works through the story or poem together. There's no pressure for anyone to read aloud if they don't want to and we stop every couple of pages to share our thoughts. We have some wild, eclectic conversations from our favourite rollercoasters to the meaning of life. If you're reading this from Year 6 or 7, maybe you'll be joining me for a Shared Reading group soon!



Emma Taylor
Reader in Residence

P.S: You have some great books here in the library - make the most of them! I have marked those I know and recommend with a sticker and I'm around on Thursday lunchtimes if you want to ask for book recommendations too – you'll usually find me in English 4.

English

Poetry

Below is the literary debut of one of our Year 7 pupils, Jack M. Jack chose to write a poem about nature and the destruction by humans. Enjoy!

Poem 'bout nature because I'm indescribably bored

*The nature of the world makes me wonder.
What else might be the humans' blunder?
The gorgeousness of it all;
Really, it makes me appall.*

*The winds, the winds, constantly running,
While the wolves are spontaneously howling,
Nature, nature, not everlasting,
So long as the humans keep blasting!*

*Insects, insects, the majority are vertebrae,
Humans kill these bugs each and every day,
Unjustifiable as it is,
It really beckons the quiz,
Are insects really that bad?*

*The winds, the winds, constantly running,
While the wolves are spontaneously howling,
Nature, nature, not everlasting,
So long as the humans keep blasting!*

*Creo que, nature is such a delight,
But the humans present a heavy plight,
If deforestation continues with all their might,
Nature will disappear, it isn't right!*

*The winds, the winds, constantly running,
While the wolves are spontaneously howling,
Nature, nature, not everlasting,
So long as the humans keep blasting!*

Humanities



In Geography, Year 7 pupils are studying “One world seven continents”. This unit will combine all the basic skills developed this year and we will be looking at a key geographical issue for each continent. Pupils will be encouraged to apply our Christian values to various topics and come to their own conclusions about them. Our [Subject sites](#) has short videos that pupils can use to further their understanding of how each continent is different.

Year 8 pupils have been looking at China. Including how it became rich, the one child policy and how it treats workers. Pupils will then go on to study a new unit on environmental disasters such as the BP oil spill, ozone depletion, air pollution, climate change, plastic pollution and waste.



Year 9 pupils are studying Russia, here pupils understand the geography of the region and how it has influenced politics. Pupils have also studied the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and how the annexation of Crimea in 2014 created the opportunity for the recent invasion of Ukraine.



Year 10 are on to the final unit of Paper 1 looking at ecosystems and biomes. This looks at how humans can impact our natural environment and the consequences this can have. Pupils will also study two large biome Equatorial rainforests and hot deserts. This looks at the characteristics of each biome and the opportunities and challenges faced there and how they can be overcome.

Useful websites:

<https://timeforgeography.co.uk/>

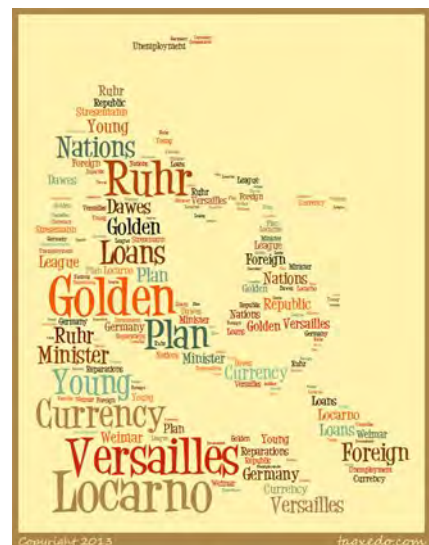
<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sg>

Year 8 have begun studying the Transatlantic Slave Trade, a process that led to 12 million Africans being forcibly transported to America to work on plantations. Students have looked at the Middle Passage, the horrific journey that slaves went on across the Atlantic Ocean, chained together in the hold of disease-ridden ships. We've been really impressed with the maturity our Year 8s have shown when covering this unit and they have shown great progress towards answering our big question - *Should Britain be ashamed of the Slave Trade?* Students can work at home by using the resources on our [History Subject Site](#).



Year 10 have finished the second unit of our Nazi Germany paper - investigating the golden years of Germany, between 1923-1929, when Germany was under the leadership of Gustav Stresemann, and the changes that came with the Great Depression from 1929. Year 10s performed really well in their recent Health and Medicine assessment, and we look forward to marking their Germany assessments which students have been revising hard for. Watch this space! Please keep an eye out for the Summer Learning Packs and use the resources in them to prepare for History at Year 11.



Humanities

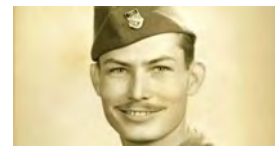


Year 7 Following their end of unit assessment, Year seven has moved on from Islamic beliefs to Islamic practices this half term. Students have really enjoyed the opportunity to discover a new religion and develop their understanding of different cultures. This new unit gives them the opportunity to see how beliefs influence how Muslims act in their day to day lives.



Year 8 have also completed an assessment on Buddhism. Following this, they have continued to learn about Buddhism and deepen their understanding of this complex religion. There have been good quality discussions in lessons on how Buddhist belief influences practice.

Year 9 have continued to learn about **'What happens when faith and courage collide'** and we have looked at new examples such as Desmond Doss and Malcolm X. Students have engaged well in lessons and learned to connect the school's Christian Values to the actions of the heroes they have looked at.



In KS4 **Year 10** have moved on to looking at Human Rights. We have looked at a variety of examples of people and organisations who fight for social justice and human rights such as Martin Luther King and Christian Aid.

We have also had some lively debates and insightful comments during whole class discussions! Year 10 have also been honing their exam technique and revising their key quotes in preparation for an assessment on human rights and Good and Evil at the end of the summer term. Moreover, some of our students went on the Year 10 RS field trip to the Jewish museum in Manchester. This was a great success which resulted in enthused students leaving with an improved subject knowledge of Judaism and home-made Challah Bread!

Finally, over the summer, Year 10 can continue to improve their exam technique by following the link and scrolling down to Exam Technique will provide a wealth of resources for this area: <https://sites.google.com/woodchurchhigh.com/rswoodchurch/gcse-religious-studies>



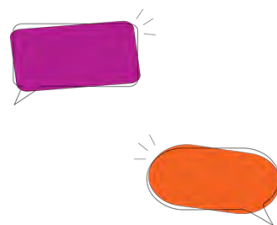
Maths

Year 7 and 8 Junior Maths Challenge

In April, selected pupils in Year 7 and 8 participated in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. It was a fantastic opportunity enjoyed by pupils to encourage mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency. The pupils worked extremely hard and a huge congratulations to all that participated.

To recognise the hard work displayed, the highest performing pupils (within the top 50% of all participants across the country) were awarded either the bronze, silver or gold award. Well done to the following pupils on their achievement:

Daniel O'Neill	Silver Certificate and Best in Year	Daniel Nabong	Silver Certificate and Best in School
Jayden Murray	Bronze Certificate	George Rogan	Bronze Certificate
Alfie Casey	Bronze Certificate	Hollie Stebles	Bronze Certificate
Alex Cullen	Bronze Certificate	Charlie Bell	Bronze Certificate
Geordie Fung	Bronze Certificate	James Collinson	Bronze Certificate
Alice Grievson	Bronze Certificate	Jacob Dickerson	Bronze Certificate
Isabel Harper	Bronze Certificate	Josh Griffin-Kowalczy	Bronze Certificate
Lewis Hawkins	Bronze Certificate	Max Hodkinson	Bronze Certificate
Adam Jones	Bronze Certificate	Hazel Lam	Bronze Certificate
Jack Keenan	Bronze Certificate	Matthew Leung	Silver Certificate
Ian Leung	Bronze Certificate	Noah Lucas	Bronze Certificate
Amelia McLaughlin	Bronze Certificate	Ryan McNulty	Bronze Certificate
Grace Prescott	Bronze Certificate	James Rylance	Bronze Certificate
Lucas Rafferty	Bronze Certificate	James Taylor	Bronze Certificate
Joe Roberts	Bronze Certificate	Toby Wilson	Silver Certificate
Isabelle Mighall	Bronze Certificate		



iFelicidades!

The MFL department would like to say a big thank you to pupils studying French and Spanish. Pupils have shown outstanding endurance this year in their commitment to learning. ¡Gracias! Merci!

Google Classroom: Homework

The MFL department is now using Google Classroom as the main hub for setting homeworks. While vocabulary and homework materials will be uploaded to Classroom, students should still continue to bring their vocabulary books to lessons as they will still need these for certain resources. Homework should also continue to be logged in planners as usual so that parents remain aware of any engagement with independent learning.

Year 7 Listening and Translation Assessment

Year 7 have just completed their listening and translation assessments. The assessments showed that pupils have committed to revising for their exams with endurance. In lessons, pupils are acting on feedback from the exams and celebrating successes. Well done Year 7 and keep up the good work!

Year 8 and 9 Speaking Assessments

Year 8 and 9 have just completed their speaking assessments. The assessments showed that pupils have committed to revising for their exams with endurance. In lessons, pupils are acting on feedback from the exams and celebrating successes.

Year 11

Well done to Year 11 who have now finished their exams. Pupils showed incredible endurance during the exam period and we are incredibly proud of you all. The MFL department wants to wish them all the best for the future. Enjoy your summer!

"At the end of the day, we can endure much more than we think we can."

Frida Kahlo






Year 10 have now completed their exams. These assessments have highlighted the progress that Year 10 have made since September and are evidence of their commitment to revision. Well done Year 10 on showing incredible endurance and wisdom.

- Lucy Hayes
- Samuel Jacobs
- James Hudson
- Daniel Pritchard
- Aidan Maloney
- Isabella Griffiths
- Olivia Brougham
- Evelyn Kelly
- Logan Harding
- Jacob O'Neil
- Jake Hutton
- Shannon Parry
- Emily Houghton
- Charlie Rimmer
- Luca Clerke
- Fletcher Wallace



Modern Languages Google Website



The MFL Google Site also has resources to support revision and learning in KS3. If a pupil has any ideas as to what they would like to be included on the google site to support them further, please see Miss Parkinson in MFL 1.



Year 7

Matthew Lynds

Caitlin Heggarty

Max Hodgkinson

Adam Stephens

Emily Martin

Angela Thazhathupuram

Callum Duckworth

Lily Fletcher

Nathan Sands

James Rylance

Nathan Jackson

Amber Upton

Year 8

Olivia Fishwick

Libby Platts

Joe Roberts

Jasmine Champion

Adam O'Callaghan

Evie Smith

Ruby Marie Hughes

Gabi Mazzone

Anais Jones

Leo King

Linguists of the Month

Year 9

Gabriel Nabong

Megan Fox

Aimee Beasley

Morgan Swan

Henry Byrne

Hannah Thompson

Ty Chapman

Megan Chan

Erin McQuillan

James Wright

Year 10

Logan Harding

Jacob O'Neill

Matthew Jones

Aiden Maloney

James Hudson

Dominic Senior

Zoe Arnold

Lucy Hayes

Fletcher Wallace

Leah Gillam

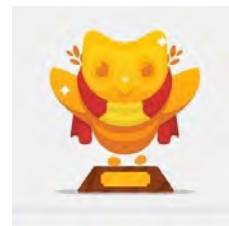
Ethan Davies

Jake Hutton

Charlie Rimmer

MFL

If you feel that you would like to refresh your language skills in small chunks, you may want to try some of these suggested activities. Just 5-10 minutes a day of practising language skills will make recalling vocabulary a lot easier!



1. Download the free (and simple to use) language learning app **Duolingo**.
2. **BBC.co.uk/languages** - select '**Spanish**' in the '**Choose your language box**' then click on '**Mi Vida Loca**' to watch the 22 episodes of the interactive video drama.
3. **Quizlet.com** - search for **mflwoodchurch**. Scroll down the list of activities to find topic areas to revise. The 'gravity' game is particularly addictive.
4. **Teachvid.com** - sign up for a free account, watch the language videos and try some of the interactive activities.
5. **bbc.co.uk/bitesize** – select secondary then KS3 or GCSE, Modern Foreign Languages then either French or Spanish. Quizzes, videos and interactive exercises on a range of topics, including all those at GCSE (we follow the **AQA specification**).
6. '**Easy Languages**' channel on YouTube – select either **Easy French** or **Easy Spanish**. Subtitles available in the foreign language and English. Good way to develop listening skills and build a wider range of vocabulary.
7. '**Comme une Française**' channel on YouTube – practise pronunciation, learn phrases on a wide range of topics and improve your knowledge of French culture.
8. '**Agencia ELE**' channel on YouTube – Spanish videos on a range of GCSE topics. Subtitles can be turned off and on through the settings button at the bottom of the video screen.
9. **1 jour 1 actu.com** – current affairs website aimed at young, native speakers of French.
10. **Lyricstraining.com** – no need to set up a free account. Practise listening skills by completing gap fill exercises on French or Spanish songs. (Start with 'Beginner' and 'Choice mode'.

PE

The Year 7&8 Rounders squad took part in the Wirral Schools Rounders competition recently. Both teams played with real determination and grit. Both the Year 7 and Year 8 team came second in their group, narrowly missing out on the semi finals due to time constraints where a straight final had to be played. Well done girls.

Can we also say a huge thank you to those pupils who have given up their time to train and represent the school at the numerous events and competitions this academic year. You have really shown commitment and service to the PE department. Well done.



PE

The Year 7, 8 & 9 athletics squad recently took part in the Wirral Schools Athletics Championship. They were competing against athletes from all of the local grammar schools and also athletes who represent Wirral A.C.

Our pupils were absolutely fantastic and really worked hard in every event and race. Overall, the boys team came 4th and the girls team 5th, which was a tremendous result. Well done to all involved.

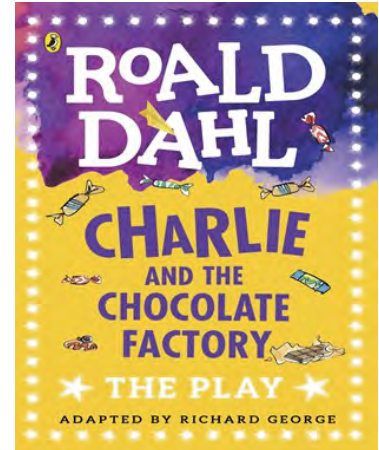


Performing Arts



Year 7 Drama

This half-term Year 7 have been exploring the magical story of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Pupils have worked hard developing key skills such as multi-role, thought-tracking and still image and are loving exploring the world of Willy Wonka. We are really proud of the positive engagement that pupils have been displaying when it comes to sharing this story and we can't wait to see where the rest of this term takes them.



Year 8 Drama

This half-term pupils have been exploring Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers*. They've absolutely loved getting to know the timeless characters of Mickey Johnstone and Edward Lyons and we have been thoroughly entertained by their attempts at different accents to support their characterization. Pupils have enjoyed learning about some of the key context at this time and developing different skills to bring these characters to life. Well done, Year 8!

Year 9 Drama



Year 9 have continued to make excellent progress in Drama and this term they're exploring Contemporary Theatre. Pupils have been studying a range of playtexts and attempting to use all the skills they have built up over the last three years to accumulate into a final performance. Particularly successful lessons have seen pupils engage with the hilarious comedy, *Bouncers*. Our pupils have really risen to the challenge of performing key extracts and are so engaged with the fun and frivolity in this story - we can't wait to see their continued study of this.

Performing Arts



Year 10 Drama

Year 10 are currently working tirelessly on their Component 1 devised performances. Pupils were given the stimulus of Injustice and have been incredibly focused and engaged when it comes to building their own practical performances. Pupils' work includes ideas surrounding poverty in the pandemic, gender inequality and innocent victims of crime. We are so looking forward to watching pupils' final performances later this term.

Keep up the hard work, Year 10!

Year 11 Drama

Year 11 have been working tirelessly this half-term to prepare for their final examination on J.B.Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*. Pupils have considered everything the world of theatre has to offer in terms of this performance and have looked at everything from designing costumes to planning lighting, set and sound. We are so proud of the way pupils have been continuing to engage with this and we cannot wait to celebrate their successes with them in the summer.

Well done, Year 11! We will miss you.



Performing Arts



Year 7 Music

This term has seen Year 7 move from playing one note at a time on the keyboard, as they explored melody, to playing multiple notes at once! This progression is a vital skill as every musician, from Harry Styles to Olivia Rodrigo, needs accompaniment to sing with. Pupils are exploring how melody and accompaniment can create a richer texture, through a combination of classical and modern pieces. As always our Year 7s have impressed us with their engagement and enthusiasm, and continue to let their light shine brightly.



Year 8 Music

The theatre industry generates a colossal amount of money for the UK every year and so, after studying the American Blues and Rock'n'Roll, we are studying something closer to home: Musical Theatre.

Having trained professionally in Musical Theatre, both Mr Payne and Mr Fenney are eager to show how inclusive Musical Theatre is for every one of our students. From learning how to warm up your voice (and the importance of doing so), to singing the title number from Ben Elton's, *We Will Rock You*, this topic has already had many pupils exploring elements which they had never considered before. It has been refreshing to see so many pupils, particularly the boys, throwing themselves into a topic which may be outside their comfort zone. Anyone who would like to explore singing further should definitely consider joining our choir, which is in Mr Payne's room after-school on a Tuesday!

Year 9 Music

Did you know that the country of Jamaica could fit into the United Kingdom twenty two times? It surprised our pupils how such a small country could have such a big affect on the world through the creation of one of the most recognisable styles of music: Reggae.

Pupils have studied the origins of Reggae: from Mento to Ska, and how the music of artists such as Bob Marley influenced British bands such as Madness and the Specials. With this in mind, Year 9 have used the keyboards to explore songs such as *Baggy Trousers* by Madness, in addition to Bob Marley's *Three Little Birds*. Both songs require musicians to play in syncopation (on the off-beat) which is no easy feat however, as always, Year 9 have risen to the challenge.



Performing Arts



Year 10 Music

This half-term Year 10 have continued to look into the second component in the BTEC Music practice course. Year 10 have taken the opportunity to develop both their practical skills on their chosen instruments and theoretical knowledge by looking at various different skills used in the Music industry as well as ordinary life. Some of these skills include Time management, Self discipline and working with others. Year 10 pupils are developing an understanding of how these skills are used across different roles in the music industry such as the job of a Sound Engineer or Musician. Year 10 are continuing to develop their skills excellently and showing good wisdom within lessons and Mr Payne and Mr Fenney are very proud!

Year 11 Music

This half term Year 11 have completed the final part of their coursework (Component 3). As part of this, Year 11 had the opportunity to take a song from a list of 10 and change it into 1 of 4 genres. Year 11 have continued to work hard and demonstrate endurance throughout this term completing the final part of their course.

Extra curricular activities

The Music and Drama department have continued to offer a variety of different clubs this half term both during and after school. These clubs include; Guitar club, Keyboard club, Choir, drama club.

We still continue to offer our Y10 Music students use of the practice rooms and laptops after school to catch up and complete any work that needs to be completed, or to improve on their chosen instrument.

We have also offered Year 9 the opportunity to take part in after school workshops to improve their skills and knowledge before starting the new Music BTEC course in September. Providing pupils with the opportunity to gain more understanding on a chosen instrument or theoretical concept. Numbers have been excellent for the first workshop session last week and Mr Payne and Mr Fenney look forward to hosting more of these opportunities until the end of term.

All these extracurricular activities are available to all genders and abilities to enhance and gain skills within Music and the Arts. All of these clubs have continued to grow in popularity with students across Key stages coming together to enjoy playing, teaching and learning new skills together on various different instruments.





Citizenship



Charity Fundraising

Mr Joplin would like to take this opportunity to say well done to all our pupils who have raised money for our nominated charities this year. Each form group had two weeks to agree to a charity event and commit to completing it. We have had a number of different events this year including sponsored walks, cake bakes, guess the sweets in the jar, a number of different raffles and so much more.

It is amazing to hear about the service our pupils are providing to international, national and local charities. Pupils have demonstrated a number of our Christian Values including Compassion, Trust, Humility and Hope and through their Endurance they have raised over £8000 this year.

Congratulations to everyone involved in our fundraising efforts for our selected charities this year:

- Cancer Research UK
- Wirral Wildlife
- RNLI
- Meningitis Research Foundation in the name of Luke Brown (Former pupil)
- International Justice Mission



Citizenship



Congratulations to the 242 Year 8 pupils who completed the Archbishop of York Award this year. It was wonderful to celebrate the achievements of the year group in our Ceremony on Friday 1st July. It was also fantastic to reflect on the impact pupils have had on our local community this year with respect to all the different form challenges they have completed. Special mention should be made in regards to the amount of money the year group raised this year, over £4000 and this money will make such a difference to the charities we have selected this year to support. An incredible amount. The Archbishop of York Award is something our pupils should be proud of and sets them out from other young people in our area.

Well done Year 8, I am looking forward to seeing how your character develops further in the next few years.



Careers Education

Last week, over one hundred and twenty Year 10 pupils were involved in a college taster day at Wirral Met College, as part of our Careers Education and Guidance programme. Each pupil was able to sample a variety of different courses based upon their interests, along with the opportunity to visit at least two different sites. Pupils showed great integrity and endurance throughout the day, with each of them making an outstanding first impression. We hope they can now make an informed decision about their future and start to consider their next steps after they leave Woodchurch High School. Well done Year 10, you were outstanding!

Mr Bannon and Miss Quigley





The new Year 9 cohort for 2022 is up and running, pupils should be attending meetings as per the timetable and uploading evidence to the D of E. If you need any help please see Mr Guest.

The dates for expedition this year are as follows **24-25th June and 8-9th July** for the assessment. This will involve two days hiking with equipment and an overnight stay, where pupils will camp and cook their own food using stoves.

<https://www.dofe.org/>

Diary Dates

Friday 15th July 2022	End of Term for all pupils
Monday 18th July - Wednesday 20th July 2022	Staff Development Days
Thursday 1st September 2022	Staff Development Day
Friday 2nd September 2022	School re-opens to all pupils