

Newsletter - May 2023

"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

Open Evening

We were delighted to welcome so many parents, carers and children to our Summer Open Evening on 9th May. As ever, our pupils were outstanding ambassadors as they met with parents and children, inviting them to join in the activities within the Curriculum Areas. It was also an opportunity for our Year 10 Acting Prefects to shine.

The pupils were highly commended for the way in which they conducted the guided tours and provided families with information about life at Woodchurch High School. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive:

"Our tour guide, Will, was wonderful. Our daughter now feels at ease and is excited to start big school."

"We are so impressed with everything on offer at Woodchurch High School and would feel very happy to send our daughter here."

"The pupils are so friendly and helpful."

"We were welcomed by the pupils, and staff went out of their way to answer our son's questions."



Pastoral

Year 11 Leavers' Assembly

Education is not a destination, it is a journey and the last 5 years have been part of that journey. It seems incredible that it was 5 years ago that the current Year 11 cohort came into Woodchurch High School on their transition day and listened to various members of staff talking about the amazing education they will receive and the special experiences that they will enjoy. At that time and throughout this whole journey, we challenged every pupil to be guided by our Christian Values and 'let their light shine' every day.

On Friday 12th May 2023, we held the final assembly and an opportunity to recognise all the success, all the achievements and all the magnificent pupils that we have in Year 11. Over 60 awards were presented within the categories of Academic excellence, Pastoral, Christian Values and 'Special Nominations'. As a surprise from staff, a very special goodbye clip was shown that I am sure will live long in the memory and pupils will remember fondly. We want to congratulate all of the pupils that have been awarded individual recognition and wish the entire cohort the very best of luck in their preparation and completion of the final examinations during the course of the next few weeks.

Year 9 Celebration Assembly

On Wednesday 10th May, parents and guardians of Year 9 pupils were invited in to celebrate their child's success. The staff at Woodchurch nominated pupils to receive an award for their hard work and ethic, outstanding contribution to the school and ability to live by our school Christian Values, showcasing their gifts and talents and letting their light shine.

During the assembly, we were entertained by two performances - 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and 'Viva la Vida'. Those fortunate enough to be at the assembly will agree how outstanding these performances were! Mr Hulse would like to thank Mr Fenney, Mr Payne, Alice Grievson and Ethan Murphy (Year 9), and Will Fung (Year 10) for their contribution in the assembly.



Chaplaincy

Over the last few weeks in Collective Worship we've been looking at Encounters with Jesus. We've seen how four very different people encountered Jesus in the Bible, and we've seen the impact of that meeting on those individuals and on the people around them. We met a religious leader called Nicodemus who saw something in Jesus that no-one else did and wanted to know more; his encounter meant that he was brave enough to risk his livelihood to speak up for Jesus when everyone else shouted against him, and then generous to give Jesus' body a proper burial after his crucifixion. We met a lady who was a social outcast, who had a conversation with Jesus that showed her that he was the promised Saviour sent by God; this encounter gave her the compulsion to go back to her village and tell everyone about this amazing man who she'd met who had changed her life.

Next, we met a rich young man – he was morally upright, and spiritually sincere; he followed all of the religious laws and sought from Jesus how he might get to heaven; in his encounter with Jesus, Jesus shows him that despite his goodness, kindness and rule-following, he has other priorities before God – he is challenged to put God first, and to love God more than anything else in the world. The final person we met is a tax collector called Zacchaeus, someone who would have been scorned by his fellow countrymen for his behaviour and his allegiance with the ruling powers – but in his encounter with Jesus he finds acceptance and forgiveness, and it causes him to change his ways and make reparations to those he had wronged.

All Christians have their own story of how they first encountered Jesus, and how encounters with Jesus have changed their life. At 7pm on the first Sunday of each month at St Mary's Church Upton, we hear the story of someone who has had their life changed by an encounter with Jesus; some of our guests are celebrities, others are local heroes. On Sunday 4th June we'll be hearing the story of Lauren Windle; Lauren is an author, journalist, presenter and public speaker, but her proudest achievement in her life (so far) is to get clean from cocaine and sober from alcohol addiction. Lauren's newly founded Christian faith and the support of exceptional friends in a local church has given her fresh focus and purpose in life. We'd like to invite you to come and hear more of her story and journey of recovery on Sunday 4th June at 7pm, with light refreshments beforehand from 6:30pm.

We may think that we are very different from some of the people we know, that God might not want to bother with us because we're not as clever, funny, successful or kind as other people. But Jesus wants to meet us ALL. The gift he has to offer us is for everyone, every single one.

Chaplaincy

Our friends at St Mary's Church Upton would be pleased to welcome parents / carers and pupils to their regular services, details of which can be found via their website:

<https://stm-upton.org.uk/>

Coming up on Sunday 4th June is an evening with Lauren Windle, an author, journalist, presenter and public speaker. This is an informal evening, where Lauren will share her experiences with addiction, and her journey to recovery. Please see details below.



LAUREN WINDLE
JUNE 4th 2023

Please join us for a relaxed and informal evening of dialogue with our special guest. Refreshments will be served from 6:30pm until 7:00pm when we will move on to the main event: a conversation with a person who has a fascinating story to tell.

St Mary's Upton 
faith for life in Jesus


June 4th 2023

Lauren Windle

Lauren is an author, journalist, presenter and public speaker. She has written for Vogue, Huffington Post, Marie Claire and Mail Online amongst many other publications. Lauren has also produced Ted Talks with almost 500,000 views.

Her proudest achievement in her life (so far) is to get clean from cocaine and sober from alcohol addiction whilst living in Paris. With her newly-found Christian faith and the support of exceptional friends in a local church, Lauren has found fresh focus and purpose in life.

Come and hear more of her story and journey of recovery.

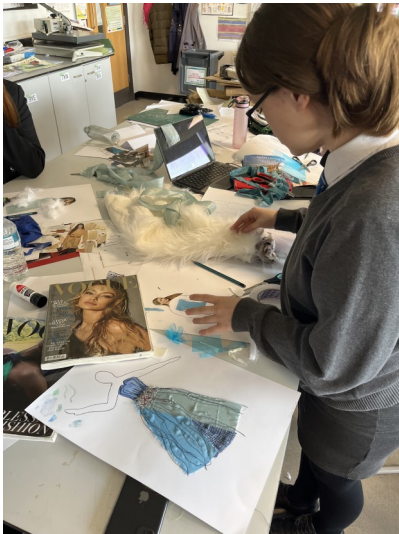


St Mary's, Church Road, Upton CH49 6JZ
6:30pm - 8:00pm Admission free

www.stm-upton.org.uk

ECAD

Year 10 Art Textiles students recently took part in a costume workshop with a lead designer, Miss Lomax, from LIPA university. Pupils were given the brief to design a costume for 'Manchester Day Parade' and create mixed media collage fashion designs. Pupils worked in the same way that they would do in a university setting and during the morning/afternoon discussed with Miss Lomax post 16 opportunities for set and costume design at LIPA. All work completed will be submitted as part of the pupils' coursework.



English

Year 11 Residential—Glan-Lyn



Twenty Year 11 pupils were selected to attend the two-night English Residential on Friday 5th May with Ms Griffiths, Miss Barney, Ms Calder, Miss Warrington and Mr Emmitt. They stayed at the Glan-Lyn Activity Centre in the beautiful surroundings of Bala Lake. Pupils completed 17 hours of English Language and English Literature revision, covering all aspects of the impending assessments.

The aim of the weekend was to support pupils with useful strategies to revise their Literature content, focusing on key quotations and vocabulary they could use for different characters and build confidence. They looked at the themes of conflict and location in poetry, compassion in 'A Christmas Carol,' social justice in 'An Inspector Calls' and watched some of King Charles' coronation to help them understand the idea of kingship in 'Macbeth.'

In the evenings, pupils had use of the centre's own bowling alley and they watched films with staff. Their behaviour and endurance was exemplary and we wish them every success for their exams.



English

Open Evening

During our second Open Evening of the year, prospective pupils from surrounding primary schools visited the English Department to learn about the different texts and topics studied by our KS3 pupils. Every member of staff and all our pupil helpers were on their best behaviour ready to welcome visitors to the department and engage them in the activities on offer. There was a Shakespeare room where visitors had the opportunity to learn about words made up by Shakespeare and to create their own witch's potion; the poetry room where pupils could make up their own nature-themed poems and match up key quotes to illustrative images for some of our GCSE poems; a room focused on *Blood Brothers* including an activity matching up 'scouse slang' with Standard English translations; also a room about *The Crucible* where visitors had to decide who the real witch was from a group of characters.

The whole department would like to thank our pupil helpers for their hard work and professionalism on such an important evening for the school.

The Reader - Celebrating 10 years of literature together

We are delighted to share the news that this academic year marks 10 years of the partnership between Woodchurch High School and The Reader.

Thanks to the immense logistical wizardry of Mrs Goaten in the English department, we run Shared Reading groups on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Year 7 pupils. 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 chocolate bars to sentient alien life. If you're reading this from Year 6 or 7, maybe you'll be joining me for a Shared Reading group soon!

What few people know is how this partnership is part of a wider, growing picture. The Reader are a national charity that wants to bring about a Reading Revolution, so that everyone can experience and enjoy great literature, which we believe is a tool for helping humans survive and live well.

Through a growing movement of 1,000 volunteers and partners, we bring thousands of people together each week to share and discuss great novels, short stories and poems. We call this Shared Reading.

We read with schools, families and looked-after-children, adults in community spaces, people in care homes, people with physical and mental health conditions, those coping with or recovering from addiction, and people in the criminal justice system.

Everything we do – from our global Shared Reading movement to the events, activities and social businesses on offer at Calderstones Park in Liverpool – builds warm and lively communities by bringing people together and books to life. It is fantastic to be part of something making a genuine difference to the Woodchurch community. A huge thank you to all who have made this decade of loving literature possible.

Emma Taylor
Reader in Residence



English

Year 7

Pupils in Year 7 have had their first introduction to William Shakespeare this half term with their study of *Romeo and Juliet*. From the exciting plot to the interesting characters, pupils have enjoyed learning all about this play and exploring the opportunities for drama activities to aid learning. While getting to grips with Shakespeare's language of 'thy' and 'thee', pupils have been learning how to read and respond to extract questions, just like their Year 11 counterparts when writing about *Macbeth*.

Also, Year 7 have been learning about Simon Armitage's poetry. This has been a fantastic outlet for pupils to explore their own ideas about language and develop their analytical skills as they write about their own interpretations of poems such as 'Kid', all about Robin and his vendetta against Batman, and 'I am very bothered' which has made pupils think about actions that they regret from their lives.

Reasons for Celebration:

Adam Anwar-Clark in Miss Goaten's class has produced some lovely work about *Romeo and Juliet*

Lucy Blythe from Mrs Eves' class has gone above and beyond to produce some beautiful independent work to summarise her knowledge of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Mrs Wilson would like to praise Orla Hartley and Bella Love for their fantastic responses to Armitage's 'I am very bothered'. Well done and keep up the great work!

Year 8

Blood Brothers has been the focus for year 8 study in English this half term, affording pupils the opportunity to read and act out a popular play set in Liverpool in the 1950s-1980s. Pupils have enjoyed not only learning about the plot and characters, but also the opportunity to study their own accent and dialect. In some classes, pupils have had the chance to embody a character from the play in whole-class readings, and in others pupils have been working hard to dig into the intricacies of the social class system in 20th century Britain.

Pupils worked hard to complete their assessment on *Blood Brothers* and are shifting their attention to non-fiction writing where they will be able to argue their point of view on social issues related to the play, such as teenagers and social class. They will be able to read and debate on controversial topics and have the chance to respond in their own persuasive writing tasks. We look forward to hearing pupils' views and listening to their passionate arguments!

Reasons for Celebration:

Lily Ponsford from Mrs Goaten and Mrs Collinson's class has produced some fantastic work on *Blood Brothers*.

Both teachers would also like to praise Brad Davies for his dedication to his classwork and responding to feedback.

English

Year 9

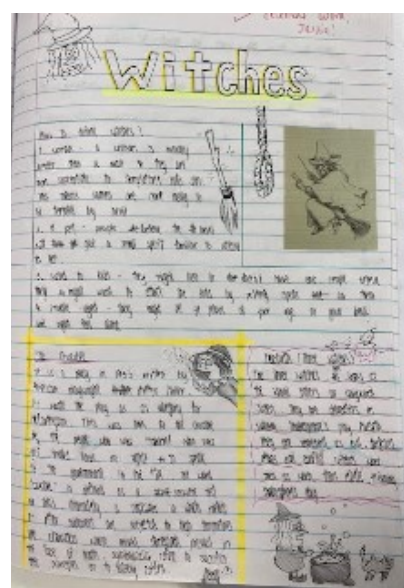
Year 9 pupils this half term have been studying the theme of witchcraft, nature and the supernatural, focusing on reading *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. Although they have been mostly focused on their analytical writing skills, pupils have also been passionately condemning characters like Abigail and Parris for their manipulation and defending John Proctor and his wife from prejudice. Pupils have also been brushing up on their understanding of drama texts by learning about stage directions and dramatic irony.

As witchcraft is the overall theme of this term for Year 9, pupils will need to transfer their knowledge of attitudes towards witches as they begin their study of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Pupils will utilise their knowledge of Shakespeare from Year 8 as they write about how witches are presented in the play, particularly their power over other characters.

Reasons for Celebration:

Mr Casella and Mr Power would like to praise Ava Stanton for her hard work and excellent presentation in her book.

Miss Ryan and Mr Casella would like to reward Jessie Chan for her beautifully decorated and detailed title page about witches in the 16th century.



Year 10

Different classes in Year 10 this half term have been studying a combination of poetry from the Eduqas anthology and *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestley. Pupils have been tasked to grasp the historical context of each poem and of the play to ensure they can confidently write about the writer's intentions. With 18 poems to learn before the end of the term, pupils' attendance has been crucial this half term to avoid missing out on important knowledge and similarly with *An Inspector Calls*.

Independent study completed consistently is absolutely essential at this point in Year 10 so that pupils are in routines that will benefit them when they begin Year 11. To aid this, pupils should make constant use of the English Subject Site to watch videos about key characters and themes, and about each individual poem.

Reasons for Celebration:

Lillie-Mae Heenan has created some fantastic *Macbeth* revision to keep up her knowledge of the play.

Pupils in Miss Warrington's class have written some excellent poetry responses this half term, including Tara Clerkin, Maisie Moorhead and Hannah Thompson.

English

Year 11

This half term has been perhaps the most important and most rigorous for Year 11 pupils in English as they approach their GCSE exams. Pupils have been creating revision resources, writing practice questions and responding to individual feedback from their teachers, in addition to taking care of their mental health and wellbeing. It is important that pupils revise their Literature knowledge as well as their skills for answering Language questions. By the end of this half term, pupils will have completed all their Literature exams. Well done Year 11 on all your revision and hard work. We wish you the very best with all your exams and for your future endeavours!

Zoe Leung in Miss Barney's class has written an amazing essay on 'Cozy Apologia', one of our anthology poems.

We have a budding Poet Laureate in Year 11 - Dylan Hodgkinson with his poem, 'A Love to Rival God's'.

A Love to Rival God's

The thought of you makes me as happy
as a God.
The mischievous smile of Loki, as bright as Helios.
A beauty to rival Aphrodite.
A love that reaches beyond Jormungandr.
My feelings stronger than Mjolnir able to fell giants
with a singular swing.
When I find you to be upset or in danger
I'd reach you faster than Hermes could.
Unbreakable as Baldur is Invulnerable
to all threats.
An angry gaze to rival Medusa.
When hugging you in my arms call me Atlas,
for I am holding my world.

English

Chester Zoo Trip - Tuesday May 16th 2023 SPARKS Year 7 Group

The sun was shining as the SPARKS pupils left school for an exciting trip to Chester Zoo.



The school minibus left full to capacity, with 12 happy pupils and 3 members of staff.

On arrival we were greeted by a friendly zoo team and set off in the direction of the elephant enclosure. What a marvellous sight and how thrilling to see the elephant family group. We were also able to reflect on the stark contrast to how Stella the elephant is treated in our current read, 'The One and Only Ivan.'

The whole day was an absolute delight as we ventured around the zoo complex, and with a £5 reward in the offering for the pupil who gleaned the most facts from the trip, we were happy to announce at the end it went to Ciaran who outshone the rest relating many facts he gleaned from the information boards around the zoo.

Everyone purchased something from the gift shop and all boarded the bus happy and content.

This activity will be followed with a writing task, featuring one of the animals at Chester zoo or a written review, 'Our Zoo Day Out!'



Humanities



Year 11 have just started their final exams. To help support with revision, pupils should make use of the subject sites link below where you will find short summary videos of the key learning needed. We have also posted detailed revision support on google classroom. [Geography GCSE subject site](#)

Year 10 started looking at ecosystems and have been studying rainforests. In this unit pupils are expected to learn the location of biomes, the structure and adaptations in rainforest, the causes and impacts of deforestation and how rainforests are managed. Pupils should make use of the subject sites link below where you will find short summary videos of the key learning needed. [Geography GCSE subject site](#).



Year 9 have started looking at coasts, in this we look how waves shape the coastline and the issues that affect people who live in coastal areas such as the Wirral.

Year 8 are looking at ecosystems and will be looking at how humans impact food webs, the impacts of humans on rainforests and how we can look after our natural world.

Year 7 have started studying tectonics. In this unit we are studying earthquakes and volcanoes, what causes them and how humans have adapted to live with these natural hazards.



Humanities



Year 11 have now begun their revision preparation for the formal exams. All resources can be found on the Subject Site, including asynchronous videos on how to answer the exam questions. This will be an invaluable resource to all pupils so please do encourage them to access this. Pupils can also contact their teachers for any further support if needed. May we take this time to wish all pupils the very best of luck and every success in their future endeavours.

Year 10 are continuing to work hard on the topic of the Cold War. Pupils must remember that they also need to be revisiting Elizabethan England content at home to ensure this remains fresh in their minds. All resources can be found on the Subject Site. Students will complete the Cold War topic in the final half term and will then move on to Crime and Punishment, which will see a nice change from what has previously been studied.



Year 9 are displaying great commitment to learning, even if they have not opted for History at GCSE. Students will be sitting an assessment on World War One shortly and will then start their final topic on how Hitler got into power. This will prepare them for their GCSEs, both in terms of content, but also skill, so those not continuing with History will also benefit next year.

Year 8 have recently moved onto the Slave Trade and it has been pleasing to hear pupils share their stories about visits to Liverpool's museums or places they have been in the city with links to slavery. Students are displaying a greater understanding of the importance of learning this topic and have shown humility and respect throughout their lessons.



Year 7 have now started the topic of the Tudors and have enjoyed sharing what they already know. There are clearly a lot of Horrible History fans in the year group! They are also working hard at developing their historical skills, building confidence in using sources and interpretations to find out about the past. Well done!

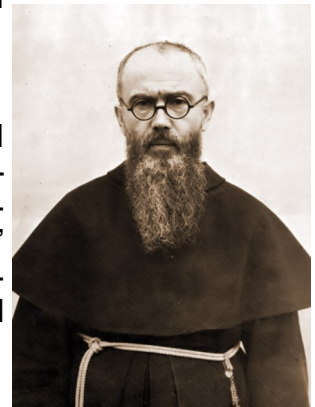
Humanities



This term **Year 7** have started an exciting new unit all about Islam. We are thinking about what it means to be a Muslim, including their Holy Book, place of worship and their beliefs about God. There will also be an opportunity for selected students to go on a trip to the Wirral Deen centre to experience even more about Islam.

Our **Year 8s** have been rising to the challenge this term so far as we have thought about the Holocaust. We have looked at topics such as Persecution, Propaganda, and how Jewish people held on to their faith in the most difficult of circumstances. Students have been able to act and speak with compassion and maturity as we have tackled this sensitive and challenging topic. Next term we'll move on to a whole new faith as we begin to look at the teachings of Buddhism, exploring the Eightfold Path and the life of the Buddha.

In **Year 9** we have been exploring what happens when faith and courage collide. From Maximilian Kolbe, a Catholic priest who sacrificed his life to save a total stranger in the chambers of Auschwitz; to Malala Yousafzai, a faithful Muslim who championed girls' right to education even when it put her life in danger, we are looking at heroes of faith who have shown exceptional courage and faithfulness in many different situations.



Year 10 are focused on completing paper 2 on Christian Beliefs and Practices, and have been working hard towards their assessment. This term, the brilliant Christian charity Open Doors will be coming in to speak to us about Christian Persecution in the wider world. There will also be a trip for selected students to the Jewish Museum in Manchester.



Our **Year 11** cohort have made a positive start to the GCSE season, and are working incredibly hard. Just one more RS exam to go after half term! Paper 3 on Judaism will be Tuesday the 6th of June (PM). We are also running a half term revision session for all pupils who wish to benefit from this- it will be on Wednesday 31st May, 12-2pm, and will cover Judaism beliefs and Practices. Good luck to everybody!

Maths

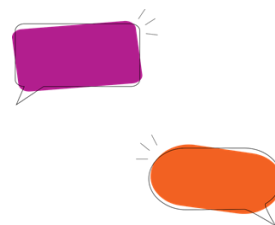
Year 7 and 8 Junior Maths Challenge

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 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:

Lacey McMahon	Silver - Best in Year	Moe Fung	Silver - Best in School
Oscar Hall	Silver Certificate	Harry Corker	Silver Certificate
Bobby Bell	Silver Certificate	Noah Lucas	Silver Certificate
Nathaniel Leung	Silver Certificate	Emily Martin	Silver Certificate
Daniel Nabong	Silver Certificate	Isla Axtell	Bronze Certificate
Millie Davies	Bronze Certificate	Tilly Hardman	Bronze Certificate
Beau Roberts	Bronze Certificate	Laelia Dennett	Bronze Certificate
Ben Hickson-Evans	Bronze Certificate	Mathew Lynds	Bronze Certificate
Sam Murray	Bronze Certificate	Freya Peczek	Bronze Certificate
James Rylance	Bronze Certificate	Charlie Bell	Bronze Certificate
Will Cassia-Davies	Bronze Certificate	Jolie Fung	Bronze Certificate
Ollly Morton	Bronze Certificate	Charlie Phillips	Bronze Certificate

MFL



Google Classroom: Homework

The MFL department uses 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 11 GCSE Exams

Year 11 students are preparing for their GCSE exams. The dates of these exams are:

French: Reading and Listening Tuesday 23rd May and Writing Monday 5th June.

Spanish: Reading and Listening Tuesday 6th June and Writing Tuesday 13th June.

To support their progress, pupils can access a range of key grammar and topic resources via our MFL Google Site. One way pupils can challenge themselves at home would be by continuing to revise the 'Hub Phrases', 'Booster Verbs' and the key tenses. Revision materials such as 'Knowledge Organisers' are also available on the MFL Subject Site. Pupils are encouraged to use the condensed knowledge organisers provided for each GCSE 'Theme' and to use these to support their ongoing revision.

Year 7 Spanish Music Club

Miss Swan is running a weekly, Year 7 Spanish Music Club on Wednesday lunch time in MFL 2.

Year 7 Homework Club

Do you need support with your MFL homework? Mrs Bentley is running a Year 7 Homework Club, every Tuesday lunch time in MFL 5.

Modern Languages Subject Site

On the Modern Languages Subject Site, pupils can find knowledge organisers for each topic, grammar video explanations and topic videos to support their revision for exams. Class teachers will have shown pupils where resources are on the website, but pupils should ask their class teacher if they need any support accessing resources!



Linguists of the Month

Year 7

Harry Robertson
Lacey McMahon
Ruby Walker
Alisha-May Badley
Ella McColgan
Rosie McGinnley
Harry Volan
Skye Fitzpatrick
Megan Pitt
Kian Rooney
Oran McLachlan

Year 8

Noah Bennett
Patrick Evans
Leighton Rimmer
Melissa Ryan
Skye Fitzpatrick
Megan Pitt
Kian Rooney
Oran McLachlan
Emily Martin

Year 9

Leighton Rimmer
Melissa Ryan
Joshua McRae Banks
Evan McLoughlin

Year 10

Gabriel Nabong
Karla Hughes
Freddy Perez
Michelle Wildblood
Sophie Wilson
Niall Daley
Jess Smith
Ella Standen
Faye Baker
Charlie Hartley
Finley Rutter

Year 11

Katie Croft
Matthew Jones
Lewis Reynolds
Emily Houghton
Shannon Parry
Lexie Vernon

MFL

Pupils should now have a login for Languagenut, which is an exciting, interactive resource, currently being used in MFL.

Pupils can not only practise key vocabulary using the Vocab Trainer but they can also practise exam skills, phonics, grammar and verbs.

Languagenut supports both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 pupils with secondary language level learning and preparation for exams in both French and Spanish, covering all four key skills; We are encouraging all pupils to log on to Languagenut to enhance their learning and also to take part in the World Language competition, competing for points against other schools around the world and also with their fellow classmates.

Top 10 Languagenut Students

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mikey Barlow | 6. Lily Upton |
| 2. Carmen McIntyre | 7. Adam Jones |
| 3. Eleanor Day | 8. Molly Taylor |
| 4. William Smith | 9. Alisha-May Badley |
| 5. Lily Fletcher | 10. Mea Finlay |



Quizlet



Duolingo



Easy Languages



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'.

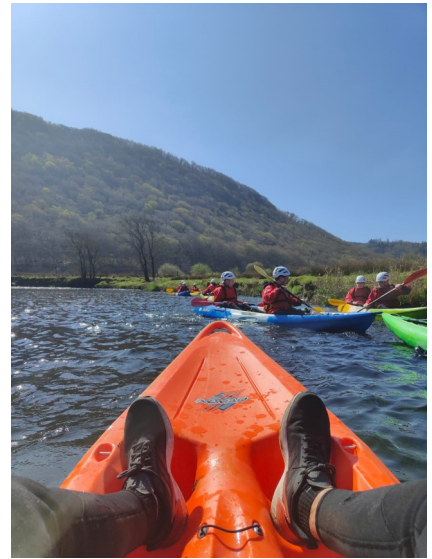
PE

On Monday 27th April, 47 Year 9 pupils visited Plas Dol-Y-Moch, near Blaenau Ffestiniog for a 5 day residential trip in Eryri (Snowdonia National Park).

The pupils completed a variety of activities that challenged them both physically and mentally and demonstrated many of our values, such as endurance, compassion and trust throughout the 5 day trip.

Some of the activities completed were mountaineering, rock climbing/abseiling, underground mine exploration, kayaking, raft building, gorge walking and problem solving.

The pupils were excellent and gained many new skills that will be beneficial for years to come.



Science

Year 7

Over the past half term Year 7 have begun learning about light and sound. They have investigated why sound requires a medium to travel through and why it travels at different speeds in different states of matter.

They then went on to investigate light travelling at straight lines to explain how shadows form and why light gets dimmer when it moves further from its source.

Congratulations to the following pupils whose hard work in Science has resulted in them moving up to a higher set:



Jun to Chan
Kian Rooney
Kayin Lam
Leo Somani
Ryan Critchley
Zachary Peircy
Paul Lau
Jack Parke
Esmail Luxton
Charlie Norris
Nathaniel Grey

Oscar Moores
Cody Doherty
Macy King
Finley Roche
Adam Anwar-Clark
Leah Fox
Madeleine Brown
Joseph Urus
Pak Yan Ho
Zach Parkes
Harvey Montgomery-Gibson

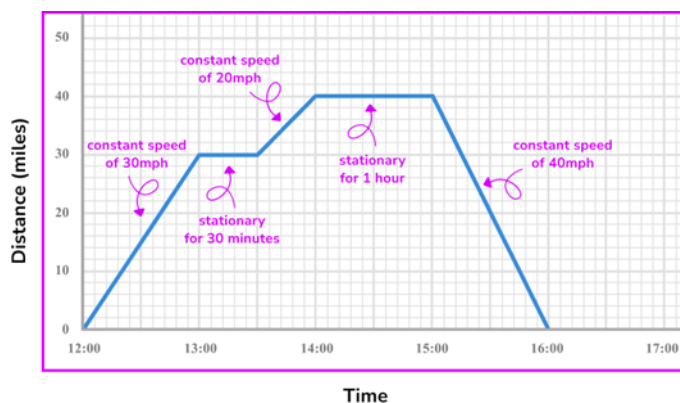
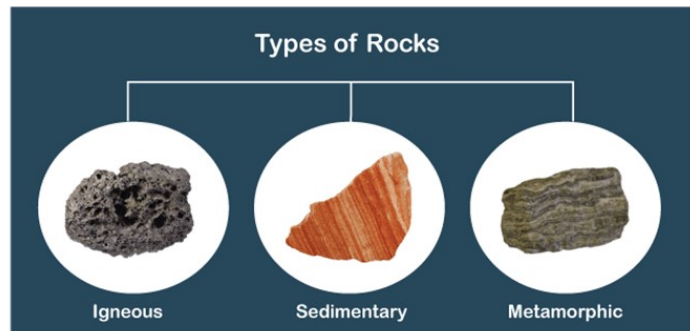
During this half term Year 7 will continue learning about how light enters the eye to allow us to see and will follow in the footsteps of Sir Isaac Newton when investigating the colours of the visual spectrum when white light is split.

They will then build on previous knowledge from Primary school about food webs when studying their biology topic of interdependence.

Science

Year 8

Last half term, Year 8 have studied the structure of the Earth to begin learning how rocks are formed and the characteristics of sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rocks. Pupils investigated the properties of each type and how the cooling rate of magma determines the type of igneous rock formed.



Year 8 have also completed their physics topic of moving by force in which they have built on knowledge of resultant forces from Year 7 to determine speed of objects, from which pupils constructed motion graphs and measured acceleration.

In their biology topic of health and disease, Year 8 have learnt about good health and disease, including the importance of good mental health linked to the well being and mental health support offered by the school.

Year 9

Over the past half term, Year 9 have built on their Year 8 knowledge of interdependence in biology. They have learnt about ecosystem dynamics and the importance of biodiversity. They studied how conservation and sustainability have a role to play in maintaining high biodiversity.



During their physics topic of floating and sinking, Year 9 were introduced to density and carried out investigations to prepare them for their Density GCSE required practical which they will carry out next year.

A standard periodic table of elements, color-coded by groups. The elements are arranged in rows and columns, with their symbols and names. The table includes the Lanthanide and Actinide series at the bottom.

Over the next half term, Year 9 will study the periodic table. They will apply previous learning on elements and compounds to investigate the properties of different groups of elements within the periodic table. This topic will introduce subatomic particle which will lead into the first GCSE unit on atomic structure at the start of Year 10.

Science

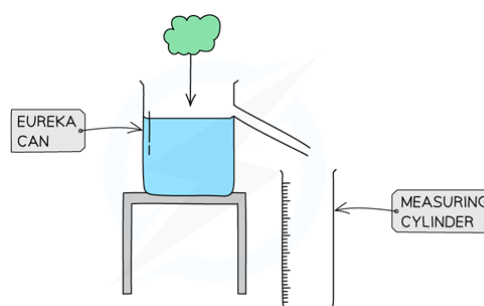
Year 10

In their Biology lessons, Year 10 have been learning about infection and how our immune system responds to pathogens. They have studied different types of pathogen: viruses, bacteria, fungi and protists, including how we can prevent the spread of these pathogens, important lessons for life as well as supporting their GCSE studies.



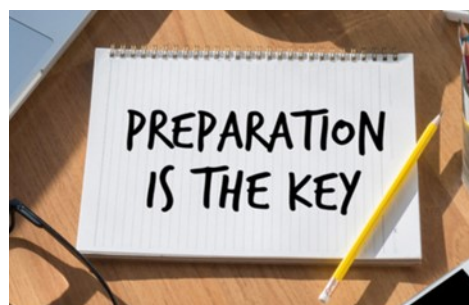
Chemistry lessons have studied chemical changes, with pupils investigating pH scale, the reactions of acids with bases, carbonates and metals. Over the next half term, pupils will go on to investigate energy changes in reactions to identify reactions as endothermic or exothermic.

In the Physics unit of the Particle Model of Matter, pupils have applied understanding of particles from Key Stage 3 to understand internal energy and carried out the Density GCSE required practical. In their next topic later this term, pupils will begin studying how we have developed our understanding of the atomic structure of atoms through the collaboration of different scientists.



Year 11

Year 11 have come to the end of their Science studies and have begun to prepare for their GCSE examinations. The recent structured revision homework linked directly to the Science Subject Site has not only resulted in a much improved use of the Site but has also led to promising GCSE prediction for many pupils who have shown integrity by making the most of this revision resource available only to pupils at Woodchurch High School.



Very best wishes to Year 11 in all of their exams from all of the Science Team, we hope all of that hard work pays off.

Science

Meadowside School

During May, Meadowside School held an Animal Care and Horticulture Futures week. To support them in this, eight pupils from Meadowside School visited Woodchurch High School.

The pupils visited the Animal Care classroom where Ms Marsland and her Year 10 Animal Care class introduced the pupils to Cocoa the two year old royal ball python as well as Victoria and David our bearded dragons.



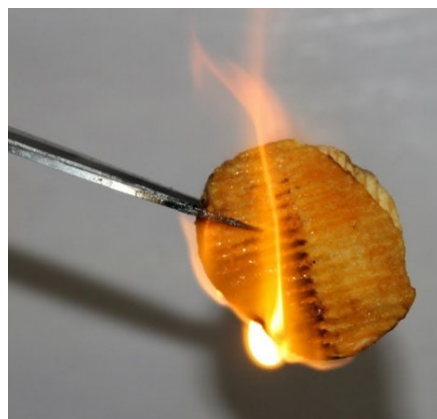
Volunteers: Mariama Jawara, Molly Burns and Summer Harris, three of our Animal Care pupils then showed the pupils to the school farm where they enjoyed seeing the North Ronaldsay sheep, Indian running ducks, alpacas, pigs as well as having an opportunity to handle some rabbits.

Primary Liaison

During May we have had visits from both Townfield and St. Michael's primary schools. Students have taken part in a number of science investigations to help develop their practical skills.

Students particularly enjoyed investigating finding out which crisp stores the most chemical energy by burning them. Students from Townfield have also visited the animals at our farm, to help support their key stage 2 topic at school.

Our Science ambassadors have been a great help with the sessions and showed great service to Woodchurch High School. They were: Briyla-Mae Woods, Samir Al Saqa, Mason King, Tilly Hardman, Harry Harraway, Beau Roberts and Jacob Thorning.



Performing Arts



Year 7

This half term year 7 have begun their Musical theatre topic. Singing in front of your peers can be a daunting thing, especially at High School! However, Mr Fenney and Mr Payne are so proud of the effort and endurance shown by all Year 7 classes in their mature approach to singing. In addition to learning various songs from the Musical Theatre songbook, Year 7 have learnt how to safely use your voice through a warm up.



The year group will soon be moving onto an exciting new Eurovision scheme of work, bespoke to this cohort. Students will continue to develop their singing skills, in addition to utilising the notation skills from previous topics to write their own, original songs! Who knows, maybe we will have the Eurovision 2033 winner in our midst?!

Year 8

Year 8 have started to look at Rap and Hip Hop as their next scheme of work. The students are introduced to different styles of rap such as, Scripted, Improvised and Battle to gain a greater understanding of the genre as a whole. The students are not only looking to develop their rapping and songwriting skills but also look into producing their own rap backing track on the production software, Soundtrap.



Year 8 students have already started to creatively explore and impress the Music department with some of their creations so far. Mr Fenney and Mr Payne cannot wait to see some of the finished tracks to be able to demonstrate their musical ability within this topic.

Performing Arts



Year 9

Ed Sheeran once said that, 'writing songs is like running an unused tap. The first few are rubbish, like brown water, but once you have practised it becomes second nature'. Coming from an international superstar- there is no underestimating the songwriting focus of this topic. Despite this challenge, there has been some outstanding work, including Alex Cullen's 'Burger King' song and Sam White's, 'Artist at Work'. Students have been learning how to write lyrics before introducing rhythm and pitch to create a melody, and chords to create an accompaniment. It's been lovely to see a wide variety of topics covered in the lyrical aspect of the unit with many meaningful and intelligent lyrics put together from some groups.



Others students within Year 9 have been dedicated to independently developing their performance skills. One student who has displayed phenomenal endurance is George Sidall who has taken every opportunity to develop his drumming skills. The Year 9 cohort continue to impress the Music department with their ability to create, and demonstrate endurance within their Music lessons. We cannot wait to see what they achieve in Key Stage 4!

Year 10

Firstly, a huge congratulations to our Year 10 groups who have now finished their first component of the BTEC, which accounts for 30% of their overall grade. They have demonstrated excellent subject knowledge within this unit, studying in-depth a wide variety of musical genres. The second aspect of this unit is more practical based with opportunities to explore the theme of discovery within their musical products. Students had to create three 30-60 clips across three disciplines, (Performing, Composition and production). Using a variety of instruments and recording techniques the students across all year 10 classes for Mr Fenney and Mr Payne have impressed us both with their creation skills. Well done!

Year 11

Year 11 have now completely finished their Music course, having submitted their coursework at the start of May. Their exam is to essentially choose a song and a genre of music from a specified list, and then practically create a cover version of that song. We had fantastic submissions across the board, including Reggae versions of 'Don't Look Back in Anger' and a Pop Ballad-esque, 'Don't Stop Believing'. Year 11 demonstrated all skills picked up in their 2 years of time within Music, showing excellent time management and musicianship when creating their products and the Music department are so proud of the finished products that the students have created. Mr Payne and Mr Fenney would like to say again, a massive well done: and wish you all every success for the future!

Performing Arts



Special mentions

Some special shoutouts to students have represented the Music department in assemblies this term. Ethan Murphy- Year 9 (Lead guitar), Will Fung-Year 10 (Bass) and Alice Grievson- Year 9 (Voice). The students performed brilliantly well in both assemblies and did the music department proud through their own hard work and dedication to the craft. Well done guys.

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, and our popular Choir.

We still continue to offer our Year 10 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.

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



Year 8 continue to make progress towards achieving their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award. Several form groups have recently visited local care homes to provide some entertainment for the residents. Pupils engaged extremely well by helping run the general knowledge quiz, music quiz and bingo competition. It was wonderful to see how the pupils developed character traits such as compassion, integrity, wisdom and hope, specifically when supporting in the dementia unit at Woodheath Care Home. A wonderful experience for our pupils along with making such a difference to the elderly people who reside there.



A number of form groups have been working to clear some of the litter from our local area as a way to create a more environmentally friendly estate. Pupils have developed leadership traits as well as a greater appreciation of working as part of a team.

The final few form challenges will be organised over the next few weeks which will include making afternoon tea for one of our nominated charities, Dementia Together Wirral.

Well done to all our pupils who have completed their challenges so far this year and we look forward to inviting parents and carers in for our Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award Ceremony on the afternoon of July 10th.



Eco Group

Cool Climate Challenge

Eco Committee members Henry, Noah, Catherine, Lacey, Rosie and Adam participated in the first Wirral Schools Enterprise Climate Challenge at the Floral Pavilion. They travelled to the Floral Pavilion and competed against seven Wirral Schools coming in 2nd place!

Pupils were challenged to devise a project to encourage the growth of wildlife and biodiversity in schools and the community. Our Eco Committee decided to build a wild pond in our farm grounds. Rosie and Lacey managed the designs and all of the pupils shared their ideas of how this would benefit the School. Henry and Noah lead the final presentation expressing how pond species will encourage the appearance of even more bio-diverse species. The success of this idea would potentially inspire the council to reopen wildlife preservations.

The panel of Judges included the Mayor of Upton Ward Jerry Williams and his wife Mayoress Irene Williams, Francis Hyland (Coordinator of Eco Schools) and Ling Warlow who lead our paper flower making workshop, in which the pupils' buttercups creations will be exhibited this year.

It was wonderful to hear the announcement from Lynn Struve from Wirral Council of the introduction of the Wirral Schools Eco Committee in which our pupils will be invited to attend to have their say and discuss the actions in which Eco Schools will take to strive for sustainability in our communities.



Eco Group

The Paper Meadow Exhibition

"My practice is about trying to engage children with nature through art." Ling Warlow

Members of our Eco Committee and Art Ambassadors participated in a paper flower making workshop with Ling Warlow (member of the Judge panel at the Cool Climate Challenge) last year and now we finally have the opportunity to see our pupils' creations along with other Wirral Schools, showcased in the Paper Meadow.

The exhibition opens from Saturday 3rd June at the Visitors Centre in Wirral Country Park and will move to the Birkenhead Park Gallery from 1st July.



Farewell to Staff

This term we say goodbye to Mr Hawker-Green who is moving onto a new role in another school. We wish him every success in his new position.



Diary Dates

Friday 26th May 2023	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 29th May 2023 - Friday 2nd June 2023	Half Term Break
Monday 5th June 2023	All pupils return to school
Tuesday 27th June 2023 Thursday 29th June 2023	8X Parents' Evening 8Y Parents' Evening
Thursday 6th July 2023	Farm Summer Fair
Monday 17th July 2023	Positive Behaviour Trips
Tuesday 18th July 2023 Wednesday 19th July 2023 Thursday 20th July 2023	Staff Development Day—school closed to pupils Staff Development Day—school closed to pupils Staff Development Day—school closed to pupils
Friday 21st July 2023 - Friday 1st September 2023	Summer Holidays
Monday 4th September 2023 Tuesday 5th September 2023	Staff Development Day—school closed to pupils School re-opens to all pupils