

WOKINGHAM

NEWS

Issue 4 - December 2024



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WOKINGHAM NEWS



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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you enjoy this term's newsletter, which is undoubtedly packed with highlights. The articles and photos showcase our exceptional students and staff in action over the course of the Autumn term.

Please visit the Bohunt Wokingham YouTube channel which has a video from myself summarising the term, link [HERE](#).

I hope you, and your families, have a relaxing festive break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

JACenGor

<u>Art</u>	<u>Business Studies</u>	<u>Computing</u>	<u>Design & Technology</u>	<u>Drama</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Food Technology</u>
<u>Geography</u>	<u>History</u>	<u>Maths</u>	<u>Modern Foreign Languages</u>	<u>Music</u>	<u>Outdoor Education</u>	<u>Physical Education</u>
<u>Psychology</u>	<u>RS</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>SEND</u>	<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>
<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11</u>	<u>Attendance & Welfare</u>	<u>PSHE</u>	<u>Careers</u>	<u>Student Leadership</u>	<u>House</u>
<u>Awards Evening</u>	<u>Big Expedition</u>	<u>BSWCA</u>	<u>Culture Day</u>	<u>Festive Fusion</u>	<u>Foodbank</u>	<u>Trainees</u>

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ART

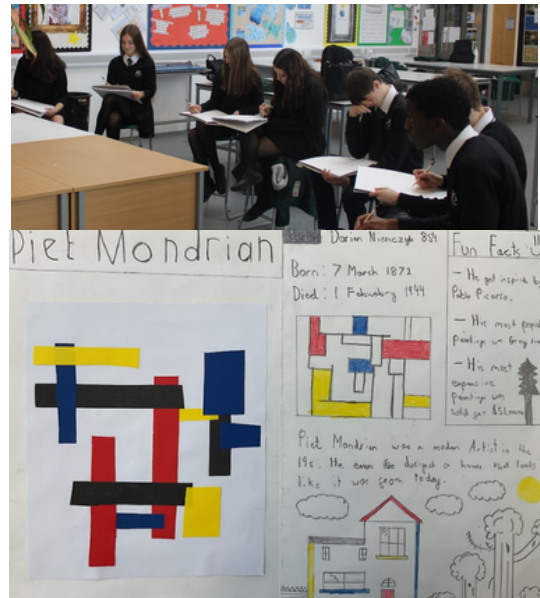
Year 7 have started their year with a thorough introduction to colour and how important it is to understand colour in our subject. They have been studying the work of Hundertwasser to fully embrace all that colour has to offer!

Our Year 8 students have been studying the abstract work of Mondrian, learning that his seemingly basic artwork is far more complicated than meets the eye. We have been having a go at creating our own Mondrian pieces using the artists same method, celebrating things that are important to our families and cultures.



Year 10 Art and Photography students have delved into the world of Natural Form this term, admiring the work of artists and photographers who use this as their source of inspiration, who produce a wide range of outcomes that have inspired us to have a go ourselves.

Our Year 11's have been working very hard to bring their coursework to a close. They have been trying a variety of different techniques to ensure they are working to their strengths, including collagraph printing, impasto painting and some clay work for the Art course. We have had some fantastic final pieces created in their recent mock exams.



Year 9 have been beginning their GCSE Art and Photography courses by studying some of the greats, researching into their techniques and having a go at recreating some of their masterpieces using similar techniques and processes.



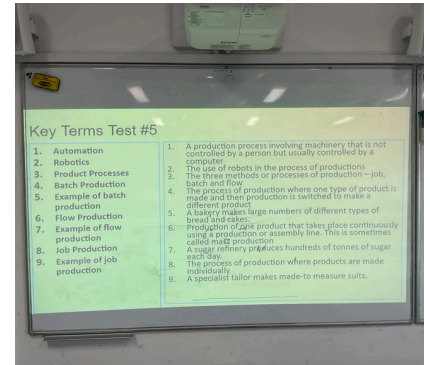
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BUSINESS STUDIES

Our Year 9's have been introduced to the overall idea of what a business does, what an entrepreneur is and the role of marketing this term. To consolidate some of these ideas, in the lead up to Halloween they took part in a Halloween themed 'Design a Drink and Trick or Treat' Project. We were impressed by the creativity and effort shown in this project which gave the students a 'taste' of how they will be required to apply real-world business to the academic concepts we learn.

Year 10 had very successful assessment outcomes in October/ November - well done! They are now focusing on topics around People (Human Resources) and securing ideas from the first unit they studied in Year 9, Business Activity. By studying Business Growth and Business Ownership at this stage they have developed the stronger base understanding required to apply the examples we find when thinking about the ways in which businesses are owned and are able to grow through their own efforts as well as mergers and acquisitions.



Our most senior student group, Year 11, are of course focused on both their Mock exams and their final exams in the summer. We try to keep a range of ways of learning to maintain engagement in what can be a pretty intense year. Classes have frequent keyword tests to secure knowledge from units studied over the previous two years, but we try to balance that with creative ways of remembering the information such as Business-themed Pictionary, Taboo and Dingbats. With a successful round of mocks under their belts, the students are looking at the final brief unit on Influences on Business. This is an opportunity for our students to consider all they have learned so far in a much wider context, such as considering the environmental and ethical impacts of fast fashion.

COMPUTING



Christmas is fast approaching and the new year just ahead of us. The Year 7's are finishing up their topic about how to stay safe online and will continue, in the new year, with first steps in programming and problem solving with scratch, learning about algorithms and computational thinking.

After creating their first homepage with HTML the Year 8's will continue their educational journey starting some programming with Python and taking first steps writing longer programs.



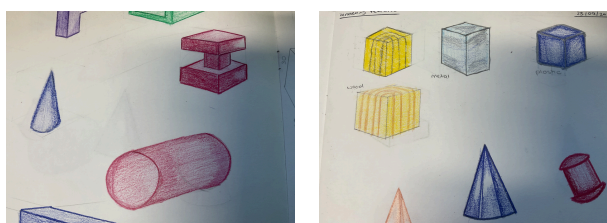
Year 9's in Computing have learned about the systems architecture of computers and primary and secondary storage. During lessons they have had the opportunity to hone their programming skills with Python. Going forward they will continue to improve their programming skills and dive into the mysteries of networks and binary.



Year 10's finished their latest BET assessment and started to learn more about algorithms of sorting and searching and next term will continue learning about protocols and network communication as well as advanced programming techniques.

Finally Year 11, having finished their first mocks, will go on and prepare for the second round of mocks in the new year with recap and revision lessons. All content has been finished so the focus will be on ensuring all students are prepared and ready to excel in their GCSE examinations in the summer.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

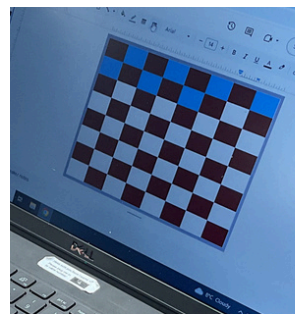
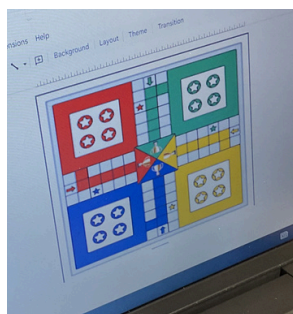


Year 10 have just completed a graphics and drawing project, learning to use isometric, perspective and orthographic techniques. They are now beginning a mock NEA to ready them for the real thing in the summer term.

Year 11 is full steam ahead with their NEA Coursework. Despite the challenges of research, testing, and redesigning, exciting design ideas are taking shape. Manufacturing begins in January – we're looking forward to seeing these exciting projects take shape.

It has been a bustling start in the workshops as we introduce Year 7 to textiles and pop art, Year 8 to computer aided design for their clock projects, and GCSE students to a diverse range of skill-building projects.

Year 9 are completing their wooden travel board game projects with 3D printed and laser cut elements. The meticulous process of creating virtual models in 3D computer-aided design has resulted in some complex and interesting playing pieces.



DRAMA

This term, our students have been busy developing their skills and showcasing their creativity. Year 7 have honed their characterisation and performance techniques, moving on to explore creating atmosphere and scripting mystery plays. Year 8 focused on status and characterisation through *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, finishing the term with impressive monologues and duologues. Year 9 have begun their GCSE journey, exploring theatre practitioners and creating performances based on their theories, before concluding with a deep dive into the *Blackout* play text. Year 10 explored theory through Component 1 and are now performing scripts to prepare for next year's text-based assessments. Year 11 started by performing their devised GCSE pieces and are now focusing on their coursework, with a big congratulations to them for submitting their first GCSE piece.



We had a fantastic trip to see *Wonder Boy* in Southampton with Year 9 and 10, followed by a workshop with the Prospect Theatre Company, which provided valuable devising techniques. It was great to have an ex-student join us as part of the workshop. Looking ahead, we have upcoming performances and house competitions – keep an eye out for more details! Finally, our CCA Drama Club and Performing Scripts students took part in our Christmas show *Festive Fusion* showcasing their talents.

Keep up the excellent work, everyone!

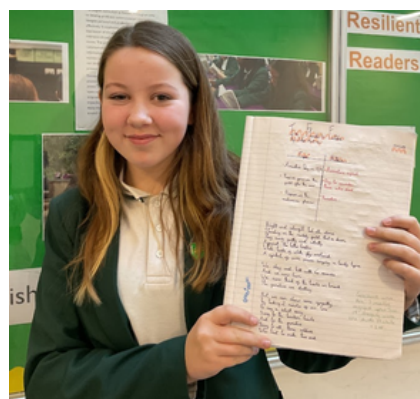
ENGLISH

It has been a busy start to the term for Year 7 students in English. They have studied origin myths, legends, and are now moving on to study modern fantasy, such as Harry Potter. Here are some of Miss Trinder's class writing descriptions inspired by the Forbidden Forest!



They have worked extremely hard to 'upgrade' their vocabulary and use figurative language techniques to make their writing really effective.

To mark this year's Remembrance Day, Year 8 students wrote their own poems inspired by John McCrea's 'In Flanders Fields.' They have been studying poetic techniques and how to communicate an important message to their reader.



Year 9 students have begun to read Susan Hill's 'The Woman in Black.' Published in 1983, these students will be interrogating how well it holds up as Gothic literature against canonical titles such as 'Dracula,' 'Frankenstein' and 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde.'



It may be a little early in the year for some, but Year 10 students have recently finished reading their second GCSE text, 'A Christmas Carol.' They have studied Scrooge's transformation from 'old sinner' to 'angel' and learned all about the context of Victorian Britain.

The English Department are all very impressed with how our Year 11's handled their first mock exams! They have been working hard on both Literature and Language Paper 1, memorising quotations from Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and analysing writers' uses of language. We wish them all the best in their next set of mocks.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

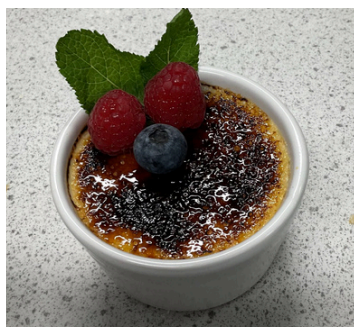
Year 7 have been re-living their Open Evening experience, by trying their hand at making their own doughballs with dips of their choice. These all seemed to disappear really fast and gave the canteen a run for their money!



Year 8 had their first ever Practical BET Assessment where they had full creative control over planning and making their own salad dishes. This was their first try at professional presentation and we think they did an amazing job!

Year 10 have started their Food Science theory topic, and are getting to grips with the difference between Enzymic and Non Enzymic browning and recapping their scientific knowledge of Enzymes, digestion, and heat transfer.

Year 9 have finished their bread module, and are moving on to the much trickier pastry skills - this has really been a test of the accuracy of their weighing and their knowledge of ratios - who knew Food was so Cross curricular?!



Year 11 impressed with their practice exams, and demonstrated a huge range of skills in readiness for their final 3 hour practical. Hopefully, this means they can give some of you a rest over the Christmas break and take over the cooking. We can't wait to see what they create in their finals!

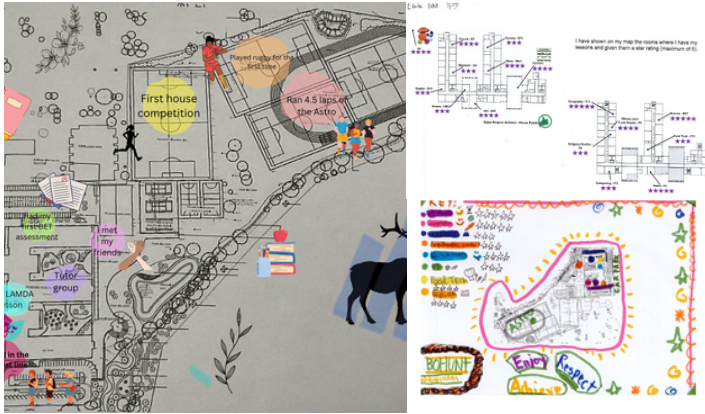
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GEOGRAPHY

Selsey Field Trip

At the start of the year, Year 11 students conducted human and physical geography fieldwork in Selsey, studying coastal management strategies and tourism facilities. Blessed with great weather, students demonstrated excellent geographical skills, gaining practical experience to prepare for their Paper 3 exam in the summer.

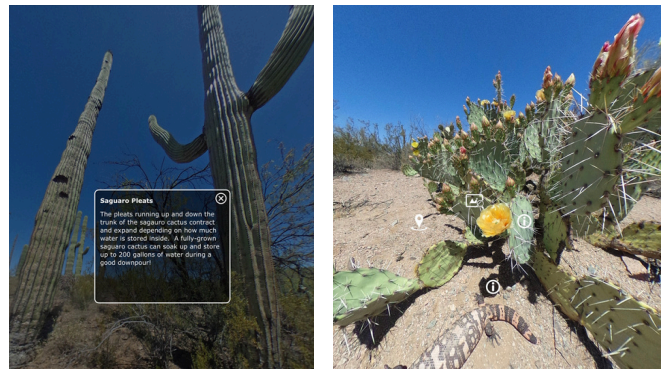


Inter-House Map Competition

This term, Mr Chambers led our first inter-house Geography competition, where students created maps of the school reflecting their experiences. This helped them connect emotions to places - an important concept in geography. We received fantastic entries, and winners will be announced soon!

Technology in Geography

We've embraced technology to bring geography to life. Year 9 students explored hot deserts and rainforests using VR, while Year 10 used Google Earth to study urban issues in Bristol. These tools have enriched students' understanding by immersing them in real-world environments.



Geoguessr Club

Our weekly Geoguessr Club continues to thrive, now featuring a geographical quiz before the game. Last week, a Year 11 student hosted a fantastic quiz! Excitingly, Bohunt Wokingham is preparing to challenge other trust schools in a Geoguessr competition - stay tuned!

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HISTORY

Our Year 7 Historians have been exploring the role of castles in controlling England after 1066. They've impressed us with creative and detailed castle models, and we look forward to seeing the rest of their fantastic projects.



This term, some of our Year 8 Historians had the exciting opportunity to visit the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton to watch War Horse. The production was moving, and students behaved impeccably. This ties beautifully into their upcoming studies on WWI and WWII, where they will create trench models and explore the impacts of war.



Year 9 students have started their GCSE History journey with enthusiasm, examining the Black Death and Great Plague as part of the Medicine topic. Meanwhile, Year 10 Historians are delving into the Cold War, sparking excellent discussions about the Cuban Missile Crisis and its potential outcomes.

Lastly, we celebrated Black History Month with fantastic student contributions to our assemblies, including a heartfelt story from Mrs Callaghan about her mother-in-law's experience moving to England.

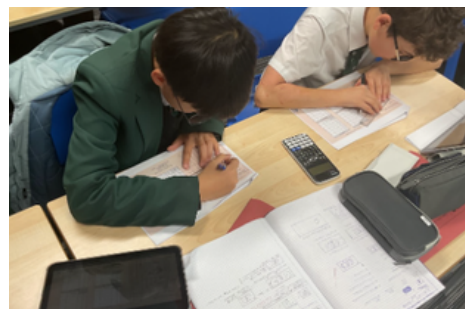


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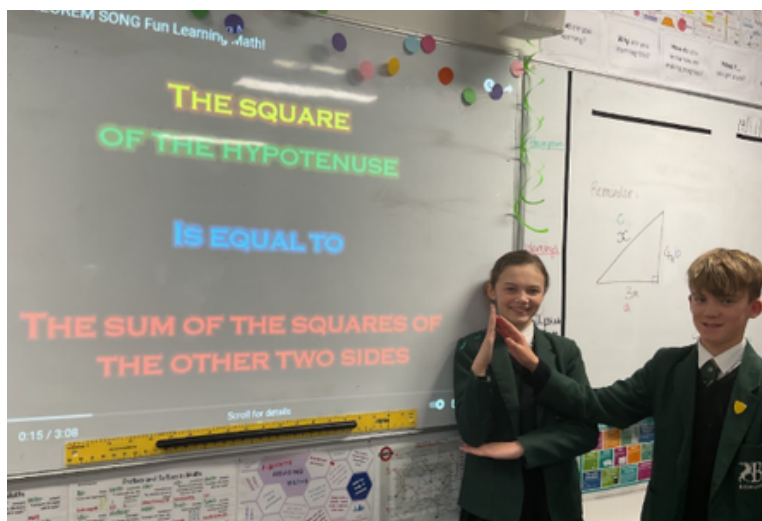
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MATHS

Year 7 students have settled into their new classes and are currently working on factors and prime numbers. They are learning how to identify prime numbers and explore their importance in number theory.



Year 8 students have just wrapped up a unit on financial mathematics. In one of the fun and engaging activities, some students explored the idea of budgeting by planning a holiday to a Christmas market. This project helped them understand concepts like budgeting, exchange rates, and how to manage money effectively. With Year 8 BET assessment coming up please encourage your child to revise using the revision list on Showbie using the Sparx codes.



In Year 9, students have been learning about Pythagoras' Theorem. To make the formula easier to remember, some students have been using a creative song to help them commit the key equation to memory. It's great to see such enthusiasm for both learning and music!

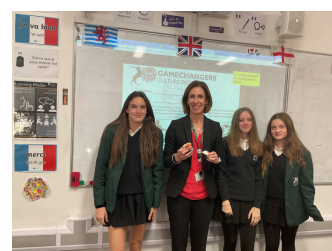
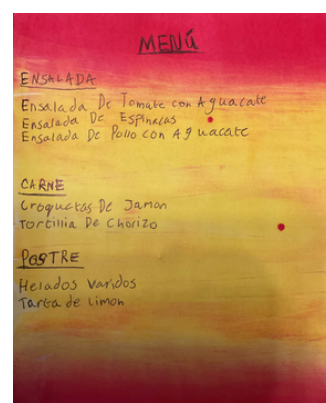
Year 10 students have been studying trigonometry this term. They have been investigating trigonometric ratios (sine, cosine, and tangent) through hands-on activities, including measuring lengths in right-angled triangles. This practical approach helps solidify their understanding of the core concepts and their real-world applications.

This term, Year 11 students have completed their maths mock exams. These mock examinations provide an important opportunity for students to practise exam techniques and identify areas where they may need further revision ahead of their final GCSE's.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spanish: ¡Que fantástico! The Spanish projects we've been getting are *increíble*! We've had illustrated maps of Spanish-speaking countries, models of monuments, and a range of amazing foods, including paella, churros, tortilla and even some full tapas meals! Pupils have made Spanish-speaking fantasy football teams, hand-illustrated posters and menus, historical timelines, and artwork inspired by famous artists. ¡Muy creativo!



French: Oh là là! Our students have showcased incredible talent with their French projects, from Eiffel Towers and Arcs de Triomphe made of various materials to delicious crêpes and mille-feuilles, handcrafted games, creative menus, videos, and even a paper model Concorde. Fantastique work all around!

Mandarin: On 5th December, 75 students visited Showcase cinema in Winnersh for a screening of the Mandarin movie YOLO. It was an engaging experience, allowing them to enjoy the language and culture while enhancing their Mandarin skills - a true highlight of our language program!

MUSIC

Year 7 have started to work on ensemble skills, putting together versions of both 'Wimoweh' and 'Jingle Bells'. It has been great to see the collaboration coming through.



We have had a busy half term in the Music Department. Students in Year 8 have been creating their own raps, learning about different styles of rap and how to layer raps with basslines, hooks and lyrics as well as the all important beats.

Outside of the classroom, we were very proud of our students who took part in the Carol Service at St Eligius Church recently. It was great to see our students performing in the community and thank you to all the parents who also supported us.



We also brought back the house Christmas songs, with students from every house coming together to record in the first week of December. They all did a fantastic job and the students will get to hear their outcomes very soon!

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Our students have been honing their outdoor skills through curriculum-based activities, including fire-building sessions. Under the guidance of our experienced instructors, students learned how to safely construct and light a fire, an essential survival skill and a great way to foster self-reliance and patience. These sessions are always a favourite, sparking a sense of accomplishment and plenty of marshmallow toasting opportunities!



Our students are making excellent progress with their Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Bronze Awards, showcasing their commitment to personal development and adventure. Participants have been diligently working through the various sections of the program, including volunteering, physical activities, and skill-building. As we approach the new year, excitement is building for the expedition phase.

The first half of the Autumn term saw groups of Year 8 students undertaking their paddle start and discover awards. Paddleboarding is a fun and engaging activity, and is perfect for building confidence, balance, and a love for water sports. Hawley Lake provides an ideal environment for exploration and learning, and the students have different areas to explore each of their 3 week sessions. Sessions included guidance from experienced instructors and plenty of time to enjoy the water.



With so many exciting opportunities, there's something for everyone in the Outdoor Education Department. Whether it's skiing down snowy slopes, exploring Welsh landscapes, or learning survival skills, we're committed to providing enriching and memorable experiences.

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

So far this academic year we have already seen over 400 pupils represent the school in a sport.

Since September we have won the following:

UI6 Girls RSFA Rugby Champions

UI4 Girls RSFA Rugby Champions

UI4 Girls Love Rugby Festival Champions (Hosted by Reading RFC)

UI4 Girls Bath Rugby Festival Champions (hosted by Reading Abbey)



We have also been successful in winning the following:

UI6 Boys RSFA Rugby Champions

UI5 Boys RSFA Rugby Champions

UI4 Boys RSFA Rugby Champions

UI2 Boys Reading Abbey Tournament Champions

And have been runners up in:

UI6 RSFA Girls Football League

UI4 RSFA Girls Football League

UI3 RSFA Rugby League



We had the privilege of hosting an inclusive primary school event at the beginning of December and our pupils really made us proud. They demonstrated exceptional leadership and enthusiasm, working together to help run the event, motivating the primary school pupils whilst they participated.

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PSYCHOLOGY

Year 9 are now half way through their first GCSE topic, Criminal Psychology! They have been studying crime in geographical areas of interest to them, and learning about their first theory: the Social Learning Theory. Year 9 were also tasked with planning their own research studies into whether video games can 'teach' aggression in young children, following completing their first GCSE study, Cooper and Mackie. They have also researched the different attitudes to punishment and rehabilitation around the world, specifically looking at the differences between Norway and North America.

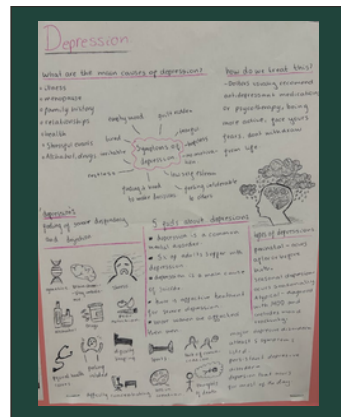
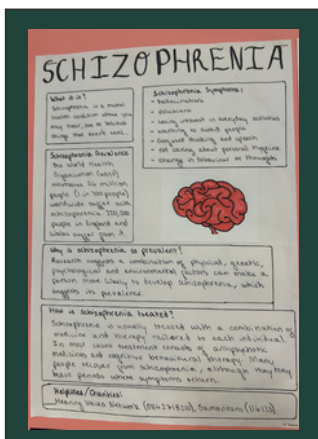
**America
Punishment**



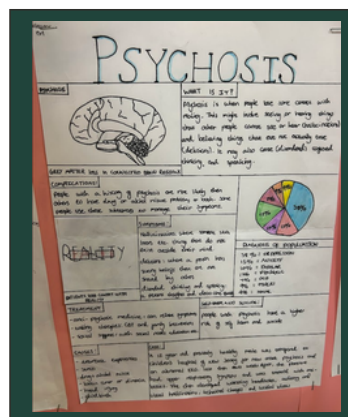
**Norway
Punishment**



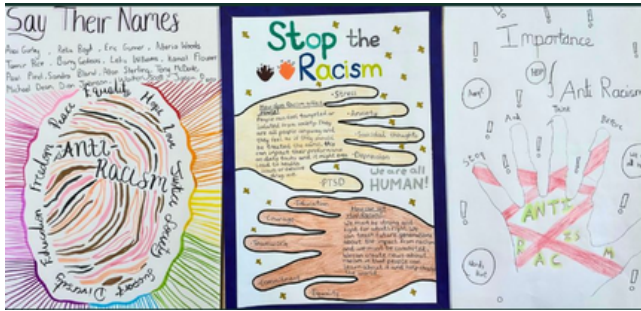
Year 10 are coming to the end of their Psychological Problems topic, where they have learnt about depression and schizophrenia, and contrasting theories and studies into these illnesses. They have produced research posters on areas of mental health that interest them, and learned about the true story of Nathaniel Ayres a violinist at Julliard School of Music who lost his position and status due to stigma and the discrimination relating to schizophrenia. Students were saddened and shocked that this was a true story.



Year 11 have completed their mock exams and have started to delve into the world of Sleep and Dreaming, including learning about REM sleep, the neurobiology behind sleep and the weird and wonderful world of Sigmund Freud!



RELIGIOUS STUDIES



The Religious Studies department has had an engaging and insightful term, with students across all year groups diving into fascinating topics that explore the richness and diversity of faith, belief, and their impact on society.

Year 7 began their journey into the early origins of religion and belief, investigating how early humans attempted to contact ancestors and express spirituality. This foundation has set the stage for their current in-depth study of Christian beliefs, focusing on how these influence behaviours and daily life. They are particularly enjoying their creative projects, which explore the Incarnation and bring to life the lead-up to Christmas, capturing the excitement and joy this season holds for Christians.

Year 8 have been tackling the important topics of prejudice and discrimination, discussing their societal impact and brainstorming ways to challenge these issues. These discussions beautifully tied into our recent Culture Day activities, emphasising respect and understanding across communities. Students have now shifted their focus to Judaism, delving into its core beliefs and exploring how Jewish practices and traditions shape the lives of followers in the UK today.

Year 9 have made great strides in their GCSE studies, recently completing their first unit on Christianity. They particularly enjoyed discussing evil and suffering. This thought-provoking subject has encouraged deep reflection and debate on how these challenges influence Christian beliefs in contemporary society.

Meanwhile, Year 10 and 11 have been working hard preparing for their mock exams. Their efforts have paid off, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements so far. With just five months to go before their Short and Full Course exams, they are well on their way to success!

This term has been an inspiring one, and we are excited to see students continue to grow in their understanding of religion, belief, and their relevance in the world today.

SCIENCE

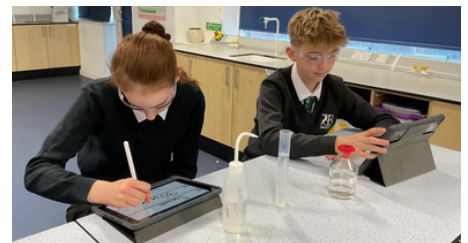
Year 7 began the year with a short course on safety in the science lab – including the ever-popular skill of lighting a Bunsen burner. This term, they have also studied the fundamental key ideas in science of particles, cells and organisms, and energy - laying strong foundations for their future science studies.

Year 8 have had the opportunity for plenty of practical work through the topic of Chemical Reactions, going on to study the processes of photosynthesis and respiration and how they are essential to life on Earth.

In biology, Year 9 began their GCSE course with the key topic of Cells, building up to study Organisation. Many classes have already been fascinated by dissections of hearts and of fish gills. Year 10 biologists have been studying Infection and Response, while Year 11 have learnt how our bodies control internal conditions in the topic of Homeostasis.



Our Year 8, Year 10 and Year 11 students have all impressed us with their positive attitude to their assessments this term, and the focus of Year 11 in their November Mocks. Students across all year groups have dedicated themselves to retrieval practice routines for homework.



SEND



This term some of our Year 7 students were invited to take part in our outdoor intervention to support students in realising their full potential. Collaborating with the pastoral team, we created small groups of students who would benefit from guidance beyond the traditional classroom setting. During the intervention students have been taught essential skills - such as resilience, communication, teamwork, and leadership that students can apply both inside and outside the classroom.



Students have engaged in a diverse set of outdoor skills, including fire lighting, outdoor cooking, environmental stewardship, sustainable practices, shelter construction, navigation, and whittling.

These practical skills are thoughtfully integrated with character education, equipping students with valuable life skills that extend far beyond the outdoor setting.



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YEAR 7

As the term draws to a close, we are delighted to share some of the fantastic achievements of our Year 7 students. It has been a remarkable term filled with hard work, enthusiasm, and team spirit, and we couldn't be prouder of our students.



Year 7 have collectively demonstrated their commitment to excellence by earning an impressive 30,170 House Points this term! This incredible total is a testament to their positive attitudes, effort in lessons, and willingness to contribute to our school community. Well done to everyone for their hard work and determination.

A huge congratulation to our Under 12 basketball team, who took home the trophy at this term's tournament. Their teamwork, skill, and resilience were evident throughout the competition, and they have set a wonderful example of dedication and sportsmanship for their peers. Year 7 students have embraced co-curricular opportunities with enthusiasm, participating in a wide range of clubs, from sports and drama to board games and art, showcasing their diverse talents and interests.



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YEAR 8

Year 8 students have demonstrated a strong commitment to their studies. We've seen great enthusiasm in class discussions, insightful contributions to group work, and impressive individual efforts across all subjects. Many students have already shown significant progress in their academic work, with an excellent attitude to learning.



This term has also seen a fantastic range of extra-curricular activities, with Year 8 students stepping up to participate in everything from sports teams to drama productions, music groups, and clubs. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been inspiring, and many students have enjoyed the opportunity to explore new interests and talents outside of the classroom.

We are particularly proud of our sports teams, who have represented the school with pride and determination in a number of competitive events, including reaching the final of the Year 8 Rugby League by being undefeated on their journey and having a 65% winning rate in netball. Whether on the field or on a netball court, Year 8 students have shown what teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship are all about.



I would also like to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support and involvement. Your encouragement plays a vital role in our students' success, and together, we can continue to help them thrive in their academic journey.

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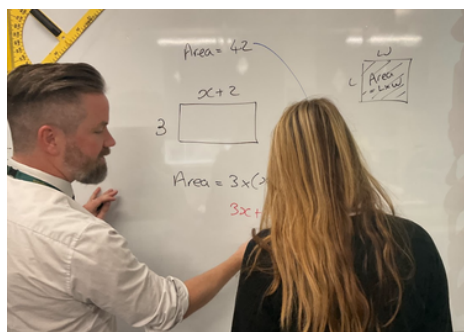
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YEAR 9

As our first term of the 2024-25 school year comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Year 9 for the notable successes we have witnessed across the year group. Their collective efforts have been exemplary, demonstrating exceptional teamwork, enthusiasm, and a strong commitment to achieving outstanding results. It is our hope that these achievements will continue to flourish throughout the remainder of the year.

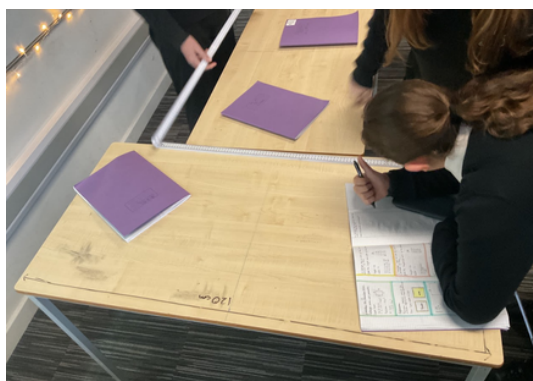
Firstly, we would like to commend the entire year group for accumulating over 19,000 House Points in this first term. This is a remarkable accomplishment and serves as a testament to the hard work and dedication of each and every student.

In addition to this, Year 9 students have made an excellent start to their GCSE courses. It has been particularly encouraging to witness the effort they have put into their studies, as well as the enthusiasm they have shown in lessons. The positive attitude and commitment to their learning is commendable.



On an individual note, we would like to congratulate Jem and Isabella, who have been selected for the application day for the Wheeler Programme at Wellington College. This is a tremendous achievement, and we wish them the very best of luck with their applications.

Looking ahead, we would like to encourage all Year 9 students to continue striving for excellence in their academic pursuits. In addition, we urge them to make the most of the wide range of extra-curricular activities available, as these experiences are invaluable in fostering both personal growth and a well-rounded education.



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YEAR 10

As we draw closer to the Christmas period, there is a huge amount that we can reflect on and be impressed with from a Year 10 perspective.

This year, a handful of our Year 10 students represented our school in the Bohunt Maths Challenge and came out as winners on the day.

This is a huge accomplishment against some serious competition so well done to Andrew, Calum, Surya, Stephanie, Simi, Megan and Erin for their hard work at Wellington College earlier this term.



Photography competition congratulations to Surya who came first place in the Bohunt Wokingham Autumn Photography competition. There were lots of incredibly strong competition with entries from all of the year groups and we are incredibly proud that our winner was one of our Year 10 students. Huge well done Surya!



Well done to all of the Year 10 students who completed their first real Mock exam. We were so proud to hear about all the revision and preparation that our students did. It really did show and we hope that the results that come back are reflective of all your hard work. You have all absolutely earned a relaxing Christmas break!

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YEAR 11

As we draw to the end of the first term of Year 11 we would like to reflect on the amazing opportunities and work of the students during this term. From sporting successes to mocks, Year 11 have really hit the ground running and we hope to see the enthusiasm they are showing continue into the New Year.



We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the U16's Rugby Team for winning the RSFA League. The team once again proved their dominance on the field, concluding an extraordinary season with a fourth consecutive league title and an exciting journey to the County Cup Final.

A huge well done to all the team who have played this year : Aidn, Ben R, Adam, Austin, Owen, Pranay, Malachi, Jack, Brychan, Josh, Ben S, James, Tom, Theo, Dan, Steven, Alfie and the few Year 10's that have made a brave endeavour to play up a year.

We want to also show our admiration for all of the Year 11's who attended masterclasses through the half term break to support their revision for their mocks. This demonstrated fantastic commitment from them.



Lastly we want to applaud the year group for their fantastic conduct and effort during the mock period, it was great to see so many of them engaged with their studies and trying so hard to succeed. This included NEA practices, which we thoroughly enjoyed visiting the students who were practising their cooking skills.

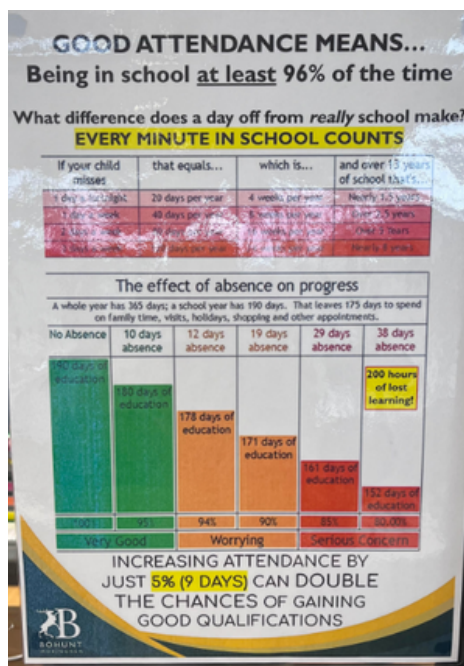
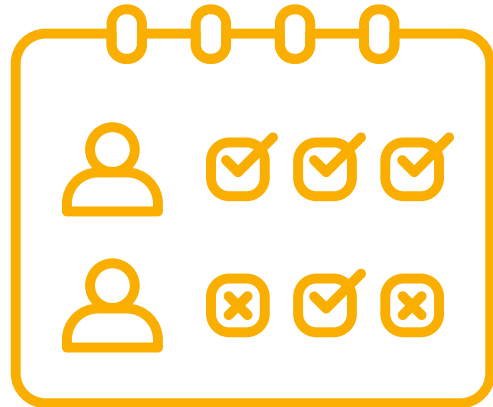


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ATTENDANCE & WELFARE

This term has seen Bohunt Wokingham have the best whole school attendance (94.98%) across the nine trust schools for the months of September and October. The whole school attendance for those months was higher than the same months in 2023. This shows the hard work of the students in understanding the importance of attending school as much as possible and we thank the parents for their support in attendance so far this academic year.



In regards to Year group attendance, Year 7 have been top of the attendance table from day one and we look forward to seeing that year group carry that on during their time at Bohunt. Year 8 have made improvements this year and are currently in 2nd place, with Year 9 and Year 10 just behind them. Year 11 have an important year and you can see the efforts they are putting in so far this year.

As of the 27th November, there are 377 students who achieved 100% attendance and 885 students who achieved 96%+ attendance well done to all those students!

Well DONE

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PSHE

This term, Year 7 to Year 11 students have been focusing on 'Living in the Wider World', exploring various themes that build on their self-awareness, aspirations, and life skills.

7

In Year 7, students have embarked on a journey of self-discovery centred around understanding themselves and their aspirations. Students have been introduced to various careers and professions and learnt how individual skills and personalities can align with different job types.

Year 8 have expanded their understanding of careers and the diverse opportunities available to them. As students start to consider what option they are going to choose, students have examined various post-16 education pathways and what subjects will complement their future career aspirations.

8

9

Year 9 have honed in on skills necessary for employability and decision-making, which will prepare students for successful transitions to higher education or the workforce.

Year 10 students explored a critical aspect of personal development which is financial decision making. This exploration highlights the importance of understanding the implications of one's financial choices.

10

11

Year 11 students have focused and been supported with their application processes and how to manage their online reputation - which is critically important for their career progression.

CAREERS

Specific events and activities related to career development are provided for each year group and delivered via the tutor programme, PSHE curriculum and embedded within specific subjects. In addition, students explore the world of work and gain insights into different aspects of employment via assemblies, trips and visits from outside employers.

Year 7

Complete the Future Skills Questionnaire, a National survey that establishes a benchmark for career readiness skills, identifying strengths and weaknesses, to aid further development, up until Year 11.

They will discover the World of Work as part of their PSHE programme. Along with External employer encounters via assemblies, drop down days and visitors with specific subject areas.



Year 8

Attend events during National Apprenticeship week including the National online BIG breakfast event. Will be attending our Bohunt Wokingham Careers Fair to enhance encounters with future employers and sixth form providers. Attendance at the Year 8 Options evening to gain insight into courses to make informed GCSE option choices.



Year 9

Experience a mock interview day. A Career focussed Tutor programme, setting short and long term personal, academic and career goals.



Year 10

Attend Bohunt Wokingham Careers Fair to enhance encounters with future employers and sixth form providers. Complete a 2 day Work Experience programme during Game Changers week, providing all students with an opportunity to enhance their understanding of how a real workplace situation operates. Attend assemblies related to sixth form providers; College and Apprenticeship options and wider life skills.

Year 11

Attend Career Advisors interview; receive a linked report to use to build a portfolio to enable next steps. Participate in mock interview day. The Tutor programme includes coaching for college applications and allows time to expand understanding of pathways into various sectors of employment.

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STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The start of this academic year has seen our various different student leaders adopt roles to support, and further, the school community. We welcomed our new Senior Student Leadership Team that consists of Chloe, Clarice, Daniel, Lara and Veva, all of which has made an admirable start to their tenure. The team have supported admirably at our Festival of Learning and open mornings, presented in assemblies and met with key members of the trust to name a few. The team also played pivotal roles in leading the 'Student Voice', chairing the meetings, and Food Hamper House competition.

We saw a new format to our 'Student Voice' meetings this term, with student representatives from each tutor group attending a meeting to discuss the students' views on our school community. All students approached this with great maturity, presenting some key feedback in the process. At the time of writing, our student council will be in the process of being elected, prior to feeding back proposed changes to the Senior Leadership Team.



A new student leadership role that was initiated within the summer term was our Year 10 Mentors. This role is to support students that are transitioning from primary to secondary school. 62 students underwent a day's training before supporting the students on their transition day in the summer. This work then continued into this academic year with the mentors based within tutor groups as additional support. The student's have shown overwhelming dedication towards their training and undertaking of the role.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who have supported our school community by becoming a student leader, or supporting the team and school. Aside from the successes mentioned above, we also had a total of 244 students help at our Festival of Sport, a vivid demonstration of the dedication and passion our students have for the Bohunt Wokingham community.

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HOUSE

This term at Bohunt Wokingham has seen a fast and frantic start to our House Cup 2024-25. With a number of competitions taking place across a variety of faculties, we have seen our school community amass an incredible 115,162 positive ERA house points across all five houses.

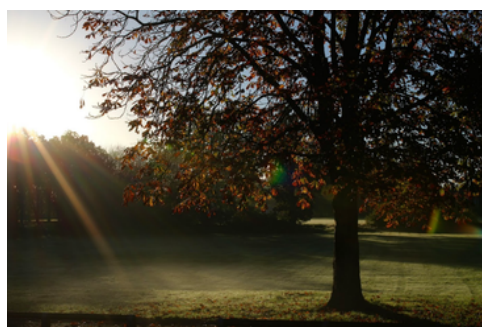
1st place - Nightingale, 2nd Place - Madiba, 3rd Place - Turing, 4th Place - Einstein, 5th Place - Bolt

On National Fitness Day, we saw Year 8 competing at a range of physical challenges within their PE lessons. Students were tested on their power, coordination, cardiovascular and muscular endurance with Bolt being crowned winners with 3502 points!

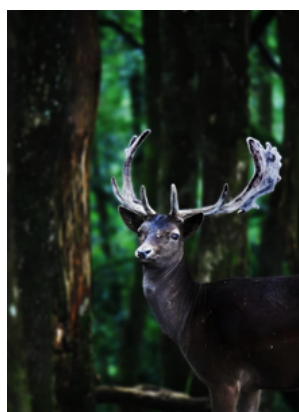
Our Humanities department ran a Black History Month competition. The competition required Year 7 to design and create a poster surrounding work completed within their History lessons. A big congratulations to Isadora and Ashmi who came second and third respectively. Our winner, however, was Lola with this fantastic submission.



As the darker days set in, the Art department ran their Autumn Photography competition which saw a plethora of high quality images taken by students across all year groups. The staff body voted for their favourite, resulting in the top three consisting of the following photos, with Surya K being crowned the winner:



1st - Surya K



2nd- Shravan S



3rd- Jack A

I would like to thank all students and staff who have participated in, and contributed to, the running of all our House events this term. I look forward to announcing the current house standings within our ERA assemblies at the end of term. May the best house win!

AWARDS EVENING



On November 12th, we celebrated our Annual Awards Evening, recognising the hard work and achievements of students from 2023-2024. This year, we broke records with 14 current students receiving awards alongside former Year 11's, showcasing exceptional dedication across subjects and whole school categories.

A highlight of the evening was welcoming VIP's from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), who presented three special awards in honor of the site's Arborfield Garrison history. This tradition connects our school to its rich heritage while celebrating the successes of our students.



Congratulations to our winners: Rory W (English), Alex T (MFL), Ella R (Humanities), Emmi M (RE), Rebecca M (Maths), Henry W (Computing), Matthew S (Science), Amelie E (STEM), Kyia I (Art/Photography), Pranay D (Performing Arts), Isaac S (PE), Eloise M (Bolt), Elissa D (Einstein), Samuel M (Madiba), Diyan S (Nightingale), Daniel D (Turing), Vavaan K (Resilience), Chloe M (Collaboration), Alfie B (Innovation), Shaan S (Headteacher), Cherry P (Community Award), Simren S (Enjoy), Noel B (Respect), Cheuk Kiu C (Achieve), Esme M (Everest), Owen K (Game Changer), Yasmin C (BET).

BIG EXPEDITION

In July 2024, 19 students and 3 teachers left Bohunt Wokingham to embark on the adventure of a lifetime: a conservation trip to Thailand.



"As soon as I first heard about this trip, I knew that I really wanted to take part as I have had a passion for marine biology for my whole life. A big part of the trip was to fundraise all the money needed to go. In order to fundraise the money, I hosted sweepstakes for family and friends, made Christmas tags and chocolate jars to sell, sold old clothes and toys on eBay and also got a part time job"



"One of my favourite parts of the trip was when we went to an elephant sanctuary and got to feed and walk with elephants. We prepared slices of watermelon and made rice balls for them to eat. We then walked with them down to the river where we watched them bathe" - Jake W



"During our stay on the island of Koh Tao, in the gulf of Thailand, we learnt how to scuba dive and achieved our PADI Open Water and Advanced Diving certificates. We learnt a lot about local marine life and the importance of ocean conservation by having lectures and doing a clean up dive."



"As well as learning to dive, we went on hikes and runs, exploring the island further. We learnt how to cook Massaman curry, spring rolls and pad Thai in a local cookery school, which I must say tasted amazing!" - Chloe D

THANK YOU...

It's all change this term for the BSWCA (Bohant School Wokingham Community Association). A HUGE thank you to the outgoing committee who kept our 'PTA' going through difficult times, through and post Covid. I would like to mention the key committee members by name as it can be a rather thankless, anonymous task and I am sure you will join me in showing our appreciation for all they did:

Kitty Fok - for running the Second Hand Uniform shop so diligently for so long. She is still regularly to be seen in school sorting through and bagging up various items to be collected on a Friday.

Victoria Holford - for maintaining the accounts and facilitating the various purchases for the school and pupils.

Katie Harrison - for acting as Secretary at all the meetings and playing her role in supporting the BSWCA.

New projects supported this term:



Games to support students in the SEND learning centre. Thank you for all your kind donations. We really appreciate them.



Outdoor storage container to protect the equipment used by the Outdoor Education department at Hawley Lake.

...& WELCOME!

Chair: Samantha Lamb
Vice-Chair: Kelly Price
Secretary: Nicola Brading
Treasurer: Amit Shrivastava
IT and Communication: Grace Hou, Emma Wall
Uniform Sale Officer: Kitty Fok
Committee Member: Pamela Zabbia

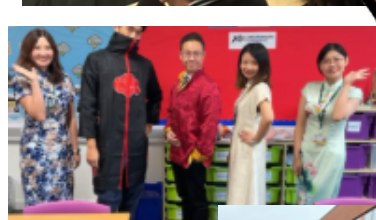
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CULTURE DAY

On Friday, November 8th, our school community embraced diversity and unity through the observance of Culture Day. This inclusive event highlighted the cultural richness present among students and staff, providing an engaging platform to celebrate the many backgrounds that contribute to our educational environment. The theme for this year's celebrations was "We are more similar than different," which served as a poignant reminder of the shared humanity that transcends cultural boundaries.

One way we celebrated was staff dressed up to represent various cultures. The school corridors were filled with colour and creativity as individuals wore traditional costumes, clothing, or accessories reflecting their heritage. This initiative not only encouraged personal expression but also fostered an atmosphere of respect and curiosity. The diverse array of outfits prompted discussions between staff and students, allowing individuals to share the stories and significance behind their chosen attire.



The centrepiece of Culture Day was the creation of a Diversity Mural, symbolising the unity that comes from our differences. All Key Stage 3 students and staff were invited to participate by decorating handprints that would contribute to a larger mural displaying our cultural mosaic. Each handprint represented an individual story, creating a physical manifestation of our diversity.

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FESTIVE FUSION

Our largest performance this half term has been Festive Fusion, our Christmas show, which combined Music, Drama and Dance to showcase some of the work that the students have been working on in their co-curricular groups. It was the culmination of the term's work and highlighted the collaboration and dedication of the students.



From the performers to the behind-the-scenes crew, each person brought their best to the stage, and it was clear that everyone gave their all. The teamwork, dedication, and energy were evident throughout the entire performance. Every individual played a key role in making the show a success, and they all truly shone in their respective roles, including the AV team, running the sound and lighting.

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FOODBANK DONATIONS



Thank you so much to everyone who made food donations to the Foodbank. We were overwhelmed with the amount we received.

Wokingham Foodbank would also like to thank you all for your kind generosity of donations, that will go towards families in need at this difficult time.



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TRAINEE TEACHERS

Our trainee teachers have gotten fully into the swing of things with us and are progressing really well through their course. They are now confident to be able to take over lessons and impart knowledge to students in new, exciting, and innovative ways.

Yuxuan Peng - Mandarin Trainee Teacher "I am a Mandarin trainee with Bohunt Trust this year. I am very happy that I came to Bohunt Wokingham for my placement, and I am enjoying my teaching in this school as the students are all well-behaved and polite. I hope I can improve my teaching skills in this school and enjoy life!"

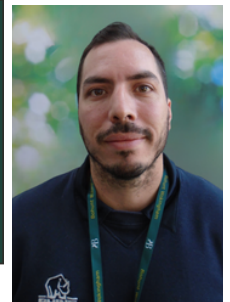


Amrit Kaur - Computing Trainee Teacher "It has been an immense privilege to receive training with the Bohunt Trust. The support and encouragement I have received from everyone have been truly invaluable. I thoroughly enjoy teaching at Bohunt Wokingham, where the staff and students alike are exceptionally welcoming and inspiring."

Alice Wright - English Trainee Teacher with University of Reading - "I have really enjoyed my teacher training with Bohunt Wokingham! The support I received from all teachers, staff and students has been wonderful, making this a truly memorable experience."



Matty Anderson - PE Trainee Teacher with University of Reading - "I've had a really warm and welcoming start to my PGCE training at Bohunt Wokingham, my mentor has been amazing in mentor meetings and in assisting me plan, deliver and reflect on lessons. Alongside this, through their observations and feedback I've been learning loads from the PE team, from the wider teaching team whose lessons I've observed (and stolen lots of ideas from) and from my co-tutor during tutor times."



Liz Webster - DT Trainee Teacher with University of Reading - "I am training to be a Design and Technology teacher through Reading University and have been working in the DT, Food and Art (textiles) departments at Bohunt Wokingham since September. I am thoroughly enjoying my training and getting to work in the different subject areas. The staff have all been very welcoming and supportive over my first few months and I look forward to coming to school each day."



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