



Dame Alice Owen's School

October 2024



Letter from the Head **Hannah Nemko**

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students,

This is always a bumper edition of our newsletter as we reflect on all that happened over the summer holiday as well as this long and busy half term. I cannot thank the staff enough for all they do to provide opportunities which give our young

people such a wide 'window on the world', be that through going on a musical tour in the Netherlands, taking part in field trips or the Duke of Edinburgh (at any of the levels) or discovering for themselves which version of the TAS2R38 gene they have through experimentation with multi-million pound equipment at the University of Oxford.

This half term has seen us celebrate Black History Month with some amazing cooking demonstrations, visits, assemblies and thought-provoking screenings which you can read more about inside.

It was wonderful to meet so many of our new families (alongside some more familiar faces) as we welcomed Year 7 and 12 parents and carers to the annual OSA Cheese and Wine evening in September. Thank you to the OSA for putting on such a fabulous evening! We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the **OSA quiz on the 23rd November** as the teachers try to win back their winning title!

The OSA continues to meet, at 7:30pm, on the first Monday of every month, at the school and all those who would like to play a bigger role in supporting the school are more than welcome.

Hot off the press is the latest progress data from the DfE which describes the progress (rather than attainment) of those students who took their GCSEs last summer. We have already shared how highly these young people achieved but early indicators from the Department for Education suggest that our Progress 8 result this year will be



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

BEYOND CLASSROOMS

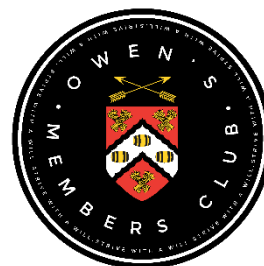
Read more on pp.6-19.

BOOKS TO THE CEILING

Read more on p.20.

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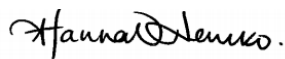
Learn more from various departments on pp.22-35.



a staggering +0.91. This means that, on average, students at Dame Alice Owen's School achieved almost **one whole grade higher per subject** than students, with the same starting points, at other schools. Congratulations, again, to our students for their hard work, to our fantastic staff for their incredible support and dedication, and to our parent body for working alongside us to help your children achieve their very best.

A special thank you as well must go to those of you who have signed up to give your voluntary donations – these contributions are essential to ensuring that we can continue to provide such a wide range of extracurricular activities, resources and opportunities to your young people. If you would like to sign up, and have not managed to do so before now, or if you would like to share the link with a relative or friend who might also like to support the school, you can do so by following the link [here](#). Every contribution helps us create more opportunities for our students and helps Owen's to remain the school we want it to be.

With thanks for your continued support and wishing you a restful break.



Hannah Nemko
Headteacher



The Governing Body will be holding a consultation on our school's Admissions Arrangements for 2026/27. The consultation will run from 28th October until 8th December 2024.

We value your comments on this matter and invite you to share your thoughts to our mailbox consultation@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk or write to us at the school.

Further information can be found on our website www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk

OWEN'S SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



OSA has already had their two meetings this half term, which allowed us to look into the future, consider the school calendar, upcoming Owen's events and possible challenges. We are excited as ever about the new school year and all the fund-raising and school community-building opportunities it holds in store.



On the 1st of October, we held one of the most popular events among Year 7 and new Year 12 parents – Cheese and Wine evening. Unsurprisingly, it was a well-attended success!

We were thrilled so many of our new parents were able to make this, to meet staff and each other and to hear from the OSA too.

People signed up to Easy Fundraising and were interested in learning more about OSA's "200 Club". Thank you also to those that donated items for future raffles at OSA events.

The OSA's ever-popular **Quiz Night** is returning on **Saturday, 23rd November**, and you'll be glad to know it will be a curry night too. The idea of quiz and curry must have been to many people's taste as we have already sold nearly half the tickets!

This event is not for quiz lovers only. First and foremost, it is a fun opportunity to raise much needed funds for the school, all the while having a good time, meeting other parents and carers and having a go at putting our wits against the school staff. Feel free to come solo and the OSA will sit you at a table with parents/carers in your year group. To avoid disappointment of the missed fun, book your tickets now (see poster below for details).

OSA's Instagram: To keep up to date with all OSA events and fundraising schemes, please follow the OSA's Instagram account using this QR code.

There we will post links to ticketed events and the Online Nearly New Uniform Shop.

Next **Online Nearly New Uniform Shop** will be 15-19 November (collection on Friday, 22 November).



OSA Committee Meetings: Come and join in – everyone is welcome! We meet on the first Monday of the month in term-time, at 7:30pm, in the Old Library, above Reception in school. **The next meeting will be on Monday, 4th November.** Please come along and meet other parents aiming to support our young people and the school community. Visit the OSA website – www.theosa.org.uk – for comments, suggestions and offers of help.

OSA Easy Fund Raising: This is the **easiest** of ways for each of us (and our friends and extended family) to raise money for the school daily without doing anything more than we are already doing, when shopping online. Please follow the link to sign up: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/owensschoolassociation/?utm_campaign=raisemore&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-c20

OSA Nearly New Uniform: Please remember to recycle and donate school uniform items (and support the school's environmental sustainability efforts at the same time). Containers labelled 'OSA Nearly New Uniform' are located through the main Reception doors, on the right-hand side walkway. Recycling of clothing helps families save costs, gives the school additional source of funding and demonstrates environmental conscientiousness. If you would like to help, please email Sheena at uniform@theosa.org.uk.

OSA Refreshments: Have you been to school events, enjoyed refreshments in the intervals and wondered who provided it? Tony tirelessly co-ordinates a small but great team of OSA occasional volunteers. Any contribution of time you can make would benefit the efforts of the pupils and the school. Please email Tony at refreshments@theosa.org.uk, if you could spare a couple of hours.

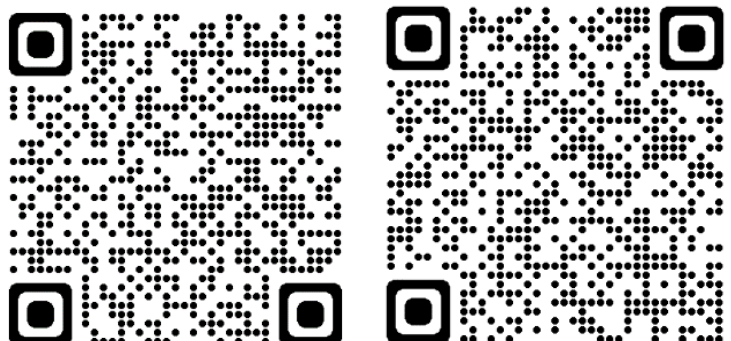
OSA's '200 Club': The OSA operates a Lottery Style 200 Club with a £50 and a £25 prize draw every month, and an extra draw in December. Annual membership is £24 per number and nothing more to do other than wait to hear if your number is drawn. For further details, please contact Alan at 200club@theOSA.org.uk.

OSA Match Funding: Many companies offer a match funding scheme for employees who volunteer time to charities, like the Owen's School Association. Match funding is available to staff in a surprisingly wide range of companies. Friends and family can match fund too – it doesn't only have to be a parent. It can make a very substantial contribution to the OSA's annual fund-raising for the school. Please contact Sourì at matchfunding@theosa.org.uk.

Completing the form [here](#) can add you to our match funders database. Further information and useful documents can be accessed through these QR codes:

[Match funding email to employer.docx](#)
- Google Drive

[Match funding FAQ.docx](#) - Google Drive





QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2024

7PM FOR A 7.30PM START at DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL

All adults and 6th formers welcome

HOT SUPPER INCLUDED* *BAR* *RAFFLE Please do not bring your own drinks

£20 per person **£10** for students

Max 10 people per table. Don't be shy about ordering one, two or any number of places as we can make numbers up to 10 using year and form groups.

OFFERS OF RAFFLE PRIZES OR AUCTION ITEMS GREATLY APPRECIATED

Purchase tickets at: www.buytickets.at/theosa. For queries email events@theOSA.org.uk

ALL FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL



The OSA run a Lottery style **200 Club** with monthly prizes of £50 and £25, with an additional 13th draw in December.

Annual membership is £24 per number.

For further details please contact Alan Williams via 200club@theOSA.org.uk

SCHOOL LIFE AND BEYOND

The Great Owens Keg Carry

Tuesday, 15th October, was a special day in the history of Owen's as the Senior Team and House Captains unveiled a new inter-house competition: The Great Owen's Keg Carry! The aim of the competition was to raise the profile of the house system, creating a buzz for and pride in our houses.

Planning started around September with initial discussions of this idea slowly becoming formalised and structured in Senior Team meetings before spreading like wildfire across the school with posters, sign-up sheets and notices flagged on google classroom.



Excellent sportsman-ship by Dr Mitchell and well done Ms Cerney #supportive community



Mr Leake was a pro!! (Had he been practising after school??)

The Keg race symbolised houses coming together and forming connections across year groups and students from Year 13 literally passed the Keg, a nod to our history with the Worshipful Company of Brewers, to Year 7 and alike. A large audience across the year groups turned up to cheer everyone on while Yoni and Andrew commentated the entire event like complete professionals. The competition was won, with a stunning victory, by Isledon and a close second to Clerkenwell. Hermitage finished 3rd with Goswell unfortunately last, and probably hoping to redeem themselves next year.



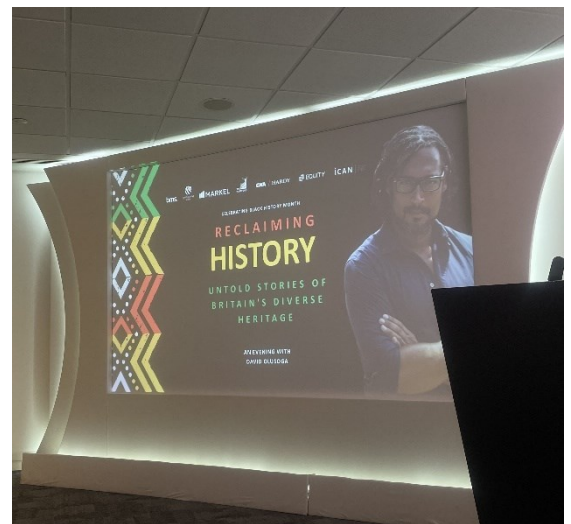
Blatant Hand-Keg by Mr Friedlander

After the house relay, Isledon students beat our very own teacher team, a clean and fair fight, apart from the severe bruises given to Ms Lofthouse and the apparent cheating by Mr Frielandler (caught on camera).

With a few barrels rolling into the audience due to Clerkenwell's dubious rolling skills and some of Isledon team almost falling over the keg, we called it a day and celebrated our first ever Keg event. A tradition we hope will last in Owen's memory for years to come.

Owen's celebrates Black History Month

This October has been chock-full of events celebrating this year's theme of reclaiming narratives. Members of the school's African-Caribbean Society (ACS), with the crucial support from Ms Ogufero, have hosted a series of events, including a cooking demonstrations by the highly talented Emmanuel Abugo, in which students learned how to make the popular and delicious West African pastry 'Puff Puff'; weekly showings of episodes of tv shows with Black casts and creators that tackle important issues about inequality and Black history and a Black history quiz which all students were welcome to participate in.



A trip to a lecture by Black historian David Olosuga was a stirring experience for ACS members. Olosuga challenged the audience to see the real significance of Black British history outside of the narratives dominated by America's role in history, and opened eyes to the erasure of the uglier sides of British history, like the industrial revolution, and the role slavery played in the economic history of Great Britain.

Students were able to talk to Olosuga after the event, and pose their many questions, as well as snap some group pictures!

SCHOOL LIFE AND BEYOND



This month the room has been full of eager students ready to explore new perspectives and immerse themselves in discussions around shaping culture, appropriation, and in a collaboration with Feminist Society, we explored “White feminism” and the erasure of the Black female struggle. Students have proved ready to tackle difficult topics and determined to see change in the world around them.

The school is proud to play any part it can in educating on such imperative issues and celebrating important culture.

The buzz around Black history month has been empowering. ACS members have jumped at the opportunity to celebrate and educate and as a result the registration list for the club grows longer every week.

ACS runs every Friday at 1 pm in K3 and is open to all students.

Rotmi G (Y12)

On Sunday, 13th October, Ms McClean, our Head of Sixth Form, took part in a half marathon in support of the charity 'Asthma and Lung UK'.

This is a charity that is close to her heart (literally!) after a serious lung condition in November of last year. If any family wanted to sponsor her £2, the link to do so is [here](#).



STARTING AT OWEN'S

The start of secondary school, a daunting moment, the point that makes year six look like a fleeting glance into the past. But when you come into DAOS you don't feel scared, you don't feel worried; you feel welcomed. On my first day at this wonderful school, I realised how unnecessary my apprehension of starting anew was. Let me share my experience on my first day.

After our form tutor wished us good luck and provided us with an inspirational message, we began our eventful, and memorable, day. The different forms were given a variety of exhilarating challenges to complete. In Isledon 1, our first task was to take an incredible school photo. Walking into the gym for the first record of our Owenian appearance, I breathed in deep. Don't get too nervous, I calmed myself down. Sitting on the cushioned stool, I smiled wide and attempted not to blink as the blinding camera flash left me waddling to wait for the next activity.

At Owens, we have a sophisticated system for school dinners: fingerprint scanning. After getting my thumb-print scanned I was looking forward to purchasing and enjoying the mouth-watering food available at different locations across the school.

In our form room, I cautiously engraved my name into my planner when a sudden jolt shook my hand. Aw no! I smudged my ink across the front cover. Well, there's no going back now, I thought whilst trying and failing at removing the stain, which soaked my book to the binding. I received my timetable, ready for the next day's lessons.

In the afternoon, we all took part in the classroom treasure hunt, an unusual Owenian tradition, where you endeavour to locate all of the classrooms from the given bingo sheet and your timetable. We were all bolting and sprinting around, our breath let out in short, sharp gasps. Then, the sweet elixir of victory streamed into my head. We won. We'd won! In silent joy, our team collapsed into our seats, panting madly. And thus, we rounded off our day in the main hall with the Senior Leaders of DAOS.

All in all, I am proud to be part of the Owenian family and I am grateful to be a part of this fantastic community.

Karthik R, Y7

Transitioning to secondary school was always going to be a challenge. I remember when I stepped into Owen's for the first time, proud as a gold medallist in my Owen's uniform. That first step was one of many still to come, and I encourage you to keep taking steps just as I did when beginning my Owen's journey. This first month has been a whirlwind, and at first, I struggled to balance my extracurricular activities with the burden of homework and competition deadlines. Now, as the half term approaches, I find myself calmer and more collected, and ready for whatever lies ahead.

Owen's itself is a huge school and I do still get lost, but a map at the beginning of the year has been helpful, and has allowed me to grow accustomed to the school and its many buildings, I have started to feel very much at home and included here. Dame Alice Owens is definitely the right school for me. I hope that everyone can take the same steps as I did, persevering through the difficult times and embracing the new, because at the end, we are all Owenians at heart.

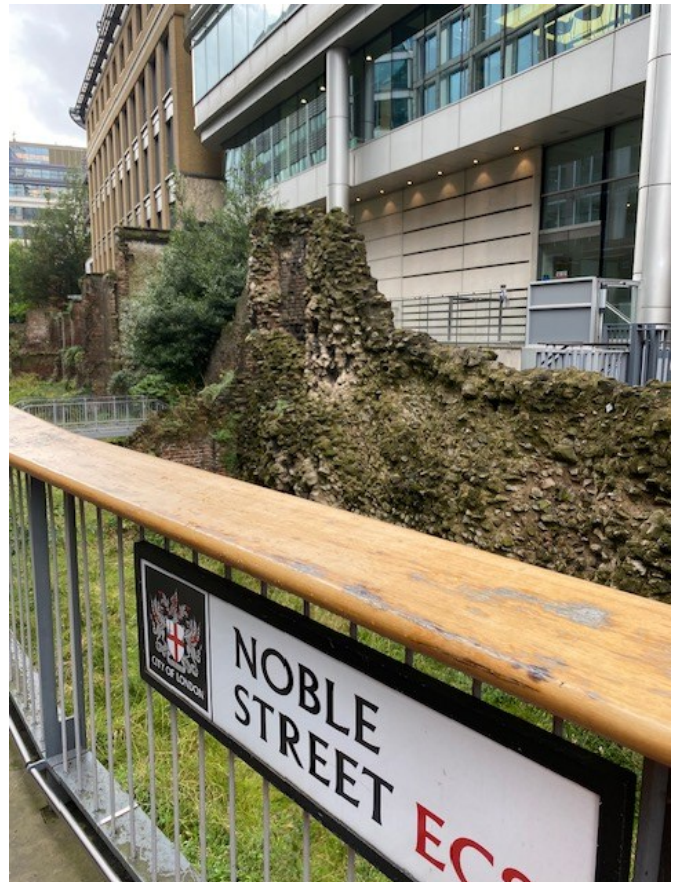
Pena N, Y7

Year 7 Trip to Brewers' Hall

On Monday 23rd September, all Year 7 students were invited on a trip to London to mark the beginning of our journey at Owen's with a welcoming ceremony at Brewer's Hall and a tour retracing the steps of our founder in Islington.

The significance of the trip could not have escaped anyone: Special plans had been laid out, detailed instructions offered by our form tutors (and then hurriedly revised when the weather threatened to ruin the day: Bring wellies! Change of clothes!). Nothing was going to ruin this for us!

In the end, it all worked perfectly. After a sleepy coach ride, we arrived at Brewers' Hall - grey skies but not a puddle in sight.



My form began the day with a tour of the surrounding area. This is a very old part of the City of London, near the city walls. Still very much the heart of the city, with modern glass towers shadowing old monuments, like the Guildhall - once one of the tallest buildings in the area. We were fascinated to learn that even before that impressive building, there was a Roman amphitheatre on the site.

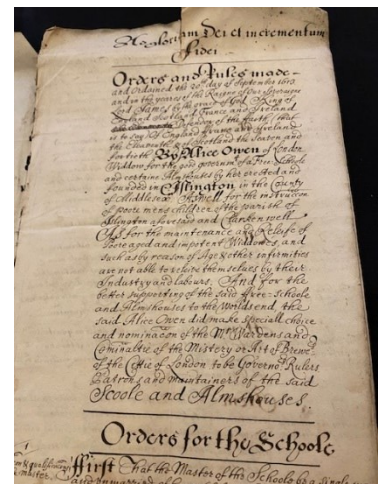
Our tour guide had plenty of facts to offer, like how William Shakespeare lived in the area. I could just picture how his and Dame Alice's paths crossed, as he was rushing off to the Globe theatre. We also learned that Dame Alice had three husbands, (a brewer, an alderman and a judge), and by the time all three had died, she had collected quite a lot of money that enabled her to set up a school - our school! - in thanks to God for sparing her life when she was a young girl narrowly missed by a stray arrow.

Following the walking tour, we all went into Brewers' Hall for the focus of the day - the ceremony welcoming all new Year 7 students to Owens. We entered a finely decorated room with crests along the walls, and took our seats to listen to the speeches by the Clerk and other members of the Brewers. We then proceeded one by one to the front of the hall to receive our 'beer money', a special five-pound coin to commemorate us joining the school.

Our tour ended in a single room 'museum' that included several Dame Alice related artefacts, including her 'death mask' which was a mask moulded a few hours after her death from her own face!

On board the coach heading back to school, all of Goswell talked excitedly about the beer money - happy chatter among new friends to add to the many memories created on the day.

Christopher L-S, Y7

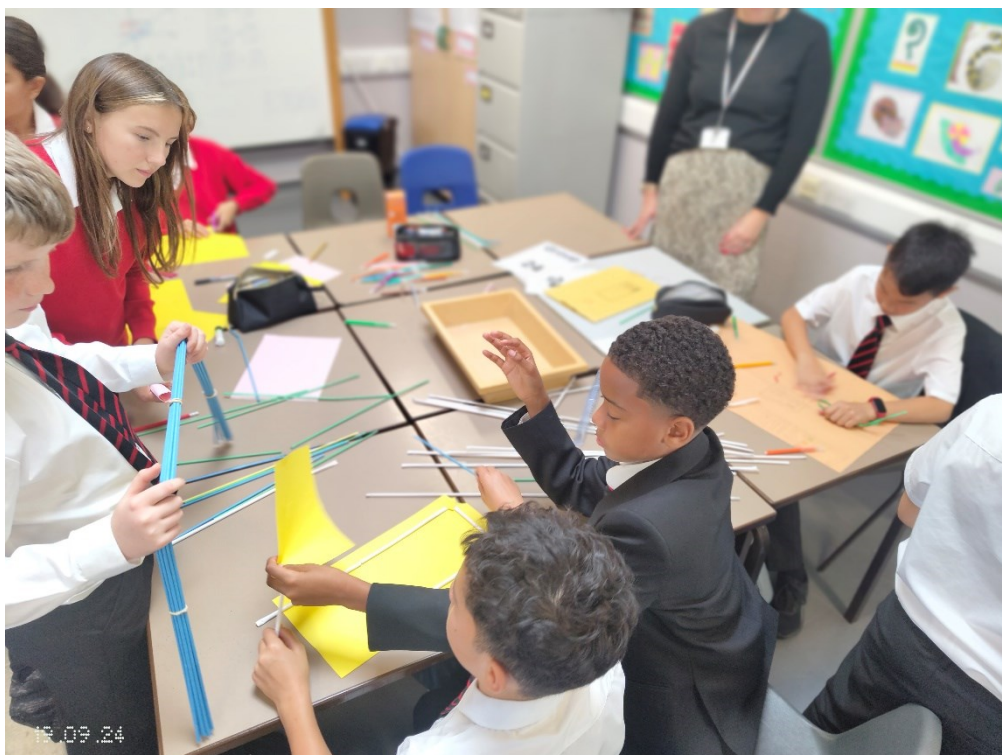
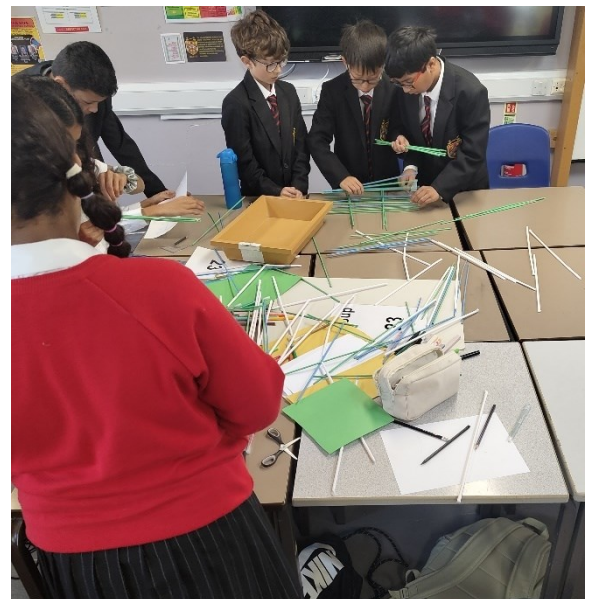
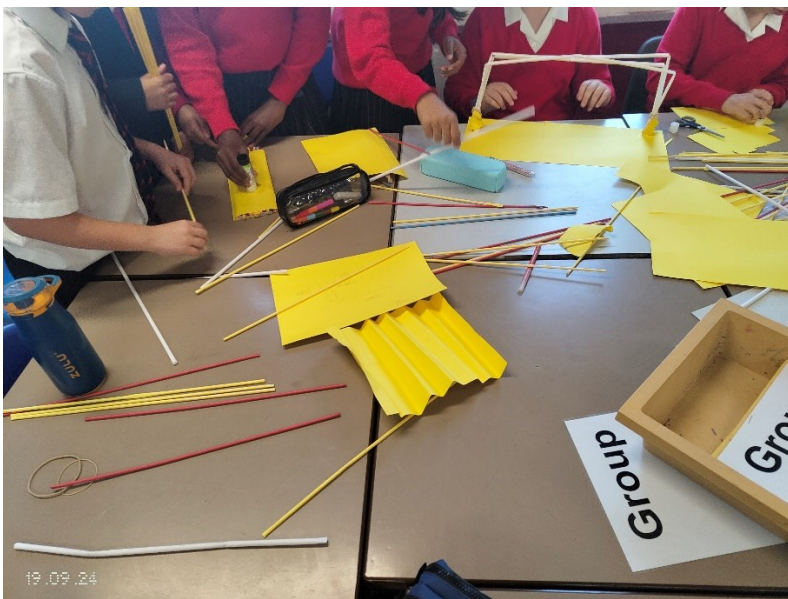


Ideal Island Day

On Thursday 19th September, Year 7 participated in a day-off of timetable to create their "Ideal Islands" as part of their Learning for Life curriculum. They spend the day deciding governments, laws and practising their teamwork skills by creating a working bridge. They must then present and reflect on their decision making to analyse its effectiveness and how to best work together as a team.

This year the wonderful Aries Island won with their phenomenal attention to details in bridge making and their fantastic governance and managerial skills. Everyone in their group participated to the best of their ability, focusing on their special skills. Well done, Aries Island!

Miss Perrin
Head of Learning for Life



Year 7's participated in Ideal Island Day, a competition for the year to create the 'ideal island'. This encouraged the new students to collaborate in order to create a government, map, flag, poster, advert, functional paper bridge and a pitch to explain why people should visit their Island.

This was a chance for us to learn about the impact of working with each other to generate and improve our ideas, while also exposing us to what it is like to be a student at Dame Alice Owen's. Huge congratulations to the winning team, Aires Island, who not only worked together, but each person was playing a vital role, which is what led this team to success. They clearly demonstrated teamwork, perseverance and collaboration.

Thank you to all the teachers and staff for organising this fun and educational activity.

Ariya B, Y7



The BootStRaP study: Dame Alice Owen's School helping young people to stay safe online

A team at the University of Hertfordshire have been very pleased to work with staff, pupils, and parents and carers on the BootStRaP study. The BootStRaP study is designed to help young people (12-16) to use mobile technology effectively, negotiating the challenges that they face day-to-day and stay safe. We are asking young people from year 8 to sign up to the study this year.

It has been wonderful to work with Ms Ogufere and Miss Smith, and with student ambassadors from year 8, Anya and Safa, who have made significant contributions in the development of the programme of work. The two student ambassadors attended a Bootcamp in March at Missenden Abbey along with 28 other young people from across Europe and will embark on the next Bootcamp in November in Porto, providing valuable input into the development of the next stage of the BootStRaP app. The support, insight and input from the student ambassadors and teachers is essential to ensure that what the academic team are doing is based on the experiences and challenges of young people.

The study is led from the University of Hertfordshire and includes teams from across the world from Australia through Europe to the UK. Recruitment of young people is mainly happening in Europe but there is increasing interest from other partners across the world. The project is funded with significant investment from the EU Horizon programme, the UK Research Institute and funders from Switzerland.

This work has become more important recently, following the decision by the UK government to enable tech companies to use algorithms to push content to young people from the age of 13. The digital age of consent is the minimum age a user must be before social media and internet companies can collect, process and store their data. The E.U. has set the age of consent to sixteen by default and member states are given the option of adopting a lower age. The UK have opted to enforce these restrictions at 13 which is the lowest possible age. Teenagers in the UK are treated as digital adults.

We are in the process of asking about 3000 young people from 9 countries to sign up to take part in the study for the next 6 months. The information we collect will be used to understand the patterns of behaviour that suggest that a young person is starting to develop problems in the way that they use mobile technology. For the following two years we will be testing a version of the BootStRaP app that is designed to prevent these problematic behaviours developing in young people – a helping hand in a challenging world. 9000 young people will take part in the study over the next 5 years.

An important part of the project will be to provide information to young people, to parents and carers, and to organisations who make policy at a national level. Truly the young people, parents and carers, and schools involved will make a significant contribution not only to the way in which mobile technology is used, but also to the information that is used by governments to make decisions about the policies that govern what we can and can't do with this technology.

More information can be found here <https://www.internetandme.eu/about-bootstrap-2/>

An email has been sent separately to Year 8 parents and carers to sign up your young person for this study. We hope you are all as excited by this opportunity as we are.

*Professors David Wellsted, Daksha Trivedi and Helen Munro Wild
The University of Hertfordshire*



**University of
Hertfordshire UH**

Work Experience at the Treasury

Being invited into work experience by one of the highest offices in the country isn't something to be taken lightly, and I felt proud that there were three students from Owen's accepted onto a 60 person placement during the week of the 29th of July this summer.

Beyond the usual excitement and effervescent buzz that comes with gaining new experience in life, not to mention an experience that His Majesty's Treasury (HMT) themselves reassured was fairly prestigious, mostly I think what I felt was pride. Pride in myself, in what I've become since joining Owen's last September, and pride for what this has proved I could do in the future.

Arriving on day one, this feeling of being amidst so many important decisions, in the heart of the government, was an overwhelming one. Even the architecture, which was later described in detail on our tour, was monumental.



It's a building that saw us through WW2, solidified in its foundations to keep from toppling, but also one that began to decay in the 70s and saw plant growth in its myriads of basements and greying outsides from car smoke. But now, in the modern era, its tangible importance remains.

The first day was mainly taken over by meeting our personal mentors, acclaimed employees from every department ready and willing to talk about our futures, our interests, our thoughts on the Treasury and most nerve-wracking: what our plans for the big Friday Policy Project were. Everyone on the work experience was supposed to come up with a policy or idea and present arguments or proposals for why it should be considered. I chose to do a presentation on wealth taxation and perhaps why the UK needs one, a controversial topic but one that I thought was poignant to the moment given the Chancellor had spent days before discussing the fiscal black hole that the Conservatives are accused of creating.

The majority of Tuesday and Wednesday were then spent discussing all the areas of the Treasury with online meetings from 9am until 4pm. After a mock G20 conference on Monday afternoon, we delved straight into Tax, Economics, Fiscal Policy and my two personal favourites: Diversity and Inclusion and the Parliament session. All were thoroughly enriching and incredibly informative, however as one of the only non-economics students in the room, I found the latter two played more to my strengths as a Politics student. Wednesday's programme was similar, discussing other departments such as Global Sanctions, Devolution, Strategy Planning and Budgets and the Climate department.

Working on a group activity, which we had done in all the interactive sessions so far, I found that the Climate department was one I took a liking to. Helping to organise the budgeting of how we would hypothetically spend 200 million to make the Olympics more environmentally friendly, I found myself taking a lead and then reporting back to the group of all 60 participants. While it was scary at first, I found myself talking and knowing exactly what to say and how to explain it all. I reported back what the group had said, some of my own ideas as well, and gave what I hope was a comprehensive policy decision.

On Thursday, we met in person again at the HMT office, but spent the first few minutes talking excitedly about the next activity. We had known for quite some time we would be visiting the front of Number 10 but it was still so unreal when we got there. Even more unreal was meeting a Cabinet Officer, and yes, I am referring to Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office, Larry the Cat.

After a short seminar on Financial Stability, we moved onto speed mentoring. Quite an overwhelming process, but one that was thoroughly enjoyable and insightful in informing about careers, aspirations and learning about other people's paths to the civil service. Following this we then had a seminar on the private office, probably the most stressful job to have, it seems, as we spent the hour attempting to organise the Chancellor's Day. Rearranging meetings with the Ecuadorian Minister of the Economy, and roundtable discussions with Labour party members was no easy feat and reminded me of school somewhat, when I want to be in 3 places at once.

Probably the most exciting part of the experience came after this, when we all waited with bated breath for 30 minutes until finally the Chancellor was free to come down and do a Q&A with us. For someone who is probably the second most powerful person in the country, Chancellor Reeves is incredibly humble in discussing her life at school, her desire to succeed and be the best that she could be. As someone driven and fuelled just by the desire to be the best that I can possibly be, her message resonated with me a lot and I was tremendously grateful for the chance to meet her. After a quick photo, we then all headed to St James' Park for a quick picnic before heading home.

Friday morning was online again, listening to all the ways to join the civil service, of which there are numerous if you're up to the challenge of the behavioural interviews and several step processes to being hired. A short discussion on public spending followed and then the infamous project presentations would happen. Mine went pretty well, despite going over the 5 minute time limit and I hope to see a fully fleshed out wealth tax policy in the next few months based on my calculations!

Finally, it was time to say goodbye to the experience I don't think I'll forget.

Thanks to the other Year 12s who made it very fun, the Work Experience team who worked hard to make it so interactive and engaging, and to Owen's which has given me the confidence to try these things and put myself out there, now with the realisation that it isn't that scary at all.

Olivia Page, Y13



A Psalm of Life (excerpt)

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream!
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This has been a very busy half term for expeditions for the Bronze Award. There have been two expeditions that have taken place in the local area of Cuffley and Broxbourne Woods.

On the first expedition in September students were once again having to camp overnight to the dull sound of thunder in the distance. Sadly when the students awoke the rain was still falling resulting in a very damp start to the second day of their expedition. However the day brightened up as did the mood of the students enabling them to complete the expedition in sunshine which put smiles on all of their faces.



The second expedition took place in October when once again the students were treated to a heavy spell of rain. However, by the time students reached camp at the end of the first day the sun was out and they were able to set up camp in the dry and enjoy the staple evening meals of pasta and sauce.

The students rose early on the second day after a very cold night and were soon on their way keen to complete their expeditions whilst at the same time revising for their Chemistry test!

Ten Year 11 students completed their assessed Bronze expedition and hopefully all students will finish the other sections of the award this term in order to attain their Bronze Award.

Well done to all participating students. We look forward to seeing you take on the Gold Award next year!



In Year 10, 130 students have been completing their skill, volunteering and physical skills sections of the Bronze award and they will be completing their expeditions in 2025.

In Year 12, 56 students have signed up to take on the challenge of the Gold award. This is an amazing number of students and I hope to see them all make it to the Palace to receive their awards in 2 years' time.

Eleven students from last year's Y13 have completed their Gold Award and deserve congratulations on their achievement. Well done to Mashall A, Max B, Joshua E, Alexander G, Aiden G, Ben M, Matthew M, Jaiden P, Iman S, Samuel S, Maarten v W!



Max B receiving his award at Buckingham Palace this summer

This level of the award demonstrates great commitment, initiative and resilience from students who fully deserve the respect this level of the award is given.

Next half term the Year 9s will be introduced to the award and they will be able to enrol on the Bronze level of the award and begin their DofE journey.

Dirty Face *By Shel Silverstein*

Where did you get such a dirty face,
My darling dirty-faced child?

I got it from crawling along in the dirt
And biting two buttons off Jeremy's shirt.
I got it from chewing the roots of a rose
And digging for clams in the yard with my nose.
I got it from peeking into a dark cave
And painting myself like a Navajo brave.
I got it from playing with coal in the bin
And signing my name in cement with my chin.
I got it from rolling around on the rug
And giving the horrible dog a big hug.
I got it from finding a lost silver mine
And eating sweet blackberries right off the vine.
I got it from ice cream and wrestling and tears
And from having more fun than you've had in years.

LIBRARY

It has been a great start to the year in the Library!

We have welcomed all new Year 7 students for library inductions and their first library lessons, and have given refresher presentations to Year 8 and 9 students. For the first time this year, we have also run library induction sessions for all Year 12 students in their Futures groups - we hope this will enable them all to make effective use of the library and all the resources it offers to sixth formers right from the start of their A-Level courses.

We have been delighted with the number of Year 7 (and older!) students who have signed up to join our team of student librarians this term. They have all completed two training sessions to earn their 'Librarian' badges and have now started helping in the library at break time and lunchtime and are much appreciated!

This year, we are experimenting with a new format to our Library Book Club: we will be running like a book group, with everyone in the group reading the same book(s) and then meeting together at half-termly intervals for a sociable chat about the chosen titles and everything else we have been reading, with biscuits, of course! We will be meeting to talk about our first two book picks in the week after half term, and everyone in the school community is welcome to join us.

The library stock has been given a wonderful boost this term by two very generous donations: a fantastic box of books suitable for our Lower School students won by one of our new Year 7 students in a competition (you can read more about this elsewhere in this newsletter), and an amazing collection of books donated by Penguin Books which will really enhance our Sixth Form wider reading. The Librarians have been very busy processing all these wonderful new books and students will find them on the shelves soon!

As we start the new school year, we would also like to take this opportunity to share with parents and carers three ways in which you can support our work:

1. The most important thing of all: please keep sharing books and reading for pleasure with your young people – model the importance of reading, take an interest in what they are reading, help them to find reading material that really sparks their excitement and keep sharing stories with them. The library staff are very happy to help students to choose new books and authors to try at any time.
2. Please support students to use their school library - encourage them to take time to come to the library, to explore what we have to offer, to look after their library books and return them on time! Students can find an explanation of how to use the library on the DAOS Library Google site, which can be accessed via the Student Launchpad - from the Library Google site home page, choose the page 'I want to know how to use the library'.
3. We would be very grateful for new adult volunteers to help in the library. No experience necessary. If you can spare even a small amount of time on any weekday, please get in touch via the School Office.

Dr H James
Librarian

Books to the Ceiling

By Arnold Lobel

Books to the ceiling,
Books to the sky,
My piles of books are a mile high.
How I love them!
How I need them!
I'll have a long beard by the time I read them.

Izzy V (Year 7) won first prize in a writing competition, run by the Children's Bookshop, Muswell Hill, at the end of Year 6. She had to write a story on the theme of 'Journey' and was judged the winner out of all the many entries from young writers aged 8-15.

Izzy decided to donate her winning books to Dame Alice Owen's, rather than to her primary school, and we were delighted to receive an incredible range of books for our library.

Thank you, Izzy!



It was cold. Colder than fresh ice, the kind of chilling cold that you can't escape. She huddled among the bodies, holding Rayan close. The sea rocked the boat, and the waves rolled over, sloshing on the rubber floor like oil in a pan. It soaked her once-white trainers and her deep, olive skin. Her shoes were rubbed of any mark and her socks had come to pieces. The shoe strap had fallen off long before and her trousers were slowly unravelling. The water came in on an eerie beat, higher and higher, until it slapped her cheeks so hard she wept, and Rayan could cry and wail no longer.

There was a scream. A scream louder than a falling building as the bombs hit. A scream of pure despair. The boat tilted. The waves crashed. They tumbled down, plummeting through the water until Amani couldn't see. There was only black: endless black like the night sky when the moon and the stars hide behind clouds. It was so calm. The depth called to her, pulling her. Come join us, it said. Amani fought it off and struggled upwards. It seemed so hard, like climbing up smooth glass. Just a little air, her lungs screamed, but she knew if she opened her mouth she would die. Her head burst through the foam and her lungs ceased to scream. Only the front of the boat had tipped over and not all had fallen. Amani grabbed the side, searching for Ommi, for Rayan. Dark thoughts filled her up. At last she saw a familiar pale blue jumper, faded and torn. She hugged her Ommi tight, tears spilling down her cheeks before she had even asked a single question. Rayan could never swim, he had never felt a stream against his legs. And now he never would. They sat silently, neither holding down their grief. Twin waterfalls fell down Amani's cheeks and she screamed silently, her voice ricocheting in her head. The world is a chasm, some perch comfortably in caves and on ledges, but many fall, fingers barely gripping on. Amani felt she had only one calloused, torn hand clutching on to the walls: she was destined to fall. To rise, if she did, would bring her to a worse life.

The harsh wind nipped at her cheeks in the way her neighbours used to pinch Bebe so fondly. Amani tried to not think of her home, of her better life but faint snippets of memories floated to her like broken ribbons, and she grasped one. The sun shone on the warm garden where Amani lay, twisting the grass between her fingers. She could hear faint laughter and the chirrup of birds. The smell of fresh food pranced around her.

"Such a beautiful child," she heard her neighbour say, an old woman who smelled of soft flowering perfume and cookies, "he will be a brave warrior." Her Ommi laughed and it sounded like all the things Amani had left behind before the black rain fell. The soft clash of bells, the meowing of cats, the times when the sun and the birds sang and they danced along in the grass.

All those things were gone now, for the clouds had stolen the sun and the black rain had quenched the hills and houses and everything that moved. All she had now was the rocking blue - darker than tears - and this tiny rubber boat, full of the last life of the many other places which the men with no hearts had taken; her little town was one of the many destroyed without a second glance.

There was a shout, and Amani raised her tear-streaked face. The mist had cleared and far ahead the sea stood still, a murky brown. Land. Ommi squeezed her hand and whispered to her, "We're nearly there." Amani felt empty, lifeless, a meadow with no flowers, a house with no people, a cat with no owner. So much had been lost, so much left behind. What was ahead could never take back the black rain, could never bring back little Rayan who had never even slept on his own before. It couldn't save Abee from the power of the men with no hearts and their killing machines. It could never bring back Bebe's life to that still body in the dark of the van. It would never raise those many that Ommi tried to hide her from in camp.

Her Khaal and Khaala would try, but this journey had taken everything. She couldn't see a cat without thinking about home. She couldn't see a baby without crying. She could never face the small dark places, or a boat again. So many lives, lost in the hands of those with no souls, who care only for land and money. Pawns, lost to help or hinder the king.

The sludgy mass grew larger and Amani could see the piers and the jostling white boats. She swallowed, trying to think that this was her home. But she knew she would never think that, maybe her children, or her grandchildren, but not her, for she belonged to land quenched with the thick black rain: her home.

The pier drew closer. The great boats passed by and Amani knew she was safe, after all this. The boat drew alongside the pier and there was a hustle as everyone scrambled onto land. Amani clutched Ommi's hand together, they stepped into the docks, into England: into a new life.

Life is like a bomb, counting down until the end, the spark already ignited. Life is a journey, an endless walk. You run through freshly cut meadows sprinkled with flowers but in the bog you stumble, and in this bog you stumble often. You see a peak and scramble for it, basking in joy at the top, but, as you round the top, another peak appears, and another dip, never quite reaching the clouds. Life is an endless journey that we all walk.

MATHS**Maths Challenge News**

In October, 178 sixth formers sat the Senior Maths Challenge.

Matei P (Y13) was best in school by getting 125 marks – quite an achievement!

Sunny Y (Y12) achieved Best in Year with 111 marks.

Dom P, Matei, Stephen G, Leo N and Sunny Y were invited to sit the BMO follow on round. 30 more people got a gold and were invited to sit the Senior Kangaroo in November.

We eagerly await their results.

MUSIC**Owen's Music Tour 2024**

Our musical year ended with the Owen's Music Tour 2024 to Belgium and the Netherlands which saw the Senior Choirs, Senior Strings and Tour Band performing three wonderful concerts in churches across the region.

The audiences were delighted, some even following us to our next day's performance venue, so much did they enjoy the performances.

The Senior Strings' performance of Barber's famous Adagio was so convincing and moving that Instagram took our livestream off air halfway through on the grounds that it thought we were playing a professional recording! Such a standard that not even our TikTok dancing on the final evening, after a day at the Theme Park, could aspire to!

Our thanks to all the accompanying staff: Ms Makepeace Lott, Mr Page, Mr Widden, Ms Bamber, Dr James and Ms Sutherland, as well as to Mrs King for all her immense work in organising.





Jazz Workshop: Visit from the musicians of The Purcell School

We were delighted to welcome Head of Jazz, Simon Allen, and a talented group of students from The Purcell School to Owen's for a fantastic Jazz Workshop. Within this workshop, the Purcell School (a specialist music school in Hertfordshire) gave members of our Big Bands & Jazz Collective the opportunity to develop their jazz improvisation skills, big band playing and learn a variety of new techniques.

The workshop culminated in an impressive & energetic performance in the Edward Guinness Hall to a delighted audience of Year 7 & Year 9 students.

A big thank you to Simon and the students from The Purcell School and of course our own Head of Brass, Lance Kelly for such an inspiring & enjoyable experience for our musicians.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION**Football****Year 8 Boys**

The boys started the season with many ups and downs and lots of tight games. Their Saturday games have been filled with goals but have frustratingly ended on the wrong end of very tight games losing 2 and winning 1 of these.

Drawing Chauncy School in the county cup and them being the holders the boys had their hopes set high after being 1-0 up at half time but then the opposition coming out and punishing a few mistakes our boys made and we ended up losing 7-1 which is a score which definitely did not reflect the game was really played.

Now onto the national cup Vs Haberdashers' Elstree School where the game was very back and forth from the first minute until the last 5 minutes where Habs ended up capitalising on a quick counter attack and scoring the winner with the game ending 3-4.

In the area cup we had a fixture against Hertswood academy and started very well with the boys playing some lovely football and breaking down their defence 2 times in the first 15 minutes setting a very high standard for the rest of the game, the boys then carried this on for the remainder of the game with the score ending 6-1 to us.

Year 10 Boys

The boys have had a mixed start to the season with a couple of losses in their Saturday morning fixtures but in their midweek fixtures they have had wins against Ridgeway and Hertswood in the district cup and Goffs in the county cup.

**U13 Girls**

The Under 13 squad faced Monks Walk School in the first round of the English Schools' National Cup competition. The girls dominated possession and ran out as 2-0 winners' courtesy of goals from Anashe and Amy. Gabriella received the player of the match award.

The team were drawn against Ashlyns School in the 2nd round of the National Cup and also faced the same team in the 1st round of the County Cup. It was decided that the result of the match would count for both competitions. The girls had several chances to take the lead in what was a very even contest.

Unfortunately, Ashlyns scored in the final 2 minutes of the game to proceed in both competitions. Amy was selected as player of the match.

Girls U14

In the Under 14 County Cup the squad faced St Albans Girls' School in the 1st round. Playing against a team of mostly year 9s Owen's only had 2 Year 9s and the rest of the squad were Year 8s. Playing uphill in the first half the girls conceded an early goal and found themselves 3-0 down at half time. A change of tactics for the second half saw Anashe score a goal in the opening 2 minutes. The team dominated play in the second half and created several very good chances but were unable to convert them and in pushing forward conceded a fourth goal with the final kick of the game. The match finished 4-1 to St Albans Girls' but the team should be proud of the resilience they showed and the way they fought back in the second half. Goalkeeper Mahdi pulled off some fantastic saves and was selected as player of the game by the opposition.

U16 Girls

The Under 16 squad received a bye in round 1 of the English Schools' National Cup competition. In the second round they faced Oaks Park High School from Redbridge. After scoring 5 goals in the first 8 minutes, we made a lot of positional changes and the game length was reduced considerably. The team ran out winners with an impressive scoreline of 15-0. The goals were scored by Ellie x4, Freya x4, Emilie x2, Molly x1, Mia x1, Iyla x1, Eva x1 and Semi x1. Eva was voted as player of the match. They now face Samuel Whitbread Academy in round 3 after half term.

Hockey

U12 Girls

The Year 7 hockey team have made an excellent start to their time at Owen's. In their first Saturday fixture they faced Hockerill Anglo-European College. It was a fairly even match and ended 0-0. Player of the match was awarded to Vedika.

In their second Saturday fixture they faced St Edmund's College. The girls took a 1-0 lead into halftime thanks to a goal from Izzy and scored 2 early second half goals (1 more from Izzy and 1 from Autumn) to lead 3-0. After some changes to playing personnel St Edmund's levelled the score at 3-3 but a late goal by Autumn sealed the team's first victory. Autumn was deservedly selected as player of the game by St Edmund's.

On Thursday, 10th October the squad took part in the Hertfordshire County Hockey tournament. They lost their first match 1-0 to Herts and Essex, their second game was a 1-0 defeat to eventual winners Haileybury and in their third fixture they lost 1-0 to Heath Mount. They then recorded a 3-0 win against The Royal Masonic School with goals from Izzy, Anaiya and Autumn. They lost their next game 3-0 to Queenswood with all goals conceded from penalty corners. Their 6th match was a 4-0 victory over Hockerill Anglo-European College whom they had previously drawn 0-0 with in a Saturday friendly fixture. Izzy, Eliana, Autumn and Erin scored the goals in this match. The squad's final match was a 0-0 draw with Bishop's Stortford College. Playing against some very tough opposition the girls performed brilliantly and should be very proud to have finished 5th out of 8. Autumn was player of the tournament.

In their next match the Under 12s played Wisbech Grammar School. With 4 goals from Autumn and 1 each from Izzy and Eliana the girls ran out 6-0 winners. Izzy was voted as player of the match. They then played Belmont School. After leading 3-0 at half time there were a lot of player and positional changes made. The team still ran out as 4-2 victors' courtesy of 3 goals from Izzy and 1 goal from player of the match Autumn.



U13/U14 Girls

The girls have been preparing for their hockey trip to Holland in the half term. They faced tough opposition in the Schools County Tournament but they gained a lot of experience. Special mention to Zara who performed brilliantly in goal. Anasuya was player of the tournament.



Netball

Year 7

The Year 7 Netball teams have had two friendly matches which showed fantastic commitment and enthusiasm to start the year. The A team's performance has steadily improved and the B team won their first friendly against Chancellors with an impressive 20-1.



Year 8

The Year 8's have had a great start to the netball season!

In the first A team match, the girls narrowly beat Berkhamsted school 13-12 with a fantastic performance from all team members. The girls also played in two county league matches against two very strong contenders and played excellently against both with POM being awarded to Emily and Sasha. The B team have only had one friendly match so far in preparation for their league matches after the half term. The POM was Betsie who showed great leadership in the match.



Year 9

The Year 9s made a fantastic start to the season.

They comfortably beat Chancellor's 22-9 in their opening match. On 17th October, they faced Latymer away. We got off to a good start winning the first quarter 5-4. The second quarter became scrappier and several unforced errors crept in. We were down 8-9 at half time and made some changes. The circle was very tightly contested and the match became increasingly physical. Sophia stayed strong in the circle and Bailly did a solid job bringing the ball down the court. The match finished 14-14, which seemed a fair result. Latymer fought hard and improved as the match went on. Lots to work on in training, especially set pieces and ball placement down court.

Special mention to Giselle who never gave up and kept positive throughout.

Year 10

The U15A team have had four games already this season including two friendlies and two County League matches as well as competing in the County School netball tournament.

The first game of the season was against Berkhamsted and the girls won overall 26-21 with a brilliant team performance coming out on top in the final quarter. Well done to the PoMs Annabelle and Freya. The team then competed in the County tournament at Stanborough playing a year young, which is great preparation for next year. The player of the tournament was Izzy.

The girls then played Latymer's U16 performance squad in order to challenge them and they won overall 29-9. Recently, we played Presdales which was a difficult match against a strong opposition, losing out 27-14. For both matches the PoM was Annabelle. Finally, they played a friendly against HABS U16B's and won overall 23-4, well done to the POM Izzy.

Year 11

The girls have had three friendlies so far this year, which has been fantastic in order to help many of them to work towards their GCSE practical. The first friendly was against Chancellors, the girls played very well winning overall 14-3.

Their second friendly was against stronger opposition in Parmiters, the girls battled the weather conditions with a tight first half but unfortunately lost overall 16-4. The PoM was Emilie. Their final friendly was against HABS which was a very difficult match against a strong opposition. Well done to the PoMs Mia and Ellie!



2nd VII

The 2nd VII have had a great start to the season and have also had three friendlies so far this year. It has been really brilliant to have a 2nd Senior team this year and with lots of externals involved. The first friendly was against Chancellors, the girls played very well winning overall 14-13.

Their second friendly was against Parmiters 1st VII which was a great challenge for the girls. It was a very exciting match, with the girls being 21-15 down going into the final quarter and they managed to turn it around so the game finished 23-23. Well done to the PoM Bethan who worked so hard all game at Centre. Their final friendly was against HABS who were a very strong opposition, the girls lost overall 31-16. Well done to the PoM Imogen!





Basketball

Senior Boys

The boys have only played one game so far this season with a loss against Sandringham, they have a couple of fixtures coming up in the next half term, so hopefully change their fortunes.

Years 9-10 Boys

Year 9 have started their season off with a win against Chancellors, they have more fixtures and a rally in the next half term. Hopefully they can continue with their winning streak.



U13&U15 Girls

The U13 and U15 girls have been committed to training ready for their first games of the season. It is really exciting this year that the girls will not only have games in the County League but for the first time have some District League games and District rallies. The U15 girls have their first District game against Onslow next week. The U13 girls have their first game on the first week back after half-term against Sandringham.

Rugby

Year 9 played against Sandringham in the first round of the National cup at the end of September. They unfortunately lost after a great start to the game in the pouring rain.

Cross Country

On 10th October, we as the school hosted the County round of the ESAA Cross Country Cup.

We had teams in the junior boys and girls, Inter boys and girls and senior boys. The junior teams both came 4th, Inter boys came 5th, Senior boys came 4th. The inter girls came 2nd and have qualified for the regional round next month.

Golf

Well done to the gold team, who won the annual golf competitions against Aldenham and The Brewers on 25th September.



House Sport

Inter-House Cross Country

The first Inter-House sporting competition of the year took place on Monday 14th October with year 7 Cross Country. Congratulations to Jack in Isledon 2 who was the first placed male to finish and Aasha in Hermitage 1 who won the girls' event. The House with the most competitors was Goswell who were awarded extra House Points. The final positions were:

- 1st Hermitage
- 2nd Goswell
- 3rd Isledon
- 4th Clerkenwell

Year 8 Inter-House Cross Country

Congratulations to Luke Isledon 1 who was 1st, James Hermitage 2 who was 2nd and Archie Hermitage 2 who finished 3rd. Clerkenwell had the most competitors and so gained extra House Points.

Year 9 Inter-House Cross Country

Congratulations to Raphael Goswell 1 who finished 1st, Diego Hermitage 2 who was 2nd and Daniel Hermitage 2 who finished 3rd. Clerkenwell and Hermitage had an equal number of participants and therefore gained extra House Points.

The Year 10-13 event is being held on Friday, 18th October.

Other Announcements & Achievements

Congratulations to Noah (Y8) who captained his U13 West London Penguin Waterpolo team to victory in the U13 London Waterpolo League Div 1 on 22 September.

The league is played over three weekends, 10 matches in total. The Penguins won 8 of their matches with Noah achieving top goal scorer over the 3 weekends. Upwards and onwards, Noah!



Congratulations go to Rona K (Y9) who won the gold medal in the London Regional Gymnastics Competition, bronze category for age 12/13 and silver medal in the overall bronze category on 29 September.

She will now be representing the London Region as a part of a team in the WAG (Women's Artistic Gymnastics) Classic Challenge National Final in late November and we wish her every good luck.



Sofia B (Y11) competed in the WUKF Karate Europeans in Poland on 10&11 October with the Karate England squad. There were 1725 athletes from 25 countries.

Sofia managed to achieve gold in her individual weight kumite (fighting), which makes her European Champion!

She also achieved gold in team sambon kumite with her team mates from Karate England, which is a team of 3 fighters who fight individually and the team which wins the most fights goes through to the next round. Her team did not lose a single fight in the whole section!

Then in team rotation kumite, they also achieved Gold. This section is a longer fight where they rotate the fighters, there are 3 fighters and every fighter must fight in that time otherwise they get disqualified.



PSYCHOLOGY**Psychology Lunchtime Lecture Series**

The Psychology Department's Fortnightly Lunchtime Lecture Series has returned with vigour. Between 20-40 students have regularly been attending talks by a host of external speakers on a variety of topics. Our speakers graciously volunteer their time to stretch and challenge students taking Psychology and those with a passing interest. From Dr Loveday who spoke about memory and what happens in cases of dementia to Dr Shmueli who spoke about the psychoanalytical explanation for attractiveness.

On alternate weeks members of Psych Soc have so far diligently led a debate on whether Premenstrual Disorder should be used as a legal defence in murder cases and the degree to which Psychology has been represented accurately in popular films. We look forward to more student-led presentations in the new term and thank Ana Shmueli, Alexia Brooks and Esme Stephenson for their contributions so far.

Please look out for posters advertising upcoming activities on Thursday lunchtimes in Lab 5. You are all very welcome.

Mrs Rutlin
Head of Psychology

SCIENCE**Cavendish Laboratories: Annual Physics at Work Exhibition**

In September, Miss Fradley, Mr Duke and Dr Mitchell took 45 year 11 students to the annual Physics at Work exhibition at the Cavendish Laboratories, part of the University of Cambridge. The exhibition aims to show students the variety of careers to which study in Physics can lead and the range of practical problems that physics can be used to solve.

This year students saw presentations from Domino Printing to find out how the sell-by dates are printed on eggs, the Astrophysics Research Group, Isaac Physics to find out about the importance of problem solving in Physics and the British Arctic Survey.



Hands-on Molecular Biology

Over the last few weeks, our Year 13 biology students have been to Oxford University Natural History Museum to learn about molecular biology.

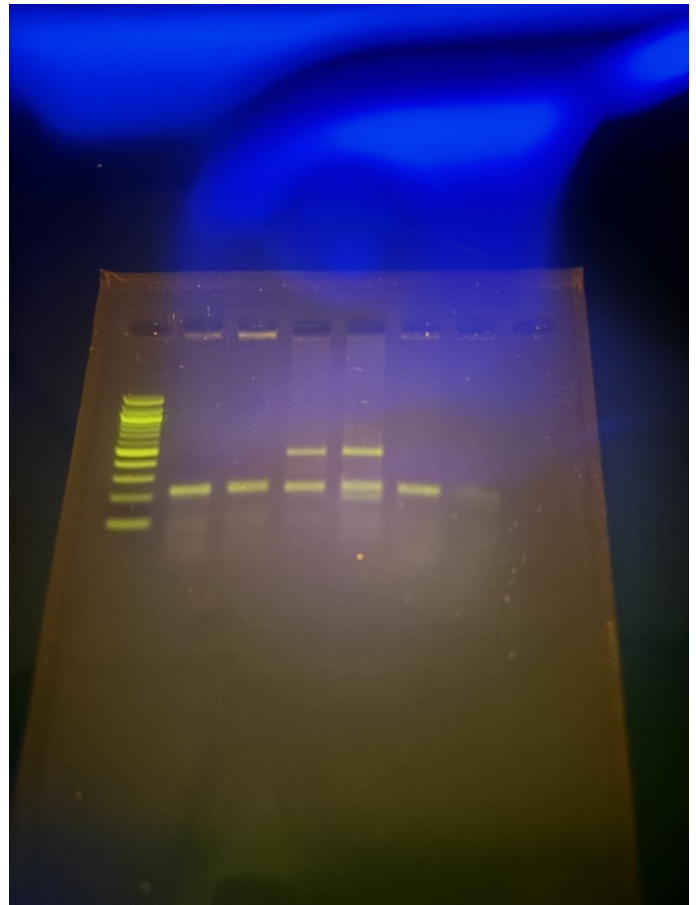
During a jam-packed day, students and staff began by tasting a chemical, phenylthiocarbamide (PTC), to discover their "tasting" phenotype. Next, they isolated their own DNA from cheek cells and used the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to amplify a key fragment of a taste receptor gene for bitter chemicals like PTC. Using a restriction enzyme digest of their PCR product, they differentiated between the alleles that they have and used gel electrophoresis to visualise their genotype. Oxford say that a 50% success rate for this type of lab work is pretty common – we think we were closer to 90%, thanks to our students' care and precise handling of the equipment and reagents! To close the day off, students and staff compared their genotype to their phenotype and discussed the results in the context of human evolution.

We enjoyed exploring the museum and Broad Street during our breaks and confirm that it has all the hallmarks of a wonderful family day out!

We are so grateful to Sarah at Oxford for her expertise, and for allowing us to use their research-grade equipment and reagents! Oxford hosted these inspirational workshops free of charge - what astonishing gift to our young people. These opportunities just don't come along every day and therefore we have booked next year's workshops already!

@morethanadodo #DNA #pcr #gelelectrophoresis #alevelbiology #biology

Corrine Doust
Head of Biology



COMMUNITY NEWS

This month Hertsmere Borough Council are conducting a Community Priorities Survey to better understand what is important to the residents of Hertsmere. The survey is part of their ongoing commitment to ensuring that their decision-making and policy development are driven by residents' input. They aim to better understand the key local issues impacting residents the most, from mental and physical health to education and employment.

The survey is for those 18+, who are residents of Hertsmere. The deadline for completion is Thursday 31st October 2024. The survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete.

Link to survey - [Hertsmere, UK: Community Priorities : Help shape our community priorities \(civilspace.io\)](https://hertsmere.uk/community-priorities-help-shape-our-community-priorities/civilspace.io)

Information video - [Help shape our community priorities \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

What are your community priorities?

Take our short survey now!

