



Monday 9 March 2026

PHE Week Z

Priority updates

In the Spring term, Durham Johnston staff will be sharing their specialist expertise in a series of open lectures. This is a celebration of our teachers' sapience and our students' curiosity. In the spirit of Christopher Wren's Royal Society lectures or Michael Faraday's Christmas Lectures, our lectures will be public education - entertaining and open to all staff and students at Durham Johnston. Mrs Bothwell is our first host and her lecture title is: *How to get people to agree: ideas from Classical Athens*. James Hall on 17th March, 3-3.45pm

Submissions for the spring edition of the **super-curricular magazine** are open now, **deadline Monday 23rd March**. We are looking for academic essays and articles, art/photography, academic book reviews and non-academic book reviews. There will be a section on super-curricular recommendations - so we are especially looking for Year 13 students to give us some short reviews of things they have read/watched/listened to that they would recommend to Year 12. See example here [Maths review.pdf](#). Please email your submissions to [DobsonA@durhamjohnston.org.uk](mailto:DobsonA@durhamjohnston.org.uk)

**Year 13 Leavers' Ball** – payments to be made on ParentPay. We cannot take your food choices or place you on the seating plan until you have paid.

**Reminder:** [Destination Durham - Durham University](#)

Monday

Chamber Choir lunch time  
Y12 MedSoc SC3 lunch time

Tuesday

**Leavers' Ball committee – please meet in SFA during form time**  
**Year 12 – interested in studying abroad? Talk at lunchtime in PE classroom. Be prompt – buy lunch earlier/bring it with you for 12.05 start, sharp!**  
Wind Band Jazz 3pm  
Debating 3-4pm Hi 3-4pm

Wednesday

Paired reading – form time in SFA  
Full committee – lunch time in SS3  
Senior choir 3pm

Thursday

Y12 Assembly James Hall  
Senior orchestra 3pm

Friday

**Year 12 students interested in attending Newcastle University Law Experience day (22nd April) - meet Miss Simpson in SFA during form time**  
School musical James Hall 3pm

Sport and Wellbeing

[Sports Bulletin 9th March.docx](#)

Careers

[Careers Advice](#) | [Apprenticeships and Jobs Advice](#) | [UCAS](#)

Y13 Degree Apprenticeships

[Development Woodland Officer \(Degree Apprenticeship\) - Yorkshire and North East Area Team - Civil Service Jobs - GOV.UK](#)

**Lidl Degree Apprenticeship – Retail Management. Vacancies in the North East.**  
<https://careers.lidl.co.uk/early-careers/degree-apprenticeship>

Oxbridge

[Conference timetable](#) | [University of Oxford](#)

MedSoc

SC3 Monday lunch: Supercurricular presentations

Super-curricular

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/2026-online-student-conference/conference-timetable>



**Online subject sessions – University of Cambridge – lots more than those listed below. Even if you are not interested in Cambridge, sign up to the subject taster.**

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events-listing>

**10Mar**

**Magdalene Subject Taster Webinar - Law**

Online

Magdalene College are hosting a series of Subject Taster sessions over Zoom in January-March 2026. This webinar will be a taster lecture for the Law course.

**10Mar**

**Magdalene Subject Taster Webinar - Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology**

Online

Magdalene College are hosting a series of Subject Taster sessions over Zoom in January-March 2026. This webinar will be a taster lecture for the Chemical Engineering and...

**11Mar**

**The Art of Being Human - Geography**

Online (Zoom)

Explore the Art of Being Human through a series of Arts and Humanities webinars from Queens' College Cambridge.

**11Mar**

**BA in Education Taster Lecture Series - 'Rebel Without a Course'**

Online

The BA in Education is a rich, varied and fascinating study of humanity. It intersects with a wide range of subjects such as drama, history, philosophy, sociology, economics...

**11Mar**

**Magdalene Subject Taster Webinar - Asian and Middle Eastern Studies**

Online

Magdalene College are hosting a series of Subject Taster sessions over Zoom in January-March 2026. This webinar will be a taster lecture for the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies...

**11Mar**

**Introduction to Psychology (Robinson Access Programme)**

Zoom

An introductory PBS (Psychological & Behavioural Sciences) interactive webinar led by Melissa Anoble, a PhD Researcher at the University of Cambridge.

**11Mar**

**English: The Murray Edwards Sixth Form Lecture Series**



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Murray Edwards College

Hosted by Murray Edward College, the Murray Edwards Sixth Form Lecture Series will dive into English Literature, French, Spanish, Classics and many more literature and language...

12Mar

### [Geography – The Murray Edwards Webinar Series](#)

Online via Zoom

Considering applying to the University of Cambridge? Get an insight into the breadth of the degree programmes we offer; the content and research that is involved; and the teaching...

16Mar

### [The Art of Being Human - Law](#)

Online (Zoom)

Explore the Art of Being Human through a series of Arts and Humanities webinars from Queens' College Cambridge.

Considering studying Arts, Humanities or Law subjects at Uni?

17Mar

### [Music Webinar - Trinity Hall](#)

Online

Hear more about studying Music at Cambridge as well as the key features we look for from applicants. There will be time for a Q&A following the presentation with both an academic in the subject and a current student.

### [Immerse Education Blog Competition – Win a Funded 1:1 Online Research Opportunity](#)

Students aged 13–18 are invited to submit a 300-word piece of writing in an area of their choice.

We are seeking blogs that demonstrate intellectual independence, conceptual depth, and serious engagement beyond the school curriculum, the qualities expected of students preparing for highly competitive university courses.

Selected entries will be published, and overall winners will receive **fully funded places on the one-to-one Immerse Online Research Programme**. Students work individually with an academic mentor, including researchers with backgrounds at Oxford, Cambridge, and leading Ivy League institutions, to design and complete an original research project culminating in a substantial academic paper.

To participate, details and submission guidelines are available [here](#).

### **[Leeds University: Social Sciences Summer School 2026 – 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> June](#)**

The University of Leeds is inviting Year 12 learners to apply for its three-day, two-night Social Sciences Summer School, running 23–25 June 2026. This free residential programme is an excellent opportunity for students interested in subjects such as Environment, Geography, Sociology, Education, Politics and International Studies, and Business to deepen their understanding of the social sciences.

Apply by 5<sup>th</sup> April

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/leeds/social-sciences-summer-school-2026-individual-booking-for>



**Sheffield University subject tasters – a whole range of subjects.** All Year 12 students thinking about studying these subjects at uni (not just at Sheffield) should sign up and access them.

<https://sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/visit/subject-tasters/book>

## Arts and Humanities - Subject tasters

Department	Title	Date	Time
English Literature	The many loves of Jane Eyre	Wednesday 11th March	17:00- 18:30
Philosophy	Manosphere and misogyny - an illustration of engaged philosophy	Wednesday 11th March	17:00- 18:30
English Literature	Adaptation: Interrogating Austen's novels onscreen and onstage	Tuesday 17th March	17:00- 18:30
History	Britain in the 60s: A Decade of Change	Wednesday 18th March	17:00- 18:30
Languages, Arts and Societies: German	Freud on Mind and Society	Tuesday 24th March	17:00- 18:30
Music	Mozart's Requiem: Facts, Fiction and Legends	Thursday 23th April	17:00- 18:30
Philosophy	Are We Morally Obligated to be Poor?	Wednesday 29th April	17:00- 18:30
Languages, Arts and Societies: East Asian Studies	The Rise of Game Survival Narratives in East Asian Cinema & Television	Wednesday 29th April	17:00- 18:30
History	King of the United States? Monarchy and the American Republic	Wednesday 6th May	17:00- 18:30

## Engineering - Subject tasters

Department	Title	Date	Time
Chemical Engineering	Optimizing your future with Chemical Engineering	Tuesday 24th March	17:00- 18:30
Computer Science	Machine Learning and Data Science	Tuesday 21st April	17:00- 18:00
Materials Science & Engineering	From Engines to Atoms	Tuesday 28th April	17:00- 18:30
Biomedical Engineering	What is Biomedical Engineering?	Tuesday 5th May	17:00- 18:00



Civil & Structural Engineering	Strengthening against Earthquakes	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:15
Electrical & Electronic, Mechatronic & Robotic and Computer Systems Engineering	From discrete components to intelligent systems	Wednesday 13th May	17:00-18:30
General Engineering	General Engineering: Where All Disciplines Meet	Thursday 21st May	17:00-18:00

## Health - Subject tasters

Department	Title	Date	Time
Orthoptics	Orthoptics: Why Do We See Double?	Wednesday 11th March	17:00-18:15
Nursing	The Kidneys - Why they're so great	Tuesday 17th March	17:00-18:15
Pharmacy	More than counting tablets	Wednesday 18th March	17:00-18:15
Speech and Language Therapy	Clinical Voice Disorders	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00-18:15

## Science - Subject tasters

Department	Title	Date	Time
Maths	The Mathematics of Monopoly	Wednesday 11th March	17:00-18:30
Chemistry	Designing two-dimensional nanomaterials	Thursday 12th March	17:00-18:30
Psychology	Psychology In Action	Thursday 19th March	17:00-18:30
<b>On campus:</b> Physics	Physics taster day: Find a particle at the LHC	Wednesday 1st April	09:00-16:15
Physics	Quantum Computers	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:30
Bioscience	Cystic fibrosis and small molecule treatments	Tuesday 12th May	17:00-18:00



## Social Sciences - Subject tasters

Department	Title	Date	Time
Journalism	What Would You Do? Ethical Dilemmas in Journalism	Wednesday 15th April	17:00-18:15
Landscape Architecture/Urban Studies and Planning/Geography	Creating a Sustainable City	Tuesday 21st April	17:00-18:15
Economics	Environmental Economics: What is the right amount of pollution?	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00-18:15
Sociological Studies/Management/Data Science	How can we better understand and impact people's health and wellbeing?	Thursday 23rd April	17:00-18:15
Politics	What is capitalism?	Thursday 30th April	17:00-18:30
Architecture	Communicating Architecture and Design	Wednesday 6th May	17:00-18:15

### **Newcastle Uni - Bitesize Uni Residential Summer School**

Applications are now open for our Year 12 Summer School! On the event, students can:  
explore a subject area via academic led sessions  
join in with fun social activities  
experience staying residentially on the University's Campus  
speak to current staff and students.

Please share the opportunity with your students. Applications close on Friday, 27 March 2026. Please note that we reserve the right to close applications early in the event of an exceptionally high volume of sign ups.

[Bitesize Uni Summer School | School and College Outreach | Newcastle University](#)

### **Leeds Uni - Are you studying A-level French, Spanish or German?**

Experience what it's like to study languages at university on our free residential for Year 12 languages students!

Join us for the Linguastars residential on 23-25 June 2026.

[Linguastars Languages Residential | Access and Outreach at Leeds](#)

### **Northumbria University Lecture series – Lit and Phil Newcastle – free evening lectures**

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 3 | Permafrost & Zero Emission - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 4 | Wireless Web of Invisible Currents & Hidden in Plain Sight - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 6 | Staying safe in a fake world & Pain, Immunity, and the Preservation of Autonomy in Robots - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 7 | The James Webb Space Telescope & Bringing Microwave Light Out of the Cold - The Lit & Phil](#)



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[Suggested Subject Resources | University of Oxford](#)

[super-curricular suggestions.pdf](#)

[HE+](#)

[Explore | The Home of Big Questions](#)

<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate/outreach/students/super-curriculars-and-resources/>

[Super-Curricular Challenge - Hertford College | University of Oxford](#)

[Staircase12 - University College Oxford \(Univ\) \(Univ\) - Staircase12](#)

[Guide-to-Super-curriculars.pdf](#)