

Sixth Form Societies

An integral part of life in Sixth Form is the array of societies that are set up and ran by Sixth Form Students. These include academic societies, sporting societies, mental health and general interest. Here are a few examples of things that students did last term.

Maths Society

So far in Maths Society we've delved into many different mathematical problems. We've explored primes and square numbers and how they influence the number of factors a number has in order to solve a door-opening and closing problem. We also discussed the Pigeonhole principle and its role in the proof of Friends and Strangers, a part of Ramsey Theory. In addition to that, we worked through a coin-flipping problem and through many coin-weighing problems, investigating the strategies for different scenarios, and how to minimise the number of moves.

Politics society

In Politics Society we have been able to successfully collaborate as a group with open, constructive discussions. We have covered the issues of the day as well as discussed broader topics through a political lens. The society is conveniently held on a Wednesday lunch time meaning we are able to watch and review Prime Minister's Questions. This provides an exciting opportunity for debates surrounding PMQ's in order to form collective judgements. This term we have specifically focused on the 6 questions from the opposition to the PM choosing a winner after each question is proposed and answered. This exercise has been a regular theme in our weekly sessions prompting us to review PMQ's analytically. This exercise still leaves time for us at the end of the session to open up the debate to more broader topics. Such topics include our regular coverage of the war in Ukraine in which we have followed the latest developments of and further discussion surrounding recent industrial action sparking a larger debate on topics such as nationalisation. Moreover, we have analysed recent polling figures as well as focussing in on specific local elections and how they can or cannot represent wider political trends. Overall, this term our society has proved to be one which is unique and exciting and we are all looking forward to carrying it on into the new year.

After being invited for a Channel 4 event in response to Jeremy Hunt's budget, I was inclined to go and intrigued to learn more. Not knowing what to expect, we took the train down to Darlington and walked to the Dolphin Centre. After sitting down with our complementary teas and coffees, we discussed what we were likely to participate in, having been given little information. To our surprise rather than having politicians analysing the budget whilst we listened, we were at a debate where we could all fully participate in. What I found the most interesting was hearing how economic decisions made on a political level had affected the young, the old, doctors, businesses, Conservative, and Labour voters. The broad array of backgrounds, professions, and ages meant I and my peers could contribute to the debate. Overall, it was a fascinating and thoroughly enjoyable experience to see politics from different perspectives that I would not normally be exposed to. Meeting Krishnan Guru-Murthy and discussing political issues with him was highlight of mine; the time he gave taking pictures with us and answering our question afterwards, highlighted the inclusivity of the event and the endeavour from the event to give us a voice.



Chem Soc

Over the term we have done presentations on Pauli's exclusion principle for electron orbitals and neurotoxins and nerve agents. We have also planned out many experiments including the use of hydrogen peroxide that we plan to do in the new year.

Multi-cultural society

This term we explored the various cultures shared by our diverse society members, such as customs and songs as well as how some cultural aspects are similar. From food to music to movies there are definitely different cultural aspects we would like to try out!

Engineering Society

The new Engineering Society started the first week after half term. We spent the first three weeks with a concept design task: creating a headphone holder to stop the wires from tangling. In groups, we designed the holders, and then built them in CAD software. We then had a session brainstorming plans for this year and, in the final session, we had the first end of term competition: design a "snowball" (cotton wool ball) launcher, furthest distance travelled wins (the year 12's won)! Next term, we will be starting our first big project, as well as holding a few more competitions, and some guest talks. This first term of this new society has gone brilliantly, and we can't wait to do more!

Bio Soc



This term in BioSoc, we've seen a wide range of presentations delivered by members of our society. The topics covered included symbiosis; the different species of penguin; mitochondria, and wolf populations in Italy. We tested our knowledge with quizzes, and by watching short clips about specific aspects of each talk that interested us.

Next year, we plan to look into genetics, including new discoveries in this field, as well as human anatomy and the functions of different organs. New members are always welcome so feel free to come along in January!

Christian Society

The CU this term has been a place where a group of Christian students have met weekly to focus on God. It is a group in which the truth of God's word can be mentioned without persecution or judgement. The CU is open to anyone, our only request is that people are respectful of one another and crucially: God, the Bible and our Faith. We have studied the Bible each week using extracts in our discussions as well as using full chapters when studying the gospel of Mark. We have many more open topics which we would love to discuss with people of different beliefs whether they be an alternative Christian denomination, another religion entirely or if they have no faith as it is important to hear different perspectives.

Young Minds Society



Last month we kick started Young Minds society again. This was initiated with a fund-raising walk to raise money for the charity Mind, which is very close to both me and the sixth form community's heart. It was an exhausting 6 hour walk but after 70k steps and £160 raised for charity, we were very proud of ourselves! Thank-you to all involved and those who donated, and we hope to do some more activities with the community to raise mental health awareness.



History Society

This term in history society we have covered a range of subjects, spanning hundreds of years - from the Roman times to the modern day. We have explored Witches and the role of women within this as a source of medicine as well as scapegoats to blame. We have gone through the history of the shortest serving prime ministers, fitting alongside the current political landscape. Alongside this, in history society we have studied the role magic and superstition played in Roman life.

Newspaper Society

In Newspaper Society, we have put together our winter issue which includes a recipe, a review, an article on Italy, zodiac predictions for 2023 and other Christmas-themed contributions. Any sixth former is welcome to publish their work and can do so anonymously if they would prefer.

Med Soc

"During this term, we have been focusing on giving Year 12s information through presentations about topics such as super curricular activities and how to choose the right university. We've also been gathering resources to support Year 12s in their medical application and we've enjoyed talking about medical dramas together. After Christmas, we aim to keep supporting Year 12s in their application by organising meetings with current medical students and we will also help with practice for admission tests."

Table Tennis Society

In table tennis club this term we increased our numbers each session with players from both year 12 and year 13 taking part. At a variety of skill levels, we work together to train, practice and play to improve one another's skills. With optional tournaments every week, training, doubles matches and 1 on 1 games the society is always busy. With an average of 12 people every week there will always be someone at your skill level there to help you improve or just to play for fun.

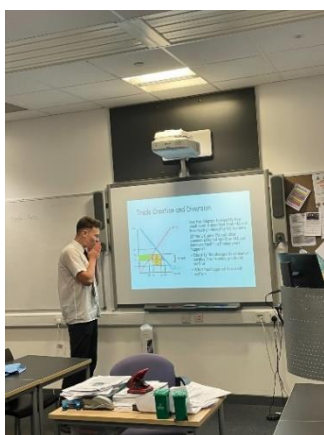
Business Society

From having a society within sixth form we have been given the opportunity to collaborate with those who we wouldn't within lesson time. We've been able to look outside of the specification broaden our knowledge and discuss this to broaden our understanding helping us further. In addition to this it's been able to see a fun aspect to the subject having some more light-hearted sessions while also still learning.

Debating Society

Debating society pits two teams of debaters against each other for an hour of debating real world issues. So far this year, we have debated whether Britain should pay reparations for its colonial past; if corporate sponsorship is good for the arts; if too many people are going to university; and how best to fight climate change. In teams of two, debaters have researched these topics in advance and prepared brief opening arguments before rebutting their opponents' arguments; teams then answer questions from Mr Patterson and the audience. Brave debaters are increasingly comfortable with debating new topics on the day, with no advance warning. Debating is a dynamic way to learn about both current affairs and confident public speaking.

Economics Society



Econ society has become a very successful society over the last few months, now with plenty of people attending every week to discover the latest news in further detail. We have gone through several economics related topics including bonds, cryptocurrencies, the financial crash, behavioural economics, and we have many more topics planned. Despite some technical difficulties, we always have ideas that lead to high detailed further discussion. Our collaboration with Hip Hop soc



was also a great success and a great break from the often highly complicated analysis we have every week.

Geography Society



Within geography society, we have researched into the future of sustainability. We looked at The Line (designed by Neom in Saudi Arabia) and how modern technology will provide 'an unprecedented urban living experience whilst preserving the surrounding nature.' We have also investigated The Octagon which is a similar type of development focusing on bringing the community, entrepreneurs, and nature together. While Neom has been at the forefront of our recent discussions, we look to expand our scope to

different areas of geography, such as geopolitics and physical geography. Over the weeks, many quizzes have also taken place over current world affairs. Prizes have been shared for the winning team of the quiz.

Literature Society

In Literature society we have discussed different plays and novels, reading some dialogue aloud, picking out what we find interesting and looking into their meanings.

Law Society

Here in Law Soc we have covered many presentations on law such as commercial, private and public law and more. We have also done interactive activities and talking about law related news. After Christmas we hope to continue this schedule. Overall, Law Soc is a community for those interested in law for the future or in general interest.

Drama Society

Drama Society has discovered the relevance of performance when it comes to breaking down topics of race, gender, and class. We have read extracts relevant to these themes and watched/annotated several theatrical performances that portray topics such as the ones above in different contexts.

Psychology Society

Psychology society has had some busy lunches. We've spent time watching forensic profiling dramas (criminal minds is the best) while trying to guess the 'unsub' before it's revealed or playing Freud themed hangman and hoping some of his theories don't apply to us. Then attempting to mock psychoanalyse each other - it's been an interesting group.

HipHop Society

In Hip-Hop Society, we explore all arts and genres in a collaborative, exciting and educational way. We have analysed albums, songs, and lyricism with the objective to understand and learn more, enhancing the power of the art. For example, this year we have dissected DAMN. by Kendrick Lamar, exploring his unique style and political opinion embedded within his art. The society provides a comfortable space where everyone to share their own opinion and openly discuss. Another element of the society is exploring the relevant history associated with the genre in order to give context and provide understanding. The first topic we explored was the creation of hip-hop as a genre, where it was created and what facilitated it with and the relation to the important context. The society is a judgement-free space to share your own interests of any art and express that interest. Alongside this, we also have had a few educating fun quizzes and games with prizes you can win. Most recently, we had a team game for musical artist ranking order, but we also have done independent games such as 'Guess the Sample' and 'Name the Album'.

Pride Society

In pride soc we have talked about current issues concerning the LGBTQ+ community and created a safe space for our members

Philosophy Society

In Philosophy society we have explored and thought about areas surrounding the course specification and started revising for mocks and exams.

Computer Science Society

Computer Science society has been running several hackathons. We started the year with a look into timing attacks, we then attempted to perform this attack on a custom server. We have also been exploring encryption schemes, going into discrete logarithms and cyclic groups and how they enable modern encryption to function. Following this talk, we went into primality tests and how they are used to efficiently find primes for use in modern encryption. Recently, the society has covered algorithms such as marching squares and page rank.