



December 2023



Dear Parents and Students,

We really can not believe how quickly this term has flown by! Year 12 have settled in well to Sixth Form life and staff have been complementary about how conscientious they have been so far.

Year 13 are now very nearly there, with their UCAS applications and it has been lovely hearing of all the offers they have received from their Universities. Lots of our students have been having virtual interviews too and have impressed us with their confidence and ability. A big thank you on behalf of Year 13 to Mrs Critchley, Holly Jones and Deb Halls who have all worked tirelessly, to ensure they had the best UCAS applications possible.

Year 12 students are being encouraged to undertake work experience relevant to their future areas of interest and to take up the opportunities that are sent out regularly via email. We would encourage parents to spend time with their son/daughter, looking at what is available at our local Universities and further afield. We want to ensure that this time next year, our year 12 students have lots to write about on their UCAS applications.

We have had a fun packed term starting with team building games on the school field, trips to Madrid and Tenerife, forensic science investigation days, University trips to LJMU and Edge Hill as well as finishing with a fancy dress Christmas party and a trip to York to experience the Christmas markets!

Finally we wish all of students, staff and parents, a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year for 2024.

Gillian Beddow (Head of Sixth Form)



Key Information

W/C 4th December—Mocks for Year 13

Friday 15th December—Edge Hill trip for Year 13 Scientists

Tuesday 19th December—Sixth Christmas Fancy Dress Party

Thursday 21st December—Trip to York Christmas Markets and last day of term.

Monday 8th January—Return to Sixth Form

Monday 12th-Friday 16th February—Half Term

Thursday 29th February—Year 12 and 13 Parents Evening

Please can we remind parents, that holidays taken during term time will not be authorised. Attendance is directly linked to academic performance and we kindly ask that you ensure that, your sons/daughters attend every day. They are required to attend three form times a week (8.45am) and Personal Development weekly, as well as their timetabled lessons. Please check ClassCharts as we will still use this to flag up any non-attendance to lessons and any issues with behaviour or work.

Enrichment



Madrid—Sixth Form Cultural Trip

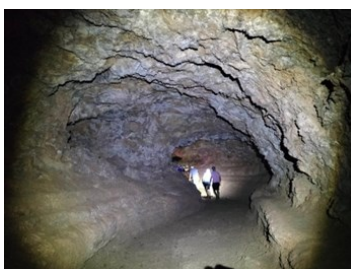
Students enjoyed three nights in the Spanish capital as part of our cultural enrichment programme in Sixth Form. We visited Warner Brothers Studio Theme Park where torrential rain and flooding didn't stop the enjoyment (they made a fortune on ponchos). We also visited the cathedral, the Bernabeu Stadium and Playa Mayor. Students were a credit to themselves, the school and their families.



Science in the sun: Tenerife Science Trip

Students were lucky enough to stay in private villa with pool during their stay and one year 13 explains the science behind it all:

The trip to Tenerife was an absolutely amazing experience. Consisting of 5 days fully packed with exciting trips and fascinating opportunities to engage with professionals in a variety of fields, having in-depth lectures from geologists, botanists and many more. A trek through the Caldera in the National Park was a personal favourite, with its stunning views and a very interesting talk on the formation of the island's rocks. The trip, however, was not just educational but also a great chance to relax and enjoy the weather, which was considerably better than the freezing cold mess we had returned to. Before leaving, on the final night, Mr. Horne showed off his cooking skills and grilled a variety of meats for us to enjoy. - *Written by Asa Ryan—Year 13*



Shout Outs

The following students have been nominated by staff for their amazing effort and progress this half term. Well done to all!

Medical Science

Lily McFadden—Year 12

Owen Kemp—Year 12

Eleanor Sawkins—Year 12

Shauna Hughes—Year 13

Fontayne Brydson—Year 13

Forensic Science

Alfie Alty—Year 12

Ethan Connolly—Year 13

Bernard Bradley—Year 13

Chemistry

Jemma Tulloch—Year 12

Sophia Hatch—McDermott—Year 12

Natalia Wojtczak - Year 13

Physics

Olivia Diamond—Year 12

Elliot Caslin — Year 13

Biology

Rachel Tennant—Year 12

Grace Swain—Year 13

Amber Hughes—Year 13

Business

Adam Tamburro—Year 12

Poppy Halpin—Year 12

ICT

William Sherry—Year 13

Careers

Merry Christmas sixth form. Like Santa, Year 13 have been busy in the run up to Christmas -with their UCAS applications- and I am pleased to report that the majority are on the 'good list' and have now paid and sent their applications to their chosen universities. It's wonderful to see how excited students are when they receive their offers and makes all the hard work worth it. This year, Criminology, Psychology and Law have been popular choices, along with the more vocational options like nursing, pharmacy, paramedic and veterinary science. It's impressive to see how many students have completed work experience relating to their chosen courses, while juggling part time jobs and full-time study; Santa can relate! Have a well-earned break and I look forward to working with more of you in the new year.

Holly Jones—Careers, UCAS and EPQ

H.jones@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk



University Taster day— LJMU

Year 12 students attended an open day at John Moores university where they chose to go to lectures in a variety of subjects, from health and science to law and business. They had the opportunity to tour the city campus and speak to current students which has inspired many year 12s to apply to John Moores university next year. *"It was an excellent day and the highlight for me for me was seeing the robots in the computer science and maths department"*



Shout Outs!

The following students have been nominated by staff for their amazing effort and progress this half term. Well done!

Maths

Harry Morrin—Year 12

Divine Campbell—Year 13

History

Hannah Luney—Year 12

Mason Tew—Year 12

Anya McNally—Year 13

French

Hannah Luney—Year 12

Spanish

Niamh Harvey—Year 12

Maddie Still—Year 12

Drama

Amelia Dixon—Year 12

Media Studies

Lily McFadden—Year 12

Charlotte Halsall—Year 13

Criminology

Sandy De La Morena—Year 12

Charlotte Halsall—Year 13

Mr. Gordon has nominated Olivia Williams for always being positive in form time.

Mr. Crawford has nominated Rachael Roberts for kindness—Rachael helped translate into Spanish for a visitor.

Next Steps Advice and Guidance

UCAS

Students should be receiving offers from universities. They don't need to action these (unless responding to an interview) until next year, when we will advise them on choosing their firm and insurance choice of university. We will also be running sessions on finance and how to apply for student finance in the new year.

Apprenticeships

If students are not intending to go to University and are instead looking at apprenticeship options, we will be offering some sessions on this in January, to get them started. We will be doing some work on how to apply for apprenticeships, CV's and mock interviews with all those students who are interested. Here are some good links to start looking in the meantime:

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Apprenticeship Jobs in North West - 2023 | Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com)

Unifrog is also another good resources—the students have log ins for this and can search for apprenticeships in their local area.

Year 12

We are currently encouraging Year 12 to undertake work experience either in person or virtual experience online. There are some great opportunities which we send out via email, so we encourage students to check their school emails readily. Below are a list of the key ones to keep an eye on.

Unifrog—on here students can find MOOCS (online courses), webinars and work experience opportunities.

[Speakers for Schools | Career Guidance and Work Experience for Students](#)

[Medic Mentors – Access mentoring, training, and support for your application to medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine.](#)