

Spring Term at Northwood

Headteacher's Spring Message	April 2025
Welcome to a Bumper edition of Northwood News. Hopefully you can see how our amazing opportunities at Northwood continue to grow- whether that is in the classroom, through STEM, literacy, sport or the arts- our wonderful staff continue to explore new ways to engage and enthuse your children. I am particularly pleased at the renewed focus on student-led initiatives like mentoring and charity work which really give our students the chance to shine. We have been working hard behind the scenes to migrate our IT systems to the Bromcom system and you will soon be invited to join the Bromcom App- My Child At School. This will, in time, allow you to see much more live data about how your child is doing with a renewed focus on praise and rewards as part of our behaviour policy. Wishing everyone a restful Easter break. Mr Shah	



World of Work (woW) Month gives students opportunities to meet industry professionals and develop employability skills. Activities included ; AI & Big Data Week, British Science Week, Apprenticeships, Sports Industry, Publishing, Film & Creative Industry, Charity sector, Emergency Forces, Industry talks, lunchtime workshops, assemblies, lesson delivery, UTC assemblies. Year 7 & 8 met a professional author. Our Careers Day 19th March focused on STEM (linked to Science Week) and students met a scientist so they could link their classroom learning to industry.

This is the first year that Year 10 students will be going on Work Experience in July. So far, over 50% of students have sourced their own work experience in a range of industries that include architecture, education. Finance, STEM and AI. If you can host a Year 10 student, please let us know. This would give them a fantastic opportunity to help shape their career pathway. Special CareersEd newsletter is going out next month,



Year Group News

Year 7

Hot Chocolate and Cinema rewards

40 year 7 students have been rewarded for their hard-work and excellent attitude to learning with a hot chocolate morning or trip to the cinema. Students enjoyed the screening of "The Boxtrolls" with plenty of sweet treats and popcorn! It was a lovely way to celebrate the successes students have had this term.

Mental Health Workshop

Year 7 recently completed a mental health workshop, which was facilitated by the brilliant James. Students learned about the 5 daily choices, which outline what to do each day to look after your mental health. Taking stress breaks, exercise, a good night's sleep, socialising with friends and getting some sunlight were all encouraged. Students enjoyed the sessions and have been talking about the tips regularly around school.



Matilda

The recent school performance of Matilda was a joy to watch and it was particularly lovely to see two year 7 students shine on stage. Congratulations to Bella (7EN) and Rose (7C) who portrayed their characters perfectly! We can't wait to see you on stage again soon.

Class Captains - Garden Area

Our class captain team has been working hard on improving life at Northwood school for year 7

over the past couple of months. The team have focussed their efforts into finding a location on site for a garden to be developed. This would allow for outdoor lessons, growing of plants and vegetables and a quiet space for students to relax in. Well done to the whole team for your efforts thus far.

World Book Day - Primary Visit

A number of year 7 students visited local primary schools recently to celebrate world book day. There were a fantastic array of costumes (as can be seen in the picture above) ranging from Harry Potter to The Cat in the Hat. Year 7 students read stories to the primary school students and shared their passion for reading. Well done to everyone who was involved.

Recipe Points

Students in year 7 will receive RECIPE points when they demonstrate the Northwood School traits and values (Resilience, Engagement, Co-operation, Independence, Pride and Enthusiasm.) I am so pleased to see that there have been literally thousands of points given out this term to year 7 students. A huge congratulations to 7E who currently have the most points this term!

What's coming up?

- Phone Clinic: If you would like to talk to a member of the Year 7 team, we are running a Year 7 Phone Clinic next week on Thursday 3rd April 2 - 4pm. Please call school rection who will direct you to a member of the team.
- Transition review meetings: where students are provided with the opportunity to discuss what they think has gone well since joining Year 7 and what are the areas of development.
- We are in the midst of planning our end of year reward trip for all year 7 students, more information to follow!

Year Group News

Year 8

Class Captains

Year 8 Class and Year Captains have been working on new proposals to present to LG on changes to the behaviour policy. Students would like to change some of the sanctions and have been creating a presentation to present to LG. Well done to the Year 8 team who have spent a lot of their own lunch times on this project.

Assemblies

Year 8 students have had a range of engaging and educational assemblies this term:

- Mrs Beresford delivered an assembly for World Book Day, talking about how important reading is to help us understand the world around us.
- Mrs Elliott led an assembly with Year 8 girls on empowerment. They all added to a positive affirmation board that serves a positive visual reminder for them to be the best versions of themselves.
- Mr Jarrett delivered an assembly for British Science Week, showing the Year 8 students the Science Fair they will be taking part in when they get to Year 9. A lot to look forward to!
- As part of WoW month, Year 8 students had an assembly from a member of the RAF Cadets to talk about careers in the RAF and their RAF Cadets Scheme.

RECIPE Points

Year 8 have been consistently receiving the highest RECIPE points in the school! In total, Year 8 have received a total of 26,132 RECIPE points so far this academic year. Students receive RECIPE points when they show the attributes and traits of a Northwood student - Resilience, Engagement, Co-operation, Independence, Pride and Enthusiasm.

Year Group News	Year 9
Options Evening Our recent Options Evening was a great success, with an impressive turnout from students and parents alike. It was wonderful to see so many engaged families, eager to discuss the wide range of subjects available and make informed decisions about their academic futures. At this point, all Year 9 students have had mini interviews with members of the Senior Leadership Team on their choices and future career paths. From here, students will be awaiting confirmation of these GCSE choices in May 2025! Sporting Success Many students in Year 9 have represented the school in several sports teams, from the annual competitive teams to emerging teams that have started this year such as Hockey! Please see more in the Physical Education section below. Focus Groups - PSHE and School Feedback A small group of Year 9 students have been participating in the NSPCC's pilot study 'EMPOWER'. The aim of this is for students to quality assure and assess the relevance of Relationships, Sex and Health Education lessons. This has had a great impact on our Year 9 RSHE lessons within PSHE for the Summer Term. Class Captains Our Y9 Class Captains are tirelessly working on broadening out extracurricular club provision, completing lots of research with staff and pupils to see what will have the greatest impact. These sports clubs include Volleyball, introduction to Girls rugby and recreational basketball. Assemblies The recent World of Work (Wow) month as results in our Year 9 cohort being exposed to many different career paths, to name a few we have had visitors from: • Careers in the RAF: We were excited to welcome a guest speaker from the Royal Air Force who shared their experiences and provided invaluable advice on careers in the military. Students learned about the various roles available, the skills needed, and how to pursue a career in the RAF. • Life in Publishing: Students also had the opportunity to hear from professionals working in the publishing industry. The talk highlighted the diverse career paths in publishing, from editorial to marketing, and the skills required for success in this creative and dynamic field. • The University Technical College (UTC) assembly introduced our students to the fantastic opportunities available at UTCs. This session provided an excellent insight into technical and vocational training, helping students understand how to blend academic	

knowledge with practical skills.

- Our "Empowering Girls" assembly was designed to inspire confidence and self-belief. With guest speakers and discussions on leadership, entrepreneurship, and overcoming challenges, this assembly aimed to empower our female students to pursue their dreams, regardless of barriers.
- The Global Academy assembly focused on the exciting field of media and communications. Students were inspired by the potential careers in journalism, broadcast, and digital media, with the chance to explore real-world applications and pathways in this ever-growing industry. Ms Elliot also took x15 students to The Global Academy to experience a number of workshops, here's what Isabelle (9P) had to say:
"My experience from The Global Academy is one that I cannot experience again. It is everything I've dreamt of and more. I will definitely be joining the school in my six form period. My favourite part was making our own advertisement because it let me unleash my creativity as much as I could. I loved how practical all the lessons were, I really appreciate this kind of teaching because things don't always make sense when loads of information is being thrown at you all at one time. Thank you for letting me go, you'll see me again soon."

Bronze DofE Training Expedition

A big congratulations to our students who participated in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Training Expedition in March! Over this weekend, they braved the outdoors, learning valuable skills in navigation, teamwork, and resilience. Their determination and spirit were truly inspiring, and we look forward to supporting them as they continue their DofE journey. We cannot wait to see them hopefully all pass in May on their Assessed Expedition.

Year Group News

Year 10



The Big Listen: This term, Year 10 students took part in *The Big Listen*, an important initiative where they had the opportunity to share their thoughts and opinions on various aspects of school life. The feedback provided will be invaluable in shaping future plans, particularly focusing on areas like well-being and workload. It's great to see students engaging so actively in helping to improve their school environment.

Work Experience: Year 10 students have been busy securing placements for their work experience in July, with many exciting opportunities being lined up. From local businesses to larger organisations, students are gaining valuable insights into the world of work, which will undoubtedly help them make informed decisions about their future careers.

World of Work Month : This month, Year 10 students took part in *World of Work Month*, where they engaged with professionals from a wide range of industries. Whether it was a talk from a pharmacist, insights from West Herts College, or presentations from the Army, the Police, a TalkSport journalist, and a personal trainer, students were given the opportunity to explore different career paths and hear firsthand experiences from those working in their chosen fields.



Celebrating Success : Year 10 students have shown great engagement and success across a variety of activities this term. From impressive performances in chess, handball, and football, to excelling in netball and NFL Flag Football, students continue to shine in both sports and extracurricular pursuits. Various trips have also been undertaken, providing opportunities for learning and fun outside of the classroom. Keep up the fantastic work, Year 10!

What's coming up? Year 10 students will have the chance to benefit from tailored mental health provision, specifically designed for them by expert. Additionally, plans are underway for the Year 10 trip to Thorpe Park at the end of the year, providing students with a fantastic opportunity to unwind and celebrate the hard work of the year. Excitingly, the Easter Sports Tour to Barcelona is also coming up, offering students a unique chance to experience sports culture abroad and enjoy some time away with friends and teammates.



Year Group News

Year 11

Year 11 have worked incredibly hard on their PPEs this half term, demonstrating focus, dedication, and resilience throughout the process. It was fantastic to see them approach these exams with such seriousness, showing the key characteristics needed to achieve strong results in the summer. Alongside this, Year 11 have now received their official exam timetables, allowing them to plan effectively for the months ahead.

Additionally, students have been undertaking their sixth form and college interviews with great professionalism, reflecting their maturity and commitment to their future pathways. As a reminder, GCSE exams begin on Wednesday, 7th May, so we encourage students to maintain this positive momentum as they continue their preparations.

Next steps for Year 11 : over the last few weeks we have been supporting students with the planning of their next steps with all of our students applying to 6th form (mainly Northwood1) or local colleges. We are very excited to hear about their future career steps.

Year Group News

Year 12 & 13



International Women's Day: Written by Lucy Groom

On 7th March, we celebrated International Women's Day to recognise and appreciate all of the women who are part of the Northwood community. Sixth form showed their gratitude for the dedication of our women by organising small gifts for each female member of staff. These were made up of a little treat, a daffodil and a quote by Michelle Obama linking to this year's theme: Accelerate Action. It was a lovely reminder of the strong sense of community

and respect within Northwood. *'There's no limit to what we as women can accomplish.'* ~Michelle Obama

6th Form Talent Show: Written by Lily Boardman

On the 25th of February Sixth form took part in Northwood's first ever fundraiser talent show! This took place in the common room where students performed acts to their peers, from singing to magic tricks to playing the african drums. The sixth form team were the judges and selected first, second and third place! This raised around £100 for year 13s prom! Well done to all contestants!!



WOW Month Samsung AI Live Careers Lessons: Written by Nya Parris

Y12s attended an interactive live stream lesson about samsung AI where we learnt about new development in the AI field and heard a variety of people from within the company talk about their roles and their impacts in the business in different areas like the creative and design field and the more technical side. They went into detail about their apprenticeship programs the opportunities it will bring why it's a good choice and how to apply. We were given examples of the modern uses of AI in chat gpt ,Gemini where you can have actual conversations with ,installation

of AI in appliances like washing machines to help reduce energy usage and become more environmental and cost efficient. The overall idea of the stream was to show how much of a positive impact AI is having and how it will be a huge part of our future.

Year 12 Industry Interviews: Written by Francesca Berle Amongst the support that the Sixth Form team offers, we've recently had the opportunity to be interviewed one on one by industry professionals. This experience was tailored to each individual and their future goals, allowing every student to practice their interview skills in a smart and composed environment. Our teachers prepared us beforehand with the necessary communication skills and the confidence and motivation to present our best selves. Ensuring we were dressed as smartly as possible on the day, each student had a twenty minute slot with their interviewer. During this time, we had the chance to speak about our academics, interests and our prospective goals with a professional, who supported and challenged our responses in order to create a realistic interview experience. With the chance to ask questions at the end of the interview, we were all given a taste of what life in these fields may look like. Following the interview, the industry professionals wrote a page on our delivery and how we can improve for next time. These notes were given out to the students shortly afterwards, where we got to consider what went well and what we should work on. Overall, this day was extremely beneficial in giving us an authentic experience of what an interview may entail, along with an abundance of feedback to keep in mind for when we are interviewed in the workplace.

World Of Work Month: Written by Savera Riaz

Throughout the month of March the exploration of a diverse and dynamic world of work meant delving into different career industries and the skills needed to thrive in them. This was achieved through engaging sessions which allowed for a more comprehensive look into the world of work. Some of these sessions included:

Laws Within The Workplace: Delivered by Ms Hilton-Dennis

The lesson outlined the specific workers rights the UK has adopted in order to protect employees from workplace discrimination. Some of these included ensuring annual leave, outlining the standard pay your employer owes you and protection against unfair treatment. The session detailed how the rights are essential to both employers and employees in order to maintain a fair and lawful working environment.

Year Group News

Year 12 & 13

Cryptocurrency: Delivered by Mr Golson

The lesson delved into the concept of crypto currency, outlining the ways in which the investment poses an array of risks including price volatility, regulatory uncertainty and its potential use within illegal spheres. The talk helped better explain the different types of crypto currencies including Bitcoin as well as the lesser known currencies such as Litecoins, explaining that whilst governments are continuing to adapt to the newly emerged virtual currency, crypto currency will continue to expand and evolve across the globe.

The importance of E Safety and The Digital Footprint: Delivered by Ms Riaz

The lesson incorporated the ways in which the digital footprint plays a vital role within the hiring process when reviewing applicants for employment. The employers often review a candidate's digital footprint in an attempt at better understanding the potential employee, ensuring their views align with the company's values as well as verifying there are no inappropriate posts created by the user. This session emphasised the importance of e safety, exemplifying how the responsible use of digital platforms is crucial for job seekers, concluding with how a well managed digital footprint can enhance job prospects whilst a careless one may affect possible job opportunities.

Careers In STEM: Delivered by Ms Roofe

The lesson provided a valuable insight into the career prospects found within STEM, shedding light on the diverse opportunities hidden behind its mathematical front. Contrary to what many believe, the opportunities presented by it extend across many industries including Artificial Intelligence, astronomy and data analytics. Additionally the session also covered what to expect within a career in STEM, including its high demand and competitive salaries, with 6 of the highest paying jobs in the UK falling under the title.

Government And Politics: Delivered by Mr Abrahams

The lesson explored the various ongoing political developments within the UK whilst skillfully connecting them to the roles held by individuals within the political sphere. It provided a clear breakdown of the career paths within the government emphasising how politicians operate at different levels, from local councils to Parliament. Additionally the session highlighted the key skills required to pursue a career in politics, including critical thinking and problem solving abilities offering valuable insight into the demands and opportunities within the field.

Homework Club: Written by Samarah Parkar

On Monday and Tuesday each week, us Year 12s help out the lower school during their after school detentions up in the Sixth Form Silent Study room. During these 40 minutes, we assist the students with their homework and any queries they may have about the curriculum or any confusions that they may have on the day. This is key in helping to assist and make sure that any key concepts that they may not have understood in lessons are cleared up but also making sure that they are doing their homework to a good enough standard. We aim to ensure that all students leave confident within their homework tasks.

Oxbridge Society: An expedition Towards Excellence: Written by Adam Mahay

This year, our Oxbridge Society has been in full swing, helping students explore what is required to apply to and thrive at Oxford / Cambridge. We've had a plethora of engaging discussions on choosing between the two universities, a visit from a Peterhouse representative who gave us insight into Cambridge life, and a Q&A with a current Cambridge student, who attended Northwood School. We also delivered speeches on our course choices and heard from 2 current Year 13s who shared their experiences applying to Oxbridge; giving us valuable advice on preparation and the application process.



Beyond OxSoc, I've taken extra steps to strengthen my application. I attended a Chemistry Open Study Day at St John's College, Oxford, where I participated in an academic taster session, mock interviews, lab work, and a campus tour. I also regularly join Oxbridge-organized meetings, including Trinity's "Beyond the Classroom" talks every Wednesday. To

Government And Politics: Delivered by Mr Abrahams

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Homework Club: Written by Samarah Parkar

On Monday and Tuesday each week, us Year 12s help out the lower school during their after school detentions up in the Sixth Form Silent Study room. During these 40 minutes, we assist the students with their homework and any queries they may have about the curriculum or any confusions that they may have on the day. This is key in helping to assist and make sure that any key concepts that they may noeyond the Classroom" talks every Wednesday. To deepen my subject knowledge, I've done extra reading (e.g through HE+), completed a FutureLearn course, and undertaken virtual work experience. Initially, I considered undergoing a Chemical Engineering degree, but after these experiences, I realised my true passion lies in pursuing a Chemistry degree.

With an upcoming university fair at the Emirates Stadium, where Oxbridge will be present, our journey continues. The society has helped us develop key skills such as networking, asking insightful questions, and demonstrating academic passion; all essential for standing out in competitive applications.

Year 12 University Fair: Written By Michael Adeyelure



On the 21st of March, we, Year 12, went to the Emirates Stadium to attend a university and careers fair. During the fair, we met with different universities from all over the UK and got first-hand advice from admissions officers about applications and personal statements. From this, we could compile information about universities that are not always readily available online, such as the specific structure of extracurricular activities, the range of facilities available, and the general 'vibe' of the university and student body. I found it useful because it allowed me to discover my

interest in universities that I wouldn't have considered otherwise. For that reason, I appreciate this opportunity.

Mentoring Program: Written by Luke Bennett

Mentoring in Sixth Form helps build a connection with the lower school and enables us as Sixth Formers to create a bond with younger pupils. As a mentor you are able to increase your communication skills while also knowing you're having a positive impact on your mentee. For the mentees it allows them to have a friendly face around schools and for many gives them a reason to come into school and feel supportive within the Northwood school community. We talk through topics such as highlights of the week, barriers they may face and how to overcome these challenges. This is open to students from Yr 7-11, adapting advice and guidance depending on the year group and it is really rewarding to see the progress across the academic year.

Y12 Next Steps evening: Written by Jaya Punja

On the 25th March, sixth form had their next steps evening. It was an event with all our next step information, to help us make an informative decision. We listened to An alumni speak about degree apprenticeships and her application process with both UCAS and the apprenticeship. As well as a student who took a gap year to work towards an internship and then apply for a degree apprenticeship. Showing us different routes available.

Ms Rafferty gave information on parents evening and upcoming mocks and grades, whilst Ms Kondal spoke on UCAS applications and references we would need. Ms Domm gave an overview of work experience and how sixth form support with gaining industry opportunities and documenting on our Northwood diploma.

The evening was very informative in understanding what different paths our next steps could look like and how to shape our future path.



Student leadership + House News!

Student Leadership: The student leadership team has put together a fantastic presentation for Leadership Group for 6th May. Areas they want to discuss i) Refining the behaviour policy ii) PE Kit rules iii) Vegetarian options at school. We are using their voice to make our school community even better.

House: We have had another successful term for house events with results below!

House Chess	House Creative Writing	House Table Tennis	House Art
1st - Rosa 2nd - Ennis 3rd - Chadwick 4th - Pele 5th - Isaac 6th - Edison	1st - Chadwick 2nd - Rosa 3rd - Pele 4th - Isaac 5th - Edison and Ennis	1st - Chadwick 2nd - Rosa 3rd - Ennis 4th - Edison 5th - Pele 6th - Isaac	Results after Easter!

A massive thank you to our wonderful Heads of House who have worked tremendously hard to revive the House system!



Lizzy Barlow, Jamie Hill, Vinay Radia, Kayser Ahmed, Callum Gough, Shyam Pattni, Chloe Wilby, Naitthen Mendonca, Kiran Patel
Sophie O'Dwyer, Fran Berle, Matilda Massingham, Flo Venkatesan, Anya Arepali

Highlights from Charity events/other events

Interact:

Every Interact club is supported by a local Rotary club, ours being Elthorne-Hillingdon Rotary Club. On the 2nd of April, 4 members from Interact Club will be attending the Rotary Evening and will be making a presentation on what Interact Club has done so far this year at Northwood School.



This term, Interact Club has been working on fundraising for the British Heart Foundation's Heart Month and for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day: **Go Red for Heart Month** is all about getting together with your community to raise money for lifesaving research. Whether it's losing a loved one to a cardiac arrest or coping with the devastating impact of heart failure, too many of us have felt the pain of heart and circulatory diseases. The British Heart Foundation

were urging the nation to Go Red to keep hearts beating this February for Heart Month.

- On the 14th of February, Interact held a Heart Month Bake Sale where they will be selling different red and heart themed baked goods to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.
- We held a raffle to win a massive hamper of Dairy Milk chocolate. The lucky winner was Selina in 7EN.
- After the success of the previous two years, Interact continued with Send A Rose where students could buy a paper rose for £1 for a special person in their lives. They could add

their name or send it anonymously. Interact handmade 182 roses in total!

- Interact raised and donated £217.15 for the British Heart Foundation

Red Nose Day Friday 21 March - Comic Relief believes that communities are best helped by the people and projects that know them best. It funds organisations across the world and here in the UK. By raising money this Red Nose Day, we were raising money to help children be happier, families stronger, women safer, communities prouder and millions of lives fairer. It was Comic Relief's 40th birthday and their theme was 'Go Big, Give Big and Feel Good'. Interact organised the following for Red Nose Day:

- Wear Red for Red Nose Day - this was our second non-uniform day of the year. Students were encouraged to wear something red. We had a large number of students decked out in red!
- Funniest Teacher T-shirt Competition - teachers wore their most comical t-shirts and the winner was voted online by our students. The joint winners were Ms Barry and Ms Greco!
- Red Nose Day Quiz - during form time, students took part in a quiz that had questions ranging from General Knowledge to Sports to the history of Red Nose Day.
- Interact held a raffle to win a fantastic Lindt Gold Bunny Easter Egg. The winner will be announced soon, good luck to all students and staff who entered.
- Interact launched a JustGiving page to help us raise money in our school community who donated £108! For the non-uniform day and raffle, we raised £755. This brings our total to £863, a massive thank you to everyone who supported!

Interact meet every Tuesday after school and are currently making plans for Mental Health Awareness Week in May.



Inclusion News!

SEND Enrichment Opportunities - Kurling and Bowling

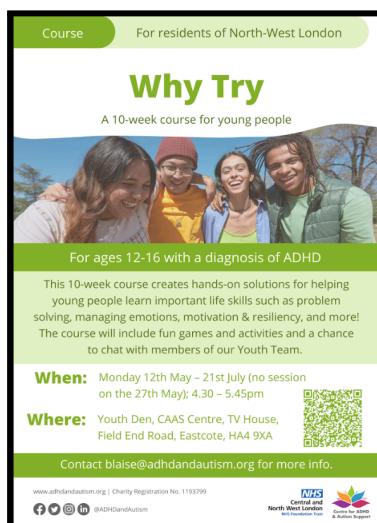


In February, 6 students from Year 7 represented Northwood School at a New Age Kurling competition. Our team acquitted themselves well against the more experienced teams from Pield Heath House. Oscar captained our team superbly and the competition organisers gave him a special mention at the end. We had time to try boccia and our team quickly excelled at this, easily beating the opposition.

Six Year 7 & 8 SEND students displayed excellent team spirit and co-operation at the Panathlon Challenge Ten Pin Bowling competition. They were admirably supportive of



each other and the other schools, and achieved an amazing result of 4th out of 8 teams in the West London division! Every student received a medal and a certificate highlighting their amazing enthusiasm, participation, and resilience. Well done to Ruby-Mai, Scarlett, Rachael, Reyansh, Brooke, Oscar, Josh, Noah, Abdul, Aaran, Eron, and V!



Celebrating Neurodiversity Week Students at Northwood School celebrated Neurodiversity Week with a valuable insight in the different types of Neurodiversity (neurological variances), they also learnt about respecting differences and celebrated the strengths and talents of people with learning differences such as Albert Einstein (Autistic and Dyslexic) and Emma Watson (ADHD). [Training and Support for Autism & ADHD through CAAS](#) Why Try is a lively 10-week CBT based course designed to support young people in all areas of their lives. The course explores issues such as: peer pressure, decisions and consequences, making the right choices, and building self-esteem and worth.

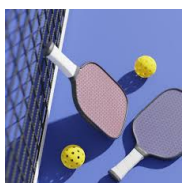
The programme is taught in a way that is accessible to most learning styles and is very interactive, making it popular with young people with ADHD. We try to make the course more like a social club than a learning environment and the course is completely free. If anyone is interested, click on this link [Group Pre Agreement](#) to request a place on the programme.

Name of Department

PE

Celebrating Success in PE : Spring Term has been a remarkable one for Northwood School's Physical Education department, marked by outstanding achievements and an inspiring growth in participation across a variety of sports.

Pickleball and Hockey Clubs: A Surge in Popularity



This term has seen an exciting rise in participation at both the Pickleball and Hockey clubs. The increased interest in these sports has been wonderful to witness, with more students getting involved and showing real enthusiasm. As a result, the school has been able to field a competitive hockey team for the first time in recent years, culminating in a thrilling appearance at a local hockey tournament. The team's commitment and teamwork were clear to see, and their performance was a great testament to the club's success in drawing in more players.

NFL Flag Football: Girls Shine in the Spotlight In NFL Flag Football, the growth of the girls' program has been one of the most exciting stories of the term. Their hard work and determination have paid off, with the team attending a flagship event for the New York Jets. Not only did they hold their own at this prestigious event, but they



also returned with a dominating victory in their most recent fixture, winning 56-0. This impressive performance underscores the strength of the program and the dedication of our athletes, proving that the future of NFL Flag Football at Northwood is bright.

Boys' Football: Year 9's Unbeaten Streak and Year 8's League Triumph

In boys' football, Year 9 has continued its unbeaten run, securing an outstanding 4-1 victory in an away match. This success has placed them in a strong position as they look ahead to their upcoming fixtures. Meanwhile, Year 8 has been celebrating a well-earned league win, which has set them up perfectly for the next chapter in their football journey. With these great results behind them, both teams are eagerly looking forward to the upcoming sports tour to Barcelona. This exciting tour will see them face local opposition in a series of fixtures and tournaments, further developing their skills and strengthening their team spirit.

U15 Girls & U15 Boys Handball This term both the U15 Girls and U15 Boys competed in the first round of the England Schools National Competition. The U15 girls, having missed out on training this year and missing a keeper, got off to a slow start but rapidly improved throughout the tournament, demonstrating a great deal of resilience and enthusiasm. The girls lost their first two games but regrouped, listened to feedback and went on to put in a couple of outstanding performances in their remaining games, picking up 2 wins for a mid-table finish. Following their incredible success in last year's competition the U15 Boys went into their tournament with a target on their back and a lot of work to do. They boys were outstanding throughout, winning the majority of their games convincingly and only losing to the team that went on to win the tournament, beating us in a thrilling final that went to extra time. Unfortunately only one team is going through this year but due to the level of their performance, the boys have been allocated the first reserve slot. Both teams should be incredibly proud of themselves.



Girls' Netball: Incredible Success : Our Year 9 netball team has had a fantastic season, winning all their league matches and proudly debuting the brand-new Northwood School netball dresses. They put up a strong fight in the Borough tournament, finishing 5th and just missing out on the semi-finals! Their teamwork and dedication have been outstanding. Meanwhile, the Year 10 team continued their incredible winning streak, securing 1st place in the Borough tournament. These talented players have also been instrumental in fundraising for the new

netball dresses. A huge well done to all the girls for their hard work and success this year!

An insight into Sports Career opportunities : We have had the pleasure of welcoming 2 professionals from different sectors in the Sports Industry this term for students to learn and discover potential careers and routes to achieve them!

- Uma G - TalkSPORT's Journalist and Broadcaster
- Carlie M - Personal Trainer and Fitness Instructor

Looking Ahead: Barcelona Sports Tour

As the term draws to a close, the anticipation for the Barcelona sports tour is palpable. With the success of the Year 9 and Year 8 football teams setting a solid foundation, the tour promises to be a fantastic opportunity for our young athletes to challenge themselves against local teams in a variety of competitive environments. It is sure to be a memorable experience, one that will inspire even greater achievements in the future.

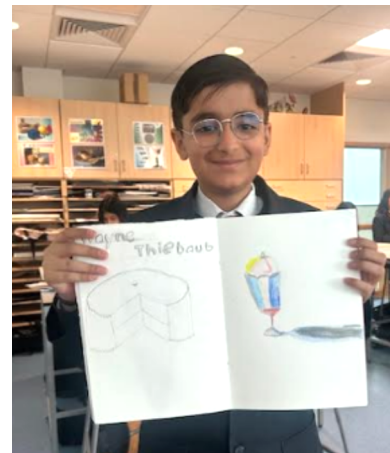


Name of Department

Art



Year 7 have been looking at the work of Wayne Thiebaud as part of their 'Food' topic this term along with learning techniques in watercolour painting, coloured pencil shading and the importance of adding tone to their work.



Year 8 recently enjoyed creating a polyboard print inspired by their topic of 'Distortion'. They really enjoyed coming up with their own personal designs related to this theme.



Year 9 have been exploring the topic of 'Street Art' and considering the differences between graffiti and street art. They have created amazing work using different fonts and lettering styles to create a street art style 'Tag'.



Year 10 have been experimenting with a range of new and exciting media such as monoprinting, silk painting and working in clay.

Year 12 are starting to explore their own ideas within the theme of 'Unconventional Beauty'. They have recently been inspired to create a personal response related to the work of artist Valerie Hegarty.



"This piece is a response to the artist Valerie Hegarty who explores themes of personal inspiration, history and place through different materials. For my response I incorporated imagery from the mural across the station bridge at Northwood Hills to highlight the memories that I have from living in Northwood Hills my whole life. I further explored this idea by tearing my painting apart and placing it back together like a puzzle to emphasise how even though people may move on from their childhood the memories still stay with them." - Lizzy Barlow

And year 11 and 13 have been working hard preparing for their upcoming GCSE and A Level art exams which are happening after Easter.

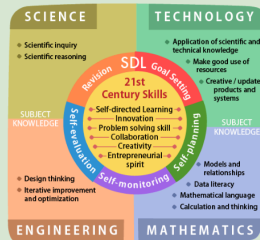
Name of Department

Business & Economics

Activity 1: Research STEM Skills in Business Roles

Task: Please research what kinds of STEM skills are required for these business jobs (10 mins).

1. Financial analyst
 2. Accountant
 3. Product manager in a technology company
 4. Factory manager
- The following websites may help you find descriptions and skills required for these jobs:
- (1) <https://uk.indeed.com/>
 - (2) <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/graduate-jobs>
 - (3) <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>



GCSE and A level students have been looking at how skills in STEM- Science, Tech, Engineering and Maths can be applied to various Business professions that students may be considering for their future.

Mr Wong, our Business teacher delivered an inspiring Careers Talk where he discussed his previous career in banking where at one point he was an Assistant CEO. He discussed the various paths in the finance industry that graduates often take including front and back office roles.



Two Business A level students, over four weeks will use a £10 pledge to get their business ideas off the ground. "This is a highly interactive and fun programme introducing enterprise and financial education and enhancing key skills, including communication, creativity, problem solving, teamwork and confidence." - The Challenge

An example is Lucky Bazaar, good luck to all the teams!





EconPlusDal Economics Conference : YYr 13s attended Merchant Taylors school on Saturday 22 March for a whole day revision conference with the popular online Economics teacher EconPlusDal. It was a fantastic event and the students came out feeling more confident about their upcoming summer exams.



Year 13 Business students attended a useful Grade Booster day from tutor2U on Friday 28th March. Students learned how to master their 3 business exams with a particular focus on more challenging topics. They learned how to improve their writing technique, especially the structure of exam answers. They found it very useful.

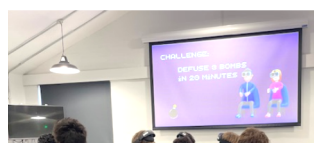
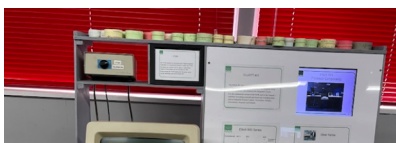
Department

Computer Science

Trip to the National Museum for Computing

Year 10 Computer Scientists spent a day exploring the National Museum for Computing in Milton Keynes.

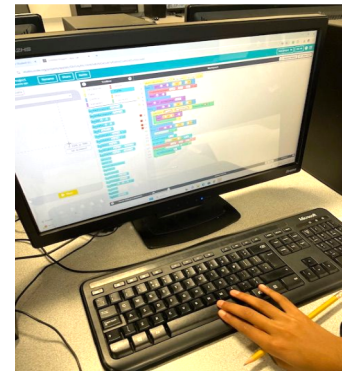
They benefited from an expert tour of Modern Electronics in Computing. The Museum is home to several examples of working early machines; EDSAC, WITCH, ELLIOT 803 to name a few. They were given the opportunity to experience VR in order to solve puzzles in a fast paced environment. They also explored the ethical issues surrounding Robotics and AI. Overall it was an excellent experience for the students.





Techni Club for Girls

The members of this club have been working incredibly hard on creating an app for how to care for pets. Along with designing the app they have had to take the time to learn how to program within the app. They hope to create an informative app with advice and information for pet owners.



Tech Ambassadors

The Tech Ambassadors have been working on a competition that will be rolled out to the whole school after Easter for teams to sign-up to. The competition will be based upon E-Safety, cyber Security and current threats in the Computing world.

KS3 Coding Club

In Coding Club we have had students working on BBC MicroBites whilst others have been working on their advanced Python programming skills.

KS4 Coding Club

KS4 coding club members have been tackling challenging Python based scenarios. The students have managed to use nested for loops and extended their knowledge on concatenation.

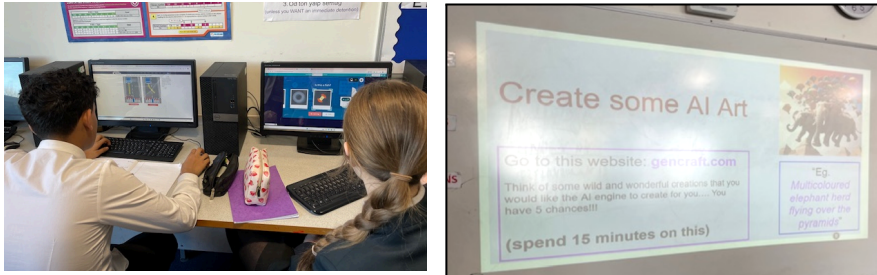


Computer Science Industry Speakers

As part of the WOW Month, our Year 10 Computer Scientists were fortunate enough to attend a talk given by two industry speakers. The informative talk focused on the ever increasing world of AI and how students can equip themselves with the skills they need to be successful within this field.



AI Industry related activities for WOW Month



KS3 classes had the opportunity to explore the world of AI. They used AI tools to generate realistic pictures by describing what they wanted the AI to create.

Name of Department

Hospitality and Catering

Food tech at Northwood is a calm and enjoyable experience, where students learn vital life skills to aid their general future. Recently, Year 7's have been learning the importance of a balanced diet and healthy eating by following the eatwell guide. They have also been practising their knife skills by making fruit and pasta salads. The Year 8's have been focusing on grains and their uses, making breads, pizzas and biscuits, with outstanding pizza box designs. The Year 9's have been making meals from a programme that was created by Tom Kerridge and Marcus Rashford, which is centred around making affordable, simple and delicious dishes at a time of economic hardship. They have also been choosing their GCSE options, with many preparing to complete the Hospitality and Catering course at Northwood.



The Year 10's have completed part of their qualification, finishing their coursework and the practical elements of the course. The brief for their practical assessment was creating a dish for a parent and 10 year old child, which all students excelled at; making mouthwatering meals with great nutritious value. Finally, the Year 11's have completed the qualification, and are now focusing on the upcoming exam season.

Overall, all year groups have learnt important life lessons in a supportive environment, and will continue to do so throughout the school year.

Name of Department	English
Year 10 Shine at Shakespeare's Globe Our Year 10 students recently attended a captivating performance of Macbeth at Shakespeare's Globe, and they were an absolute credit to the school. Their exemplary behaviour, both during the performance and while travelling, demonstrated their maturity and respect for the experience. Unlike some other school groups, our students showed nothing but professionalism, engaging thoughtfully with the production and enriching their understanding of Macbeth for their English Literature studies. Ms Richardson and Ms Barry, who accompanied them, were incredibly proud of how well they represented our school. Well done, Year 10!   Theatre Production 'The Globe Players' transformed our Hall into a theatre when they performed exciting adaptations of our GCSE English plays. Year 10 enjoyed watching JB Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls' and Year 11's were supported to revise for their upcoming exams with a performance of Shakespeare's gruesome tragedy 'Macbeth'.	



World Book Day:

For world book day, the wonderful Northwood staff and 6th formers dress up as memorable characters from memorable books. We also had the privilege of inviting Savita Kalhan to the school, who delivered talks to years 7 and 8 and delivered incredible workshops to some students in KS3. Students also designed kites, book tokens, bookmarks and tote bags. Overall, it was an energetic and creative day. Thank you to all who took part, and well done to the KS3 students who produced some brilliant work in the workshops!



National Poetry Day

For national poetry day, our amazing librarian ran a poetry workshop with a group of year 7s. They produced some fantastic poems - some fun and witty, and some that were incredibly moving. Thank you to the amazing Ms. Underwood and well done, year 7!



Name of Department

Geography

Year 7 students have hit the ground running in Spring and got stuck in with topics like World Cities. This involved learning about the push and pull factors and issues that are presented in cities around the globe. Ask your child what they remember about Mumbai, Kinshasa, London and Shanghai as they will have investigated a few of these. They are now engaging with the

weather and climate unit and learning about the different factors that affect our climate and other places around the world.

Year 8's have been working very hard in developing their knowledge around Cold Environments. Students learnt about the opportunities and challenges that exist in developing settlements in a cold environment with a focus on Svalbard. They are now engaging with a very interesting unit of the UK through time. Starting off with some mapping of the nation and the counties in England while also learning about how glaciers have shaped our country through time. They will soon move onto looking at the human changes in the UK including the North South divide and the change in economy.

Year 9's have been looking at Energy and learning about renewable versus non-renewable resources and how economies and countries around the world rely on them. They have looked at different case studies of Solar farm in Seville to micro-hydro in Peru. They have now started to learn ecosystems and rainforests where we will look at the natural and human world and how they interact including deforestation.

Year 10's have continued their development unit finishing off looking at Nigeria while now looking at the factors that have affected the UK's development and improvement. They will soon be starting Coasts in Summer to help prepare for our Fieldwork trip down to Bournemouth.

Year 11 and 13's have finished their content and are working on revising key elements for their upcoming exams. Join us in wishing them the best of luck in this last push.

Year 12's are working through their Coasts and Water Carbon unit. They are looking at coastal landforms and the multitude of factors that impact them along with how the water and carbon cycle are linked and impacted by human interaction.

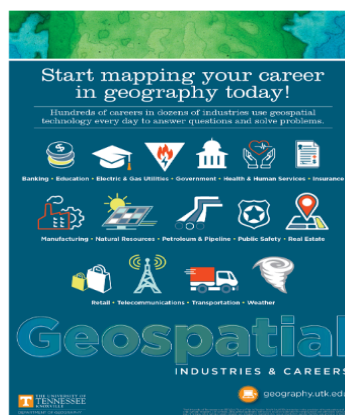
GIS Careers – How much do they pay?

GIS careers come from degrees in Geography, Architecture, Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences.

All of these will potentially give you access to courses that utilise the program ArcGIS and you can further your knowledge with more courses and application of the programme.

It can open up your world with industries like in the poster shown opposite.

The jobs on the right all had GIS in the job description as part of the role.



Careers in the curriculum:
On March 19th our department engaged in a careers curriculum day in which they learnt about GIS and how this career links to Geography. They focused on how maps can be digitally investigated to lay out data in a spatial way to understand patterns to better deal with global

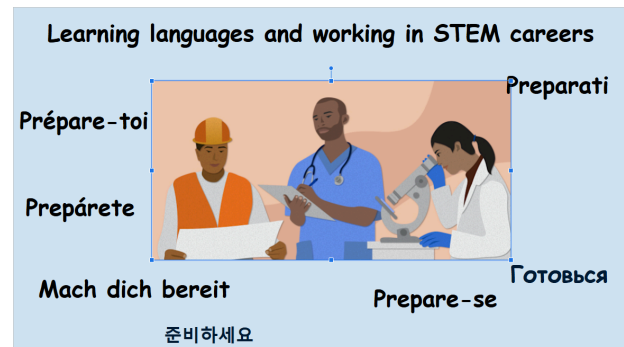
problems like aid, climate change, flooding and other key events. We investigated the routes into this field and the salary expectations.

Name of Department

MFL

🌍 ✨ MFL Meets STEM! 🚀 ✨ 🌍

This term, the MFL department brought languages to life in an exciting STEM-themed lesson! ✨ Ever wondered how engineers, scientists, and tech innovators use languages in their careers? From coding in multiple languages to aerospace engineers working across borders, we have explored how STEM and languages go hand in hand!



The MFL students completed interactive activities, real-world case studies, and a fun challenge that tested their problem-solving skills—*en français, en español, y más!* 🗣️ 🌍

Because in today's world, speaking another language is the key to unlocking global opportunities—whether you're building robots or discovering new medicines! 🚀 🗣️

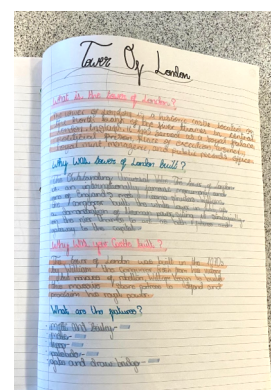
Name of Department

History

In Year 7 History, we have been looking at William the Conqueror and the changes he brought to England. One of the important changes he brought was a new type of castle, called Motte and Bailey castles. We learnt about the different features of the castle (palisade, motte, keep etc) and the advantages and disadvantages of this type of castle. Then, to extend our knowledge even further, students were assigned two options for the castle project:

- Create a written piece about a specific castle, such as Rochester Castle.
- Create a labelled castle at home using things around the house.

Here are some examples





Name of Department	Maths
It's been a busy term in the Maths Department with lots of extra curricular competitions and every mathematicians favourite day.... Pi Day. UMKT: In January groups of students within Y9, 10 and 11 sat the Intermediate Maths Challenge. There was a huge number of certificates with special mention to Best in Year awards going to Misha (Y9), Ansh (Y10) and Askhat (Y11) as well as Samir (Y9) and Stefan (Y11) who qualified for follow on rounds to be sat in late March. Misha and Samir in (Y9) along with Daksh and Zain in Year 8 went on to compete at the Team Maths Challenge at St Helen's school. The team performed really well and had a great day of engaging and challenging maths. Chess: Chess has had an extremely busy term! First up, Northwood's run through to the third round of the ECF National Schools Chess Championship was halted by a loss to Haberdashers Aske's School. Following this two teams were entered into the Team Chess Challenge at Harrow School. The 'A' team of Aryan, Samir, Ansh, Reyansh came an excellent 5th place out of 18 teams in a highly competitive field including teams from as far away as Cardiff. An amazing result! The 'B' team of Krish, Stefan, Dhyaan, Thomas and Murad played great games and gained valuable experience in what is for some of them their first competitive match. Two teams then competed in the inaugural Hertfordshire Schools Chess Championship. In the Open section the team of Aryan, Samir, Ansh and Krish came 5th whilst in the Junior Section (Year 8 and Year 9) the team of Reyansh, Niranjan, Ayushman and Noah came 7th. A great result. Chess in the school has been further boosted by regular afterschool coaching sessions with Grandmaster and current English Chess	
   	

champion Elmira Mirzoeva.

24 Game:

Four year seven students: Arjun Dumaswala , Rayan Hussain, Farwa Zahra Syed and Ava Hughes represented Northwood at the "24-game" maths competition at Ruislip High School. This is a borough wide numeracy competition which was attended by 12 local schools, each bringing two teams. The girls team did really well, getting 22 of the 30 questions correct! The boys team even managed a podium finish, finishing joint third place out of the 24 teams! All the students were a credit to themselves and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

Maths Feast:

During the spring term 8 of our enthusiastic Y10 Mathematicians took part in the inter school Maths Feast Competition at Bishop Ramsey. Math Feast is a fun educational challenge which tests problem-solving and team work skills. Across 4 rounds the students worked on various different non-routine problems aimed at promoting interest in pursuing Maths at KS5. Both teams did exceptionally with one of our Northwood Teams placing 2nd out of more than 20 local schools! Well done to all involved!



Pi Day:

On 14th of March the Maths Department celebrated International Pi Day. Students were invited to recite as many digits of Pi as they could remember in order to win a prize! Students also took part in Pi related activities during lessons. Did you know? 3.14% of sailors or Pi-rates.

Name of Department	Performing Arts (Drama, Dance and Music)
Drama Trip!! The year 11 Drama students went to see <i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i> at the Duchess Theatre on the 21st of January as part of the GCSE course. The students found the play highly engaging and hilarious and had lots to discuss in the lessons which followed. It was a great production to write about and also inspired and motivated the students for their own performance exam which took place weeks after. Northwood 2025 presented... Matilda!! Our wonderful Performing Arts students performed on the 13th and 14th of February to 3 local primary schools and a full house in the evenings. The students were so incredibly	
	

committed to attending the singing, dancing and acting rehearsals 3 to 5 times a week! They were excited to show all their hard work and enjoy the final performances and absolutely did themselves, and the PA staff very proud! Well done all- it was a great team effort.

Drama performance exam...

On the 3rd of March, the Year 11 Drama students performed two extracts from one script as part of their GCSE assessment, contributing 20% towards their final grade. The quality of the performances was exceptionally high and thoroughly engaging. The students had spent months preparing, exploring staging, character development, and performance skills. Their hard work truly paid off, and they should be very proud of themselves!

Music Samba workshop...

DNA in a Day

Earlier on in the term, students from Years 9, 10, and 11 participated in a highly successful "Performance in a Day" event, organized in collaboration with Quirky Theatre. Over the course of the day, students worked tirelessly to stage an entire play based on the exam set text *DNA*. They not only deepened their understanding of the play but also gained invaluable experience in all aspects of staging a performance, from acting to technical skills.

The event provided a unique opportunity for students to collaborate across year groups, with Year 9 students engaging with GCSE material and learning more about the Drama GCSE. It was fantastic to see students from different years working together so seamlessly, demonstrating the power of teamwork and dedication.

The event culminated in a brilliant performance in front of an audience of parents, staff, and students.



Samba workshop...

Students in Year 9 and 10 took part in a Samba workshop delivered by Bespoke Samba. They were fantastic throughout the workshop and played amazingly. GCSE music students are invited to take part in workshops every year to improve their musicianship and broaden their musical horizons.

Music Performance exam.

Students in Year 11 have been completing their performance exams. Each performance counts for 15% of their overall grade. All the students have worked very hard and it shows with the quality of their performances. We have had performances on the Tabla, vocalists, Guitarists, Drummers, Piano players, Bass Guitarists.



To support our World of Work month, we had the honour of welcoming award winning actor Jeremy Irvine to Northwood School. Jeremy has starred in multiple plays and films, including Spielberg's 'War Horse'. He ran an inspiring Q&A session to KS3,4 and 5 students, giving real insight into the film and entertainment industries.

NEW PERFORMING ARTS CLUBS!!

- Dance club- every Tuesday afterschool all ages with Miss O'Hara
- Drama club- Wednesday afterschool (week 1 only) with Mrs Griffin
- LAMDA- with Miss Elliot
- Music clubs- School of Rock- Tuesday afterschool
- Choir - Wednesday afterschool with Mr Watts

UPCOMING exciting opportunity for all year 7 & 8 students!!

In the Summer term, our year 7 & 8 students will all be given the opportunity to take part in dance workshops delivered by a professional from Make Believe, Wembley who are a Performing Arts School. The workshops will be part of an 8 week programme where they are given the skills, time and opportunity to prepare a piece for an audition, which will be optional. The students can do a lot of things for this including dancing, singing, playing an instrument, doing a comedy sketch.

Scholarships:

Any student that takes part in Class Act will receive a 2-week free scholarship to our school & a certificate.

The top 3 students who perform will receive longer term scholarships to our school.

1st place = 3 month scholarship

2nd place = 2 month scholarship

3rd place = 1 month scholarship'

<https://www.makebelievegroup.co.uk/school/make-believe-wembley/>

More information to follow...

Department	PSHCE
For many year groups, Spring Term has been about safety and wellbeing. In Spring Term 1 Year 7 and Year 10 learnt about mental wellbeing. Year 7 were taught by our Year 12 Mental Health Ambassadors through the Peer Education Project. Year 7 also had our Mental Wellbeing framework launched by our external facilitator James. Year 7 should be using the five S's (sleep, sunlight, sweat, socialise, and stress breaks) as their toolkit to mental wellbeing. Year 8 approached health and wellbeing from a physical angle, exploring risks and consequences of drugs. Both Year 7 and Year 8 have recapped learning from other areas of school about balanced diet, exercise, dental health and vaccinations. Year 9 focused on employability, careers and options to coincide with their GCSE options process. In Spring Term 2, Year 7 continued the health theme, extensively learning about health and wellbeing in relation to alcohol, smoking and vaping. Year 8 have learnt about careers. Year 9 looked at financial tools and issues, including budgeting, tax, digital tools, fraud and scams, including a talk from HMRC about tax. Year 10 learnt about gangs and grooming. Summer Term is themed around Relationships, Sex and Health Education. All year groups will consider the elements of healthy relationships, such as trust, communication and respect in all relationships. All year groups will discuss consent in various contexts. Year 7 will consider ingredients of a great friend and the responsibilities of families. Year 8 will add to their knowledge of consent by discussing harassment and peer pressure. Year 9 will begin to think about how the media portrays relationships and body image, and the impact on individuals. Year 10 will cover a comprehensive RSHE unit.	

Name of Department	Religious Studies
Religious Studies at Key Stage 3 has continued to ask big questions. In Spring Term 1, Year 7 finished asking how the world came to be and if all life is special. They have begun asking how we should live our lives. Year 8 have finished asking who God is and how God has communicated/is accessed from a variety of worldviews. Year 8 have just started a philosophical unit considering academic arguments for and against the existence of God. Year 9 has asked how we can know what is good and evil and enquired into the authority of holy texts. Five Year 9 students have taken part in an interfaith debate at nearby Swakeleys school. Year 10 have learnt about beliefs and practices in Islam, following on from the same learning	

about Christianity in Autumn Term. Year 11 have finished their course and are making preparations for their final exams.

Name of Department

Science

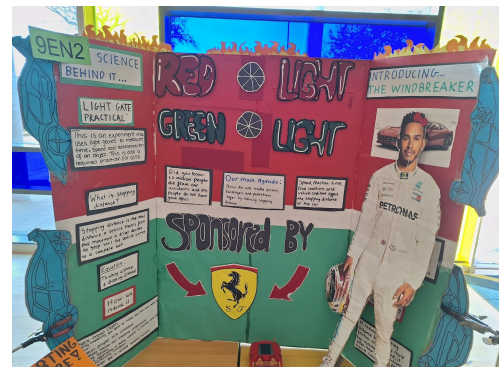
Exciting Science Events This Term at Northwood!

This term, the Science Department has been buzzing with exciting activities and events, offering students the chance to explore, learn, and showcase their creativity. Here's a roundup of some of the highlights:

Northwood Science Fair: A Showcase of Student Creativity

Our annual Northwood Science Fair, held during British Science Week, was a huge success. Year 9 students presented a wide variety of projects, demonstrating their creativity and scientific knowledge. The topics explored included:

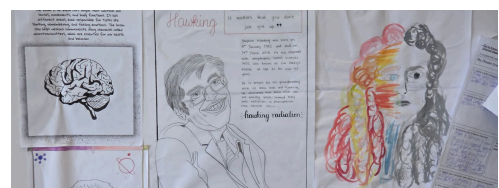
- Adaptations & Evolution
- Pollution & Climate Change
- Water Purification
- Oceans
- Braking Distance & Car Safety



From hands-on models to informative posters, students tackled real-world issues and displayed impressive scientific concepts. The fair was a fantastic opportunity for students to collaborate, apply their learning, and engage in important conversations about the world around us.

A huge thank you to all the students and staff for all the hard work that went in to make this event possible. We can't wait to see even more incredible projects next year!

KS3 Science Art Competition



Our Year 7 and 8 students also had the chance to participate in the Science Art Competition, which was a wonderful display of their enthusiasm and creativity. It was inspiring to see how they combined their artistic talents with scientific concepts.

We look forward to more exciting events in the coming terms, and we are proud of all our students for their hard work and dedication.



Pharmaceutical Careers Talk

In addition to the fair, we were pleased to welcome Mrs Rabia Hussain from the pharmaceutical industry to speak with our Year 10 students about career options in this exciting field. The talk gave students valuable insights into the various paths available in science and sparked interest in future career opportunities.

