

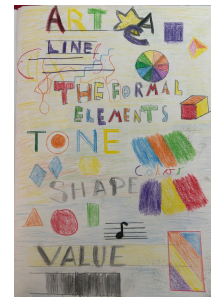


Headteacher's Message	Friday 20th December 2024
Dear everyone, I hope you enjoy this new look version of the Northwood news that has been put together by Mrs Kahn. It aims to give more of a flavour of the range of excellent work that students produce across the school as well as all of our extracurricular opportunities. As well as celebrating the opening of our Mural and recent OFSTED success we have also found many ways to celebrate student success through our revamped RECIPE points system at Key stage 3 and through our excellent house events led by Mr Senthilkumaran. The new Year 7 and 12 cohorts have settled in really well. Year 7 have brought great enthusiasm to lessons whilst Year 12 have been so pro-active at helping out across the school. They are great ambassadors and role models for the younger years. We look forward to the new term and our Bi-annual Matilida production but in the meantime please enjoy a well deserved break this Christmas. Seasons Greetings, Mr Shah	

Name of Department

Art

This term year 7 have been exploring the formal elements of art and have already produced some really creative and impressive artworks.



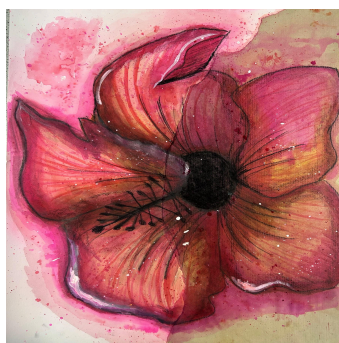
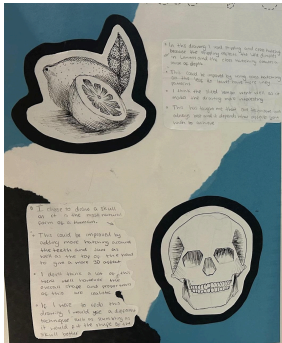
Year 8 have been creating artworks on the theme of animals and exploring a range of different techniques such as collage, mark making, tonal shading and pattern.



Year 9 have challenged themselves this term by creating work on the theme of portraiture. They have been learning about proportions, how to draw facial features and have been creating portraits using influences from different artists.

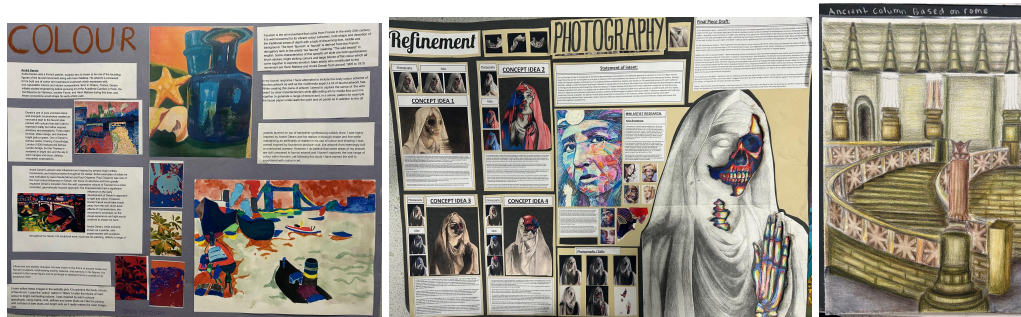


Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE course, starting off with the topic of contrast and focussing on natural forms.



Year 11 have been working hard preparing for their upcoming exam where they will be producing a final piece related to their work on structures. It has been lovely to see everyone start to develop their own original ideas for final outcomes and I look forward to seeing what they will produce.

A level have enjoyed the challenges of coming up with their own personal ideas for artworks. Year 12 have been looking at a range of different art styles in order to develop their confidence in a range of media and year 13 have been preparing and planning for the creation of their own final pieces.



Name of Department

Business & Economics

Northwood Good news

Our Year 12 Economists have been conducting research into the difference between merit and demerit goods and why they are a market failure Eg how can the Government reduce the consumption and production of cigarettes and



vapes? How to reduce the market failure arising from the underconsumption of vaccinations?

Business students have been looking at how to calculate break even which is a tricky topic! They have been learning how to show it on a diagram. Well done to all the students who



achieved their target grade in the recent assessment.

Department

Computer Science

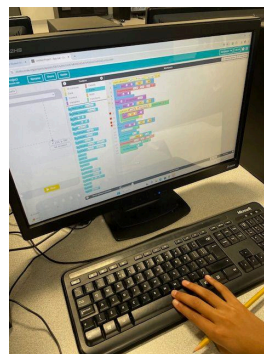
Key information you would like to share and celebrate!

The Tech Ambassadors planned and delivered assemblies to all year groups focused on how to keep safe on the Internet. They have also been working hard on creating a house competition for form groups to participate in.

A board with material created by the Tech Ambassadors on E-Safety and assembled by Sixth Formers has been circulating around the school.



The members of Techni Club for Girls have been working hard on creating an app for a national competition.



Coding club for KS4 is well underway. Buzzing Computer Scientists have been attending and working on becoming phenomenal programmers.

Name of Department

Design and Technology

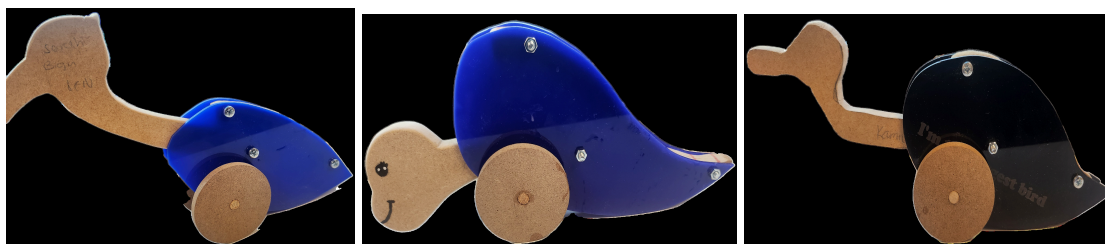
Year 7

DT students this year have been focussing on timber, polymers and electronics making LED MoodLights. Students have been looking at electronic systems and components making an LED light circuit, they have also been introduced to CAD/CAM using the Laser Cutter to make the stand for the Mood Light and Package.



Year 8

Year 8 have been working with timber, mechanisms and polymers this term and developing their skills with CAD/CAM, designing and making push along toys



Year 9

In Product Design students have been completing projects and learning skills and knowledge in preparation for their GCSE options in the new year.

Students have made desk organisers looking at timber and polymers, joining and finishing techniques.



In Textiles Year 9's have completed their Tote Bag which followed an Identity theme. developing their technical skills and knowledge of various techniques in Textiles such as dye sublimation.



The Year 10 Textiles students have made a fantastic start to their GCSE coursework through their sketchbooks. Following a Sea Life theme, students have had the experience of creating samples in a number of different areas to develop their skills and understanding. They have carried out research based on various Textile Artists to support their practical outcomes.



Year 10 Product Design

Year 10 have been completing projects and learning skills and knowledge in preparation for their GCSE NEA and exam. Students have made hinged storage boxes looking at timber, polymers, joining and finishing techniques.



Name of Department

English

Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge Regional Final

A few weeks ago, Jiya (Y10) represented Northwood at the Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge Regional Final.

Jiya's speech was an empowering message to all young people about the importance of positive body image.

We are incredibly proud of how Jiya demonstrated Northwood's RECIPE values throughout this competition. Although Jiya did not place in the regional final, we have every confidence that she will continue to use her voice to *speak out*!



Hillingdon Regional Final 2024-25

Photograph courtesy of a photographer at the event. Please see the album display from the event [here](#).

Name of Department	Geography
It has been an amazing term for Geography from our educational trips out to Stratford to conduct fieldwork about the regeneration project. The Year 11s were very well behaved and really got stuck into their surveys and investigation. The students have been engaged in a number of projects this term including some amazing work from the Year 9's to present their Asia region. Students were tasked with learning about different regions of Asia and understanding the geographical context. They have truly excelled at working in groups and getting out of their comfort zones by creating amazing presentations. Year 7's have hit the ground running getting used to Geography at Northwood including mapping around the school, introduction to fieldwork and work understanding rivers and the water cycles. The year 8s have been deep in the understanding of our deepest processes on the earth...the tectonic hazards including learning about case studies from around the world including tsunami in Indonesia and earthquakes across multiple continents. The year 9's as mentioned have recently been working on their Asia projects but have also been working on their understanding of development. They engaged in a Trading game on "no pens wednesday" where they took on the role of trading within countries trying to earn as much as they could. This led to lots of fun, some disagreements but the overall understanding that trade in the world is not an even playing field for	



rich and poor countries.

Year 10 students have started the year strongly on Hazards around the world including climate ones and have motored through both topics with great understanding. Year 11s as mentioned have completed their final fieldwork and done 2 large tests including a recent PPE they should be very happy with the work they have put in.

Name of Department	MFL
This term, the MFL Department had the pleasure of taking a group of Year 11 and Year 10 students to Madrid, Spain. During our four-day stay, we explored iconic landmarks such as Plaza Mayor and Retiro Park, and enjoyed touring Real Madrid's Bernabéu Stadium. The students made the most of Spain's lovely November weather, practising their Spanish and immersing themselves in the culture, especially as our visit coincided with the Day of the Dead celebrations. We were treated to stunning sunsets, savoured the famous churros at San Ginés Churrería, and even danced in the streets of Madrid to the lively sounds of accordion music. The trip was truly wonderful, and the students had an unforgettable experience.	



Name of Department	History
In early October, the Year 11 GCSE History group visited the Tower of London for an engaging and informative trip. The focus of the day was	

exploring the history of the Tower, with a particular emphasis on Elizabeth I and her time there as a prisoner before she became queen. The students enjoyed learning about the Tower's role in Tudor politics and its significance in Elizabeth's story, bringing their classroom studies to life. The guided tour provided fascinating insights into the Tower's history, and students had the chance to see key historical sites up close. Overall, it was an interesting and enjoyable day that enriched their understanding of this pivotal period in history.



On November 4th, the Year 10 History group embarked on a fascinating walking tour of the East End of London, focusing on Jewish migration and migration to the area more broadly. Over the course of three hours, students explored key historical sites that highlighted the experiences of migrant communities, particularly the Jewish population, who settled in the area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The tour brought to life the challenges and contributions of these communities, providing valuable context for their migration studies. The day concluded at Spitalfields Market, where students enjoyed lunch and had the chance to reflect on the rich history of one of London's most diverse neighborhoods.



The Chess Club has had a great half term of practice and competitions.

In October the Chess Team spent a Sunday at Eton College competing in the large and prestigious Secondary Rapidplay with teams from across the UK. The team competed strongly with every player winning at least one match and finishing 12th out of more than 30 teams in the Major Section. Well done!

In November the team then competed at Harrow School in the first round of the ECF National Schools Championship. This was another large tournament with over 200 games of chess being played over the afternoon. The team finished in a position that qualified them for the next round of the Schools Championship and now eagerly await their next opponent!

In December 30 students from all year groups also had a chance to develop their skills in a special chess masterclass run by Grandmaster and English Chess Champion Elmira Mirzoeva.

Happy chessmath!



Name of Department	Performing Arts (Drama, Dance and Music)
It has been a busy and exciting term in Performing Arts! Some highlights from KS3 include Year 7 getting into the festive spirit through the Pantomime scheme of work, exploring this classic performance style with enthusiasm and energy. Year 9 Music students have been hard at work creating their own Christmas Number One, showcasing fantastic creativity and teamwork. A key focus this term has been our extra-curricular production of <i>Matilda JR. the Musical</i>. Rehearsals have been in full swing, with students dedicating time and effort after school from Monday to Wednesday. We've also introduced a new Backstage Crew Club on Fridays, providing opportunities for students to support the production behind the scenes. To inspire our cast and crew, we enjoyed a trip to the West End to see <i>Matilda</i> at the Cambridge Theatre which was a brilliant experience for everyone involved. We're so proud of the hard work our students have put into this production and can't wait to see them shine when the curtain rises on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th February. Tickets will be on sale in the New Year - don't miss it!	





Name of Department	PE
This term has been an exciting one for extra-curricular sports at our school! The PE department has been busy with a wide range of clubs, including netball, football, handball, badminton, table tennis, pickleball, Gaelic football, rugby, and gymnastics. Our netball teams have truly excelled, with Year 7 and 8 securing impressive victories in their two matches, winning by more than double, while Year 9 have remained undefeated so far, showing great improvement. Year 10 triumphed at the borough tournament and even competed in the National Schools tournament. Year 11 came close to the semi-finals at their borough tournament, and all teams have made Northwood proud.	



The current football season for the boys in Years 7, 8, 9, and 10 has been marked by impressive commitment and success across all age groups. Training sessions have seen consistently high attendance with all groups displaying fantastic attitudes, dedication, and teamwork.

Year 10 have been particularly outstanding, with their performances standing out for their great team cohesion and collective effort. Their teamwork has been a key factor in their continued success, as they continue to demonstrate the strength of unity on the field.

Year 8 have had a perfect run so far, winning all three of their matches. They have scored a total of 11 goals, showcasing their attacking prowess. The boys have been particularly impressive in their adaptability, playing well against a variety of different teams and maintaining great footballing standards throughout. Their success has placed them in a strong position to contend for the league title as the season progresses.

Overall, each group has demonstrated a high level of performance, with the players showing commitment, skill, and a positive attitude, setting the stage for even greater achievements as the season continues.



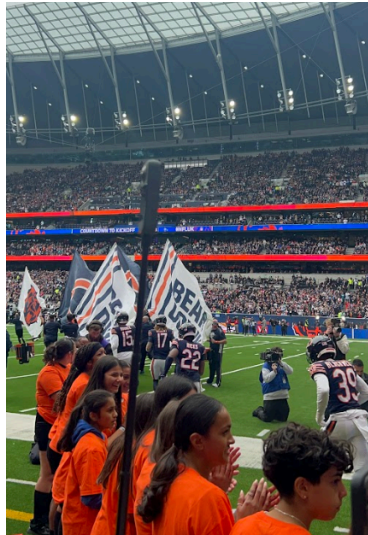


Girls' football has reached an exciting milestone with its highest participation rate to date at Northwood school, marking a significant step forward in the growth of the sport. This surge in interest has created an incredible opportunity for young females to showcase their skills and passion for the game. For the first time, they have been entered into a league, allowing them to experience the thrill and challenge of competitive matches. Their success in these matches has provided a solid foundation on which they can continue to build, fostering confidence and creating new aspirations for future achievements. As we look ahead, the continued growth and success of girls' football is something we eagerly anticipate at Northwood school, knowing that this is just the beginning of what promises to be an exciting and transformative journey for these girls!

Badminton club has been a hit with over 80 students attending, and a talented Year 13 student has led a competitive squad at lunchtime. We have also seen the introduction of Pickleball which has gone down extremely well with students of all year groups. We look forward to the continued growth of this sport at Northwood school.

Our Girl's NFL team had an incredible opportunity to spectate an NFL match as a reward for their successful season last year. We received gifted tickets to watch The Chicago Bears vs Jacksonville Jaguars and we're allowed pitchside to create a tunnel for the players to run onto the pitch! Alongside this, at halftime our students' achievements were recognised on the pitch to the whole of the Tottenham Hotspur Crowd!





We have received confirmation that the program will be up and running at the end of the Spring Term and will include Year 8 to Year 10 students. If you are interested in getting involved keep an eye out for the trials in the Spring term!

Finally, the school ski trip to Italy has been a highlight, with students and staff enjoying the beautiful weather, stunning views, and well-organized activities. All students received 16hrs of ski instruction in small groups and quickly advanced up to the blue, red and the odd black slopes! I would like to highlight four students who were identified as having a can-do attitude, never giving up and were a positive influence on the rest of the group. Congratulations to Callum H, Samuel R, Rohan L and Joe S-C! Us teachers also awarded three more students with a medal for showcasing a great attitude and maturity throughout the whole trip. Well done to Georgie G, Aryaan K and Frankie J.

Throughout the trip we received outstanding comments on how well-behaved and polite all of our students were. On behalf of all the staff that attended, myself and Mr Lewis want to thank every student for being the best version of themselves and overcoming so many challenges independently. The students made the trip so much more enjoyable and it was great to see the students enjoy the quiz night, talent show and all the other activities that they partook in. Please see a selection of photos below and for more content, please go to our instagram account (@nwschoolinsta).





It has been a fantastic term for extra-curricular sports, and we are excited for what the new year will bring!

Name of Department

Hospitality and Catering

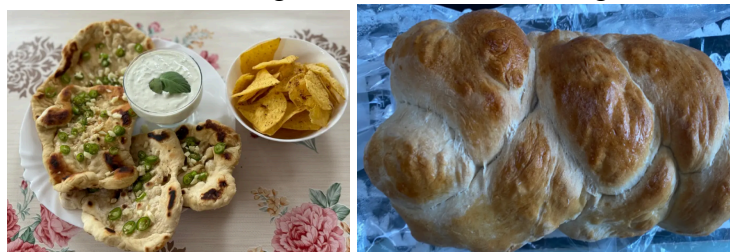
Our KS3 chefs have rustled up some outstanding dishes showing great enthusiasm and skills. A wall display within the schools celebrates their love for food.



Dishes made by our Year 7 students.



Year 8's showing off their Bread making skills.



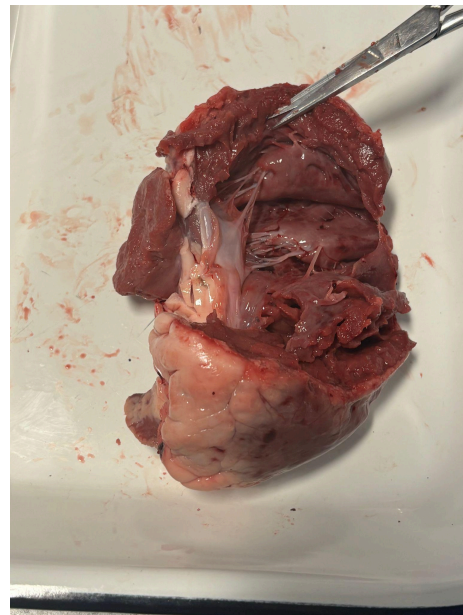
The Year 10 students are doing a fantastic job in preparation of their practical exams in February. These are just some of the dishes they have planned and prepared thus far; Chicken and chorizo tortellini with a roast tomato sauce, Chocolate brownie with vanilla ice cream, Baked apple stuffed with apple and cinnamon ice cream. Chicken burger with a brioche bun, served with fresh

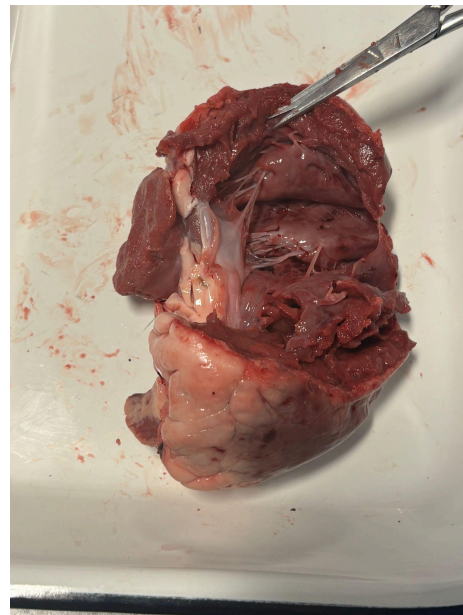
mayonnaise. All of these sweet and savoury dishes are made from scratch independently by each student.

Department	PSHCE
The overarching theme of this term in PSHCE has been citizenship. Year 7 have explored bullying and anti-bullying, working in groups to produce presentations and deliver these to their peers. Year 7 also benefited from Jewish Women's Aid coming into school to provide workshops about friendships and managing disagreements. Year 8 have revisited their Year 7 learning about diversity, difference and inclusion in society. They have also learnt about the law and democracy, including the role of the police, joint enterprise and punishment of young offenders. Next half-term Y8 will have an enrichment day off-timetable from the Metropolitan Police called 'Your Life You Choose', including speakers from the Safer Schools team, London Ambulance Service, SORTED, and Youth Justice Team. Year 9 began the year revisiting their prior learning on law and democracy. They then moved on to explore issues of extremism through a new scheme of learning based on community, inclusion, disagreeing well and radicalisation. All Year 9 forms have received two hours of workshops on anti-discrimination from <i>StandUp! Education</i>. Year 10 have explored global issues in their unit titled: 'issues at home and abroad'. This included topics such as migration, conflict and the economy. Extending this learning, Year 10 are learning about extremism through a new unit discussing hate speech, extremist views and the radicalisation process. Year 10 will have a workshop day at the end of the Spring Term from St Giles SoS+. In the past we have found this creates exceptionally powerful sessions for our students. Sessions will include: Knife Crime, Child Criminal Exploitation, Child Sexual Exploitation, Understanding Gang Recruitment and Behaviour, Joint Enterprise, and Girls, Gangs and Empowerment. Year 11, 12 and 13 have explored a variety of topics this term, including some statutory RSHE workshops. For example, Year 12 had a session on consent, Year 13 recapped contraception and STIs and Year 11 had workshops on self-examination and cancer.	

Name of Department	Religious Studies
Key Stage 3 students have brought lots of enthusiasm to their new 'worldviews' curriculum in Religious Studies. This curriculum is centred around big life questions and explore a range of religious and non-religious worldviews in response. Year 7 have asked whether religion is about belief or practice, identity and belonging (<i>or perhaps mixture of all of these!</i>), before moving to ask how the universe has come to be. Year 8 have finished their world religions curriculum learning about Judaism, and will benefit from our local Rabbi visiting in January.	

Year 9 have explored what the cause of war and conflict is, what religions teach about peace and conflict, and whether it is ever right to go to war. We have expanded our GCSE class this year, with our biggest cohort to date! Key Stage 4 pupils who did not opt for GCSE RS have also received some of their statutory entitlement to RE. Year 10 and 11 continue to complete fortnightly form time RS activities. In October we launched our first Year 10 RS Drop Down Day for all students to meet their statutory entitlement. They explored the theme of light and darkness from a range of religious and non-religious worldviews and through a range of disciplinary tools. For example, students explore Diwali, Chanukah, Christmas, and the Swedish light festival of Lucia, through theological interpretations, philosophical questioning and social science data.

Name of Department	Science
The science club has had a fantastic start this year. The students had the opportunity to carry out exciting experiments. These include dissecting a chicken wing to investigate how muscles and tendons facilitate movement, as well as dissecting a heart to explore the chambers and structures of the heart.   Students also had the opportunity to make slime. They demonstrated great determination and grit through the tedious process, which proved to be well worth the efforts.	





Year Group News

Year 7

Year 7 have had an excellent first term here at Northwood School. We have been so proud of how the year group have settled and incredibly impressed with the high levels of dedication to their studies, their contributions to whole school events and success on the sports field. We look forward to seeing what comes next for this year group!



In the final week of term the success of our year 7 students was celebrated during their achievement assembly with a number of awards given out. Congratulations to all of our winners.

Autumn term saw the launch of the Year 7 'Transition Award'. Form tutors

nominated students who have settled particularly well into secondary school life by exhibiting RECIPE qualities. The 12 winners were treated to a hot chocolate morning and certificates. Letters were also sent to parents to share this great achievement!



Year 7 have shown great enthusiasm in the first inter house competition of the year. All students designed a Christmas card which they then had the opportunity to have printed onto Christmas merchandise. After a tough judging session, two winners and two runners up per form claimed

victory. They enjoyed a Christmas themed prize giving ceremony attended by a giant snowman and Santa himself.

Year Group News

Year 8

Year 8 have made a positive return this year, coming back slightly more settled and focused compared to last year. The Year 8 Star of the Week continues to celebrate individual successes, with students receiving a badge, certificate, and a small prize—often a bar of chocolate—as well as having their name proudly displayed outside the Head of Year office.

This year also saw the introduction of the coveted Daisy Cup. Forms compete for this prize by earning RECIPE points, performing well in quizzes, and excelling in house competitions. At the end of last half term, 8C claimed victory and enjoyed a well-deserved breakfast morning to celebrate. With 8I currently leading the way, the race for this term's Daisy Cup remains exciting and competitive—let's see who takes home the win!

In other news, some talented members of 8E have launched News at 8, a brand-new Year 8 newspaper. The first edition has already been released, full of exciting updates and creative contributions, with another issue planned for the end of term. It's fantastic to see our Year 8 students showcasing their creativity and teamwork—well done, 8E!

Keep up the hard work, Year 8!



Welcome to the first edition of News at 8! Every half term, we will be sharing school, worldwide and weird & wonderful news, reviews, interviews and creative writing pieces.



RECIPE at Northwood

RECIPE here at Northwood stands for:

R - Resilience
E - Engagement
C - Co-operation
I - Independence
P - Pride
En - Enthusiasm

Each House also stands for a famous historical or significant figure:

R - Rosa Parks
E - Thomas Edison
C - Chadwick Boseman
I - Isaac Newton
P - Pele
En - Jessica Ennis

Students receive RECIPE points by showing their very best self. This could include:

- Helping staff and students
- Being kind to others
- Engaging in lessons
- Being nominated for Year 8 Star of the Week (and winning!)
- Attending extra-curricular clubs
- Assisting the school in events like Open Evening.

The RECIPE Report Card is managed by each of the form's Class Captains. This is given to their teachers at the start of each lesson and 3 students are selected as the Top 3. On a Monday, this is then logged by each form tutor.

THE DAISY CUP WINNERS

POINTS ARE BASED ON ALL RECIPE POINTS, HOUSE QUIZ RESULTS AND HOUSE COMPETITIONS

1ST	8I - 2810 POINTS
2ND	8R - 2654 POINTS
3RD	8P - 2560 POINTS
4TH	8EN - 2517 POINTS
5TH	8C - 2431 POINTS
6TH	8E - 1576 POINTS



WEEK BEGINNING 2 DECEMBER 2024

Each week, your teachers will be nominating students who have been doing excellent work for **Year 8 Star of the Week.**

Winners will receive a certificate, a prize, a Star of the Week badge for a week, RECIPE points and the pride of having their name displayed outside the HOY office!

The nominations this week (WB 16

December) were:

- Amelle 8I
- Mohamed 8I
- Lois 8E
- Suhani 8I
- Aimee 8I
- Anaisha 8R
- Ana 8R
- Arzo 8R
- Julia 8R
- Elsa 8R
- Saachi 8R



Year Group News

Year 9

Year 9 has truly settled into their role as the top of Key Stage 3 following our motor of being the best version of themselves in Year 8, demonstrating maturity and commitment across all areas of school life. This year has already been full of exciting developments, both academically and with extracurricular activities!

Leadership and School Council

Our leadership team has been working hard alongside the School Council, making great strides in enhancing student involvement across the school. The council's recent projects have had a positive impact, and we are looking forward to seeing further developments in the coming months.

Another highlight this year has been the incredible support Year 9 has shown to the new starters. With many new students joining us, Year 9 students have stepped up to help them settle in, offering guidance, friendship, and support to ensure a smooth transition. Their kindness and leadership in helping others feel welcome has been truly commendable.

Sports Achievements

In sports, Year 9 students have shown great passion and dedication. The Netball

team has had an incredibly successful run, with strong performances and impressive results. Unfortunately, the football team has faced some challenges this season, but their resilience and commitment to improving is something to be proud of, and we remain confident in their growth. Please see the PE section for more information on Sports teams and the recent residential ski trip to Italy.

Careers and Opportunities

From a careers perspective, Year 9 students have been actively engaging with a range of opportunities. We've recently held apprenticeship assemblies to provide valuable insights into career paths, and there is an exciting visit to the Global Academy planned for January, where students will learn more about creative industries and potential career pathways.

Extracurricular Activities

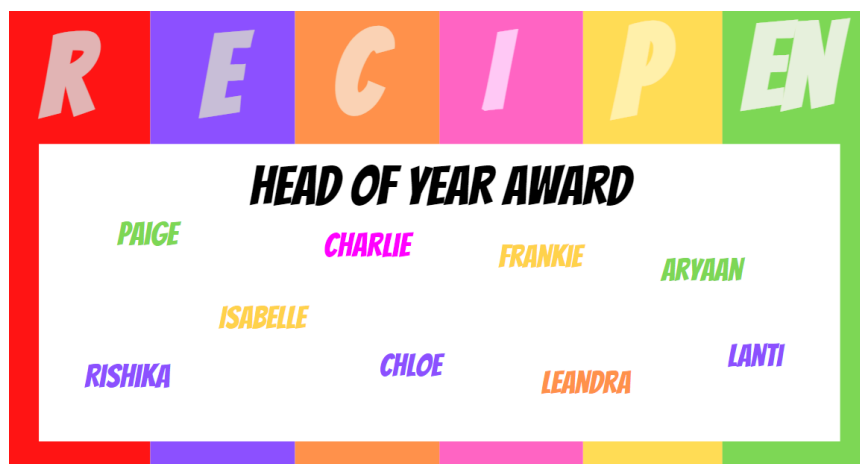
Year 9 students have also embraced extracurricular activities wholeheartedly. The launch of the extracurricular club loyalty card has been a huge success, encouraging students to participate in a wide range of activities beyond the classroom. This initiative has already seen high levels of engagement, and we are excited to see how it continues to develop.

Open Evening Success

A highlight of the term has been the incredible contribution of Year 9 to the Open Evening for the upcoming Year 7 cohort. An impressive 50% of Year 9 students took part either touring families around or helping out in specific departments, displaying exceptional maturity and enthusiasm. Their role in showcasing the school and engaging with prospective students and their families was invaluable, and they truly demonstrated the spirit of our school community.

Recent Achievements

In recent achievement assemblies, I have had the pleasure of recognizing a fantastic improvement in a number of students, whether that be in their behavior, punctuality, or overall holistic development. It has been inspiring to see so many students rising to challenges and making significant strides in their personal growth. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed, and I am proud of the progress they have made. Please see below students who have showcased themselves this



year so far and all were nominated for the Head of Year award for the autumn term.

Overall, Year 9 is off to a fantastic start, and we look forward to seeing even more growth and achievements in the remainder of the year. Keep up the great work, Year 9!

Year Group News

Year 10

A fantastic first term from Year 10. Students have really got stuck into their GCSE journey and are making good progress. Year 10s have also begun to explore options for Work Experience in the summer term... Watch this space!

Future Frontiers:

Well done to all of the students that engaged with the Future Frontier programme this term, you all did yourselves and the school proud.



Netball National Schools Competition:

A massive well done to our Year 10 Netball team for being the first Northwood School team to compete in the National Schools Competition!



Year Group News

Year 11

Year 11 has had an excellent start to the school year, and I am incredibly proud of their efforts. They have worked diligently towards their PPEs, which are helping to prepare them effectively for their upcoming GCSE exams. They have attended memory and retrieval sessions with Dr. Van der Spoel, alongside mastering learning sessions delivered during their Monday Period 6 lessons.

Year 11 student of the week

Year 11 are nominated by their teachers weekly to become the Year 11 Student of the Week. They are nominated for showing RECIPE traits, going above and beyond in their work, or always doing the right thing. Below are some of our recent winners!



Careers and next steps

Year 11 students have been working hard on planning their next steps. They have attended talks from Harrow College and ASK Apprenticeships. Additionally, students had the opportunity to participate in apprenticeship workshops and will

have the chance to visit colleges in the new year. Year 11 are also having careers appointments to help them with their post 16 decisions.



Prom

All Year 11 students are invited to our 2025 prom.



PROM 2025

- £48 per person - the same price as last year but with an upgraded venue for an amazing night
- A pizza for each guest with plenty of drinks and food
- FREE photobooth and 360° camera experience
- Live DJ and amazing rooms to enjoy for dancing and dining
- Exciting surprises throughout the evening
- Drinks on arrival at the red carpet
- A unforgettable night to remember!!



JUNE
27th
2025

THE GRANGE - NORTHWOOD
THE GRANGE COUNTRY HOUSE,
RICKMANSWORTH RD,
NORTHWOOD HA6 2RB

FRIDAY
7:00-11:00 PM

Adjusting to Life as a New Pupil: A Journey of Growth and Discovery

Starting at a new school can be a very exciting yet daunting time in life. As a new pupil, you are stepping into an unfamiliar environment filled with new faces, classrooms, and routines. It's a journey that requires resilience, courage, and an open mind. But while the process of adjustment might feel overwhelming at first, it's also a time for growth.

Adjusting to New Routines and Expectations

Every school has its rules, expectations, and routines. As an external student, it took some time to get used to how things are done, be it the teaching of lessons, behavior policies, or extracurricular activities.

I also learned it was also very important to ask questions when I was unsure about anything. The teachers and staff are there to help you, and most of them will appreciate your attempts to understand the school environment. As you become more familiar with the system, school will start to feel like a place where you belong.

Overcoming Challenges

A large part of the settling in process was overcoming numerous challenges, including the ability to adapt to a different learning environment. Most important of all is that you must keep a positive attitude and never be afraid to ask for help. Teachers, guidance counselors, and even your fellow classmates can be supportive.

Embracing the Opportunity

The beauty of being new is the potential for growth. You can reinvent yourself, do new things, and experience new things. It's all about finding yourself in anything from joining a school club to trying a new sport or excelling in a subject you've never studied before; there are endless possibilities through school. Being a new pupil also meant a fresh start.

Celebrating Your Progress

As time goes by, you will start to realize how much you have grown. The school, which initially seemed so new and different, will begin to feel like home. You'll get used to familiar faces, know where things are, and feel sure about what you do every day. Probably most important, however, is that you've grown in ways you did not imagine.

So, celebrate these small victories! Whether it's your first successful project, making a new friend, or just feeling confident enough to speak up in class, these milestones mark your personal growth.

Conclusion: The Beginning of a New Chapter

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Life in Sixth form : The change from Year 11

Sixth form is a leap towards any academic goals you might have. Sixth form is the step that leads to universities or interesting new paths.

Sixth form requires you as a student to adapt , to learn new methods of studying and revision because at GCSE you are supported with every step , teachers are there telling you and guiding you with as much as they can. A - Levels require you to

be willing to let go of the spoon fed teaching and guidance and start to become your

own motivator and accountability buddy.

Responsibility is the first thing that comes to mind when I think of Sixth Form. I have

found that while I thoroughly enjoy the subjects I am studying, the expectation to study on your own schedule with time to study can go one of two ways : You can thrive and throw yourself into a study routine that thrives or you are at risk of simply

drifting through and barely getting by. The advice for this is , realistic and manageable goals for study and revision.

Lessons are similar in style , in my experience, but they of course become a more in depth and more detailed experience with new approaches to problems and new knowledge being taught most days at the beginning it requires you to find a suitable

note taking method , which can take a few lessons , whether this be by hand or on a

device , Cornell notes or something different.

Then you have a change in social life , a smaller community means that the fostering of friendship changes your social circle. This means that you will gain new

friends who share even closer interests to you - Personally I found that my friendships have grown stronger.

Overall I have found that the change between Sixth form and Year 11 is a difference of approach , you need to change how you approach and study , personally I am thoroughly enjoying it.

Student leadership news!

I am pleased to report that Student Leadership at Northwood has continued to flourish! 24/25 marks the return of House competitions led by our fantastic Heads of House in Y12. We have had some hard fought contests in Netball and Football and look forward to an equally lively House Maths competition next week.

Our Class and Year Captains have worked tremendously hard to gather data on hot topic issues and will look to develop proposals for the school's Senior

Leadership Team in the Spring term. Issues include refining the behaviour policy, introducing more vegetarian options at lunch as well as building our own garden to liven up our green spaces.



Highlights from Charity events/other events

Macmillan Bake Sale:

Interact held their first event of the year on Friday 27 September - the Macmillan Bake Sale. In total, we raised £138.90 for Macmillan Cancer Support! We had a massive amount of cupcakes, cookies and baked goods donated by students which allowed us to raise so much money for such a worthy cause!



Children in Need Day:

Interact hosted Children in Need Day here at Northwood on Friday 15 November.

As it was a non-uniform day, students and staff were encouraged to wear something yellow, spotty or Pudsey Bear related to get into the spirit of the day. From our Amazon voucher raffle and the £1 donated from each student for the non-uniform day, we raised £887 for Children in Need!

The Winter Fair:

The Winter Fair is the biggest event of the year for Interact and the students have been planning and preparing for the fair for months. Interact members created all the posters and games, packed all the sweets and ran the stalls by themselves. This included Hoopla, 3 Cup Monty and The Lucky Wheel.

In total, Interact raised £----- at the Winter Fair and £----- from the Non-Uniform Day for Médecins Sans Frontières (also known as Doctors Without Borders) and Harlington Hospice.

Safeguarding Message for the Winter break

Financial hardship:

If you are in financial crisis, please call the Foodbank's free national helpline, Help through Hardship, on **0808 2082138** for free (open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm, closed on public holidays) to talk confidentially with a trained Citizens Advice adviser. They can help address your crises and provide support to maximise your income, help you navigate the benefits system, and identify any additional grants you could be entitled to. If needed, they'll issue you with a voucher so you can get an emergency food parcel from your local food bank.

Inclusion News!

SEND Coffee Morning Event

In October, as part of the informal SEND Coffee morning, parents were invited to attend a session with guest speakers from the Harrow College SEND team. The session provided an opportunity to share information about the support available for SEND students and also addressed parents' concerns. It was a successful session and commanded a large turn-out of parents with a warm, positive atmosphere. It also allowed parents to liaise with each other as well as the LSA and key workers that support their child and further develop the partnerships between parents and school.



Parent/Carers Training Webinar from the Centre for ADHD and Autism (CAAS)

A great workshop for any parents/carers of students who have a diagnosis or are the pathway to a diagnosis, in any year group.

Webinar

For residents of North-West London

School-Based Anxiety / Barriers to Attendance

Speaker: Sarah-Jane Critchley



For parents and carers of autistic young people

We are seeing many more young people whose anxiety levels are so high that they can't get into school. We need to find ways of understanding what is making it so hard for them, so that we can begin to unpick those factors so that they can begin to access education again. Explore a 6-step plan for recovery from school based anxiety, and rewrite the narrative around children who struggle to attend school.

When: 16th January 2025
7:00 pm - 9:00pm

Where: Online via Zoom



Scan the QR code to register. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

www.adhdandautism.org | Charity Registration No. 1193799

    @ADHDandAutism



Other news!

We now have 16 sixth formers trained as mental health champions.

They can offer advice and signpost students who may be struggling with worries in school, such as friendships, exams, school work, organisation, future goals.

They are available to offer support to students on a monday, wednesday and friday lunch time.

Located in student reception. Students can drop in during their lunch break,



Celebrating Achievement: The Jack Petchey Award

We are delighted to share exciting news about

the Jack Petchey Achievement Award, a program designed to celebrate and inspire young people. Sponsored by the Jack Petchey Foundation, this prestigious award recognises students aged 11-25 for their outstanding achievements and contributions to their communities.

The winners are chosen for going above and beyond—whether in their academic pursuits, extracurricular activities, or efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Each winner receives a certificate, a badge, and a grant to spend on a project or initiative that benefits their school or peers.

This term, we are proud to announce our three winners:

- **Dean T 12B:** Dean has mentored peers in his year group in preparation for GCSE Maths. Dean provided lots of support for a small group of students around him and ultimately helped each one of them to improve their grades. Dean did this without ever wanting recognition of his efforts, but just the best for his peers. His support and guidance has been invaluable. He has now moved on to helping a Y10 student in the school who he knows personally and is having a really positive effect on the students perception of Maths.
- **Martha G 10R:** Martha is a deserving winner of the Jack Petchey Award due to her incredible resilience and determination during a challenging 12-month period where she was unable to participate in sport, a key part of her daily life. Despite the physical and emotional difficulties of being sidelined, Martha has shown remarkable strength, never giving up on her goal to return to the court. Her commitment to recovery, her positive attitude, and her unwavering drive to get back to playing the sport she loves, netball, is truly inspiring. Martha's journey is a testament to her fight and determination, and her ability to overcome adversity makes her a deserving candidate for this prestigious award.
- **Sophie Groom 10P:** Sophie is a deserving recipient for the Jack Petchey Award for her exceptional dedication and selfless contribution to the Harrow Parkrun. Each weekend, Lucy generously volunteers her time and skills to help run this ever-growing community event, ensuring its smooth operation and success. Her consistent presence and commitment are essential to the continued growth and enjoyment of the Parkrun, providing invaluable support to participants and organisers alike. Without volunteers like Sophie, such events would not be able to run as effectively, and her positive impact on the local community deserves to be recognised. Sophie's enthusiasm, reliability, and passion for supporting others make her a standout candidate for this prestigious award.

We are incredibly proud of these students for their hard work and commitment to making a difference. The Jack Petchey Award is a testament to their achievements

and a source of inspiration for all.

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging and celebrating the successes of our young people. Together, we are fostering a culture of excellence and positivity.

Unveiling of the School Mural - October 2024



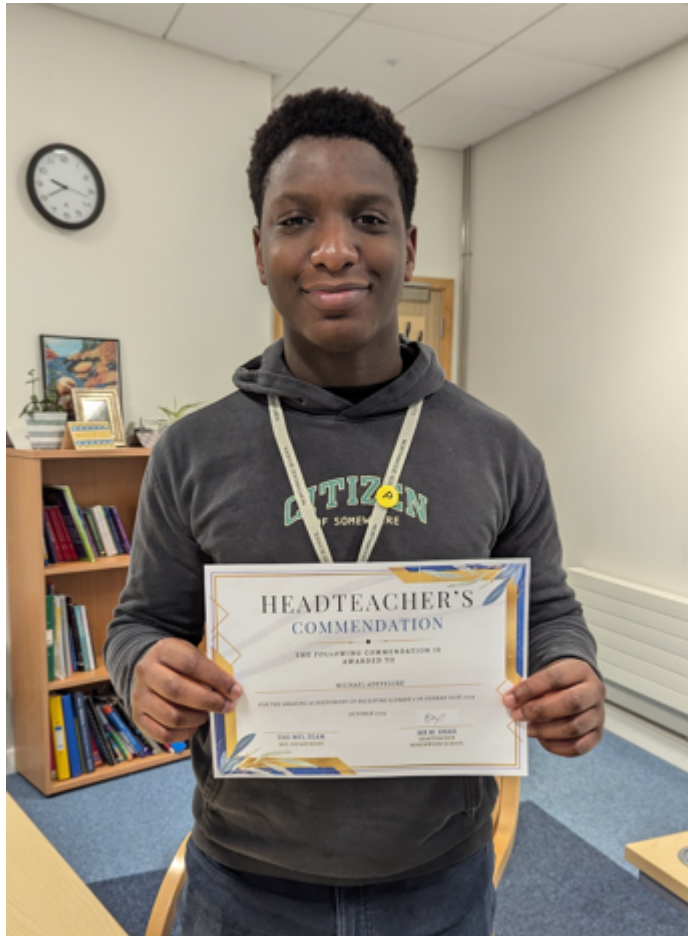
We are thrilled to announce the unveiling of our vibrant new school mural, a testament to creativity and collaboration designed by our retiring art teacher, Mrs Surey, and brought to life in collaboration with Mrs Surey and Mrs. Baxter. This artistic masterpiece was painted by our enthusiastic students from Years 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13, along with their supportive family members and friends.

The mural emphasises Northwood's ethos of Achievement Through Support. It is located in the East End playground and is a celebration of our school's spirit, diversity, and commitment to creativity. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Surey for her years of dedication and inspiration, to Mrs. Baxter for her collaborative spirit, and to all the students, family members, and friends who contributed to this project. Your creativity and dedication have truly transformed our school environment and we are very grateful to you.

Headteacher commendations

Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated by staff this term for

Michael Adeylure - for achieving a grade 9 in German (and this being completely self taught!)



[Article by Savera Riaz - Year 12](#)

Adjusting to Life as a New Pupil: A Journey of Growth and Discovery

Starting at a new school can be a very exciting yet daunting time in life. As a new pupil, you are stepping into an unfamiliar environment filled with new faces, classrooms, and routines. It's a journey that requires resilience, courage, and an open mind. But while the process of adjustment might feel overwhelming at first, it's also a time for growth.

Adjusting to New Routines and Expectations

Every school has its rules, expectations, and routines. As an external student, it took some time to get used to how things are done, be it the teaching of lessons, behavior policies, or extracurricular activities.

I also learned it was also very important to ask questions when I was unsure about anything. The teachers and staff are there to help you, and most of them will appreciate your attempts to understand the school environment. As you become more familiar with the system, school will start to feel like a place where you belong.

Overcoming Challenges

A large part of the settling in process was overcoming numerous challenges, including the ability to adapt to a different learning environment. Most important of all is that you must keep a positive attitude and never be afraid to ask for help. Teachers, guidance counselors, and even your fellow classmates can be supportive.

Embracing the Opportunity

The beauty of being new is the potential for growth. You can reinvent yourself, do new things, and experience new things. It's all about finding yourself in anything from joining a school club to trying a new sport or excelling in a subject you've never studied before; there are endless possibilities through school. Being a new pupil also meant a fresh start.

Celebrating Your Progress

As time goes by, you will start to realise how much you have grown. The school, which initially seemed so new and different, will begin to feel like home. You'll get used to familiar faces, know where things are, and feel sure about what you do every day. Probably most important, however, is that you've grown in ways you did not imagine.

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