



Newsletter



May 2022

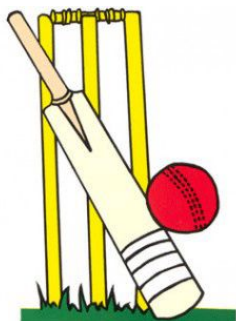
Making Home Runs Galore!

Sixteen lucky students, who have shown a real interest and commitment to our cricket club, had the amazing opportunity to be a part of the Middlesex Cricket Inclusion day. The club reflects the broad diversity of the many communities and cultures that make the county of Middlesex what it is today. Our students got to be a part of a superb day, where they had the opportunity to watch their local county cricket team, Middlesex, play Nottingham in the county championship.

Not only were the students able to watch the game, but they also took part in a skills session with the Middlesex community team. As part of this, they played quick cricket in the indoor facility, watched the professionals net and took part in the school scoring challenge.

With a mix of Year 7-10 students, all of the boys represented the school fantastically, showcasing our school values and demonstrating the sporting attitudes that had enabled them to be selected to be part of such a brilliant day.

Looking forward, the students anticipate a sunny cricket season with fixtures coming up in the Hillingdon Borough Leagues.



Mr Walden, *Head of PE*



Keeping Hillingdon fun and fit!

Over the summer, Hillingdon council are running some guided family cycle rides to enjoy with your friends and loved ones. They are free and designed to allow you to ride at your own pace, helping to increase your heart rate and improve well being. A range of rides are offered to get everyone involved.

The rides are not races, so you can enjoy them at a leisurely pace, if you like. All routes will be fun, safe and interesting, with the distance, duration and terrain of the ride varying according to the type of ride.

The ride leaders are passionate cyclists and they are fully trained to guide groups of people. They are employees of Hillingdon Council and they are first-aid trained, so you can be assured that you are incredibly safe whilst having fun and staying fit!

Family Cycle Rides

Enjoy an easy, family-orientated guided cycle ride with Hillingdon cycle instructors, including a stop for refreshments and a chance to enjoy the sights of Hillingdon.

Upcoming Family Rides:

- **Northala Fields Ride - Sunday 22 May**
Starting from Hillingdon Leisure Centre at 10am and returning at 2pm.
- **Summer Reading challenge-themed Ride - Tuesday 26 July**
Starting from Uxbridge Library at 9.30am, going to Oak Farm Library and returning at 12.30pm.
- **Summer Reading Challenge-themed Ride - Wednesday 27 July**
Starting from Botwell Green Library at 9.30am, going to Yeading Library and returning at 12.30pm.
- **Summer Reading Challenge-themed Ride - Thursday 28 July**
Starting from Ickenham Library at 9.30am, going to South Ruislip Library and returning at 12.30pm.

If the family cycle rides seem too easy for you, there are more challenging rides for you to enjoy!

Medium Cycle Rides

Enjoy a guided cycle ride with Hillingdon cycle instructors, with a stop for refreshments and the opportunity to enjoy the sights of Hillingdon.

Upcoming Medium Rides:

- **Saturday 6 August**
Starting at Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex at 10am, and going to Ruislip Lido, returning at 2pm.

Medium-Long Cycle Rides

Enjoy a very challenging guided cycle ride with Hillingdon cycle instructors, which may include some hills or longer distances, with a stop for refreshments and a chance to enjoy the sights of Hillingdon.

Upcoming long rides:

- **Sunday 21 August**
Starting at Northwood Hills Station at 10am, going to Rickmansworth Aquadrome and returning at 2pm.

For more information about the cycle rides, visit:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/5202/Guided-cycle-rides>

To book a place on a cycle ride, please email sportandphysicalactivity@hillingsdon.go.uk

Mrs Oakley, Senior Cover Supervisor



“On your marks... Get set... GO!”

Wednesday 11th May marked the first time since 2019 that there has been a whole borough athletics competition. Before this, students had not been able to experience a real athletics competition. Nonetheless, we went to the championships with the students that have shown commitment and enthusiasm towards athletics in our extra-curricular sessions this half term.

Our sporty students were incredibly optimistic about the potential of winning some medals. Several of the students also study GCSE PE and, as part of their final grade, they can use the performance towards this.

Unfortunately, as we arrived, we were met with light drizzle, which eventually became a downpour! However, this didn't deter the students from performing to the absolute highest standard. Their grit and resilience was to be commended, and we are immensely proud of all the students who competed. Well done to you all!

Here are our special mentions for the students - they can proudly say that they rank in the top eight athletes for their specific event in Hillingdon:

- Reece J: 100m - 4th place
- Ebony L: 200m - 1st place
- Imogen B: 200m - 6th place
- Year 10 boys relay - 2nd place
- Savannah M: 100m - 8th place
- Kya W: 800m - 4th place
- Noah E: 800m - 4th place
- Arling H: Triple Jump - 5th place

All of our students are looking forward to having the opportunity to perform again in the future and perform even better!



Sharing Experiences Through Languages

Why should you come to the Bilingual Documentary Club?

It's Friday lunchtime... You've had a long, productive week at school... You just want an easygoing, relaxing lunch.

That's where Bilingual Documentary Club comes in! Every week, we put on a documentary in either English, Spanish or French (with subtitles!) and have a chilled 30 minutes learning about something, whilst immersing ourselves in a different language. The students decide which documentary we watch - you get to decide the topic based on what interests you.

What happens if you only speak one language? Don't worry - that's why we turn on the subtitles! Not to mention calling upon Miss Gaywood's multilingual knowledge too!

Pop up to D12 for a relaxing lunchtime, watching with the Bilingual Documentary Club.

Miss Sebley, *Teacher of English*
Miss Gaywood, *Teacher of Languages*



Celebrating our love of Maths

Last week on the 18th May, Queensmead celebrated National Numeracy Day: a national campaign to support and encourage both students and adults to engage with numbers and improve their numeracy.

During assembly, students learnt about what numeracy means and why it's so important. They also had to answer some challenging numeracy questions such as:

Calculate the correct change from £100 if you bought shopping totalling £64.23

The inspiring assembly encouraged students to take part in Puzzle of the Week - so far, our school has submitted almost 400 entries. We also celebrated the achievements of those students who won prizes for consistent participation last half term.

Finally, all form groups took part in a Queensmead Numeracy Form time quiz. There was a great response and the final winners will be announced soon.

Mrs Morrissey, *Numeracy Coordinator*



The Lego Wars Continue!

After the huge success of the Lego club last half term, the challenges have continued this term!

Students have been able to build such good relationships, meaning their cooperation grew and grew, leading to even better Lego builds!

Mr Gajperia, *Head of Computing and ICT*

Week 7- 20th April

As the weeks have been progressing, there have been massive improvements in teamwork and they are beginning to organise themselves better.

This week, their builds were based on World Earth Day and had to incorporate one global issue into their build.



Week 8 - 27th April

Students were given more freedom to be creative this week, building a model relating to the week's theme: health and safety at work.

The winning group had a build which was both visually appealing and physically engaging. Their story referred to so many different parts of the build, demonstrating the thought that had gone into the build and the attention to detail in the theme.



Week 9 - 4th May

What better way to celebrate Star Wars Day than with a 'space' themed build!

The teams were asked to create the most realistic build and were given some keywords to help inspire and challenge them.



Week 10 - 11th May

Lego Club made everyone hungry this week, with a build based on 'Eat what you want' day!

Teams were asked to make the most tasty looking dish with a list of indulgent foods to inspire them.

Queensmead's Young Poet

One of Queensmead's Year 9 students has created an impressive anthology of her own poems!

This is an incredible achievement and her reasons for writing these poems are so inspirational.

What inspired her?

Thank you to all the teachers and friends who have helped me with this journey of writing.

I chose to write this book to show people that they're not alone and that mental health is a real, natural thing in this world, which a lot of people struggle with. This book is full of poems that are relatable and touch your heart.

My inspiration for this book is from reading books about love and romance, and how deeply it can affect you. I decided to start writing poems when I realised how (specifically younger people's) toxic relationships are romanticised. I feel as if we should live our life more, rather than just caring about relationships. Instead we should spend more time socialising with friends and family and stop revolving our lives around social media, with its heavy focus on "beauty standards" and false ideas about how we are meant to live our lives.

In my opinion, I feel as if we should live our lives to the fullest and use our teenage years to have fun with friends and find our own happiness.

Anjali Suchak, Year 9 student

The butterflies of a broken heart



By Anjali Suchak

An example from Anjali's anthology:

Twin Flames

Twin flames

Every human being has a mirror soul

A soul that is the exact reflection as oneself

A soul that carries the other half of yours

A love story written in the stars

Oh how they shine so brightly

Oh how their souls are connected so tightly

Two souls that are always meant to be together

Two souls that will hurt each other

But will chase each other forever.

Victorious Year 10s: they bounced the evening away!

Year 10 students participated in a rewards trip at the Jump Giants trampoline park on the 4th May. Personally, I was delighted to be offered this opportunity as I've shown a positive attitude towards my learning, and maintained good behaviour. We were all exceptionally excited as it was one of the first reward trips since the pandemic.

On the coach, there was a great atmosphere as everyone was filled with anticipation and joy. Within 20 minutes, we had arrived and were extremely eager to jump, but we listened carefully to instructions and the safety guidance.

Like a stampede, all of us rushed into it, keen to take part in the activities. From basketball shooting to volleyball games, each one of the Y10s played to our heart's content.

For me, my favourite moment was when I took part in the thrilling battle-beam activity. Trying to throw your opponent was difficult but attempting to climb out of the foam pit was the real challenge. Even the teachers participated, which was fun to watch.



It felt too soon when we were told our time was up and it was time to head back to school. Coincidentally, the coach that was coming to pick us up was involved in a road accident on its journey in, so we had to wait until another coach was available to pick us up.

Fortunately, it wasn't long before we found a nearby food and drink store, and we could buy all sorts of delicious snacks to boost our energy levels. Eventually the coach arrived and we all departed.

The journey back to school was just as enjoyable as the way to the park. Sharing our experiences and laughing at the funny photographs that had been taken, we all agreed that the trampoline park was packed with tremendous amusement. From my experience, it was surely a humorous time and I was very glad to have been given this opportunity.

Diljot S, Year 10 student

Battling it out at Laser Planet!

On 30th March, a lucky bunch of Queensmead's Year 9 students attended a well-deserved rewards trip to Laser Planet in Watford to celebrate all of their incredible hard work over the last half term.

We travelled to the venue by coach from Queensmead and all of the students were incredibly excited to compete with one another. The atmosphere was buzzing as students were already preparing themselves for an immense battle.

Upon entering the briefing room, the instructors set out competition rules and it was not long before trouble makers, Dominik and Aathishan, started hatching mischievous plans to win as many points as possible.

Once the briefing was over, our students were let loose to compete in their teams and their well-thought out plans sprang into action. The battles had well and truly begun!



After a mere ten minutes in the arena, Mr Harris and Miss Tankov started to hear screaming! They later discovered that Dominik and Aathishan's plan had been foiled and it was in fact Aathishan screaming as he lost his points!

Tracey and Bess on the blue team led an astonishing comeback in the final game. In the end, the red team had enough firepower to get themselves the win overall.

After having such a super and fantastic time competing this time round, Year 9 are looking forward to their next well-deserved rewards trip and hope to have just as much fun next time.

Mr Harris, Assistant Head of Year 9



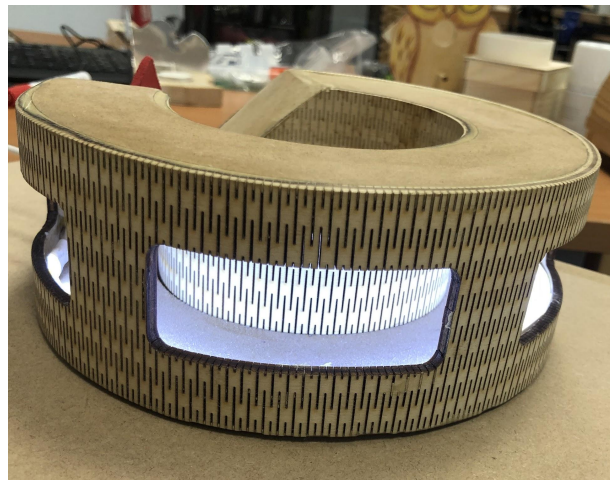
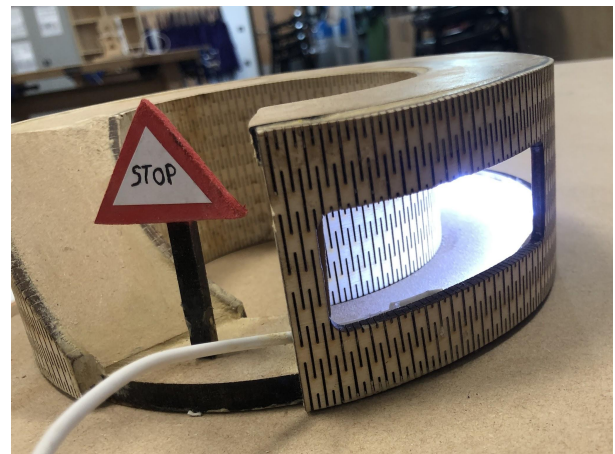
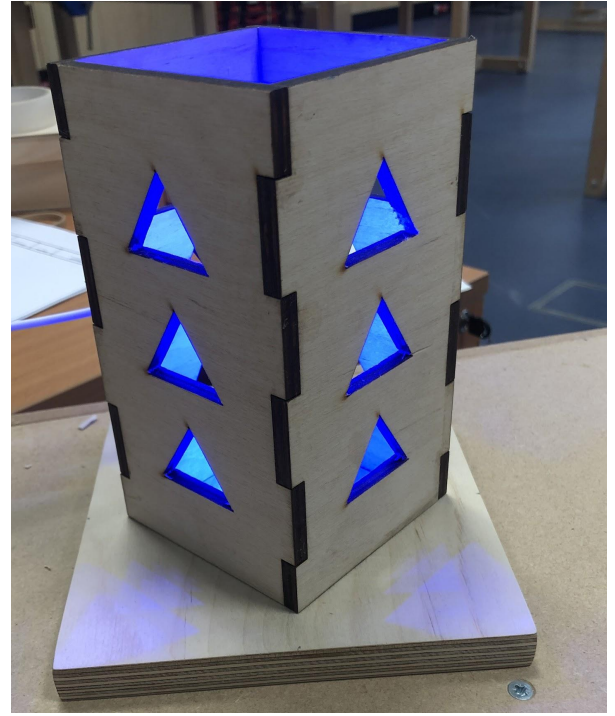
Design and Technology students light up the classroom!

Queensmead is nurturing some really creative minds; some of our Year 10 students have been finishing off an exciting project before they start their final GCSE design brief. The students were asked to design a USB lamp for one of the following contexts:

- the contemporary home
- a bedside light for children
- a restaurant area

They were designing their products with a specific client in mind depending on their context, allowing for some super unique designs. Here are some of the exciting outcomes produced - well done, Year 10!

Miss Ohl, Teacher of Design and Technology



Celebrating our differences and our cultures!

On the last Friday of the spring term, Queensmead celebrated Culture Day, where students were given the opportunity to dress in the clothes that represent their cultures. We are very lucky to be a part of such a diverse community here and it was wonderful to see such a proud representation of both the wider world and our community, among our staff and students.

Students and staff kindly donated to our 'Taste of the World' food sale; an exciting array of treats were available for students to buy, raising money for UNHCR.

It was a brilliant and really successful day, and it truly celebrated our roots and individual identities.

Ms Bhudia, *Teacher of English*

