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Subheading

## Principal's Welcome

So here it is, Merry Christmas, and I'd like to share some of the fun that we have been having across this term. Even though we have been battling the extreme weather and managing everything that comes with that, there has been plenty to celebrate and take joy from.

This half term saw the launch of our exciting attendance and punctuality rewards. Weekly attendance figures were monitored and any student having 100% attendance in a week was entered into a raffle.

One student from each year group was the winner of a £50 high street gift voucher. We also held a whole school raffle where the lucky winner was able to choose a prize from either an iPad, a Playstation 5 or a bike.

Well done to our lucky winners and well done to all of the students who strived for amazing attendance this half term. Keep it up!

## Teaching and Learning

**Students were thrilled by the return of the academic rewards system.**



Students raced to collect our bespoke academic rewards badges from their favourite subjects. Each subject area identified famous figures who had revolutionised their field. Incredible scientist Marie Curie, the forerunner of fashion, Alexander McQueen and many more were all available for students to collect this term.

Each badge could only be earned once students had overcome challenges to demonstrate their resilience and perseverance, which led to our students wearing their badges every day with pride. This, in turn, serves as a longstanding reminder of their remarkable academic success and the importance of determination.

# All Things Food...

A message from our food department

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The term has been a very busy but enjoyable one in the Food department.

We have welcomed many of our new Year 7 students,

introduced them to the food room, and have worked hard to enhance the curriculum by including lots of extra-curricular visits and activities.

Cooking club has been a very popular afterschool activity. Students in KS3 have enjoyed making stuffed peppers with couscous, apple crumble, focaccia bread and fruit smoothies amongst many other culinary delights. Halloween fun was had by all students who enjoyed the decorated room and making Halloween treats.

Year 11 students visited Hickory's Smokehouse, Gresty. They enjoyed a talk on how the business started, the story behind the dishes on the menu and a tour of the kitchen to see the famous smoking machine. A highlight of the trip was the milkshake masterclasses where students got to make the fabulous milkshakes on the menu and even better- got to enjoy them afterwards!

Students relished the experience with the following comments made:

## A Christmas Pheasant for All.

### Students relished the experience!

We were also lucky to receive a generous donation of some pheasants for Year 10 to joint and portion. This was an extension of skills to previous lessons where Year 10 students had deboned and jointed a chicken to make into chicken Kiev's, honey & sesame chicken skewers, chicken korma and chicken supreme.

'The opportunity to cut up game such as pheasant is a rare one to come by and I am so glad to have been able to do so within this school. The experience was extremely interesting and I am looking forward to preparing and cooking it.'

Elliot Pierce, Year 10

'Although unexpected, the lesson was genuinely an experience! Pheasants are difficult to catch so this was such an honour'

Anamarie Apalaghie, Year 10

For Christmas treats, Food students have been invited to bring a donation to decorate gingerbread. We were gifted the gingerbread by Roberts Bakery in Northwich and money raised from these donations will go to the local charity Chance Changing Lives who do such wonderful work in our immediate community.

Merry Christmas from Team Food – Mrs Randle, Miss Dzomba, Mrs Coombs and Mr Smissen.



Breakfast Club: Start the day right

Lots of our students are joining us daily from 7.45-8.30am for a free breakfast and hot drink!



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## The Joy of Reading.

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”



Students who read succeed!

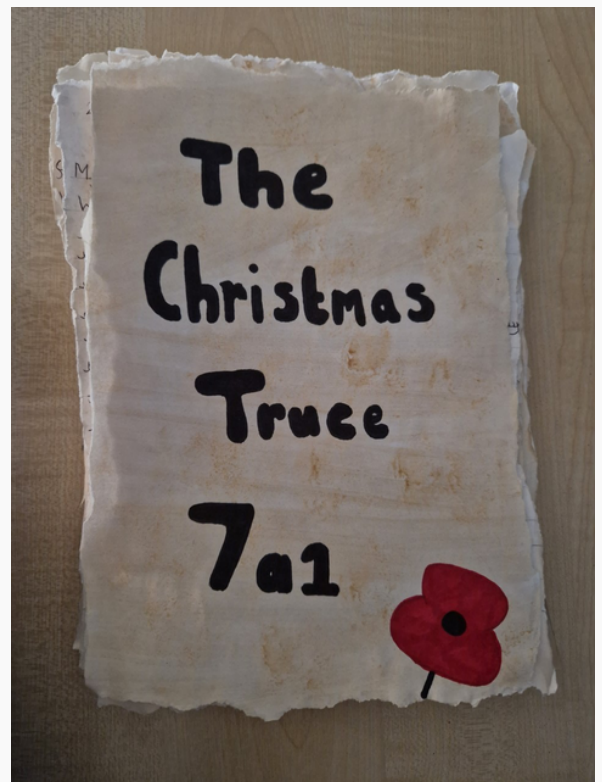
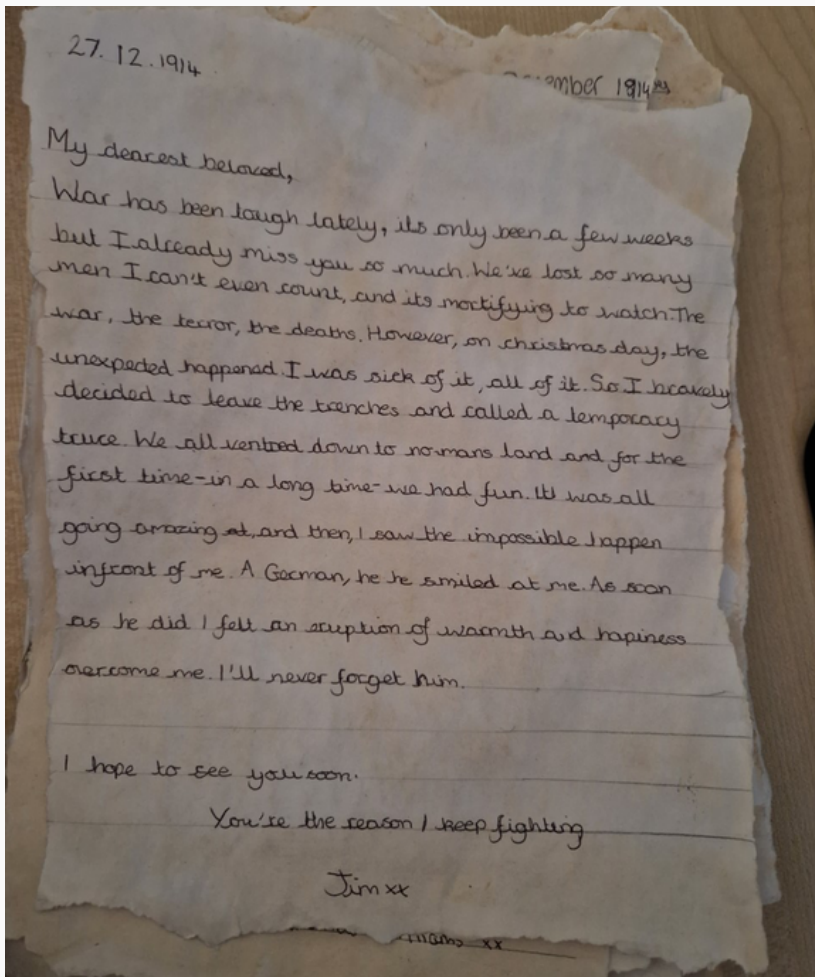
Our amazing Librarian, Mrs Bryan, and her team of keen readers took a trip to Winsford Library to learn more about the importance of reading and they also came back with a selection of books all chosen by our library club members!

Remember, the library is open at break and lunchtime daily! Make sure you get your pass from Mrs Bryan to attend!

Happy Reading!

## A Time of Remembrance

Year 7 English Students Remember.



Year 7 students practised incredible empathy and literary skills as they wrote in the form of a diary entry or letter to produce a first-person narrative based on the Christmas Truce in WW1.

Lest we forget...

# The Haunted House French Play.

La Maison Hantée

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Year 8s had a very exciting and educational end to their week on 18th November - they watched a play that was performed entirely in French and they loved it!

We made sure that their lessons for the half term included lots of vocabulary about houses and the play was aimed at learners aged 13 to 16 who are beginners at French. Our students were ready for it! They joined in in French and Oliver Davies became the star of Act 2.

Staff loved watching the students queue up to hi-five the cast when we dismissed them at the end of the day. We hope to welcome the production company back next year.

## Netball Stars!



This term saw a very busy calendar for the netball squad. We had numerous fixtures against schools across South Cheshire. Highlights were Year 7 and 8 coming third in the South Cheshire tournament. It has been great to have so many new students coming to netball and taking part in various fixtures. We are looking forward to more fixtures and results to come after the Christmas break!

## A Message from our Safeguarding Team

On behalf of the Safeguarding Team, we wish all our families a safe and restful Christmas. We would like to thank you for your collaboration and support. If you have any concerns, during school closure, please refer to the links we have provided here to support you. Please do not hesitate to contact us in the New Year if you require any new or ongoing support.

**Social Care daytime number (up until 5pm) : 0300 123 5012**  
**Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) : 0300 123 5022**  
**Child Line : 0800 1111**  
**NSPCC : 800 800 5000**  
**On-line counselling service : Kooth.com (24hrs and 365 days per year)**  
**Youngminds.org.uk**  
**Mymind.org.uk**  
**CAMHs 24hr Crisis Line: 0800 145 64 85**  
**Police : 101 (non-emergency) / 999 (emergency only)**