

## Alumni News

Season's greetings and welcome to all those who have signed up to be part of the alumni network recently. We're delighted to share some alumni news in this issue as well as keeping you informed of significant events this term.



*Dame Alice Hudson*  
CEO

Do please forward the link below to anyone you are still in touch with and ask them to sign up so we can keep in touch with our alumni  
<https://twyfordacademies.org.uk/twyford-trust-alumni-form>

## Visitors

We are increasingly in demand to provide training and support for other organisations impressed by our high standards and success story.

In October we were delighted to welcome visitors from Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) as part of their study tour providing insight into Multi-Academy Trusts. The visit focused on governance, leadership structures, resource allocation and balancing autonomy with consistency across schools. ISQ said of their visit: *"At Twyford CofE Academies Trust we observed an inspiring start to the school day – marked by order, routine and the power of communal singing. This practice not only fosters a sense of belonging but also delivers measurable benefits for wellbeing and academic outcomes. The tour of classrooms showcased rich, intentional learning environments where teaching is purposeful and directed."*



We also welcomed the Deputy Chief Regulator of OFQUAL in October and the Executive Director of Corporate Affairs and Strategy from AQA in November. Both exam boards met with senior staff, the Exams Officer and students to discuss potential changes and how the logistics of exams work for our students.

## RISE Conference

One of the significant strengths which the Twyford Trust has developed is improvement in literacy for students who join school with literacy levels below their chronological age. In October Trust Literacy Lead Becky Catlin and Teach West London Deputy Head Sam Barnsley were invited to present at the DfE's RISE Conference for the London area on Raising Attainment: Success for Every Child. The aim of the conference was to highlight the national commitment to raising pupil attainment and inspire schools and education professionals to prioritise this shared goal.

The topic of focus for Becky and Sam was "Whole School Approaches to Reading". They highlighted how we have developed our rationale for a whole school literacy strategy and how the leadership structure is set up to achieve quality literacy delivery across the whole curriculum. They shared practical strategies for improving reading outcomes, highlighting how our whole-school CPD builds teacher confidence, and they discussed effective screening and diagnostic tools for identifying literacy needs. Case studies were used to illustrate the impact of targeted interventions. The session concluded with a look ahead at the next steps in developing literacy support across schools.

Their presentation was very well received, and led to a lively facilitated discussion afterwards. Participating at this conference has generated strong interest in our work in this area from attendees. We are looking forward to working with several partner schools who contacted us as a result of this presentation.

The importance of this work was highlighted on 15th October by the Education Secretary, the Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP, during her keynote address at the Confederation of School Trusts' annual conference.





### National Youth Orchestra Place

Alyosha Radchuk, Year 10 music scholar has won a place in the internationally respected National Youth Orchestra. He will take part in three residencies, perform in educational concerts as part of the 'NYO Inspire' programme, and perform with the orchestra at prestigious venues across the country, including the Barbican Centre in January, and in a televised concert as part of the BBC Proms series at the Royal Albert Hall next summer.

### Sunday Times School Guide

Twyford is delighted to be in the Top 10 of comprehensive secondary schools in London, according to the recently released 2026 school guide by The Sunday Times.

The school was also ranked just outside the top 100 of the highest-achieving state schools in the country.

These Parent Power tables rank schools on their average performance using A-level, GCSE and IB outcomes from summer 2025. Advance Higher, Higher, National and KS2 outcomes from 2024.

### Love of live music led student to found Hanwell Hootie festival

**Andrew McRobbie** (Twyford 1999-2006) writes: "The school had a profound impact on my love of live music (and history and science...big up Mr Roberts and Dr Thanki) with the excellent facilities that were available to us. Not to mention the annual Popular Music Competition. My band actually won that competition back in 2006 with our cover of the Muse song 'Bliss'.



I co-founded the [Hanwell Hootie](#) back in 2012. It was born out of a frustration that there were no live music venues anywhere in the area and dismay that nothing was being done to celebrate the incredibly rich musical heritage of this area. 14 years later we have grown to be the largest free music festival in London with 19 venues, over 100 bands and close to 30,000 in attendance each year.



It feels very special to now have a collaboration between the Hanwell Hootie music festival and Twyford 20 years on as the winners of this year's competition will have the opportunity to play at our event and we're introducing them to a music professional to judge the competition. Save the date for Saturday 9th May 2026!"



We're delighted to welcome back **Anusha Couttigane** (2002-2009) to speak at our Senior Awards evening in December. Anusha is Head of Insights at Vogue Business magazine and her work involves creating exciting research projects for luxury brands, helping them to understand and improve the way they interact with shoppers and fashion lovers. In 2018, aged 27, Anusha was listed as one of Drapers 30 under 30 rising stars of the fashion industry and, in 2024, recognised in the inaugural Diversity in Luxury Leaders List.



### Ada Lovelace Day

We were excited to have a specially planned schedule of exciting talks and workshops by IBM, Amazon and KPMG for our students on 14th October and to welcome a number of guests from large global companies such as BMW and local universities and businesses alike. Among our guests was alumni Shaun Anie who recently started a degree apprenticeship in Project Management with Amazon.

Our T Level students played an integral role in the day. Many of them were tour guides for our external visitors - showing them around the school, dropping in on talks and workshops with the lower school and answering questions. Some even had the fantastic opportunity to pitch their digital ideas to our audience - a real Dragon's Den moment!

IBM volunteers also supported our Y10 students to earn more SkillsBuild badges.



### T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

This September we launched a third T Level course - Accounting T Level - and welcomed our newest but also our biggest cohort of 23 students to date!

The course covers a wide range of topics from business environment to regulation. We are

teaching our students the fundamentals of accounting including the importance of cash flow and budgeting in business, as well as how to complete simple income statements and balance sheets. They have also discussed the impact global events such as the 2008 financial crisis, COVID and political instability have had on financial markets.

Ms Roberts attended an ETF workshop in London which was designed in collaboration with ACCA and Pearson. It was an opportunity to meet with ACCA representatives and find out more about their offer as well as the short to medium term outlook for the accountancy sector. We have arranged for a free trial of the software demo provided by Xero. It was a great opportunity to network with other centres as well as gain feedback from Pearson on the main findings from Summer 2025, which we can feed into our planning for this year's core component.

We continue to foster links with industry partners to secure high quality placements for our students. If you are interested in supporting Accounting T Levels at Ada Lovelace we would love to hear from you. This could be as a guest speaker, delivering a workshop or hosting a T Level student at your business. Please email Will Knox to discuss: [wknox@adalovelace.org.uk](mailto:wknox@adalovelace.org.uk)





### Great British School Guide

We are delighted to share that Ealing Fields CofE High School has been named among the most well-behaved state schools in England, according to the Great British Schools Guide. The list was created using the most up-to-date responses from the government's Parent View survey for 2024-25 academic year. Ealing Fields came Joint 3rd in England.

Discussing the behaviour at Ealing Fields, which scored 97%, the Great British School Guide said: "The school's leadership maintains high expectations for behaviour and academic achievement. The curriculum is designed to be ambitious and inclusive, ensuring that all pupils are challenged appropriately and supported where needed".

### U15 Girls crowned European Champions

Ealing Fields' U15 Girls NFL team claimed a stunning victory at the Continental Series held at Tottenham Stadium on Monday, 6th of October 2025, emerging as European Champions.

The team had the unique opportunity to meet the GB NFL gold medallists just a day before the tournament and they followed in their footsteps with a remarkable performance on the field. Their triumph not only highlights their talent and determination but also places them among the elite in youth NFL across Europe. Whilst representing Great Britain on the international stage, the girls proudly carried the colours of Ealing Fields, proving that their school spirit remains as strong as ever.

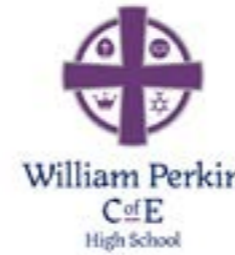


### Mia is making her mark in USA

Mia Feroli left Ealing Fields (2022) for sixth form at Chiswick School and continued playing football for the Brentford FC youth programme and AFC Wimbledon development. She joined an agency and sent videos to soccer teams all over the USA, getting a place to train and study in Kansas.

Combining academic studies from 8-11 every morning "with a huge amount of homework - way more than GCSE and A levels combined" with extensive training sessions every Monday-Friday and games on Wednesday and Saturday needs great resilience.

Mia says "My goal is to do well academically most importantly and do well with football. Having goals helps me day to day because it makes me want to achieve them. I think I am a very determined person so when I don't achieve my goals I won't stop until I have achieved them. Sometimes you have to look in the mirror and give yourself credit with how far you've come, and question are you putting 100% in."



### Success with the Worshipful Company of World Traders

Current student Samaa Mrabti has been awarded a prestigious Master World Trader's Scholarship 2025 and Isabel Contreras Wilson won second prize in the World Traders Tacitus Essay Competition in which she wrote an essay entitled 'Change starts quietly – to what extent do you believe you as an individual can make a lasting difference'.



### Love not Landfill

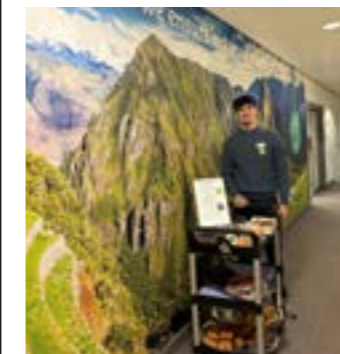
In December, the Deputy Mayor Mete Coban MBE came to William Perkin to raise awareness and support a very important project. Love Not Landfill is a non-profit campaign run by Re London to encourage fast fashion fans to buy second hand. Year 12 students from William Perkin organised a clothes swap at the end of term during which students bring in a piece of clothing they no longer want and swap it for a different piece of clothing. This is a great initiative and proved very popular.



### Raising money for Amnesty International

Former student Ruben Sekhon (2023) now studying Civil Engineering at Nottingham University returned to William Perkin recently selling snacks to staff who were busy with Q2 marking and moderation, and with donations raised over £500!

He aims to complete a 6 day hike to Machu Picchu later this year. Well done Ruben!



### Degree Apprentice at J.P. Morgan

Shrey Shah (2024) is doing a Technology Degree Apprenticeship at J.P. Morgan working in Equities Technology, on an application used daily by traders and sales teams, which has meant learning a lot



about finance as well as the technology behind it. He was the cohort representative in his first year on the programme (similar to being a Lead Student at school) which meant taking on some extra responsibility and representing others on the apprenticeship. He enjoys keeping in touch and will be back soon for an assembly.



## Amber Alleyne shares her experience of returning to school as a trainee teacher

I left Twyford 6th form in 2018 and embarked on a degree at The University of Kent but decided that wasn't right for me so reapplied and studied Anthropology and Sociology and Brunel University, graduating in 2024 with a 2:1 and a first class dissertation. It was an interesting journey, where I learned so much

about myself, the world around me, and just how resilient I could be when life decided to throw various curveballs my way.



Since returning to school as a trainee I've observed that the school's behaviour policy has improved significantly since I was a student. It is a lot calmer, and the students genuinely seem happy to be here. I've been so impressed and I feel at ease having returned.

I used to think there were so many extracurricular activities available while I was a student but in all truthfulness, nothing compares to the wealth of opportunities available to our students now! They really are spoilt for choice, and this reminded me how proud I felt to be a student here, and how much prouder I feel to now teach here and be a part of this amazing community of talented, aspiring young people.

It is slightly surreal, but a real privilege to be working alongside those who taught me. I'm still getting my head around seeing some of my teachers as my professional peers, and I think that's because I see how much of yourself you have to dedicate to a job like this. It really makes me respect my former teachers more. To be so warmly welcomed back by so many members of staff really demonstrated that teaching goes beyond relaying a curriculum to a young audience. My most memorable teachers were truly dedicated to the young people they met.

My teachers invested in me, and encouraged me to fulfil my potential. They didn't see any of the barriers I faced as obstacles I couldn't overcome. In my teaching practice, I want my students to feel as inspired, capable and motivated as I did, and know they'll always have me in their corner rooting for them.

More than anything I realise that it is a huge responsibility but an even greater honour to be given this opportunity and it by far has exceeded my expectations. I have loved every minute; I have enjoyed learning from my students; observing senior members of staff has truly been a privilege, and I cannot wait to continue my career.

I'm looking forward to my second placement at Ada Lovelace in the new year.

**Do you or anyone you know want to be part of our 2026-27 cohort? Applications to train to teach with us are now open. Find out [how to apply here](#).**

