



William Perkin
C of E
High School

Head Teacher's Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2024

"I have come that you may have life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Message from Ms Newman

What a joy it has been to be back at school this term, and to welcome the new Year 7 and Year 12 students into our school community.

The return to school in September following the long summer holiday is always a time of both joy and trepidation, for students and staff alike! But I can safely say that I have been incredibly impressed by how well all year groups, including our newest students, did during Q1 and Q2.

We are fully back into the swing of school now and

the huge range of extended electives, trips and events that happened during the autumn term were a particular treat. I know students were working very hard in class—I see it on my travels around the school every day! - but I sincerely hope that your child / children have also taken the opportunity to immerse themselves in the extra-curricular programme this term, as there has been such a wealth of activities on offer.

New teachers who have joined WP this year have all commented on what a

hard-working, calm, purposeful and engaged community we are, and this is entirely down to the students' commitment to getting the utmost out of the academic and wider opportunities open to them, every single day.

I must say a particular well done to the Year 11 and 13 students who sat their first full set of mock exams before Christmas. Students in both year groups have clearly taken their exams very seriously and I wish them the best of luck with their results. Indeed,



Our 10:10 ethic

all students conducted themselves very well during the Q2 assessment period—well done!

As I said in our end of term celebration, I couldn't be more proud of how brilliantly our community has started 24-25 and I am very much looking forward to the rest of this year!



House Cup competition for the term... Well done **Kelvin!**

Parent prep!

Our tips for supporting your son (s) / daughter (s) to flourish at school and live out the WP etiquette.

1st	Kelvin
2nd	Watt
3rd	Isambard
4th	Pascal
5th	Einstein
6th	Rutherford
7th	Newton



As you know, our virtual learning environment Copia has a wealth of resources to support your child's studies. Please do ensure that they know their way around Copia and can easily access resources, including revision resources, to support them with their progress. Similarly, many subject areas use

online programmes to support students outside the classroom, such as Hegarty maths, Seneca and Kerboodle. You should see your child engaging with these programmes regularly - if you or your child needs any support with accessing our online tools, please do not hesitate to get in touch .

This term's highlights



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Huge fun has been had by all this term, getting back into the swing of trips, clubs and events.

This term students have been involved in a range of activities including...

- ◆ Year 7 and Year 12 welcome services
- ◆ Year Ahead evenings for all year groups
- ◆ Longridge activities centre trips for year 7
- ◆ Celebrating diversity week focusing on diverse physical abilities
- ◆ Love Literacy week
- ◆ Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Gold award expeditions
- ◆ MLC Young Translators competition and awards
- ◆ Sixth form trip to Cambridge University
- ◆ School production launch, auditions and rehearsals
- ◆ Junior Awards Evening
- ◆ Autumn Music Showcase
- ◆ Carol Concert
- ◆ Elite scientists launch event: "Investigating the Synaesthetic Elements in Non-Synaesthetic Students in Years 7-9" with Brunel University
- ◆ Speak Out training and performance day for Year 10
- ◆ A performance (in French!) by a visiting theatre company
- ◆ Black History Month events and celebrations
- ◆ Theatre trips to see A Christmas Carol and Waiting for Godot
- ◆ Remembrance Day services
- ◆ GCSE music ensemble performances
- ◆ Geography fieldwork trips to the River Chess
- ◆ Meteor watch evening!
- ◆ History scholars debates
- ◆ Y11 post-16 pathways fayre
- ◆ Whole school and 6th form open evenings
- ◆ Enterprise Days
- ◆ Bertha Earth team have been on nature walks
- ◆ A trip to see QPR ladies play football
- ◆ Year 8 Presentations of the Science Research Study
- ◆ 'Your life you choose' workshops for year 7
- ◆ European Day of Languages events and celebrations

...and much more!

Trips and events this term: in pictures!



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It has been so exciting to be able to get back to running the plethora of trips and events that we provide for our students at William Perkin.

Below, you can see photographs of students enjoying some of the highlights from the term.

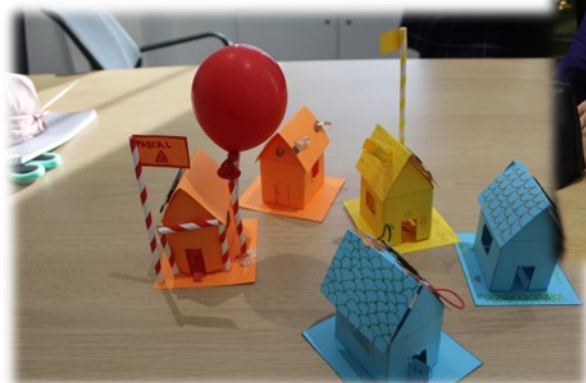


Bertha Earth

Duke of Edinburgh



RED engineering trip

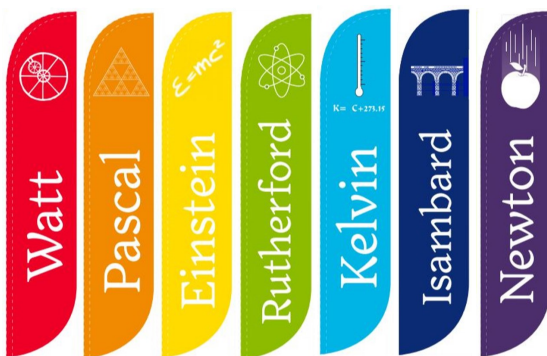


Coming up next term



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- ⇒ The School Production!
- ⇒ Art and textiles trips to the Tate Gallery and the V&A
- ⇒ The final of the Speak Out competition
- ⇒ The KS5 English A Level Conference and UCL KS5 English Workshop
- ⇒ Science Live trip and Science Museum Trip
- ⇒ German Enrichment Day @ Francis Holland School and MFL Spelling Bee
- ⇒ MFL Spelling Bee
- ⇒ Pi Day celebrations and Girls in Data event
- ⇒ Enterprise Days
- ⇒ St Pauls Trip with Father David
- ⇒ Celebrating Diversity week 2
- ⇒ Spring concert, featuring Y7 and Y8 year group choirs as well as other musical groups
- ⇒ Amazon Work Experience Trip
- ⇒ Journalism for Schools Workshop
- ⇒ National Careers Week
- ⇒ Tacitus Lecture @ the Guildhall
- ⇒ Poetry Live 2025 @ the Apollo Theatre... and much, much more!



Enterprise Updates



Our Enterprise Day this term was amazing!

Led by the Year 12 student leaders, students drank hot chocolate, voted for Mr McDonald to wear a Santa suit, kicked balls at cross-bars, baked, ate baked goods, watched Home Alone, wrote letters, wore their PJs and gave gifts..!

We are just so proud of the money, time and effort students gave and the generosity they showed. Look at how

much money they raised..

£1972!!



Supporting people at risk of severe allergies

WP Loves Literacy!



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English and Literacy have continued to see some really exciting developments in the last term. KS3 Book Club has been run by Ms Dixon every week of the term and has seen students talk about what superpowers they would have and the powers of telekinesis as they read 'The Possible'. Mr Blake has been reading '1984' with KS4 Book Club to give us some really exciting ideas about how political authorities can abuse their power.

We have also seen an incredible 18 KS4 reading mentors trained to help Y7s develop their reading skills; every Monday, they meet and catch up about their books before they start reading together. The Y7s are really grateful for their help. We've also been working with a reading charity, Bookmark, this year. Six incredible Y12s have been spending half-an-hour every week to read with Primary School children who struggle with reading. They've been put through a really challenging interview and training process and are now sharing their love of reading with an even wider community!



Year 10 took part in Speak Out – they were given the opportunity to think deeply about topics that mattered to them before competing between forms and in assembly. There were so many fantastic speakers, and congratulations to our grand champion Kuba! He, along with runner up Baani, will be competing to secure a win for the school during the borough finals which will be hosted here on the 21st January 2025.



And finally, creative writing continues to be a really important part of what we do here. Many students will be entering the Daunt Books Children's Short Story Competition – entries can be up to 1500 words and

entrants need to be under the age of 15. The deadline is the 31st January!

KS3 Book Club's Recommended Reads



KS4 Book Club's Recommended Reads



Tower Poetry are also running a poetry competition for 16-18 year olds which challenges us to think about our roots and who we are—we will certainly be taking part. And we've continued to have huge success with students published in the Young Writers' Awards anthologies over the last term!



Sports Report for the Autumn term



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It's been a packed term oif sport at WP, as always! A huge well done to everyone who has represented William Perkin this term and a big shout-out to all the staff who have made clubs and fixtures possible.

There have been...

William Perkin C of E High School

1 Extremely Proud PE Department

30 Victories

100+ House Representatives

219 Team Representatives

2248 Club Attendances

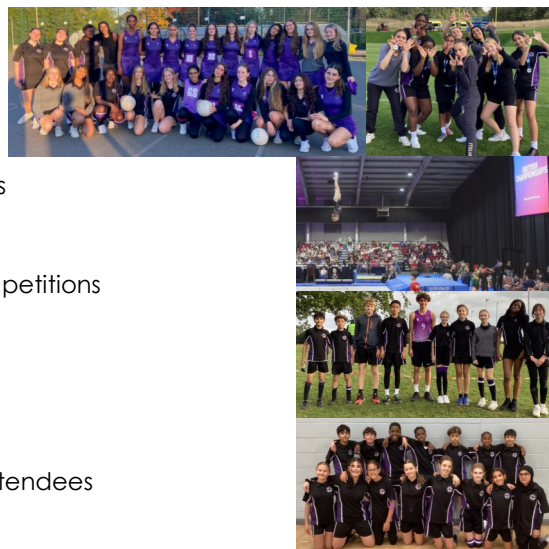


2 Unbeaten Teams

51 Fixtures / 6 Competitions

209 Goals

619 Club Attendees



Coming Up – KS3

Handball National Qualifiers
29th Jan - U13 Girls
5th Feb – U13 Boys

Coming Up – KS4

Handball National Qualifiers
12th Feb - U15 Girls
26th Feb – U15 Boys



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NFL flag football

QPR ladies

cross-country running



football



So many teams have already formed close bonds and been competing ferociously—students have been competing in...

Football, netball, handball, rugby, flag football, basketball, volleyball, cricket and more!

Enjoy these photos of just a few of the teams competing this term:



We've also had lots of really fun Interform Sports including Crossbar Challenge, Table Tennis, Basketball, Dodgeball and Football. The overall standing for the term in inter-form were...

Watt	41 (7pts)
Einstein	40 (6pts)
Pascal	38 (5pts)
Isambard	37 (4pts)
Kelvin	31 (3pts)
Rutherford	29 (2pts)
Newton	15 (1pt)

Science at William Perkin this term



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This term has been a characteristically busy one for WP science team!

We started the year celebrating the incredible achievements of our students at both GCSE and A-level. Many of last year's Y13 went on to study science and engineering based courses at top universities around the country. Over 25% of 6th formers going on to science degrees

We then had our annual launch of the Eliote Scientists project; this year the group of students from Y7-9 will focus on 'Investigating the Synaesthetic Elements in Non-Synaesthetic Students' with Brunel University. Year 7 students also took part in a research study run by UCL's Department of Behavioural Science and Health – investigating the range of healthy weight and eating messages which children are exposed to.

The Bertha Earth programme began with an exciting launch day, where all Year 7 students got a taste of what the programme has to offer. The Bertha Earth facilitators were blown away by the enthusiasm and energy of the Year 7 cohort! Following the launch day, 30 outstanding ambassadors were selected to take part in the programme based on their impressive applications. Through workshops, the ambassadors have explored connection with nature and learned about the concept of Ubuntu—the idea that we are all interconnected and thrive together. A highlight of the programme was the trip to the Walthamstow Wetlands, where students immersed themselves in nature by birdwatching and doing some conservation work. Together, they cleared bushes to make the area more welcoming for wildlife, demonstrating how small actions can create a big impact!

In November, 20 students from Year 9 and Year 10 visited the offices of RED Engineering in central London and spent the day learning and working as engineers. They attended presentations from a range of engineers and learned fundamentals about different fields of engineering. They then used what they had learnt to make their own insulated and sustainable houses out of paper, with solar-powered lights. This was a really enjoyable trip, which has opened new subject and careers choices for students. Also in November Dr Doyle organised a team to take part in a very high level Chemistry competition from the RSC. Our team of 4 came 10th out of 67 schools and were the only non fee-paying/non-selective school in the top 10. An incredible achievement!



Education
Inspiring your teaching and learning

Top of the Bench

Position	Team number	School	Score (/43)
1	35	Queen Elizabeth's School Barnet	40
2	37	Queen Elizabeth's School Barnet	39
3	24	Harrow School	38
3	61	Watford Grammar School for Boys	38
4	36	Queen Elizabeth's School Barnet	37.5
5	30	Highgate School	35.5
6	17	Hampton School	35
6	67	Watford Grammar School for Girls	35
7	39	Queen Elizabeth's School Barnet	33.5
8	16	Hampton School	32
8	18	Hampton School	32
8	19	Hampton School	32
8	80	William Perkin C of E High School	32
9	38	Queen Elizabeth's School Barnet	31
10	28	Hatch End High School	30.5

Do make sure you visit the science section of our website <https://williamperkin.org.uk/specialisms/science>

Languages at William Perkin this term



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Students in MFL have been involved in a range of events this term, including European Day of Language celebrations, The Linguistics Olympiad, the Stephen Spender poetry in translation prize and the MLC Young Translators competition. Students also enjoyed a French play from the Onatti theatre company, hosted at WP, and trips to plays in German and Spanish hosted at other Trust schools are coming up this term. We are delighted with how much progress students have made in French, Spanish and German this term and can't wait to continue this in the new year!

Congratulations!

Stephen Spender Prizewinners 2024



Schools Laureate Prize (KS4): Winner

Anna Mrabian

'Found' (Armenian)

By Hovhannes Shiraz

European Languages Treasure Hunt

Find the clues in the locations below. Each clue has a puzzle that you need to solve. Write your answer in the boxes below. All entries must be submitted by 4pm. The winner will win a prize. Good Luck!

Clue	Location	Answer to Clue
1	Recepai	
2	die Straße	
3	labirenc	
4	Kavma	
5	Soyata Ma Gunter Engant	
6		
7	Apote	a) <input type="text"/> b) <input type="text"/> c) <input type="text"/>
8	Information	
9	Schiffa nemo Rise	
10	Mendaco kantor	
11	Geografie	
12	Worja	
13	Oficina de señora Lovel	
14	Linguae officium	
15	Kavma	Maru Kanti

