



William Perkin  
C of E  
High School

# Head Teacher's Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2025

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



## Message from Ms Newman

It has been a real pleasure to return to school this term and to warmly welcome our new Year 7 and Year 12 students as they begin their journey within our school community. I have been truly delighted by how confidently and positively all year groups have approached Q1 and Q2.

Now firmly settled into the rhythm of the school year, the autumn term has been filled with a rich variety of opportunities beyond the classroom. From rehearsals for the new school production, Peter Pan, and one-off events such as the Autumn Show-

case and Carol Concert, to daily trips, clubs and events - there has been an incredible buzz around the school. While students have undoubtedly been working hard in lessons—something I witness daily—I hope many have also embraced the chance to get involved in the extensive co-curricular programme on offer.

This term has also seen students engage thoughtfully with wider initiatives, including the Love Not Landfill project, through which they have shown real commitment to environmental responsibility and community action.

These experiences have been particular highlights of a very full and rewarding few months!

Staff who have joined WP this year have consistently commented on the focused and purposeful atmosphere that defines our school, and this is a testament to the dedication of our students to make the most of every academic and enrichment opportunity available to them. I would also like to congratulate our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who completed their first full set of mock examinations before



## Our 10:10 ethic

Christmas. Their mature approach and serious preparation were evident, and I wish them every success as they receive their results in the New Year.

I hope you all have a well deserved rest during the festive season and look forward to see you again in January.



House Cup competition for the term... Well done **Isambard**

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

## Parent prep!

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

As you are aware, there are many ways in which you can support your child at home to help them make the most of their learning. Encouraging regular routines for homework, as well as taking an interest in what they are learning in school, can make a real difference to their confidence and progress. Talking through deadlines, assessments and any upcoming commitments can also help

students stay organised and manage their time effectively.

We would also encourage you to maintain open communication with your child about how they are finding their work and their overall wellbeing. If any concerns arise, whether academic or pastoral, please do not hesitate to contact the school so that we can work together to provide timely support.

## 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 world views**
- ◆ **Christian Union Day Away KS4/5**
- ◆ **Duke of Edinburgh 2025-26 launch and training events**
- ◆ **MFL Translation workshop**
- ◆ **Love Not Landfill workshops**
- ◆ **STEM Open Afternoon**
- ◆ **London Dungeons trip**
- ◆ **Sixth form trip to Cambridge University**
- ◆ **School production launch, auditions and rehearsals**
- ◆ **Junior Awards Evening**
- ◆ **Autumn Music Showcase and Carol Concert**
- ◆ **Elite scientists 2025-26 launch event**
- ◆ **Speak Out training and performance day for Year 10**
- ◆ **A performance (in French!) by a visiting theatre company**
- ◆ **Black History Month events and celebrations including the 'Great Big Live Assembly'**
- ◆ **Theatre trips to see Dracula and Hercules**
- ◆ **Remembrance Day services**
- ◆ **GCSE music ensemble performances**
- ◆ **Geography fieldwork trips to the River Chess**
- ◆ **KS5 languages cinema trip**
- ◆ **Aero space careers programme**
- ◆ **Y11 post-16 pathways fayre**
- ◆ **Whole school and 6th form open evenings**
- ◆ **Enterprise Days**
- ◆ **Bertha Earth launch and initial trip**
- ◆ **Dickens Museum trip**
- ◆ **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.



### Longridge Trip

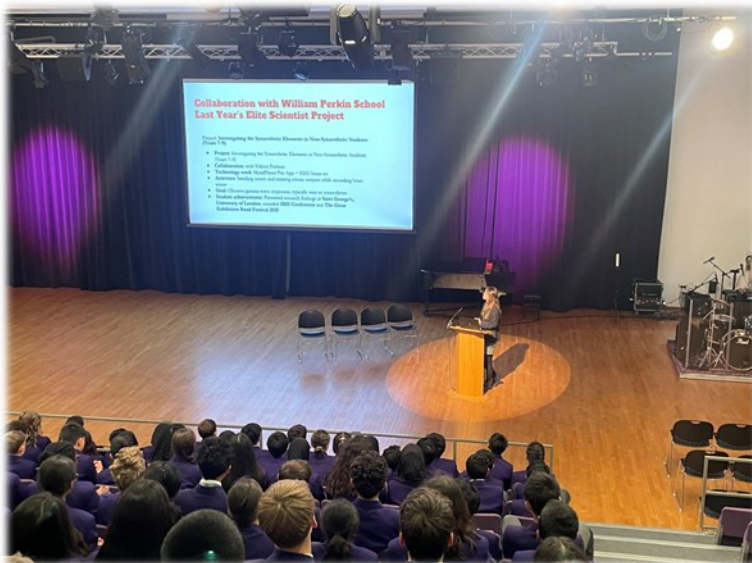


### Pyjama Day!



### Love not landfill clothes swap— with special guest, the Deputy Mayor of London!

### Elite scientists launch assembly



### Aerospace Careers Day

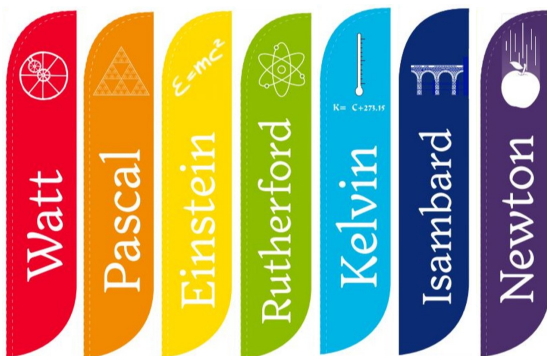


## Coming up next term



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- ⇒ The School Production—Peter Pan!
- ⇒ 'Music to your ears' science show
- ⇒ The final of the Speak Out competition
- ⇒ Trust English Competition 1: Performing Shakespeare
- ⇒ Spanish study day at the BFI
- ⇒ GCSE Art Gallery visit
- ⇒ Y9 Curriculum Information Evening
- ⇒ Science museum trip
- ⇒ Trust English Competition 2: Poetry by Heart
- ⇒ Y10 theatre day trip
- ⇒ TFL workshops
- ⇒ Disneyland Paris Trip
- ⇒ Lent labyrinth week
- ⇒ Spring concert
- ⇒ UCAS convention
- ⇒ Macbeth afternoon
- ...and much, much more!



## Enterprise Updates

Enterprise Day was a huge success, and we raised money for The Salvation Army, Save the Children's Gaza appeal and Hurricane Melissa Relief. Student leaders distributed candy canes with Christmas messages and lots of our KS3 students made Christmas cards in the LRC. There was a cake sale and a record number of you wore pajamas, all to raise money for charity.

Some of you also voted for a teacher to wear a Santa costume—who 'won' will be re-

vealed in the EOT assembly! And let's not forget the toy appeal – we collected so many toys for The Salvation Army's toy appeal, which will go to children in the local area who otherwise might not get Christmas presents this year.



**Save the Children**



£2002!!

## WP Loves Literacy!



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We have had a really busy term in English this Autumn.

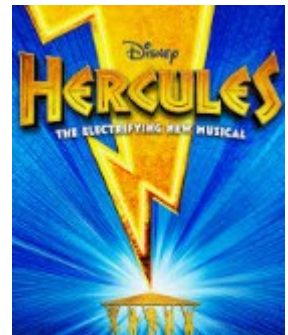
We were able to gift all year 7s with their own novel to celebrate their successful start at William Perkin, thanks to Book Buzz.

Thanks to the PTFA we were also able to provide all year 11 form rooms with a new mobile library, so now all tutor groups in the school have their own personalised libraries.



We have taken students to go and see 'Dracula' & 'Hercules' on stage.

We have also trained our new year's cohort of lead learners in year 7 & 8, so they are leading the way in the classroom, supporting discussions & encouraging excellent learning habits.




Our year 10s took part in the William Perkin training & competition for Jack Petchey Speak Out, and we are now preparing to take our finalists Muska & Hajar to the borough finals in January.




For wider learning we have launched our own debate club for KS3 & KS5, and had the ESU come in to run a workshop with our debate team to make sure we are on top form to compete against neighbouring schools in the upcoming terms.

And, once again, the WP Times is back & the first two editions have been published, creating an excellent snapshot of the wonderful community life at William Perkin.



### The WP Times: Hope & Resilience

Welcome to the second edition of the WP Times, 2025. This edition is all about hope for the new year & festivities ahead over the Christmas holidays but also celebrating resilience as we have persevered over this long half term, preparing for our Q2 exams. This edition has lots of different moments where people's resilience has shone & hopefully, they give you some hope in the holiday ahead.  
**Writers:** Zaeem Ashfaq, Alexander Bones, Natalia Folta, Laila Ashraf, Raahi Ravai, Avik Bista, Ayaan Uddin, Baani Patel, Ms Paterson & Ms Wood. Please do come to LOD to help us with our next edition!

<p><b>Fireworks: Love Them?</b> Ayaan Uddin</p> <p>It is obvious that fireworks are humanity's best invention. Fireworks are a sign of peace, of new beginnings and festivities. Fireworks also brings communities together with its beauty and bright, bold colours. It is also an amazing way to show bright, colourful lights around the world. Fireworks also were created in 200BC! This shows even our ancestors loved fireworks. When fireworks start to explode in the sky, our brains release a chemical</p>	 <p><b>Love!</b></p>	<p><b>Fireworks: Loathe them?</b> Avik Bista</p> <p>Clearly fireworks are hazardous and society needs to recognise how dangerous they really are. They are safety hazards because rockets flying towards you could be a risk. As well as this, they are also prone to falling. This is clearly dangerous. Furthermore, they damage &amp; destroy the environment - (fire hazards / litter / pollution). Did you know, fireworks contain the same amount of carbon monoxide as half a cigarette. So, when you are lighting up</p>
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# Sports Report for the Autumn term



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It's been a packed term of 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...

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## Sports Report

### Netball

9 fixtures  
2 borough tournaments  
Year 8 team undefeated

### Football

22 fixtures  
1 borough tournament  
U18's and U12's into the last 16 of MSFA  
U14's into the quarter finals of MSFA



### Indoor Athletics

3 competitions  
Year 7 boys

### Handball

U15 Boys London qualifiers  
3 fixtures = undefeated  
Progressed to the Southeast England Regionals



### Coming Up – KS3

Handball London Qualifiers  
19<sup>th</sup> Jan - U13 Boys  
3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – U13 Girls

### Coming Up – KS4

Handball National Qualifiers  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb - U15 Girls



## Interform—photos and results!



### Results

#### Yr 8 Netball

Rutherford 

#### Yr 9 Netball

Isambard 

#### Yr 7 Football Girls

Pascal 

#### Yr 7 Football Boys

Rutherford 

#### Yr 8 Football Girls

#### Year 8 Football Boys

## Interform Standings

<b>Rutherford</b>	(7pts)
<b>Einstein</b>	(6pts)
<b>Isambard</b>	(5pts)
<b>Kelvin</b>	(4pts)
<b>Pascal</b>	(3pts)
<b>Watt</b>	(2pts)
<b>Newton</b>	(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. 41% of last year's Y13 who chose to go to university are going on to science-based, medical or engineering degrees.



This year, Elite Scientists are working with Krisztina Losonci from Brunel University. Their project, launched on October 7th is titled "Investigating the Effect of Emotive Videos on Blood Pressure". The students are using blood pressure monitors to record their blood pressure whilst watching sad, happy or neutral videos. This will investigate whether there is a physical response to emotions.

Research is clearly a very important part of science and, as such we like to give students the opportunity to take part in real academic research studies. This year, year Y12 are currently taking part in the SCAMP study run by Imperial College to find out more about the effect of mobile phone use on cognition in teenage brains.



The Bertha Earth project was re-launched this year with Ms Jay at the helm. 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 so far 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!



Year 9 students worked with the Fleming Initiative from Imperial College to learn about anti-microbial resistance. Over four sessions in the LRC they planned a campaign to raise the awareness of this issue amongst young people.

Y11 and 12s recently had a full day learning about, and being immersed in, the aerospace industry. Aerospace engineering remains one of the most popular degree choices with our Y13s but during this exciting day our students discovered there is a far wider range of careers available within aerospace than they could possibly have imagined. After the talks and demonstrations they were able to get hands-on with robotics, AI, virtual reality and simulators in what proved to be a very engaging day.



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

## Languages at William Perkin this term

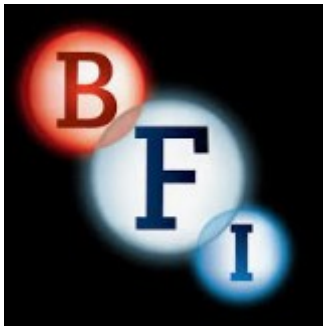


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As always, the MFL department has had a wonderfully busy term, full of creativity, culture and, of course, languages.

We had our annual play performed entirely in French with many of the Year 9 students having the opportunity to attend. They seemed to have a great time, and hopefully understood mostly what was going on.



Year 12 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the BFI, where they explored the power of film in telling stories across cultures and languages. It was a brilliant opportunity to see languages come alive beyond the classroom and link them to the wider world of media and culture.

This term also saw the launch of our summer trips — we're very excited to be heading to the Opal Coast in France and also to Germany next year. Make sure if you have signed up that you keep an eye out for more information to come.

Languages were celebrated in style on European Day of Languages, with a lively quiz and languages challenge that tested everyone's linguistic knowledge and curiosity. We also had our lunchtime Duolingo Club with Miss. Seri, where students have been practising a whole range of languages and have competing for the longest streaks.



And finally, our languages board games sessions have been a big hit — with students practicing their numbers and colours for uno.

Our Year 8 and 9 students have been stretching their imaginations this term through our Creative Translation course. They've explored how meaning, humour and tone can change between languages, and have produced some fantastic and thoughtful translations. Thank you to all of you for your enthusiasm and hard work this term.

So, from MFL: Joyeux Noel, Feliz Navidad and Fröhliche Weihnachten !

## The Final Word!



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TEACH  
WEST  
LONDON

Have you, or anyone from your family or friends, ever thought about becoming a teacher?

### Thinking about a career in teaching?

**Train to Teach** with **The Twyford Academies CofE Trust** and **Teach West London** in September 2026.

Applications are now open for [Teach West London's teacher training programme](#) starting September 2026. Our school partners with Teach West London to offer West-London based routes for parents, graduates, teaching assistants, and career-changers.

If you, or someone you know, has the potential to become an excellent teacher, find out more by contacting Teach West London on 020 3301 3180 / [ITT@teachwestlondon.org.uk](mailto:ITT@teachwestlondon.org.uk), visiting their [website](#), or register your interest [here](#).

