



William Perkin  
C of E  
High School

# Head Teacher's Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2025

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



## Message from Ms Newman

I can hardly believe that we are coming to the end of the Spring term already—and finally the sun is making an appearance!

This is always the most challenging term for staff and students alike—the mornings (and afternoons!) are dark, the weather tends to be chilly and wet, and the Y11 and 13 students start to feel the pressure of those final exams looming... So, given this, I am all the more impressed by what a fantastic term the students have made it!

In preparing this newsletter I am always thrilled to look back on the myriad activities, trips and events students have thrown themselves into over the preceding term, and the last 12 weeks have been no exception. We have had some particular highlights, such as the Spring concert, Celebrating Diversity Week and the School Production, but every single week has brought something special for students to get involved in. Please do explore the 'events' section of the newsletter for further information.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students, but particularly the Y11 and Y13 students, on their progress during Q3. Both conduct and attitude of the students was exemplary, and results are looking very good already—I hope students in the exam year groups have found this a boost to their confidence in the run-up to the final exams in May/June, and that students in the remaining year groups have found it valuable as



## Our 10:10 ethic

a chance to take stock—feeling proud of the progress they have made, and aware of the areas they need to work on before Q4.

I wish you all a restful Easter holiday and look forward to seeing the students again in April for the start of the summer term.



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

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

Students in Years 7-13 have received assessment results for Q3, which should have been recorded in both their exercise books and their planners. Please do check that your child has done so as it is important that they keep track of their progress over the course of the year.

In addition, as you know from the Year Ahead evenings, Copia is constantly being updat-

ed with all the learning materials your child could possibly need. Please do check that your child, and therefore you, is able to log onto Copia and take the time to browse this treasure trove of resources!

**Please also be sure to check out the newest edition of the WP Time on Copia for all the latest school news and events!**

[Click this link](#)



## This term's highlights

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...

- ⇒ The School Production!
- ⇒ The Spring concert, featuring Y7 and Y8 year group choirs as well as other musical groups
- ⇒ The Disneyland Paris trip
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ The GCSE Science Live trip and Science Museum Trip
- ⇒ A German Enrichment Day @ Francis Holland School
- ⇒ The MFL Spelling Bee
- ⇒ A 'Girls in Data' event
- ⇒ Celebrating Diversity week 2 focusing on diverse gender identities and sexualities
- ⇒ The Bertha Earth Presentation event
- ⇒ The Royal Society Young Persons Book Prize
- ⇒ An Amazon Work Experience Trip
- ⇒ The Journalism for Schools Workshop
- ⇒ National Careers Week celebrations including The Dragon's Den competition
- ⇒ The Tacitus Lecture @ the Guildhall
- ⇒ The Poetry Live 2025 @ the Apollo Theatre
- ⇒ Enterprise Day
- ⇒ A Year 10 Trip to Barber Surgeons Hall
- ⇒ The 'Neurospark: Speaking For Tomorrow: The Health and Earth Challenge 2025!' hosted at Imperial College London
- ⇒ The Royal College of Surgeons Surgical Skills Workshop
- ⇒ The STEM Careers Carousel
- ⇒ The Kew Gardens art trip
- ⇒ Student conference for medicine and dentistry
- ⇒ The new 6th Form Pickleball Club!
- ⇒ The 'Matilda!' theatre trip
- ⇒ The 'MacBeth' theatre trip
- ⇒ The Jazz Music Trip to Twyford
- ⇒ A Degree Apprenticeship Workshop
- ⇒ Talks from 'Diverse futures' about post-18 apprenticeships...

...and much more!



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## Trips and events this term: in pictures!

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.

### Neurospark:

### Speaking For Tomorrow



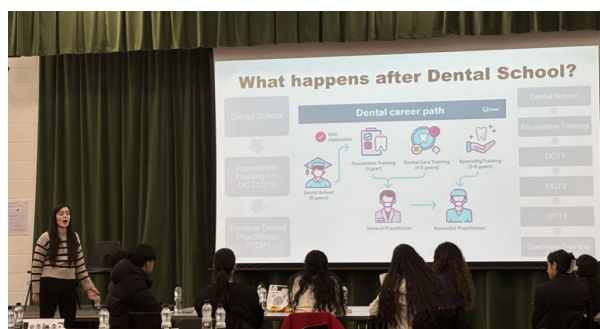
### Barber Surgeons Hall



### Surgical Skills Workshop



### Student conference for medicine and dentistry



### Pickleball



**Form Dragon's Den Competition:**

**What?** Enter the competition by pitching a new idea, invention, or concept

**When?** Monday 24th B&L Tutor Time – Winning group decided by tutors

**Each chosen winner...**

- Will create a pitch and design to sell their product to the judges
- Will present their idea, concept, invention Thursday 15th
- Will attend a workshop Tuesday AM registration to work on their presentation
- Will have a practice run-through in Wednesday AM registration

**1st prize: £10 voucher**  
**2nd prize: £5 voucher**  
**3rd prize: school pass**

See Miss Patterson if you have any questions or come to the English office.

### Kew Gardens art trip



### STEM Careers Carousel



### Disneyland Paris Science trip





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## Coming up next term

- ⇒ CIAG Day for all students
- ⇒ Dike of Edinburgh information evenings and expeditions
- ⇒ WP's Got Talent!
- ⇒ Founders Day—our annual science extravaganza!
- ⇒ Y11 Celebration of Achievement Evening
- ⇒ Y13 Celebration Service
- ⇒ The Mouse Trap and Globe theatre trips
- ⇒ Mental Health Awareness week
- ⇒ Jamie's farm trip for Bertha Earth students
- ⇒ Oxford Urban Fieldwork Trip
- ⇒ The summer music showcase
- ⇒ Celebrating Diversity week 3
- ⇒ The Sponsored Walk
- ⇒ The Medical museums trip
- ⇒ The Paris trip
- ⇒ World of Work Trip
- ⇒ Enrichment Week, including Sports Day!
- ⇒ The Summer arts festival
- ⇒ Great Exhibition road festival 2025
- ⇒ Oxbridge summer school
- ⇒ CERN Geneva Trip
- ⇒ Year 8 Careers Fair
- ⇒ DT and Food technology workshops
- ⇒ Meet The Tutor days for all year groups

...and much, much more!



## Enterprise Updates

Our Easter-themed Enterprise Day this term was an Egg-stravaganza!

Led by the Year 12 student leaders, students took part in:

- Easter Egg hunts
- Send a card to celebrate Spring
- Bake sale and cake decorating competition – Easter/Spring theme
- Design an Easter Egg competition
- Guess how many eggs
- Vote for a staff member to wear an Easter bunny costume
- Egg and Spoon race

we haven't yet counted up the money raised, but it was a lovely (h)opportunity to get in the Easter spirit and also think of our House charities.

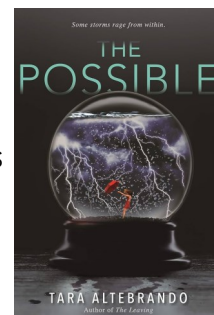




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## WP Loves Literacy!

We've done a lot as part of English & Literacy this term and we're really grateful for all of the students' contributions to make it such a successful year so far. This Spring term, students in the KS3 book club have been meeting with Ms Dixon every Wednesday to read 'The Possible' which has received rave reviews! Students have praised it for its exploration of telekinesis and how exciting and thrilling it has been at every new chapter. We can't wait to hear what they pick next term! Our KS4 book club have continued to meet too and have really enjoyed reading a wide range of material and discussing big issues around political authorities and their abuse of power with Mr Blake. Thank you to everyone who has continued to attend!



This term, we've continued to not only read widely but also spoken and written confidently! Firstly, our incredible Y10 speakers – Kuba and Baani – represented the school as part of the Speak Out Regional Finals in January. They did themselves and us incredibly proud and were role models for what it means to engage fully; they saw a huge challenge and actively participated in the Jack Petchey finals and we're incredibly pleased that they were praised for their thoughtfulness and confidence in their speeches. Well done to them and thank you to all the Y10s who helped set up for the event & support on the night!

Our KS5 students also had the chance to learn about how we use our voice and language to develop our identities when they went to lectures hosted by Notting Hill school and a workshop at University College London. It was wonderful that they were able to understand how their choices of language are shaping their everyday presentation. We also had another incredible edition of the WP Times published, edited by Ms Weir & Mr Blake. It really exemplifies everything we do as a school community—please make sure you read the latest edition! [Click this link](#)



As part of Careers Week and Love Literacy Week, students in KS3 and KS4 were part of a Journalism for Schools workshop. Those invited to take part thought deeply about how local news is made and why it is presented in the way it is and our guest speaker and professional journalist of 25 years, Ms Hunt, was incredibly impressed by your interest and awareness around how the news is made. During

Careers Week we also had some beautiful entries for poetry competitions, some excellent fact files made about women in STEM & applications to some great work experience placements.

Finally, we have been very theatrical this term! We recently had 60 Year 9-11 students see an incredible performance of 'Macbeth' at the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith and Matilda! What fun! Next term, we're going to be going to two more stage productions – 'A Mouse Trap' – the longest running show in London – and the Globe Theatre's new production of 'Romeo and Juliet'. We cannot wait to go and see some more incredible drama with you all!





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## Sports Report for the Spring term

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...

...huge wins in netball where Yr 7 celebrated 5/6 wins to become league winners and Yr 9 are in the semi-final of the borough competition. Also, our 6<sup>th</sup> form A/B/ C teams all triumphed against Greenford High!



...massive successes in Girls' football where the U12, U14 and U16 Girls have dominated the borough. All teams are progressing through to both the cup and league finals!



...massive successes in Boys' football where Year 7 are unbeaten in league, Year 8 are unbeaten in the league and won the borough cup and our 6<sup>th</sup> form won their league and borough cup too!





...and astonishing success in Handball, with the U13 Boys and Girls winning the London Qualifiers and progressing through to the regional competition! U15 Girls were also runners up in the London Qualifiers.



As always, we are now looking forward to the summer term and all the wonderful sporting opportunities the milder weather brings! We can't wait for

- ⇒ Junior/Senior Borough Competitions in athletics
- ⇒ Sports Day and Trust Sports Day
- ⇒ the return of the cricket and rounders seasons!



And finally our interform sports standings for the Spring term were...

<b>Einstein</b>	<b>40 (7pts)</b>
<b>Pascal</b>	<b>35 (6pts)</b>
<b>Watt</b>	<b>30 (5pts)</b>
<b>Isambard</b>	<b>25 (4pts)</b>
<b>Rutherford</b>	<b>23 (3pts)</b>
<b>Kelvin</b>	<b>23 (3pts)</b>
<b>Newton</b>	<b>11 (1pt)</b>



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## Science at William Perkin this term

Since Christmas Elite scientists have continued their research into synaesthesia, working with scientists from Brunel University. Using Myndplay Brain Sets they have been scanning their brainwaves whilst taking part in a variety of activities including percussion, origami, writing poetry and dancing. They have also observed the effects of being exposed to various smells and flavours. They have now analysed their results and are producing their poster to share their findings at the IRIS conference next term. The Elite scientists also had a lecture on Sickle Cell Anaemia from Imperial College, a topic they will present on at the Great Exhibition Road Festival.



The science club has continued to do fun experiments and investigations including making lava lamps, crystals, ice cream and bath bombs. They were also the judging panel for this year's Royal Society Young People's Book Prize where they had to judge the 6 shortlisted books in four categories; Ease of reading, Interest, Look and Feel and Inspiration. The winner this year is "Where are you really from?" by Adam Rutherford, a fascinating exploration of evolution and race.

Dr Doyle ran the annual trip to GCSE Science Live at Disneyland Paris, where they listened to talks on how the "science of thrill" is used to design rollercoasters and how chemistry is used in cosmetics amongst others.



Meanwhile, Y7 enjoyed a trip to the science museum where they were able to get hands-on in the Wonderlab.

Y10s also got to experience the UK version of GCSE Science Live at the Victoria Apollo Theatre where they saw presenta-

tions from very notable scientists such as Lord Robert Winston, Jim Al Khalili and Andrea Sella on topics which ranged from "Is time travel possible" to fertility.



There have been four trips this term for those interested in careers in medicine or dentistry. Y10s went to the Barber Surgeons Hall, an amazing venue, to have a Medical careers carousel with 12 professionals with a variety of specialities. A team of five 6th formers entered "Neurospark: Speaking for Tomorrow: The Health and Earth Challenge" at Imperial College where they had to write and present their own speeches.

The Y12 Medics Scholars took part in a Surgical Skills Workshop at the Royal College of Surgeons where they learnt a number of surgical techniques. They also went to Greenford High School for the student conference on medicine and dentistry.

And just yesterday (02/04/25) Y8 students took part in a STEM workshop all day called Blast Off to RIAT provided by the RAF Charitable Trust!! What a packed, wonderful term!





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## Languages at William Perkin this term



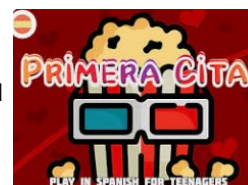
It has been an exciting time in MFL this term, filled with a number of different activities having been enjoyed by students.



Year 7 took part in the MFL spelling bee, which culminated in the Spelling Bee interform back during love literacy week. The spellers competed to spell correctly as many French words as possible in one minute.

Congratulations to Watt Pascal and Kelvin and Isambard for coming 3rd, 2nd and 1st place respectively. A further congratulations to Alyssa, Hannah B and Malak who will be representing WP at the Trust round of the spelling bee in the summer term.

We were lucky enough to have Onatti Productions put on another play for our Y9 Spanish and German pupils. Students spent the morning at Ada and Ealing Fields watching the plays performed exclusively in Spanish and German. The actors brought the characters alive through clear visuals, simple language, and quick costume changes!



Excitingly, we had the opportunity to attend the German Day hosted at Francis Holland School where students attended workshops on film analysis and literary translation and improve their German.

This term we continued our extended electives programme where students have battled it out at French Board Game clubs and learnt the delicate art of how to braid hair in hair braiding club. We have excitingly expanded our offer this term to include Primary Language Teaching where Year 9 students have learnt how to teach a language and began preparing their lessons ready to teach in local primary schools next half term.



That's it from MFL this term – we're looking forward to next term and getting to take some of you abroad to Paris, Malaga and Normandy.

**Joyeuses Paques, Frohe Ostern and Felices Pascuas!**



**FELICES PASCUAS!!**





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## The creative arts at William Perkin

One of the highlights of this term was surely our first school production in five years, put on by Ms Davidson and the incredible work of her after-school Drama team. 'A Game of Gods'. An original script, written by Ms Davidson, was performed on two nights in February and people who went were stunned.

The quality of the acting, featuring students from Y7 all the way up to Year 12, was exceptional, - we can't believe WP students didn't feature in his year's Oscars! And it wasn't just on-stage talent on show—the music and lighting were also completely designed and delivered by student teams, meaning that this production really was WP through-and-through. Everyone felt hugely proud of the finished product and we just can't wait until next year's show!



Year 9 Kew Gardens Trip  
Well done to everyone who attended the Kew Gardens trip and thank you to the teachers who organised it. The day was a great success.

Year 9 students who are considering taking art for GCSE went on a wonderful day trip to Kew Gardens to explore the Marianne North galleries—she is a botanical artist whom students will study soon, so experiencing the 'real thing' on this trip was a treat, and students had a lovely time sketching some of her paintings.

And of course we had the wonderful Spring concert, showcasing a huge range of musical talent from Years 7-13 (with some staff members thrown in for good measure!)

A particular highlight was the Year 7 choir, with almost 200 voices singing beautifully together, and the KS3 choir, gospel choir and orchestra, with representatives from Y7-13 all working together to create some performances that were very special indeed.







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## Bertha Earth

Bertha Earth is a youth-centred environmental organisation working with young people between the ages of 11 and 18.

Their mission is to grow a diverse network of young environmental leaders, storytellers, and changemakers who reignite a great love for our planet.

We have been lucky enough to be selected to take part in Bertha Earth this year, and a group of Year 7 students have been working on Bertha Earth weekly all year with representatives from the project and our very own Miss Mitchell.



The Bertha Earth ambassadors have been on a journey exploring ways to protect and care for our planet. As part of their final challenge, they took on Project Planet Love - a student-led initiative where they designed and presented projects aimed at making a real environmental impact. From creative recycling solutions to seed balls and bake sales, their ideas showcased innovation, passion, and a commitment to change.



On Tuesday afterschool, the ambassadors showcased their projects to teachers, friends and family. It was a wonderful evening and a chance for the ambassadors to show how small actions can create meaningful change.

We are incredibly proud of them! and the passion and commitment they have shown through the project.

