



Lawnswood Links



LAWNSWOOD SCHOOL

Autumn 2025



Lawnwood Art Department

Y7 Collaborative Collage

Our Y7 Artists have been collaborating to create a communal collage in their form groups. They have been working in small groups to collage their interpretations of a extract of Arthur Conan Doyle's *Lost World*, using chalks, tissue paper and 3D paper crafts. We cant wait to see them when they are finished and stuck together!



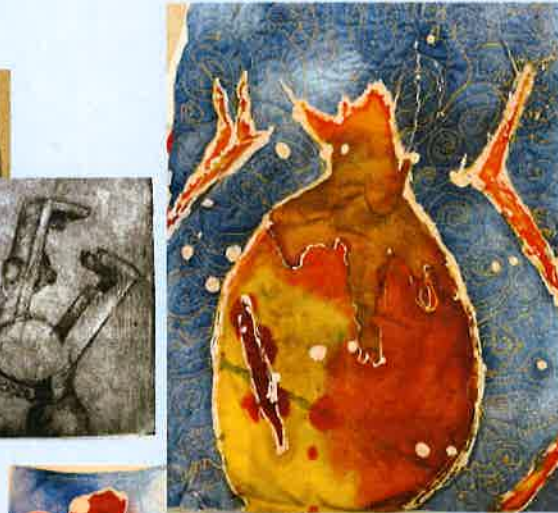
Y9 Clay Sculptures

Our Y9 students have been working on the **Things With Wings** project, culminating in some fantastic clay pieces. Students have focussed on texture and mark making in their observations and transferred this creatively onto their clay creations.



Y10 GCSE Work

GCSE pupils have started Year 10 with a bang. Both groups have been doing a series of skills workshops. Here are some of examples of their lino printing, etching along with their batik and felting with dissolvable fabric detailing.



Year 8 repeat patterns

Year 8 pupils have been working hard to learn how to make a reduction print. The abstract prints have been inspired by by mechanical objects and turned into a repeat pattern.



Year 10 National Gallery Workshop

Y10 Art students took part in a workshop delivered by a curator from the National Gallery in London, developing their skills in analysing and writing about artworks and ending in student presentations that were very confident and creative.



Y9 Visit to Harlow Carr

Recently, a group of our Y9 Artists travelled to Harlow Carr, Harrogate, to visit the gardens and draw from nature. They worked on developing key observational drawing

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Computing & Business newsletter. Whilst we continue to carry out a range of exciting activities throughout the academic year, there are always a few that stand out!



YORKSHIRE LEAP WINNERS

E-SPORTS GAMING TRIP

Our students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in an exciting programming event delivered in collaboration with GAKU and SEGA. The day began with introductions and logging in to the online programming platform, before students immersed themselves in a GAKU x SEGA co-developed programming course, where they developed new coding skills and explored real-world applications of computing. After a short break, students took part in a friendly competition, applying what they had learned throughout the morning. The event concluded with a certificate presentation, recognising students' engagement, effort, and achievement. The experience was both inspiring and rewarding, giving students a valuable insight into the world of programming and digital careers, and they left the event feeling motivated, confident, and proud of their accomplishments.

Lawnswood Students Win Yorkshire-Wide LEAP Business Competition
Lawnswood students were crowned winners of the Yorkshire-wide LEAP Business Competition after impressing judges with an innovative and well-presented business idea. They confidently presented their concept in front of leading businesses from across Leeds, clearly explaining what made their idea such a success.

The students showed exceptional confidence and professionalism, speaking articulately to an adult audience in a large public setting. Winning the competition and receiving their award in such a prestigious environment was a fantastic achievement and a proud moment for the school, inside and outside the classroom.



Star Of The

Term:

Finn

MacGregor-Taylor

SAMSUNG

YEAR 7

YEAR 8

YEAR 9

KS4 & KS5

USING COMPUTERS

SAFELY

MORE PYTHON

PROGRAMMING

GAME

DESIGN

RETRIEVAL

PRACTICE

Lawnswood Design & Technology

December 2025

LAWNSWOOD
DESIGN &
TECHNOLOGY



Spotlight Careers - Board game Designer



Year 7 D&T students have been learning about batch production & collaborated to manufacture origami bookmarks,

as well as showing off their fantastic drawing skills in 3D & one-point perspective.



Year 10 GCSE D&T

students took part in a workshop hosted by **The Pursuit of Leeds**, working in collaboration with the **Hasbro** team, to write questions for the **Trivial Pursuits** trail coming to Leeds in **Summer 2026!**

Students across the school now have the opportunity to submit a piece of Art showing **what they think Leeds will be like in 100 years**. Winning pieces will be displayed in **Leeds City Museum** during the trail.

Year 8 D&T students have been learning about key design movements over time, and using them as inspiration when designing exclusive pet homes.

Our new corridor wall art has helped to inspire their creativity!



KS3 Creative Club launched in October!

So far we have made pencil cases, winter decorations and gingerbread houses...

Year 9 D&T students have been developing their practical ability in the workshop and learning how to draw like a designer using orthographic drawing techniques. Here are some student outcomes of the new look, Year 9 **Sweet Dispenser Project**.



KS3 Creative Club What's coming up..?

15th January - Wooden Car Workshop

29th January - Printing with LEGO

12th February - Make a garland/bunting

5th March - Book themed Art

19th March - Automata Toy Workshop

The club meets on Thursday, week 1 after school in G41



11, 12 March 2026
School Hall
7:00pm
£5



Rehearsals are underway, we're looking and sounding spectacular!

Tickets on sale in the new year. Join Dorothy as she makes new friends, meets The Wiz and has some unexpected adventures!



GCSE

DRAMA UPDATE

Our fantastic year 11's are working hard in the studio on their original devised works. They have explored a range of topics such as prison life, WW2, a childhood adventure in the woods and the darker recesses of a tormented arsonist's mind.



MUSIC UPDATE

Year 10 Students have been filling the corridors with their amazing ensemble arrangement of 'House of the Rising Sun' by The Animals

OMG!!!





New York was such a special adventure. We were lucky enough to take 45 students to the USA and explore the sights and sounds of this famous city. Highlights include watching Hadestown on Broadway and the One World Trade Centre



Thanks to a partnership with Artforms, the Music Department welcomed 15 Japanese Taiko drums. KS3 and KS4 students have had great fun using them this half term.

Year 11 DJ

CHARLEY BOY



EAL NEWS



This term, we have welcomed new students to Lawnswood from a wide range of countries, including Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Iran, Palestine, Kurdistan, and Vietnam. We warmly welcome all of their families and, at this time of year, take a moment to reflect on peace across the world. We are very fortunate to be able to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all our students, while keeping in our thoughts and prayers those home countries affected by war and unrest.



It has been a busy and vibrant term, with students serving Arabic coffee alongside tea and biscuits from around the world at Open Evening. We also celebrated Nigerian Independence Day with a special event where staff learned traditional Nigerian cooking skills and recipes. It is wonderful to see how, at Lawnswood, pupils feel confident and supported in sharing and celebrating their cultures with friends.



The EAL classroom has been especially busy this term. We have been supporting new Year 7 pupils who are in the early stages of acquiring English, helping KS3 pupils to further develop their reading and writing skills, and supporting KS4 pupils as they prepare for and complete mock GCSE examinations. We are also proud to have 20 pupils taking GCSEs in their home languages across eight different languages this spring.



ALL LAWNSWOOD
AREN'T WE



English newsletter



What we've been studying this term:

- Year 7 have been studying *Animal Farm*, exploring its characters, themes and the political ideas that underpin the novel.
- Year 8 have been delving into our *Empire* scheme, developing their understanding of historical context, representation and power.
- Year 9 have been reading *Noughts and Crosses*, engaging thoughtfully with its themes of inequality, friendship and identity.
- Year 10 have been studying *An Inspector Calls*, analysing its dramatic structure and exploring Priestley's message about social responsibility.
- Year 11 have been working hard in preparation for their mock exams, revising key texts and refining their exam skills.
- A Level Lit students have been studying *Othello* and poetry, and reading texts in preparation for their NEA.
- A Level Language students have been

Year 11 Booster Sessions

Year 11 have shown great commitment in the run-up to their December mock exams. Our Thursday after-school English booster sessions have been extremely well attended, with students making excellent use of the opportunity to strengthen their skills. Our Grade 9-7 challenge sessions have been particularly popular, with recent discussions focusing on high-level ideas such as kingship in *Macbeth*. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and determination students have been showing.

Leeds Playhouse Trip

This term, Year 11 also visited Leeds Playhouse to watch a powerful and atmospheric production of *A Christmas Carol*. The performance brought the text to life in vivid and memorable ways, helping students build a deeper understanding of the novel. Staff were delighted with the enthusiasm and exemplary behaviour shown throughout the trip—students were a credit to themselves and the school.

Aim Higher Creative Writing Day

Our Year 10 students took part in a fantastic Creative Writing Day, working with a spoken word performance poet. The workshops were dynamic, imaginative and highly engaging, giving students the chance to experiment with language in new and exciting ways. The poet's energy and creativity inspired the group, and the writing produced on the day was outstanding.



A Level Literature NEA Preparation

Our A Level English Literature students have been immersing themselves in reading as they prepare for their NEA coursework. Each student selects a text, spends two weeks reading and researching it, then delivers a presentation to the rest of the group. The range of texts being explored is impressive, including *Pride and Prejudice*, *Dracula*, *1984*, *The Kite Runner*, *The Bell Jar*, and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Their discussions have been thoughtful, mature



EPR

DEC 2025

ETHICS, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

KEY STAGE 3

YEAR 7

We have been doing philosophy this half term and asking big questions like what is meant by God and what does religion mean to us. We have had lots of discussion and debate!

YEAR 8

Our ethics topic with year 8 has been animal rights. We have investigated different activist groups and have been debating whether it is ok to keep animals in captivity - we used Tilikum the Orca as our example. We have had lots of group work and shown very positive active listening!

YEAR 9

We have been asking the question - what happens after death. We have studied both religious and non-religious views and there has been a lot of consideration of the many sources of evidence, with many changing their minds on their original standpoint.



YEAR 10

Year 10 have started their GCSE course with great enthusiasm. They have examined the Value of Creation and Nature and are now looking at the Value of human life - how it begins and ends. They have also been developing their essay writing skills with high levels of proficiency. The year ahead looks promising!

YEAR 11

Year 11 have had a brilliant start and have performed so well under pressure in their mocks - we are very proud of them. They have been completing their studies in Christian beliefs and will be moving on to Christian practices before embarking on their Islam paper. There has been a lot of work put in to get where they are so far! Keep up the good work!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

To our community members who do not celebrate Christmas, have a lovely and restful break. To our community members to do celebrate it, happy Christmas.

Lawnswood Food & Nutrition

December 2025



Springboard FutureChef Competition 2025

Two of our aspiring future chef's were selected for the second year running, to represent Lawnswood in the local heat of the **Springboard FutureChef Challenge**. They went head to head with other local schools from around Yorkshire to create their own showstopping dishes, at Leeds City College.

Well done to **Angel, Y10 & Sophie, Y9!**



GCSE Food & Nutrition students have been learning new presentation skills to enhance the aesthetics of their dishes.

Students have been learning that presentation should engage the diner's senses and draw them into the experience like a piece of art.

Year 8 D&T students have embarked on the kitchens of the Food & Nutrition Department to melt and prepare chocolates into their own vacuum formed moulds this term. Very little chocolates made it home; it is safe to say the students have had a great time both preparing & eating them!



Spotlight: Fish in Schools Hero

We were selected as one of the 200 schools across the UK who was gifted 10KG of mussels again this year, providing a great opportunity for our students to prepare and eat a fresh fish dish in their Food & Nutrition lessons!

Our **Y10 GCSE Food & Nutrition** students prepared their mussels and even braved the taste test to conduct a sensory analysis.

Y10 GCSE Food & Nutrition students were involved in a hospitality takeover today at **New Craven Hall** back in September. They made smoothies, cocktails, & guacamole, & learned how to dress a table.

If you are in **Y9** and interested in taking part in an educational **hospitality series of trips** which will give you valuable insights into how the hospitality industry operates and introduce you to potential career pathways, fill in the survey to express your interest now or speak to Miss Smith in G25/G26 ... **only 20 places available!!**

<https://forms.office.com/e/vpjmyPCR57?origin=IprLink>



GEOGRAPHY

AUTUMN 2025



WHAT ARE WE UP TO IN GEOGRAPHY?

Year 7 started off the year with their 'We are Lawnswood' topic. They worked hard to produce poems all about the positive impact of migration on our school community!



KS3

Year 8 have been learning about the World Health Organisation as part of their disease topic. Mrs Thorpe's class have produced some fantastic pieces all about their work!

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to the GCSE course. They have completed their first topic, Living World, and have now started the second topic of the year, Urban Issues and Challenges.

Keep up the good work!

KS4

Year 11 have been working hard to prepare for their second set of mocks.



Miss Shaw's class worked in pairs to see how effective their retrieval practice for their GCSE mock had been so far - working hard to identify knowledge gaps before their exam.

Trips and Visits

YEAR 12- Bramhope and Chapel Allerton

Year 12 visited The Woods in Chapel Allerton, using their roof terrace as an outdoor classroom to look at sense of place, place identity & localism vs globalism as part of their Changing Places topic.



YEAR 8- Yorkshire Water

Our year 8 geographers had an exciting visit to the Yorkshire Water treatment works, where they explored how dirty water is transformed into clean, safe water using impressive machinery and science!



Renewable Energy
Wind Farms in the UK

CAREER SPOTLIGHT



As part of Lawnswood Horizons, years 7 to 10 explored wind energy; discovering how moving air can be turned into clean electricity. Student's learnt about its importance being renewable, reducing pollution, and helping protect the environment while meeting our growing energy needs. A shout out to Mr Byrne's cousin, Adam, an expert in the field, for informing our students about your work in this growing sector!





Lawnswood School Autumn 2025



Spotlight Career options.

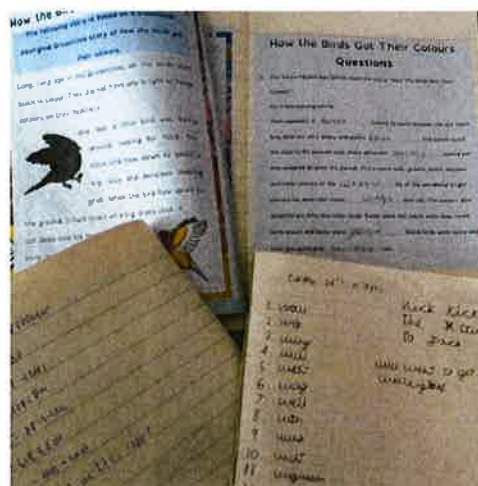
Students in year 9 are looking forward to making GCSE options for year 10 and 11. Students have been looking at their own skills, knowledge and what they enjoy doing. They have started to map out HOW they will get to their chosen career through Uni-frog and research.



**[https://www.lawnschool.co.uk/
key-information/send/](https://www.lawnschool.co.uk/key-information/send/)**

In our dyslexia groups we have been looking at improving our spellings, handwriting and listening skills.

Y7 and Y8 Phonics groups have been following the Fresh Start scheme. We have had lots of fun sounding out words, reading modules and playing tricky word bingo!

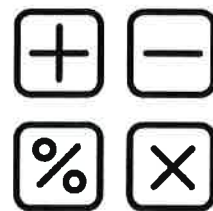


. In year 7 we have been looking at how we can be healthier by making our own food using healthier ingredients. So far we have made stir fry with vegetables and our own bread.



What are we currently learning?	
Y7	Key Skills: Healthy Lifestyles – diet, exercise and sleep
Y8	Key Skills: Travel and Tourism
Y9	Key Skills: Alcoholism (substance abuse)
Y10	ASDAN: Sport and Leisure
Y11	ASDAN: Learning Spanish and Press Freedom

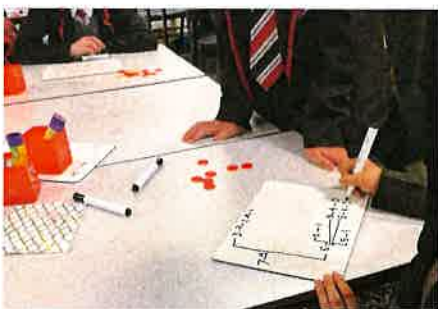
Mathematics



Come and see what we have been up to this term!

Year 7 embrace Axiom Maths

This term we teamed up with Axiom Maths to deliver an exciting initiative with a keen group of Year 7 students. The mathematicians - who have been ably supported by a trio of year 9 students - have been taking part in Maths Circles, a program designed to stretch and challenge their mathematical thinking. The initiative is funded by Axiom, a charity committed to promoting excellence in Maths, with the aim of following the students all the way through their time at Lawnswood to year 11.



In November, we opened up our classrooms to Year 7 parents to gain first-hand experience of our maths lessons. The Family Maths sessions ran for four weeks and covered fractions, algebra and negative numbers. If you missed out, be sure to look out for it again next year!



Sparx Maths

Due every Wednesday!

The best performing forms this term are:
7LHI • 8GSO • 9SDU • 10DBP • 11MGH

Our top performing students are: **Samuel Weldekidan (7LHI)**, **Ilay Eliash (8DST)**, **David Wu (9TDI)**, **Hasanat Rashidi (10AJC)** and **Lily Scholey (11MGH)**

Amina Daad (13MTA) and Diana Skawinska (12HRO) took part in the Maths Olympiad for Girls, whilst Phoebe Cockerill (11YTH), Daisy Fowler (11MLA), Penny Gellard (11MLA) and Ophelia Routledge (11MLA) took part in the Maths Competition for girls.

20 students took part in the Senior maths challenge in October; Best in School was Charlie Nicholls (11MRE), who went on to compete in the Senior Maths Kangaroo.

KS2 MATHS ROADSHOW

This term we visited Shire Oak, Hawksworth Wood, Weetwood, Kirkstall Valley, Kirkstall St Stephens, Rosebank and Burley St Matthias primary schools.

White Rose
MATHS

Next term's upcoming topics

Year 7

- Problem-solving with four operations
- Fractions of amounts
- Percentage of amounts
- Directed number
- Add, subtract fractions

Year 8

- Solving equations
- Sequences
- Indices
- Fractions & percentages
- Standard form

Year 9

- Reasoning with number
- Percentages
- Maths and money
- Deduction
- Rotation and translation
- Pythagoras' theorem

Year 10

- Angles and bearings
- Working with circles
- Vectors
- Ratios and fractions
- Percentages and interest
- Probability

Year 11

All students have individual mock exam feedback topics to work through on Sparx. After school revision is every Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri



MFL

KS3 have been linking their learning with cultural lessons. Year 8 learnt about Day of the Dead celebrated in Mexico. Year 7 & 9 found out about La Toussaint celebrated in France.



KS4: Year 11 have just finished working hard on their mocks. This is a good opportunity to tell you again the GCSE support offered in department.

Mondays: Week 1 + Week 2 in F10

Wednesdays: Week 2 in F14

Thursdays: Week 1 in F14



We have two foreign language assistants who joined us in November. Students in all age groups will have the opportunity to work with them over the next few months, and invaluable opportunity to talk to a native speaker of the language!

Marta is from Spain and is working with Year 8 and Year 11.

**Foreign
language
assistants**

Clémentine is from France and is working with Years 7, 9, 10 & 11.

Year 9 had an assembly about using languages in the world of work in October.



Year 8 wrote Holiday cards to their pen pals in Spain. They wrote about what they normally do over the winter holidays and what they are going to do this year.





Y10 Football

The Y10 Football team have hit the ground running, going unbeaten so far in the league with three wins and two draws. That being said, their more impressive performances have been in the cup ties, where they recorded a whopping 7-0 win over Dixons Unity to see them through to rd2, where they edged out Horsforth in a tight penalty shootout. The boys will look to advance through to the quarter finals with a win against Priesthorpe in January

Y11 Boys Football- some very tight draws and losses this year and an unlucky cup run have clearly spurred the team on as they recorded their first win of the season last month, cruising past Ralph Throsby in a 3-0 victory. The lads will hope this is the kickstart of momentum they need to have a successful rest of the season.

Y9 Boys Football

The boys Y9 Football team has found their form early this season, with five games played, resulting in two convincing wins and three draws this season against some proven opponents. A narrow 1-0 loss in the cup saw them exit in round 2, but a better run of form now than this time last year shows the whole-team improvement made over summer.

Girls Football- KS4

The girls Y10 team had their first outing of the season last week, showing promising signs of good results to come. Having had time to gel as a team, the PE Department sees the promise within the squad, with the girls having very competitive and tight scores against the likes of Guiseley and Benton Park.

Girls Football- KS3

The ks3 girls football team have been one of our most active teams this year down in PE, playing over ten games already this year and recording a very healthy 50% win rate. This is something the PE Dept are extremely proud of considering last year we did not have a ks3 girls squad. The highlight of the year so far came in the form of a 3-0 away win against LWA, a team who weeks prior beat us 7-3 at home.

Rugby

KS3 BOYS- The y7&8 boys Rugby team have found great success already this season, beating Abbey Grange and Priesthorpe in their opening fixtures and narrowly missing out on qualifying for the regional finals of the Rhino's 9's tournament. The boys will look to improve their winning record in the new year, with several tournaments and merit league fixtures set to be played.

KS3 GIRLS- Our ks3 girls team have played five games this year, all coming in the Leeds Rhino's 9's tournament and with a record of 1W 2D 2L. The draws were made from excellent comebacks, with the girls being down two tries each time and coming back in the latter stages of the game to claim two very late equalisers. The girls have an indoor 'touch rugby' tournament hosted here at Lawnswood school to look forward to in January 2026.

Rowing- Our ks3 mixed team had a good run in the Leeds Rhinos rowing competition held at Headingley stadium, with standout performances from our y7 team who either won their events or secured medal positions. They also came 4th in the relay, narrowly missing out on a medal.

Indoor athletics- hosted at Lawnswood, our y7&8 teams put in very commendable performances in their first ever indoor athletics tournaments. Lawnswood recorded dominant wins in both the boys and girls field events across both year groups, coming first in 17 out of the 22 field events on offer. After getting to grips with the rebound boards, our track events picked up well, recording top 3 finishes in over 60% of the running events. Most notably recording wins in the 2 and 3 lap individual races.

PSHE

This Half Term



[www.mindmate.org.uk/
im-a-young-person](http://www.mindmate.org.uk/im-a-young-person)

www.kooth.com/

[www.childline.org.uk/
get-support](http://www.childline.org.uk/get-support)

Year 7

MindMate 

We have explored the idea of responsibilities online. We have looked at equality for all and how important it is within the Lawnswood Community and the wider world. Finally we have looked at how our bodies change as we are maturing both physically and mentally and how we might deal with it.

Year 8



We have looked at the online world vs. reality. It is vital that we understand the implications of our actions online.

We have looked at relationships. What makes positive relationships, what rights do we have?



Year 9



School Wellbeing

There has been a focus on relationships this half term with year 9. We have looked at how to stay safe in intimate relationships. A key focus has been to understand the term "consent". This is a key term for us to understand.

Year 10



Year 10 have focused on developing their knowledge about relationships in greater depth. We have also encouraged as many students as possible to log onto Peer Scroller. This is a useful app that supports learning in PSHE. Have a look at it within the App store. To log in you will need the code below.

Year 11

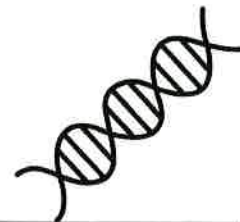
For students:	For parents:
463015	288433

Year 11 have been balancing a pressured time of studying for mocks but also we are still preparing them for later life by exploring various risky choices in relation to relationships.

Please e-mail any questions about PSHE to Mrs Britton at liz.britton@elawswood.co.uk



SCIENCE



MASSIVE STARS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

A group of Year 11 female Physics students attended the 2025 Bolton Lecture hosted by Dr Anna McLeod, titled Massive Stars and Where to Find Them. Not only did she give a great talk on Astronomy, she also spoke about the importance of women in Astrophysics - She was particularly impressed by our all-female group!



FILM FESTIVAL

Our Astronomy and Attenborough lunch time clubs attended a showing of Ocean by David Attenborough as part of the Into film festival. All the students thoroughly enjoyed this.

CRANEDALE

The Year 13 Biologists had a fantastic time at Cranedale Centre (Malton). We spent time carrying out multiple required practical's for A Level Biology including 2 required practical's for their endorsement. This included sampling two different local rivers to compare the biodiversity and population of crayfish.



UPDATES

KS3

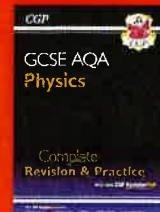
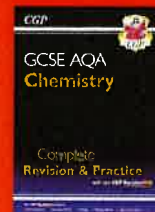
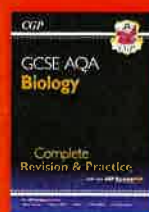
This term Science club have investigated some important questions, such as "Which crisp is the crunchiest?" and "What is the most dunkable biscuit?" Students have also investigated composite materials by mixing and stress testing different ratios of materials in reinforced concrete.

SENECA SUPERSTARS

- Marvel E (Year 8)
- Blake E (Year 9)
- Naab A (Year 9)

KS4

If you would like to purchase revision guides these are available from ParentPay (please note: students eligible for FSM will receive this in Y11).



SENECA SUPERSTARS

- Maelys C (Year 11)
- Melvyn G (Year 10)
- Athena M (Year 10)

KS5

Well done to all of Year 13 who have completed their mocks this term. Year 12 mocks will be the first week back after the holidays.

Applied Science overview in lecture



SOCIAL SCIENCES

What have we been up to this term?

Psychology and Sociology news

A busy term for our Social Science students, with Year 13 students completing their winter mocks, and preparing for their next steps in their career.

Our Year 12 students have had a great start to their studies and have been studying various topics, including memory (Psychology), education and families and households (Sociology).

Law department news

On Saturday 29th November, some of our Y11 and Sixth Form students took part in a bar mock trial.

Ms Prosho and the students worked extremely hard to prepare for this, and they were credit to the school!

Health and Social Care news

All KS4 and KS5 students are currently working on their set assignments. Year 11 are currently completing an interesting assignment on health promotion campaigns. More information to follow!

Focus on your future: Career in the spotlight

Human Resources Manager

Human Resources Managers ensure that their employees have everything they need to thrive. They are responsible for ensuring staffing needs are met, and that everyone has access to the equipment and support required to perform their roles effectively. They also help maintain positive working relationships by identifying and addressing potential issues early, preventing conflicts from escalating within the workplace.

Find out more information here:

<https://uk.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/social-science-job>



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