



Welcome to your whispers of news and events...

02.10.26

Top Weekly Reward Points		
Year 7	7AWI	54.5
Year 8	8HBR	51.8
Year 9	9CDO	47.1
Year 10	10MMI	48.8
Year 11	11SWA	49.7

Star Students
Freya K Y7
Joshua J Y8

A Perfect Five!



We are absolutely delighted to announce that our fantastic school kitchen team, led by Ella, has been awarded a Five Food Hygiene Rating following an inspection by Environmental Health this week.

This is a wonderful achievement and a real reflection of the hard work, care and pride that Ella and her team put into everything they do.

Our kitchen team caters for up to 700 students, as well as preparing food for another school site. Alongside providing daily meals, they also create a wonderful range of break-time food across both of our daily breaks. Their food is not only beautifully presented and prepared with great care, but is also something our students genuinely enjoy.

What makes this achievement particularly special is the way the team consistently goes above and beyond what is required of them. They put that extra bit of care into what they do, always have time for our students and work together as a wonderfully supportive and dedicated team.

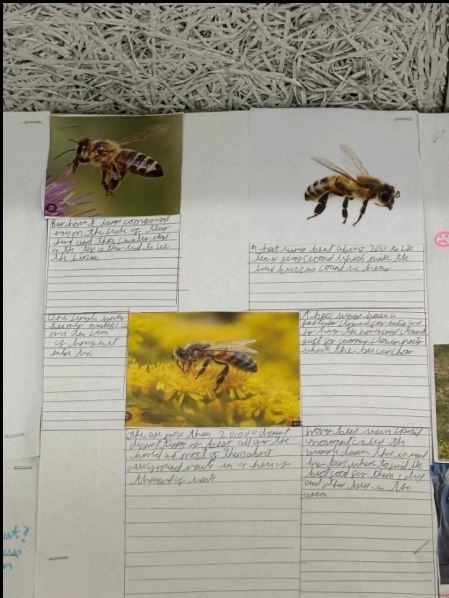
Outdoor Education:

An Animal, Insect and Bug Adventure

This week, our Outdoor Education students have been getting curious about the amazing creatures that share our environment!

The students began with an animal, bug and insect trail around the school grounds, exploring their surroundings and seeing what they could discover. This sparked lots of interest and plenty of conversation as they looked closely at the different creatures they encountered and considered which ones they found most fascinating.

Following the trail, each student chose their favourite animal, bug or insect to investigate further. Using independent learning skills, they researched their chosen creature, finding interesting facts, information and pictures to help them learn more about it. They then used their research to create a large, colourful poster, bringing together everything they had discovered.



It was fantastic to see the students working so independently and thoroughly, taking real ownership of their chosen subjects. There was plenty of enthusiasm throughout the activity, and some wonderfully imaginative and informative posters were produced as a result.

Most importantly, the students had lots of fun while learning — proving that sometimes the best classroom is the great outdoors!

Weightron Challenge 1



A group of Year 10 students headed down to Sheepbridge Industrial Estate to the home of Weightron Bilancia Ltd manufacturers of industrial weighing solutions around the globe to find out more about the company and their products. The students were welcomed by project engineer Lee Wiltshire who explained how the company is pioneering cloud based control software for its weighbridge technology around the world. The students were then treated to a factory tour before embarking on the challenge of the day.

Students were tasked with developing a trade stand to promote the company's weighbridge software in only 90 minutes before presenting these at Barrow Hill Roundhouse's brand new £6M engine maintenance shed to students from Chesterfield College School of Engineering and the MP for Chesterfield Toby Perkins. Right from the start our students displayed a superb attitude to the task at hand taking notes during the presentation. They organised themselves into a co-ordinated 2 groups – 1 concentrating on the graphics of their trade stand poster and the other with the presentation content. All students participated in the presentation with a professionalism that was a joy to see coming up with good ideas for company slogans that so impressed Lee that he took photos of them for future use!



The students presented their trade stand 5 minute pitch with confidence with 7 other schools in competition and came out joint winners which was a fantastic result. The day was rounded off by all the students being given a demonstration of the last working railway turntable in the country.

Congratulations once again to our fantastic students who smashed it out of the park to such an extent that Lee from Weightron Ltd offered that anyone wanting a work experience placement with the company would be most welcome.



World Mental Health Day

Hello Yellow...

World Mental Health Day takes place on Saturday 10 October. To mark the occasion together as a school community, we will be recognising World Mental Health Day on **Friday 9 October**.

To show our support and help raise awareness, we are inviting **all students and staff to wear something yellow alongside their full school uniform** on the day.

It could be anything from a **yellow badge, ribbon, stickers or socks**, to a **yellow belt, bag, coat or even an umbrella**. Just a small splash of colour can make a big difference.

Let's brighten up the day, raise awareness and show that **mental health matters**. ❤️



Raising Awareness

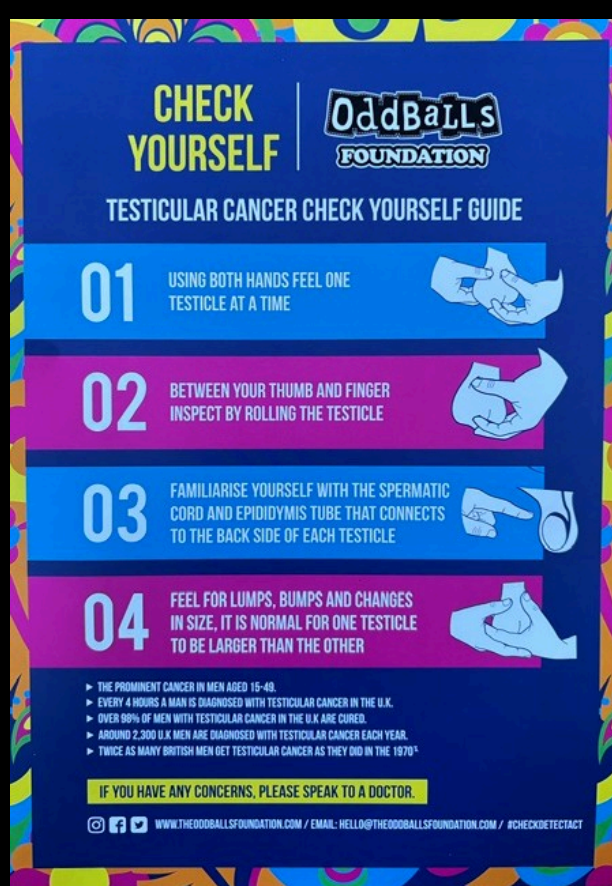
On Thursday we welcomed George from the OddBalls Foundation. George certainly made an entrance, arriving in the OddBalls Foundation's wonderfully bright and colourful car, which definitely stood out in the car park!

George spent time with students in Years 9, 10 and 11, talking about testicular cancer in a way that was informative, relaxed and easy for our students to engage with.

The OddBalls Foundation works to raise awareness of testicular cancer and encourages education and regular self-checks, with the aim of helping people recognise changes early. Testicular cancer is the most common cancer affecting young men, but when detected early, it is highly treatable and curable. This makes those conversations, and knowing what is normal for your own body, incredibly important.

And it wasn't just our boys who were involved. Our girls were there too, because conversations about health should be open and natural for everyone. Girls all have people they care about — brothers, dads, family members and friends — and understanding the importance of looking after our health means we can all help to encourage those around us to speak up and seek advice when they need it.

A huge thank you to George and the OddBalls Foundation for coming into school and sharing such an important message with our students.



Where? **Room 8**
(opposite Room 12 and 13 in English)

Writing Club Explores AI: What Makes Us Human?



This week, Miss Turner's Writing Club explored the fascinating subject of AI. Inspired by a thought-provoking poem, the students considered not only what AI can do, but what it can never truly recreate — our emotions, memories, laughter and those little moments that make us human.

Grace captured this beautifully in a wonderful poem, which we are delighted to share below.

Use AI to plan a route for a walk

I'll summarise it into twelve complete directions,
Turn right at the post, left at the fork in the road.
Don't ask your friend whom you've got a strong connection,
You won't put on those muddy boots with a wide smile on your face,
Chatting with your secondary school bestie while tying your lace.
You won't get lost with a paper map
laughing with dirty stains around your kneecaps.
You won't understand how she feels when it rains
How she skips,
with happiness in her veins.
Don't stop to listen to the blackbirds singing their morning tune
And recognise how close it sounds to the opening of both your
favourite childhood cartoons.
So,
Please use AI to plan a route for your next walk!

Grace Y10



Behind the Scenes: Beauty and the Beast



We checked in on rehearsals for Beauty and the Beast this week and were delighted to see just how hard the students are working. With lines to learn, dances to perfect and scenes to bring to life, there is an incredible amount of work happening behind the scenes.

It is wonderful to watch each student embrace their role and see the production slowly coming together, piece by piece — like a jigsaw, with every individual part being carefully polished before becoming part of the bigger picture. With three rehearsals a week between now and Christmas, there is plenty more hard work ahead, but we are incredibly proud of everything they are already achieving.

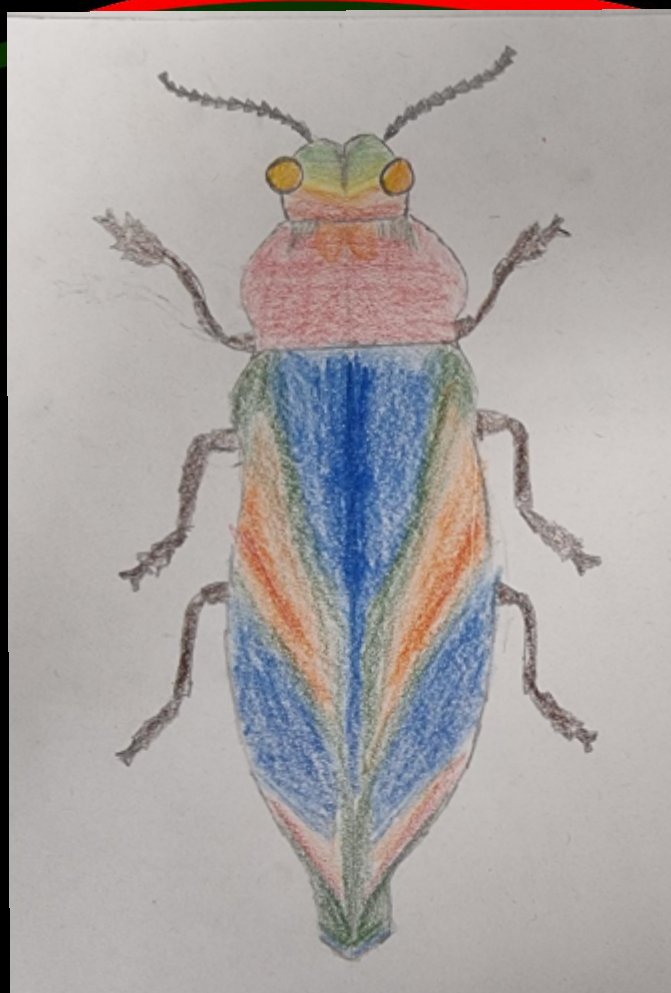
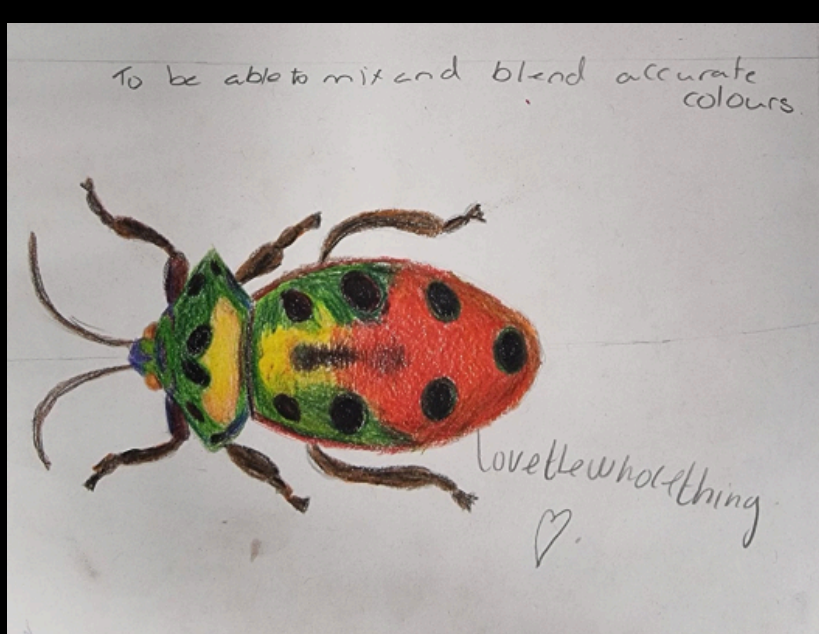
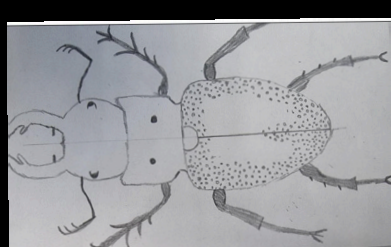
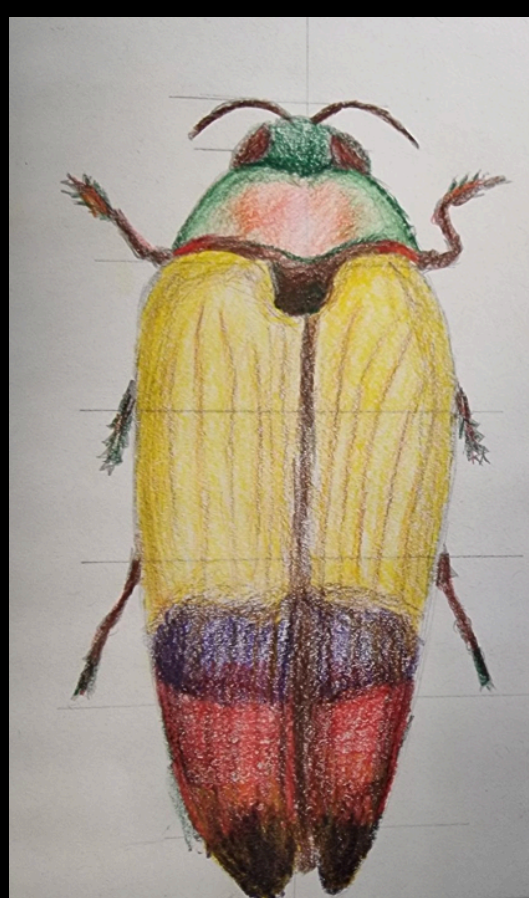


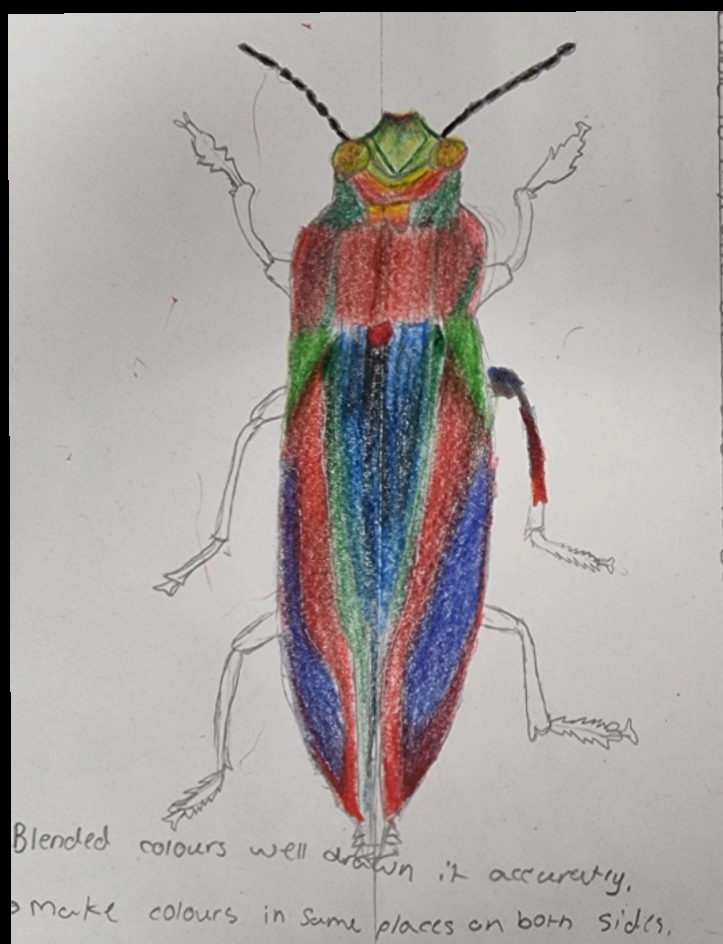
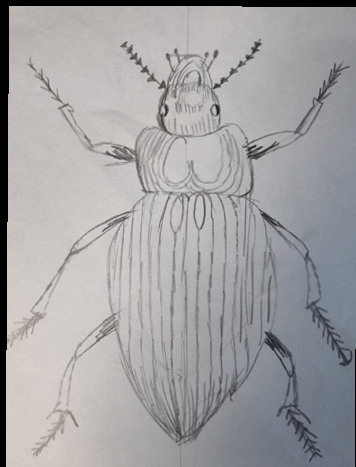
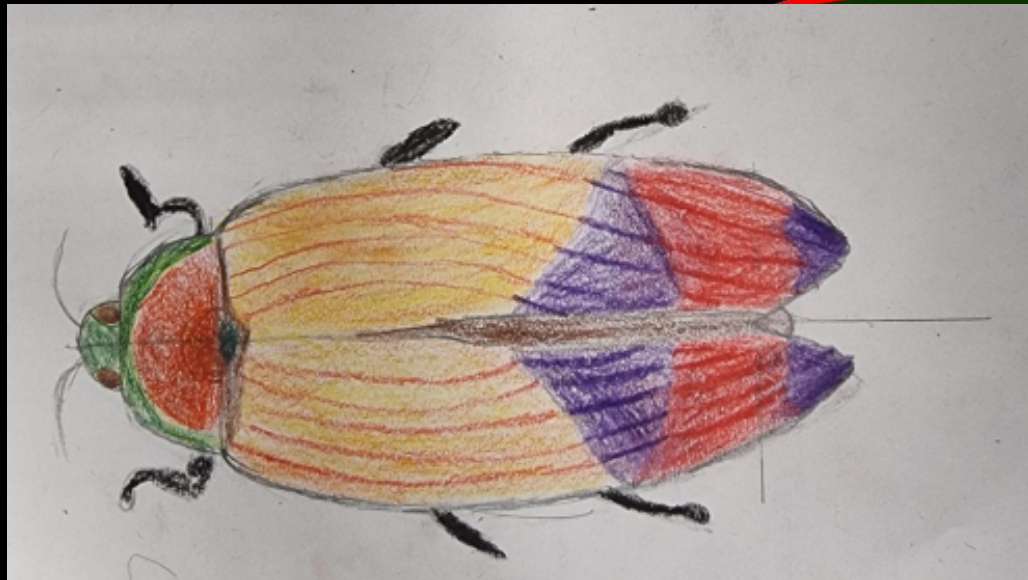
Year 8 Art: Beetle Bonanza!

Things have been getting a little creepy-crawly in the Art Department this week, as Year 8 have been getting up close and personal with the wonderful world of beetles!

As part of their project, students have been developing two important artistic skills. First, they explored how line can be used to create detailed observational studies, carefully looking at the shapes, patterns, textures and tiny details that make each beetle unique. They then turned their attention to colour mixing and blending, experimenting with different shades and tones to recreate the beautiful colours found in these fascinating little creatures.

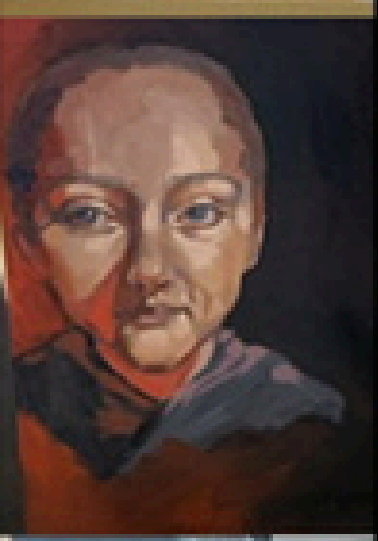
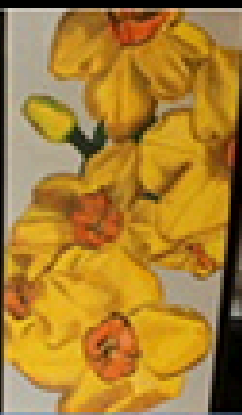
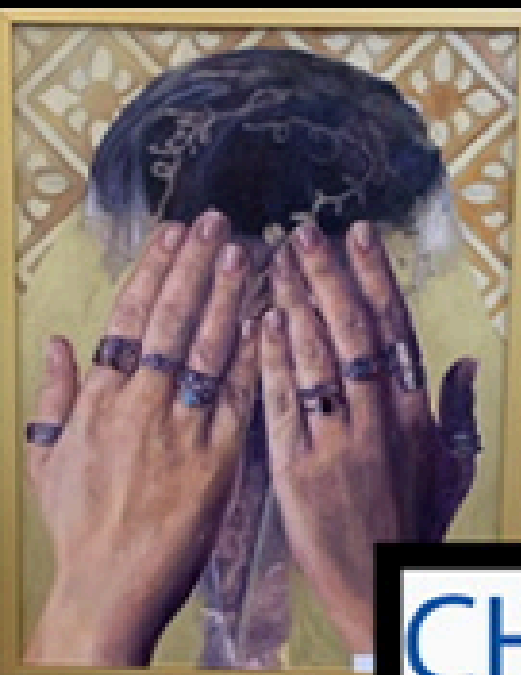
And what colourful creatures they have created! From intricate markings and delicate details to rich, carefully blended colours, the finished beetles are full of personality. Although beetles might not be everyone's favourite subject matter, Year 8 have certainly managed to make them look surprisingly spectacular!





For a first attempt at combining close observation, detailed drawing and careful colour work, the results have been fantastic. There is a real sense of curiosity and creativity in their work, and it has been wonderful to see students becoming more confident in their ability to look closely and translate what they see onto paper.

A huge well done to Year 8 — you've proved that even the smallest, creepiest creatures can inspire some seriously impressive artwork!



CHESTERFIELD SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION

2026

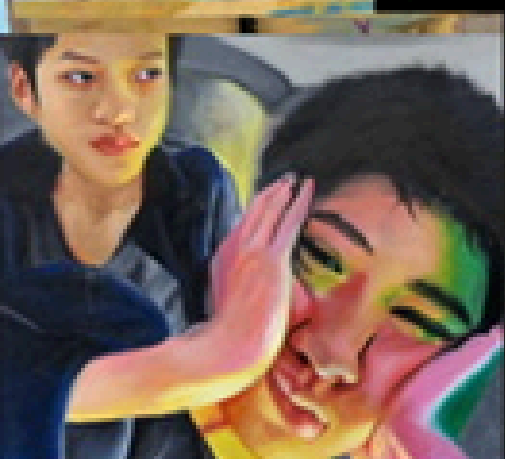
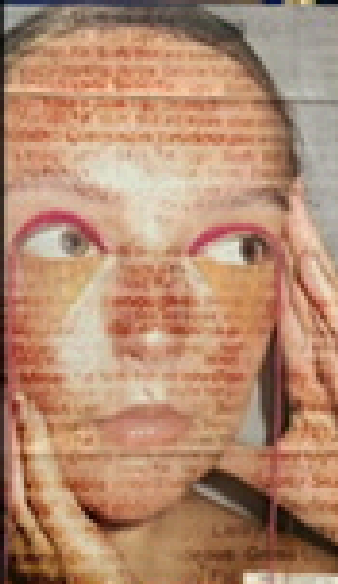
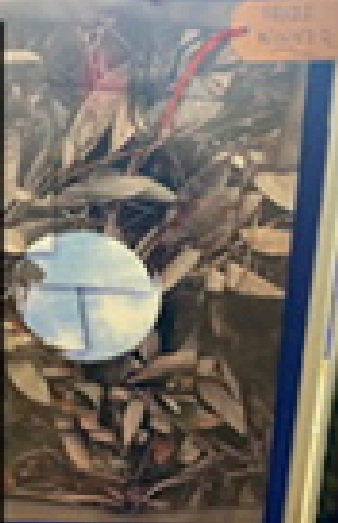
Saturday 10th
October 10 - 4
Sunday 11th
October 1.30 - 4



ST ANDREWS
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
NEWBOLD ROAD CHESTERFIELD



The
United
Reformed
Church



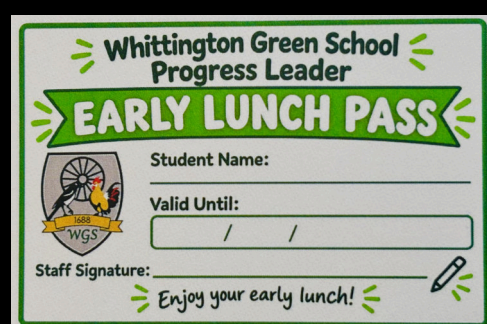
Recognising Progress



A huge congratulations to Ffion, Toby and Joseph, who were awarded an Early Lunch Pass this week in recognition of their excellent progress in Maths.

It has been fantastic to see the effort, commitment and determination they have shown in their learning. Their progress is a wonderful reflection of the hard work they have been putting in, and it is fantastic to be able to recognise and celebrate their achievements.

As an extra treat, each student was able to bring a friend along to enjoy an early lunch with them — a well-deserved reward for their fantastic efforts!



Peak Performance:



Geography in the Great Outdoors

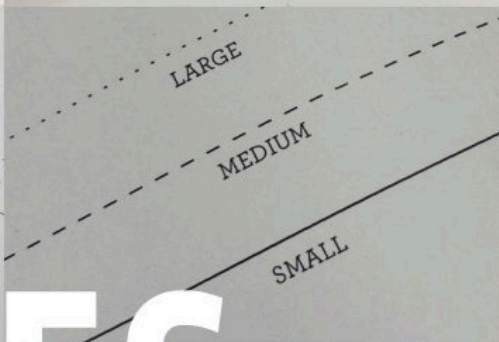
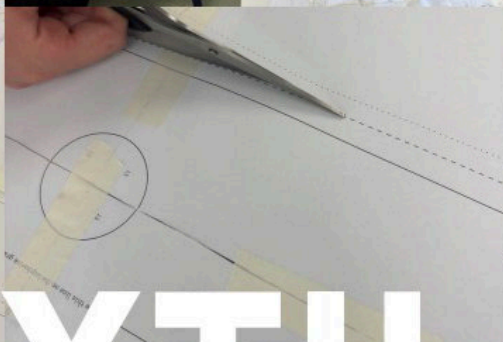
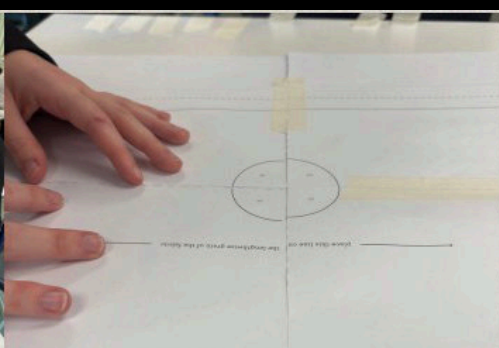
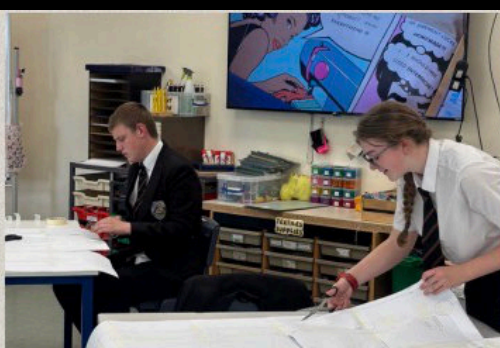
On Wednesday 23rd September our eager Y11 Geographers ventured out to the edge of the Peak District on their physical Geography fieldwork. Armed with welly boots, meter sticks and dog biscuits they were investigating how the Porter Brook changes downstream. The Porter Brook is a small tributary that flows into the River Sheaf and on to the River Don. As we walked along the river from its upper course we saw V-shaped valleys, meanders and floodplains which Geographers have studied in school. The Porter Valley and its river also has a fascinating industrial heritage. The Shepherd's Wheel is an old mill for the steel industry; we had time to stop for discussion about its importance and do some revision for our Sheffield case study from Y10.



For their fieldwork, Geographers were given three locations along the river covering the upper, middle and lower courses. The first activity was to measure the width of the river and then measure the depth at regular intervals across. This was to see if erosion had made the river wider and deeper as it moves down stream. Once this was complete, Geographers had to time how long it took a float to travel 5m so that the velocity of the river could be calculated. We used dog biscuits as a float because the fish can eat them and they decompose. At one point we thought a dog was going to dive in and pinch one.

Our Y11 Geographers were excellent representatives of the school and did us proud. They even had time for an ice cream. It was a tough call whether honeycomb, salted caramel or cookies and cream was the best flavour.

Miss Yeoman



TEXTILES

club

FROM PUZZLE PIECES TO TROUSER PIECES!

This week, our Textiles Club members have been getting one step closer to their finished trousers!

After last week's giant pattern puzzle, students have been finishing off piecing their patterns together and have now started cutting out their leg pieces. It's exciting to see the paper patterns beginning to turn into something that will eventually become a wearable garment.

There's still plenty of measuring, checking and careful cutting to do, but the construction process is now beginning to take shape. Soon, those piles of paper will be replaced with fabric and we'll really start to see everyone's individual designs come to life!

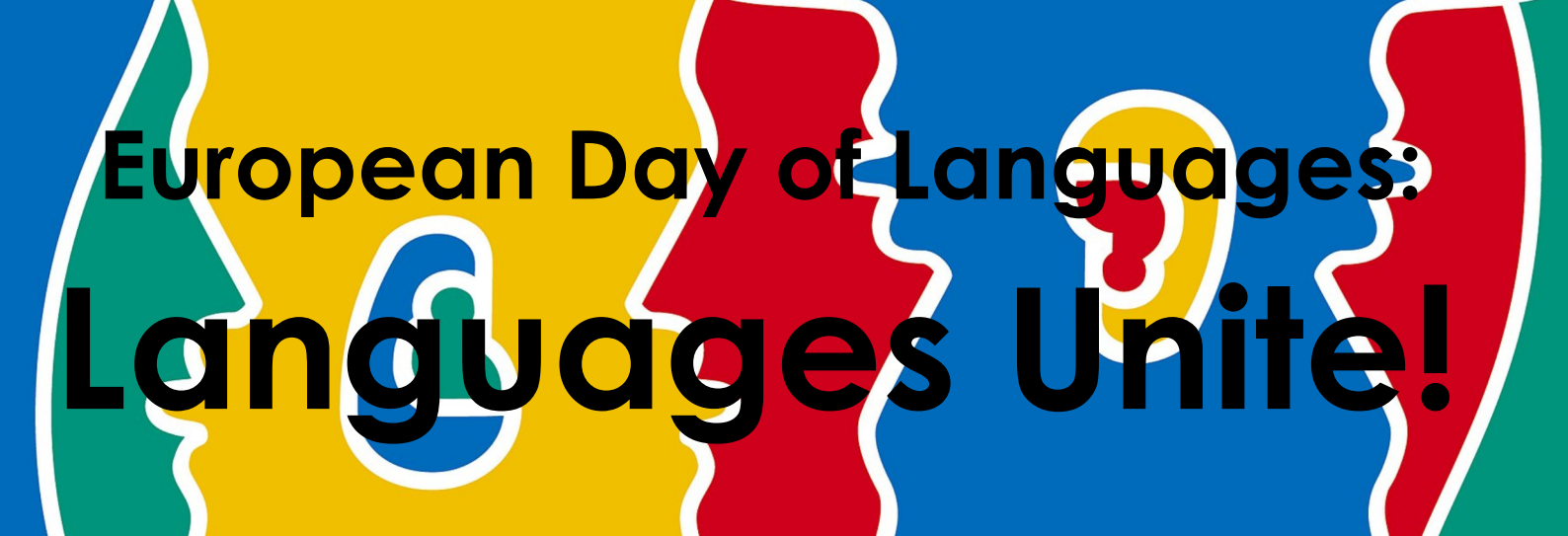
For some sewing inspiration, we also had *The Great British Sewing Bee* playing in the background, with the contestants tackling their own challenge of making shorts. It was a great opportunity for students to see some of the techniques and creativity that go into turning a pattern into a finished garment.

A QUICK REMINDER

The Textiles Club sign-up sheet is now closed.

As we are now moving into the construction stage of the project, students need to have attended the previous sessions to have completed the necessary preparation. Unfortunately, students who signed up but have not yet attended will not be able to join the club until next term.

Thank you to everyone who has been attending and getting stuck into the project. We can't wait to see those first pieces of fabric coming together!



On September 26th, we celebrated European Day of Languages, an annual event that has been bringing languages, cultures and communities together since 2001.

This year's theme, "Languages Unite," was all about recognising the incredible diversity of languages around us and celebrating the many ways we communicate. After all, learning a language isn't just about being able to order a croissant in France (although that is a very useful skill!); it opens doors to new opportunities, helps us connect with others and encourages greater understanding and tolerance of different cultures, nationalities and languages.

The celebrations began in the week leading up to the big day, with an assembly exploring the fascinating world of communication. We looked beyond spoken words and discovered that language can take many forms — from sign language and clicking to whistling, tapping and humming. Who knew there were so many ways to have a conversation without actually saying a word?

Across the school, lessons were given a multilingual makeover, with students discovering fascinating facts about languages and famous people linked to different subject areas. Registers also got a European twist, with students answering their names in a variety of different languages. There was even a quiz to test everyone's recall of the facts they had picked up along the way — with, we hope, only a little competitive rivalry!

And, of course, no celebration would be complete without food! As always, Ella and our amazing kitchen team joined in the fun by serving up a delicious and varied menu featuring food from across Europe and beyond. It was a tasty reminder that exploring different cultures can be just as enjoyable for our taste buds as it is for our brains.

European Day of Languages gave us plenty of opportunities to celebrate what makes our languages and cultures different — while also recognising the many things that bring us together. Languages really do unite us!

Post-16 Open Evenings

Post-16 provider		Date
	Netherthorpe School	6 th October 2026
	Outwood Newbold	13 th October 2026
	Tupton Hall School	14 th October 5.30pm onwards
 Eckington School Chorus Education Trust	Eckington school	21 st October 5.15pm-8pm
	Dronfield Henry Fanshaw	11 th November 5pm – 8pm
	St Mary's Catholic high school	12 th November 2026
	Brookfield Community School	6 th October 2026
	Chesterfield College	Sixth form open evening 4 th November 4pm – 6pm Showcase open evening (range of courses and apprenticeships) 11 th November 4pm – 7pm 17 th March 4pm – 7pm 23 rd June 4pm-7pm



Whittington Green School

Games Tester

Job of the Week

Games tester, quality assurance tester, video games tester

Computer games testers play games to check that they work as intended and identify problems or 'bugs'.

You can get into this job through:

University - You could do a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree in:

- games design
- computing
- programming

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

College - You could take a college course, which may help you to find a job as a junior tester.

Courses include:

- computing
- creative media
- T Level in Digital Software Development

Apprenticeship - You could apply to do a Software Tester Level 4 Higher Apprenticeship. This usually takes around 2 years to complete as a mix of learning on the job and study.

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

Direct Application - You could contact games companies about part-time or short-term work experience opportunities.

You'll need good technical and problem-solving skills and an in-depth understanding of different game platforms and quality assurance processes.

Salary - £24,000 - £36,000

- Skills and knowledge - You'll need:**
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail for finding faults and 'bugs'
 - analytical thinking skills for software testing
 - complex problem-solving skills for fixing 'bugs'
 - the ability to use your initiative
 - the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
 - excellent verbal communication skills
 - the ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning
 - concentration skills
 - to be able to use a computer and the main software packages confidently

Find out more about this job. Scan the QR code for the MYPATH video.



WHITTINGTON
GREEN SCHOOL

Aim Higher

YOUR FUTURE *Starts Here*

Explore your options.
Discover your path.
Achieve your potential.



EXPLORE
your options



DISCOVER
your passions



PREPARE
for success



ACHIEVE
your goals

Aim Higher

YOUR FUTURE. YOUR CHOICES.
YOUR SUCCESS.



Polite Reminder: Drop-Off & Pick-up Arrangements

For the health, safety, and welfare of our students, we kindly remind all parents and carers not to use the front entrance and car park area to drop off or pick up children.

Mr Ashworth's Brain Teaser

What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

Brain Teaser author this week is Kaylen L in Y11



Do you think you know the answer to this week's brain teaser?

Be the first to find Mr Ashworth in Room 16 with your solution for the chance to win a small prize (and, of course, eternal bragging rights).

Congratulations!
The last week's winner is:

Lydia D Y7

Q: Which unusual word has seven letters, three of which are 'U'?

A: Unusual



After School Clubs

Have you explored our after school clubs?

We have a fantastic array of activities that cater to every interest and passion.

Whether you're keen on sports, arts and crafts, technology, gardening or anything in between, there's something here for everyone.

Beyond the fun activities, our clubs provide an incredible opportunity to forge new friendships and develop valuable skills. Whether you're honing your teamwork on the sports field or unleashing your creativity in the art room, there's no shortage of opportunities to grow and learn together.

Our convenient after school bus ensures that you can join in on the excitement without any worries about transportation – it departs promptly at 4.00pm.

Come and be a part of the adventure!

After School Clubs

Monday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Girls football

Miss Kemp

Y8 Boys Football

Mr Kingham

Y10+11 Boys Football

Mr Spacey

Y9 Boys Football

Mr Williamson

Neurodiversity Club House

Miss Wells- Cole &
Miss McDermott

Manga Monday Library

Mrs Bingham

Upper School Band

Room 27

Mr Redgrave

Writing Club Room 20

Miss Turner

Project Club Rm 45

Tuesday

Tech Theatre Club Dance Studio

Mr Bathurst

Chess Club Library

Mr Reid

Wednesday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Y7+8 Netball Tennis Courts

Miss Kemp

Y9, 10 & 11 Netball Tennis Courts

Mrs Dewberry

Y7 Boys Football

Mr Townsend

DofE Drop in Room 16

Mr Ashworth & Dr Albon

KS4 Independent Study Room 21A

Mr Spacey

Book Club Library

Mrs Bingham

Lower School Band

Room 27

Mr Redgrave

Y11 D&T Int Rm 35

Mr Wakefield

Project Club Rm 45

Thursday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Gardening Club Rm 43

Mrs Pates

Art Club Room 28

Miss Scothorn

Textiles Club Room 36

Miss Donkin

Starts 17/9
(Limited places)

STEM Club Room 38

Dr Albon

Starts 23/9

Y11 English Rev Power & Conflict Room 12

Mrs Gallacher

* Please see Performing Arts notice board for details

Undertsanding our attendance TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Any questions, email attendance@wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk



95%+



Well done!

Attendance that is 95% and above is our target for all our students. The student is attending school regularly and is on track with their learning. No immediate action needed.

Improvement needed

This level of attendance can begin to impact academic progress. Our attendance officer may monitor attendance more closely, discuss reasons for absence with the student and family, and provide support if needed.

90-94%

below 90%



Cause for concern

The Department of Education classes anyone below 90% attendance as a persistent absentee. When this is the case, we will reach out to you to see how we can support you and your child and addressing any concerns you or they may have.

Public health nurse contact details

Whether your child or young person is in school or home educated, we can support with...

Continence

Sleep

Healthy
lifestyles

Puberty

Anxiety

Mental
health

Relationships

And much
more

 For parents/carers of 5-19 year olds in Derbyshire text us on 07312 263744

Available Monday to Friday 9am-4:30pm (except bank holidays)

We can also support young people aged 11-19 with all of the above as well as sexual health, drugs and alcohol support.

 Young people aged 11-19 years in Derbyshire can text us on 07507 330025

Available Monday to Friday 9am-4:30pm (except bank holidays)



derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk



DerbysFamilyHealth