

EDITION 4 8th November 2024

# HAYES SCHOOL Newsletter

24 - 25

### Message from the Head of School



Welcome back after the half-term break. It has been encouraging to see our students (and staff!) returning with renewed energy and enthusiasm for the coming weeks even if the nights have drawn in.

This week, a number of students from all year groups across the school have supported the

Poppy Appeal by selling poppies and merchandise to local residents and commuters at Hayes Station before school. I suspect some commuters will have been repeatedly sold poppies by our persuasive students determined to raise money for a very worthwhile cause.

Year 11 students will now be focussed on their preparations for mock exams, which are due to start on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November and run for two weeks. While we know they will be undertaking revision, and practising a range of revision strategies and techniques, it is important to ensure that they eat well, sleep well and rest. The mock exams will be an important learning opportunity leading to valuable feedback and advice on next steps in their learning. We wish them all the very best in these practice exams.

On Thursday I had the pleasure of attending the first of this year's MusicFest events which showcased a variety of musical talent from across every age range in the school. I am always left in awe by the inclusive and nurturing nature of these events which places equal importance and value on those taking part in their first performance at Hayes to those participating in their hundredth; the support and encouragement from peers and fellow performers is something that is very special indeed. This month is UK Disability History Month, which is held annually from November 16 to December 16, and is a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of people with disabilities, while also reflecting on the ongoing challenges they face. This month highlights the importance of understanding, inclusion, and respect, encouraging everyone to learn more about the history and rights of disabled individuals. In school, we'll explore how people with disabilities have influenced society, from leaders and artists to scientists and athletes, and discuss how we can continue to promote accessibility and equality. By learning about disability history, we build a more inclusive community that values each person's unique strengths and experiences.

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We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students, parents and carers to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November to find out more about the courses on offer and the wider Sixth Form provision and experience for students in Years 12 and 13 before applications open for Sixth Form places in September 2025.

Finally, we remain committed to improving our provision for students, securing and sustaining excellence and enabling all students to succeed. We will shortly be inviting a team of senior leaders into our school to conduct a peer review of the school to help us improve, and next week members of our student leadership groups will be coming together to express their commitments and identify projects for the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support for your child and the school.

Claire Thompson Head of School



Assembly Themes

w/c 11th November (Week A) Remembrance Day w/c 18th November (Week B) Science

# Around the School with Miss Toner

Standing on the blue circle on Monday morning, welcoming students back to a new half term, provided much needed sunshine on a grey day. Students were full of enthusiastic greetings "Hi miss, how was your half term!" (albeit some a little groggier from the earlier alarm) and stories of adventures, memories made and the much needed rest they had.

Walking the school this week, students have got stuck straight back into their learning and have been proud to tell me what they are studying, pointing out key pieces they are proud of in their books. I have had the privilege of speaking with Year 9 students about their knowledge of the Windrush in History, whilst they engage with important historical sources. In English, a KS3 class was learning about iambic meter by physically walking the room practising their stressed and unstressed rhythm. I have also found myself in Science where students have been enthusiastically exploring the expansion of the universe, and taught me all about Red-Shift and what it tells us about the formation of the universe.

Year 11 have been working hard to prepare for their mocks, pouring over their PLCs to identify their knowledge gaps, with teachers working hard to support in bridging them. In German, our Year 11 students were recapping prior topics and tracking their misconceptions and gaps to support their independent revision. In Year 10, our Spanish students are preparing for speaking exams, working fantastically in groups to respond to teacher feedback and problem solve by matching model responses to questions.

On my travels, I stumbled upon a very focused Year 12 Sociology class, who shared their perspectives of unstructured interviews vs structured interviews as part of their study on Research Methods; it was enlightening to hear their perspective on bias and the pros and cons of both. Finally, our Year 11 Geographers were exploring the key differences in the quality of life in rural and urban Mumbai India and were full of examples to share with me.

My journeys around the classrooms this week were full of rich learning experiences, with students eager to share what they are learning with pride.

I ask students daily "what has been the highlight of your day" and I have had wonderful responses ranging from "being back and seeing my friends" to "learning a solo piece in Music" to "receiving marks back on my test because my hard work paid off" to "a piece of feedback I got on my Art piece.. would you like to see it?"

What was warming in these interactions is how happy students are to be here, how hard they are working, how proud they are to show it and how respectful and kind they are when asking you back *"how was your day?"....* because that is who we are here.





#wearehayes

ROYAL

BRITISH

A huge thank you to our Year 7 and Year 11 students who volunteered to be at Hayes Station from 7.30am on Monday and Tuesday to support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Campaign. On just one of the mornings, £49 was taken on the card machine and we estimate a further £30 in cash!

EMEMBRAN

Lest We Forget

A great effort from all involved.





**EXCELLENCE THROUGH ENDEAVOUR** 









This year's theme for Black History Month was "Reclaiming Narratives," and marks a significant shift towards recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture. By emphasising "Reclaiming Narratives," we shine a brighter light on our stories, allegories, and history.

This theme underscores a commitment to correcting historical inaccuracies and showcasing the untold success stories and the full complexity of Black heritage. It's about taking control of our stories and honouring our heroes while challenging the narratives that have often overlooked the contributions and achievements of Black individuals both in the UK and globally. #ReclaimingNarratives



There were many examples of great work that departments were doing and continuing to do with students around the learning theme of Black History Month. Below is a snapshot:

## Music

Mrs Foster produces the department blog which last month included a Black History Month listening calendar. The calendar is a celebration of black composers and is intended to inspire everyone to explore the lives and works of these musicians.



Mrs Rogers English class studied Maya Angelou. This included research about who she is and her life; lesson on slavery and civil rights movements (including Malcolm X and Martin Luther King); study of 'Still I Rise' and its imagery/messages; study of 'When the Caged Bird Sings.' This formed part of year 9 work on relationships poetry.



# <image>

#### EXCELLENCE THROUGH ENDEAVOUR

LAURY





Art students in Miss McKenna's classes have been looking at a multidimensional approach to Black History Month. Students in each year produced work around identity and celebrating artists of colour.



#### Examples of Year 13 work



IT

Year 9 students in Miss Ben Ajjan's IT class coded stories about BAME historical figures using Scratch programming. Students produced some excellent work and really valued the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of Black History Month further whilst developing their programming skills.







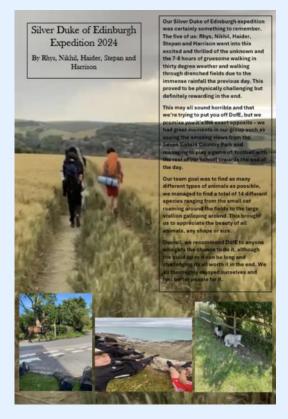


Silver

Award

**EXPEDITION EXPERIENCE** • Angelina • Grace • Eleanor • Lara • Chloe • Here is what we thought about it: A fun ye ESOME challenging d something for each letter of Rubbishe alphabet and explain what pact it has on the coast! hey get stu liffs abitats for flora STATISTICS. lowers rees Streets

**OUR DOFE SILVER** 



#### EXCELLENCE THROUGH ENDEAVOUR

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## Hayes students visit the home of the space race and experience a bit of Disney Magic in a 'trip of a lifetime' to Florida.

Thirty Hayes School students from years 10, 11, accompanied by teachers Mr Feakes, Ms Enright and Mr Redding, flew to Florida during half term to visit the Kennedy Space Center, where the first humans to walk on the Moon launched into space. The group also learned about the physics of rollercoasters and theme parks from the Disney Imagineers at Disney World's Magic Kingdom, and took the chance to put their learning into practice on some theme park rides at Disney World and nearby Universal Studios!



"The Florida trip was very good; it had a great mix of learning and fun."



At the Kennedy Space Center, the students toured the launch pads for the massive Saturn V rockets used to send

the Apollo moon missions into space, and saw the Vehicle Assembly Building, the largest enclosed building in the world, which is used in the final construction of rockets and space shuttles before launch. Later, the group explored a disassembled Saturn V rocket and the space shuttle Atlantis, which has been retired to the Center. Some students tried their hand at a Moon landing simulator and experienced space travel simulators whilst others learned about the planned human and robotic exploration of Mars.

The roller-coaster rides and experiences at Disney's Hollywood Studios and Universal's Islands of Adventure proved a real hit with the students, with The Velocicoaster ride being a particular favourite as it tested the limits of tolerance of g-forces for the students. Another star attraction for all was the Star Wars-themed 'Galaxy's Edge' experience at Disney, but Mr Feakes was left rather shaken by the precipitous Rock-it ride at Universal Studios. All the group enjoyed the meticulously re-created Harry Potter sets and rides – it was quite something to encounter snow-clad Hogwarts School and Kings Cross station in the middle of hot and humid Florida!

"I gained knowledge from the imagination campus and the rides I was able to go on to get the adrenaline going."

"I enjoyed everything, from the prestigious Universal Studios and Disney educational experience to the simple exploration of Target. I learned things about science, NASA, and have gained a greater understanding of what I would like to do later in my life. I am greatly thankful to have been able to participate in this trip."

"... I think the teachers worked well in maintaining a fair balance of tolerance to simple banter and i gained educational knowledge..."

Thank you to Ms Enright and Mr Redding for accompanying the group, and to all the parents who made such an amazing trip possible for their children.

If you like the look of this trip and would like to come along next time, look out for information about the Science Department international trips coming soon!

**Mr Feakes** 







# HAYES SCHOOL is a





No nuts or nut based products to be brought into school by students and staff.

No consumption of nuts or nut-based products in school (e.g. almonds, walnuts, pecans, cashews, pistachios, peanuts, peanut butter etc.)

SEVERE WEATHER COL

Here is a reminder of key information regarding school closure in the event of severe weather conditions.

- \* The decision to open or close the school will be made by the Executive Headteacher and Head of School.
- \* The decision will be made by 7:00am
- The decision will be communicated on the school website and our Twitter feed.
  You are advised to check this before sending your child to school.

If it has snowed, please do not assume that the school will be closed. The school will only close if opening it places the health and safety of staff and students at risk.

If weather conditions deteriorate whilst the school is in session, we will endeavour to contact parents/carers to inform them of the situation via the website, Twitter and email. Students will be kept informed of the decision and guidance will be given as to the next steps.

Hayes School is committed to ensuring that all our students are able to maximise their potential and any decision to close the school will not be taken lightly. We will aim to remain open or partially open during inclement weather to avoid disruption to students' learning but will consider the conditions and safety of students on the school site, transport links in the area as well as levels of staffing. Hayes School has good public transport links and we rely on parents to make appropriate decisions about student safety when travelling during periods of inclement weather.

Students should wear suitable clothing when travelling, including a hat, gloves and a suitable coat, as necessary. In the event of school closure, students should complete work set in Satchel: One.





We have been running an interesting programme called "Talk for Work" with a number of Year 11 students.

The programme was designed by a charity called "Speech and Language UK". It is designed to empower young people to talk about and understand communication,

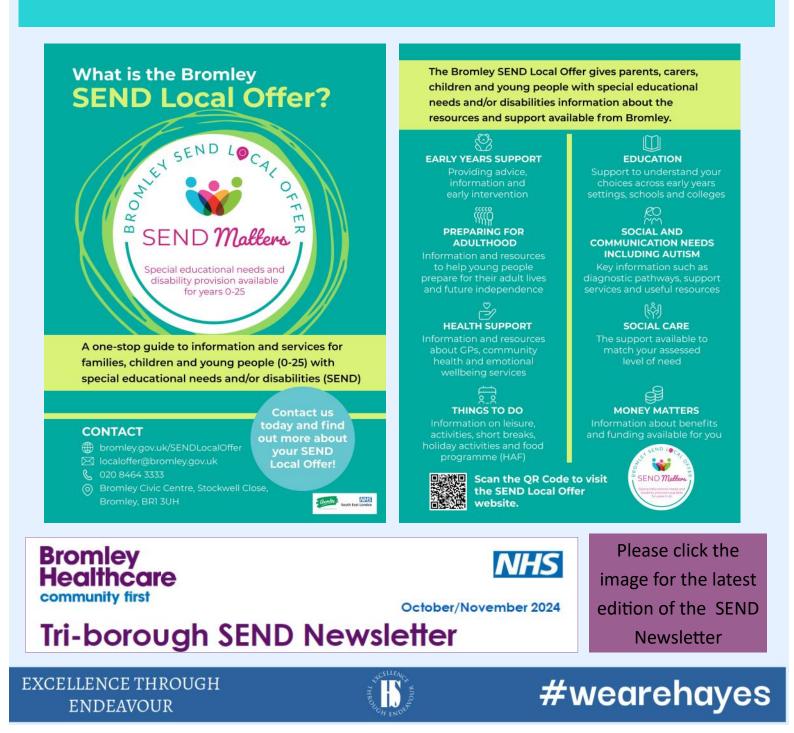
and to support their confidence and conduct ready for when they enter the world of work.

Another aspect of the programme is to improve awareness of communication difficulties for adults who work with young people and/or who employ young people.

The intervention programme culminates in the students delivering a workshop.

Congratulations and well done to Tristan Turner, Toby Lewin, Sophie Phillips, Isla Williams and Summer Louise Garland for successfully delivering an informative and interesting workshop. We are so proud of the effort they put in and what they achieved!

Mrs Angell, Mrs Peters, Mrs Hurd and Mr Thom



The Scholastic bookfair will be held in the library from Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November until Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November. Prices range from £5.99 to £14.99 with some books on special offer.      Books can be purchased by card payment or parentpay, no cash.      Image: Constrained by the section of		<text><text><section-header><text><text></text></text></section-header></text></text>		
<b>21</b> NOV	SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT			
<b>18-22</b> NOV	Y10 CAREERS WEEK			
<b>18-29</b> NOV	Y11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS (1)	- Pomerless HEARTBOY		
<b>22</b> NOV	PD DAY (School Closed to Students)	LAUREN ROBERTS		
<b>02</b> DEC	<b>Y7 PARENTS' EVENING UV</b> Online	E9.99 E7.99 E3.99 E8.99 E8.99 The <b>BEST NEW BOOKS</b> from only <b>£2.99</b>		
11 DEC	<b>Y7 PARENTS' EVENING WX</b> Online	and the second se		
<b>11-14</b> DEC	LOWER SCHOOL PRODUCTION Matilda the Musical			
<b>18</b> DEC	CHRISTMAS CONCERT			
<b>21</b> DEC	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	Tole event was		
<b>06</b> JAN	PD DAY (School Closed to Students)	This seeling for our excellent for see and hear about a multitude of choices available to them."		
<b>07</b> JAN	RETURN TO SCHOOL	Head of School Compass Schools		
		UNIVERSITY APPRENTICESHIP		
	WHAT CAREER LIVE EVENT	AN ESSENTIAL EVENT FOR		
SATURDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER 2024—OLYMPIA LONDON		<b>15–19 YEAR OLDS</b> Meet the <b>UK's top universities</b> and <b>employers</b>		
Please reg	gister first at WhatCareerLive.co.uk/ events/London			

EXCELLENCE THROUGH ENDEAVOUR



Top Attendance W/C 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2024				
Year	Tutor group	Percentage		
7	7HMW	97.88%		
8	8AMH	98.44%		
9	9MLJ	98.06%		
10	10ZEO	97.58%		
11	11JEB	98.62%		
12	6JIP	100.00%		
13	6JIP	100%		

Top Attendance W/C				
14 <sup>th</sup> October 2024				
Year	Tutor group	Percentage		
7	7MRS	97.19%		
8	8NXF	96.79%		
9	9EKLF	90.00%		
10	10KAN	95.67%		
11	11JEH	95.17%		
12	6AMT	100.00%		
13	6MMM	96.43%		



We have organised access to an online safety webinar for parent/carers of all year groups. It will help you understand the wide array of games, apps and websites that are currently popular for children. It will also talk about how children are taught to be safe online, whilst also giving tips and ideas on how to stay in control at home. The session is inspirational and up-to-theminute, and is a must for all those who are concerned about the safety of their children when using the internet.

This is a self-paced webinar which you can join and view on demand. Details of the session can be found below:

Session title: Online Safety Secondary Parents Date of access: November 8th 2024 - December 5th 2024 Session duration: 25 minutes

Joining instructions:

Please find below the links to provide immediate access to the sessions. Once the attendee's details are entered, the session will start immediately:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2850633871353860183

Important information:

 Attendees must register and log on INDIVIDUALLY to be registered as attending the training.

All forms of digital devices can be used to access the sessions



## Thank you for Parking Considerately

When driving to the school, please can we remind you to park with consideration for our neighbours.

As a school, we have a very limited proximity that students travel from. Please ask yourself if your child can get to school using public transport or on foot and, if you have to drive them, please ensure that you are not blocking driveways or inhibiting the journeys of local residents.

Tel: 020 8462 2767 | Email: postmaster@hayes.bromley.sch.uk | web: www.hayes.bromley.sch.uk









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@HayesSecondary



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