





Holocaust Memorial Week

Holocaust Memorial Week has been the focus of assembly and tutor time activities this week. Two of our Year 13 History students, Lily and Liv, have taken the lead on shaping how our school community marks and remembers this important part of our recent history.

Lily and Liv designed activities for every tutor group in the school to work on, asking students to reflect on how events like the Holocaust have been represented through art and culture. Both students also delivered powerful assemblies to all year groups this week. They spoke brilliantly about their experiences when visiting the Auschwitz Concentration Camp last October.

Later in the week, Lily and Liv also help organise a special lunchtime session in the Library for Year 7 students which included a special look at a range of both fiction and non-fiction books that focus on the events surrounding the Holocaust. And the Holocaust remembered in the Library:

Many thanks to Liv L, Lily W (both Year 13) and Rachel S (Year 11) who also gave up a lunchtime on Friday 26th to speak to a signed up audience of 30+ Year 7 and 8 students on the subject of the holocaust. Lily and Liv expanded on their assembly presentations and took questions on their research essays and visit to Auschwitz. Rachel spoke powerfully and personally about the impact of the holocaust on previous generations of her own family in Lithuania and Germany.

To find out more, find the display board in the Library and you are welcome to borrow from the accompanying book display which will remain until half term. - Mr Ford







Year 10 Yoga

Maria K & Gabriella G led a Yoga session for their Year 10 PE class. They planned the routine and delivered the lesson - well done to both, they would make great teachers! They did an excellent job and the students enjoyed it. - Miss Holliday

A-Level Textiles

One of the standout features of the Year 13 Textiles A-Level students' work is their meticulous attention to detail. Whether it is the delicate stitching on a handcrafted quilt or the precision in the placement of embellishments, every element has been carefully considered and executed to perfection. The level of finesse and craftsmanship demonstrated is indicative of the dedication and passion these students possess for their chosen discipline.

Our students have embraced the iterative design process, experimenting with different techniques, materials, and concepts to refine their work.

The work produced by our Year 13 Textiles A-Level students serves as an inspiration for younger students, demonstrating the possibilities that lie within the realm of textiles and fashion design. Their passion and commitment to their craft set a high standard for future cohorts, encouraging them to pursue excellence and strive for their own creative breakthroughs.

Year 10 Biology

Before Christmas, Mrs Morley's 10SE Biology class have been learning about heart structure and function. To consolidate their knowledge they dissected a lambs heart looking at the key structures and how they are adapted for their function. You can see that the class were sensible and respectful. Well done all!















Year 12 Physics

Last Friday we had a tea and biscuits catch up for our Year 12 and Year 13 girls studying Physics following both of their recent mocks. Was an opportunity to discuss exams, arrange a next meeting, and talk about a guest speaker coming in next week to talk to them about studying physics as a woman at university! Thank you for a productive catch up! - Mr Graham

Year 12 Biology

This half term our Year 12 Biologists conducted locust dissections! We've been learning about gas exchange in different organisms, and as insect gas exchange is on the specification, we thought it would be really helpful for the students to see the specialised systems for themselves. Here are some students cutting through the exoskeleton and pointing out spiracles. Although we definitely did have some squeamish students in the room, well done to in particular to Lydia, Amelie, Zaynab, Hani and Amina for taking the lead! – Mrs D Shah

FemSoc

Last week the brilliant Martha delivered a fantastic session on misogyny in Reggaetón music. Martha had been learning about different artists and their influence in the music industry. We looked at different song lyrics and questioned their influence in impacting ideas about women and female roles in everyday life. Martha delivered a fantastic and well-researched session, well done Martha! - Miss Cork

Student Achievement

Jai G found out that the Sea cadets Unit he attends may have to close next year due to lack of funding, so he decided to do a sponsored run last weekend to raise money. By knocking on doors and asking family and friends, Jai managed to raise £267 in a day, and completed 5k in under half an hour!

Philosophy Society

Once again Philosophy and Theology Society met, this time with a talk from Raiya in Year 12 on Heaven's Gate - a small American religious movement, or cult, that gained followers from the mid-1970s - 1990s. Raiya explained some of the beliefs and practices of the group, as well as explaining some of the circumstances of how it began and finished. As always, the questions and discussions flowed, with thoughtful conversation around the nature of religious movements and leaders. Thanks to Raiya and all who attended. - Mr Sanders







NEXT WEEK IS OUR SCHOOL SHOW 'OLIVER' WISHING ALL INVOLVED THE BEST OF LUCK 'BREAK A LEG'

JASP - Geography

Our Junior Ashmole Scholars took part in their penultimate subject workshop, this time focusing on Geography. The session asked students to consider which country is the best in the World? In groups students had to firstly establish what they thought a 'best country' would look like - eventually considering factors such as access to education, political stability, healthcare and equality... Students were then given some country profiles and had to decide which they would deem to be the 'best'. There was fierce debate around whether Norway should be crowned, given the population have a high quality of life, but this has been possible due to extracting oil, contributing to climate change. The UK has slipped down the rankings over the years, and students had to consider why this might be and how we could go up again. I was so impressed with the students geographical thinking and their confidence to look beyond statistics. It was a real pleasure to run the session with such enthusiastic and engaged students. Next up is the English workshop. The scholars are also now working on their final presentations. Mr Ford and Mr Littleford are looking forward to seeing these soon! - Miss Vaughan

Year 8 Sexism Workshop

On Wednesday, our Year 8's took part in a workshop about tackling sexist language in our school community. We identified the key issues that currently exist in school such as casual misogynistic banter and fear of speaking out. Our wonderful KS5 FemSoc team led small seminar discussion groups that challenged these narratives and our students learned how to effectively have more positive discussions about sexism and misogyny and where they can go to report concerns. The Year 8 team were fantastic in supporting this project and the students were extremely engaged. – Miss Cork

Frantic Assembly

Our Year 10 drama students took part in an incredible workshop organised by our drama department with Frantic Assembly who are an incredible theatre company who create stage productions. Our drama students learned about choreographing routines and physicality of theatre, some of the performances were brilliant! A huge thanks to the drama department for organising!'

Year 10 Well Done

A really huge well done to Year 10 this half term! While it has been short they have had a brilliant start to 2024. I am particularly impressed by the number of students who take part in all of our extra-curriculars such as chess club and the school play! The cohort were excellent in the nature way they approached revision and their assessment week and I am very proud of them. Well done Year 10! - Miss Cork