



Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



As regular readers of the newsletters will know, I absolutely love the festive season. As soon as December hits in my house, the Christmas tree goes up, in all its flashing glory. However, it is not just the decorations and food that excite me. It is also a period I really value as I was taught as a child that the build-up to Christmas is a time when we should reflect on the needs of others. Having the power to improve the lives of others is a

privilege. Better yet, your own charitable donations can inspire your friends and family to do the same! Ultimately, Christmas is all about giving back. During whole school assembly on Monday, Mme Ling spoke about the importance of having compassion for others in our community. To help support families in our local area, yesterday we launched our annual House hamper competition. Each House has 2 hampers outside the Assembly Hall, which are to be filled with food to donate to our local food bank. Our House representatives and House captains will take the food to the food bank during the last week of term, where it will be distributed among those who need it most. We encourage all students and parents to keep on giving to help those less fortunate than ourselves. I would absolutely love to beat last years total and ensure that all families in the local area are able to celebrate the festive period, safe in the knowledge that their loved ones will be well provided for.

Year 7 History Re-enactment

This week Y7 historians have been putting their study of the Battle of Hastings into action by re-enacting the battle and bringing it to life in their history lessons. They will use the re-enactment to help them to argue what was the most important reason why William of Normandy was victorious. Was it luck, Norman tactics or the weaknesses of the Anglo-Saxons?



Subject in the spotlight



This week's subject in the spotlight is Drama, with the head of drama Ms Mayall.

Coming to the end of the Autumn term, all students in KS3 are gearing up for their Drama assessment which will be during lesson time in the final two weeks of term. Every KS3 student will be assessed on a performance of a scripted piece, with the final marks going towards their rank order along with other subject assessments in January.

Year 7: At the beginning of their Drama learning journey, Year 7 have been focusing on mastering naturalistic performance skills each week in the style of the theatrical practitioner Konstantin Stanislavski. They have been exploring the performance of a different poem each week in tandem with a new performance skill. Year 7 have been exploring war poetry from their English lessons to make the most of their understanding of these new texts, including 'Sick Leave' by Siegfried Sassoon and 'Anthem for a Doomed Youth' by Wilfred Owen. These texts offer the students the opportunity to consider contexts of war and the mental health issues that arise as a result of conflict. Currently, Year 7 are learning their lines and rehearsing in Drama lessons each week to achieve a successful final performance for their assessment!

Year 8: As Year 8 are developing in their Drama learning journey, they are exploring their first play text to perform for their scripted unit assessment. They have been considering different scenes from 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' each week in tandem with recapping the performance skills they were introduced to in Year 7. This text, paired with the study of the theatrical group Frantic Assembly, offers students the opportunity to consider wider themes of neurodivergence, familial relationships and non-naturalistic physical Drama. Year 8 are also currently learning their lines and rehearsing their final performances of scenes from 'Curious Incident' to achieve a successful final assessment performance!

Year 9: Coming to the end of their KS3 Drama journey and preparing for potentially taking Drama through to KS4, Year 9 are exploring their second play text in KS3 to perform for their scripted unit assessment. They have been considering different scenes from the stage adaptation of Malorie Blackman's 'Noughts and Crosses' each week in tandem with recapping the performance skills introduced in Year 7 and recapped in Year 8. By exploring 'Noughts and Crosses' alongside the theatrical practitioner Bertolt Brecht, Year 9 have been able to consider wider themes of racism, prejudice and representation through non-naturalistic Dramatic performance. Year 9 have also been rehearsing each week during lesson time and learning their lines at home to ensure a successful final assessed performance in KS3!



Mr Wilson's Commendations

It has been another busy week here at The Hurlingham Academy, with pupils working hard on their studies both in the classroom and at home. Congratulations this week go to the following pupils, who made it to the top of our maths, science and English leader boards:

Top of the leader board for Sparx in maths this week are:

Year 7: Eglentina

Year 8: Joshua

Year 9: Ellie

Year 10: Zaineb

Year 11: Faith



Top of the leader board for Educake this week with most correct questions answered are:

Year 7: Emily

Year 8: Louisa

Year 9: Leah

Year 10: Amir

Year 11: Leif



Top of the leader board for Sparx in English this week are:

Year 7: Elizabeth

Year 8: Lorenzo

Year 9: Daria



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Key dates for weeks beginning 5th and 12th December

Description	Date	Time
Whole School Assembly	Monday 5 th December	08:30 - 09:00
Year 11 art mock	Tuesday 6 th & Thursday 8 th December	09:00 - 15:15
Academic awards night	Monday 12 th December	17:00 - 18:30
Trip to Winter Wonderland	Wednesday 14 th December	All day
Year 10 trip to China town	Thursday 15 th December	09:00 - 13:30
Last day of term	Friday 16 th December	09:00 - 13:05
Christmas holidays	Monday 19 th December – Tuesday 2 nd January	All day



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