



## Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



Good afternoon and thank you so much for all your support this term. It has been an OUTSTANDING end to the term with Ofsted, rewards trips to Thorpe Park, Green Futures Conservation trips and pizza parties! I hope you have a lovely Easter break and I will see your children along with their completed homework on Tuesday April 16th. Happy Easter!

## Key dates

Description	Date	Time
Easter Break	Fri 29/03/2024 to Fri 12/04/2024	
Inset Day	Mon 15/04/2024	No school for students
Home languages GCSE speaking exams	Mon 15/04/2024 to Fri 19/04/2024	
Y8 First Give Practice: Main hall	Thu 18/04/2024	13:30 - 15:30
Golden Post Card Trip to Cinema (TBC)	Fri 19/04/2024	08:30 - 09:00
French and Mandarin speaking exams	Mon 22/04/2024 to Fri 26/04/2024	
RE Y10 Church Trip	Tue 23/04/2024	14:00 - 15:30
Y11 Exam Essentials Evening	Thu 25/04/2024	17:00 - 18:00



## Y7 Conservation Day

On Tuesday this week the Y7s had their second conservation day of year in Hyde Park, facilitated by Royal Parks and led by the geography department. Much to the relief of many, the sun was out! The year group was divided into four groups and completed four activities throughout the day.

First up was harrowing and scarifying a piece of meadow in the park. One half of the group came together to scarify and clear the ground to make space for the planting of wildflowers, by dragging a huge iron harrow around a small section of park. This very effectively ripped up grass to make hay, and made space for new wildflowers to be planted. Once the harrowing was complete the team laid down new 'yellow rattle' seeds to support further wildflower flourishing. Meanwhile, this excess hay was efficiently, perhaps aggressively collected by a small army of rakers, who made ever-taller hay bales.

The second activity involved planting bulbs to improve the biodiversity of the grassland areas. The students dug divots and planted daffodils for next year's spring. They also recycled last year's daffodils so that nothing was wasted. Hands got very muddy at this point and the students did brilliantly.

The last two activities were more analytical. The students firstly used nets, trays and guidebooks to capture and identify the unlucky species drawn from the ponds in the Italian Gardens. From this the students could check the chemical composition of the water and understand how healthy it was. Lastly, did you know that lichen on trees can indicate the quality of the air around them? Students were taught how to identify different types of lichen and from this understand and investigate on their own, the levels of chemicals and elements in the air around them.

It was a really fantastic day out with Year 7, with Park staff remarking on their excellent behaviour and engagement – we were so proud of them! It was great to see how stuck in they got!



# Y7 Conservation Day



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## Subject in the Spotlight–

It has been another busy and very creative month in the Art department!

We have had visits from artists of the Bomb Factory Art Gallery in Chelsea for Year 10 - they have been working with multi-disciplinary artist: Alex Lewis



**Year 7:** This week Yr7 students have been learning the fundamentals of art and design through line and mark making, exploring all of the formal elements. Students have begun to look at their heritage and journey through the landscape they remember as they were growing up. Students have been exposed to a range of artists all over the world in order to inspire them. Next term students will be developing their knowledge on complex colour theory and watercolour painting techniques, to be able to complete their own mixed media landscape paintings influenced by the landscape of their journey, whether it be the rolling hills of Wales, the snowy slopes of Austria, or the warm sunsets in Jamaica. In Textiles students have begun creating their Mexican Alebrije animal using recycled felt and hand embroidery techniques. Next week students will continue to build their animal, stuffing it with felt and learning further decorative stitch techniques.

**Year 8:** This week Yr8 students have been developing their personal ideas whilst looking at endangered animals as a project focus. Students have created 3D, mixed media sculptural collages of their chosen endangered animal, using a range of recycled and sustainable materials. Next week students will design their final project pieces - combining cardboard sculpture and recycled decorative methods to portray their endangered animal.

In Textiles students have begun making the structure of their tote bag using recycled cotton. Next week students will continue to build their tote bag, making handles and learning further decorative stitch techniques.

**Year 9:** This week Yr9 students have been developing their graphic design skills. Students have learnt about important rules within the key design principles and how they can be used to convey a message. Students have created an acrylic painted portrait, and selected an social

Issue close to them, with the influence of the political works of artist Shepard Fairey.

Next term students will finalise their Shepard Fairey

Inspired posters. On completion of this project students will explore emotion in portraiture through the medium of charcoal.



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## Subject in the Spotlight–

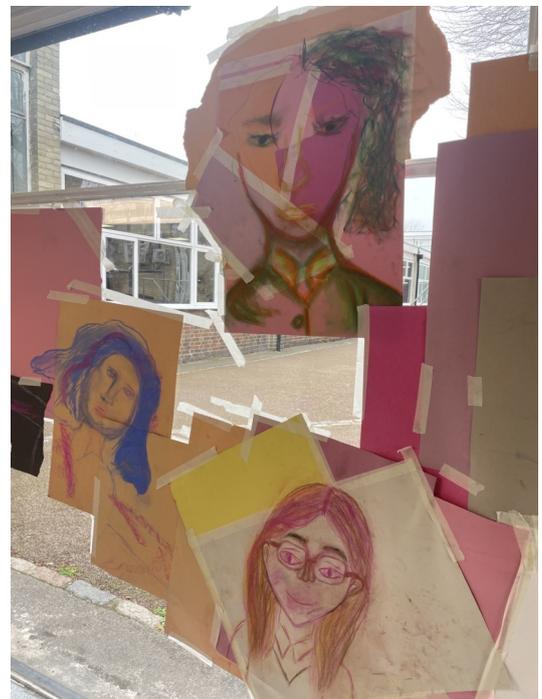
**Year 10:** This term Yr10 have been completing a series of skills workshops whilst working on their Project, 'Our World, The Climate Around us'. Students have completed a wide range of workshops this term. These include; drawing with ink, biro, observational pencil studies, painting, and working with mixed media. This week students have been working with artist Alex Lewis from, 'The Bomb Factory Art Foundation' in Chelsea: introducing sculpture and 3D form to projects, working with canvas, hessian, paint and clay to build installational structures. Students will next develop personal ideas from own observational ideas and photos that they have collected/taken. They will realise their successes from the past term and demonstrate their best skills in their mock art exam in May.

**Year 11:** This term Yr11 are working towards creating a final idea to present for their GCSE Art personal themed coursework projects. Students were given their exam theme of 'POWER' at the beginning of January and were asked to explore something personal to them within this theme. For example: 'The Power of social media and its impact on beauty ideologies'

This week students have been working independently, using a wide range of materials to experiment with.

Students have researched, investigated, developed and began planning their final creative outcome! Exciting final pieces will be produced in the May FINAL EXAM, we cannot wait to see them!

Year 11 will curate and host their own Summer exhibition at the end of June and parents will be invited to celebrate their successes!



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## Mr Wilson's commendations

It has been another impressive week here at the academy, with pupils once more working hard on their studies both in the classroom and at home. Congratulations go to all the following pupils who made it to the top of our leader boards this week.

### SENECA leaderboard:

1. (Yr8)

Yana An-  
Seth Araujo  
Skyers



2. (Yr9)

tonyuk  
Delano



3. (Yr9)



### SPARX Reader leaderboard:

1. (Yr7)

Ollie Whiting



2. (Yr8)

Paul Schaefer



3. (Yr9)

Milena Berrone Giuliadori



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## Wellbeing hub

### Accessing The Wellbeing Hub

Instructions on how to register and links for accessing The Wellbeing Hub are detailed in our private parents' portal <https://club.teentips.co.uk/register/parents/?ca=b4356473a4a6592de0a52d336ba0e761>

If you have any specific queries about access, please contact the team at [info@teentips.co.uk](mailto:info@teentips.co.uk)



**This week's content**  
Week commencing 1st April

**Podcast: Revision skills: how to revise effectively**  
with Steve Badger, Deputy Head in charge of  
teaching and learning at Lord Wandsworth College.



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