



Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



This has been yet another exceptionally busy and rewarding week at The Hurlingham Academy. Our Charity Week has been action-packed, with pupils enthusiastically taking part in everything from bushtucker trials to sponge the teacher (an alarmingly popular event each year, I'm not sure why). Alongside this, we have had First Give events, our fantastic drama performance and last week, 2 residential trips. Every time I look at our school calendar, I am filled with pride at the breadth of opportunities we provide for

pupils to extend their learning beyond the classroom. I remain deeply grateful to the staff who give up their time, often in the evenings and at weekends, to organise and lead these enriching experiences. I encourage all pupils to take full advantage of the opportunities offered, even those that may push them outside their comfort zone.

As we come to the end of term, it is a natural moment to reflect on our progress as a school and to look ahead with renewed ambition. For Year 11, the summer term marks the beginning of the external exam season. They have been exceptionally well prepared through the hard work of their tutors, teachers, mentors and the pastoral team, and I am truly thankful for this collective effort. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to parents and carers; your support during this high-pressure time is invaluable to our pupils' success. With the Easter break approaching, I will be taking some time to rest, and I encourage you to do the same. It is an opportunity to slow down, enjoy time with loved ones and perhaps finally get to those books waiting on the bedside table. We work incredibly hard as a community, and we all deserve time to recharge before we embark on what promises to be another busy and exciting term. Next term brings a full calendar of trips, music concerts and house competitions, and I look forward to seeing pupils engage wholeheartedly in all that is on offer. As always, please ensure that pupils return to school after the break in full uniform, with the correct equipment and with hairstyles that comply with school rules. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Detention Timings

We would like to remind parents of the timings for detentions:

Homework or late detention– 16:15 finish

APSC detention– 16:45 finish

SLT 2nd Hour (Fridays only)- 17:15 finish

Saturday detention– 09:30 – 11:30



Year 10 Trip to Barcelona

Last week, we travelled to Barcelona with our Year 10 students for a truly unforgettable cultural and linguistic experience. From the very beginning, students showed an excellent attitude and great curiosity to explore everything the city had to offer. On the first day, we explored the Gothic Quarter, where they immersed themselves in the city's history while practising the language in a real-life context.

The second day was particularly exciting: we visited Poble Espanyol and admired some of Gaudí's iconic buildings. We were also lucky enough to watch a rehearsal of human towers (castells), an impressive local tradition that fascinated everyone. On our final full day, we enjoyed a visit to Camp Nou, which was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the trip, followed by a relaxing afternoon at the beach, where students made the most of the sunshine, played games and enjoyed spending time together. Finally, on our last day, we walked along Las Ramblas and visited the market, taking every opportunity to interact and put into practice what they had learned during the trip. Overall, it was a fantastic experience that combined learning, culture and fun, and one that we will all remember for a long time to come.



The Hurlingham Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

THA on the Farm

Last week, 12 of our students spent time at Jamie's Farm, taking part in a truly special experience in the countryside. Across the week, they cared for animals, cooked together, and supported one another through new challenges. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow, friendships strengthen, and each student step outside their comfort zone.

We are incredibly proud of them all and look forward to seeing the positive impact of this experience back in school.



The Hurlingham Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

British Science Week

Last week, students across year groups celebrated British Science Week through a range of engaging activities designed to inspire curiosity and highlight the breadth of science beyond the classroom.

Some Year 9 and Year 10 students attended an inspiring talk from Ann Cairns, a highly accomplished leader in technology and finance. Students learned about her journey from studying mathematics and engineering to holding senior leadership roles at global organisations, providing a powerful example of the wide range of opportunities available through STEM careers.

Throughout the week, students also took part in a variety of activities. Lunchtimes saw students testing their problem-solving skills in a binary code decoding challenge, while houses competed in the Science University Challenge, encouraging teamwork and testing scientific knowledge.

Students also showcased their creativity and observational skills through a poster competition and specimen drawing competition. The week concluded with a lunchtime documentary club, where students enjoyed watching *Wild London* by David Attenborough, exploring the wildlife found within urban environments in their home city.

Science Week provided a fantastic opportunity for students across year groups to engage with science in new and exciting ways.



Parent Opportunity to be involved in SEND research

Our Learning Support volunteer, Rukhsana Ground who is completing an MSc in Psychology at Birkbeck University of London is looking for participants for a short interview as part of her dissertation. Her study explores "how parents from ethnic minority backgrounds who have at least one autistic child balances work with family life" an area that is under-researched in the UK. By sharing your experiences, you'll be helping raise awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by parents in similar situations and contribute to research that could help inform better support going forward.

All interviews will be confidential and no personal details will appear in the dissertation.

If you would like to find out more or take part, please complete the form here: [Research participant confirmation – Fill in form](#)

Miss Francis

Mr Wilson's Commendations

Congratulations this week go to the following pupils, who made it to the top of our Seneca and Sparx leaderboards.

Top of the leaderboard for Seneca are:

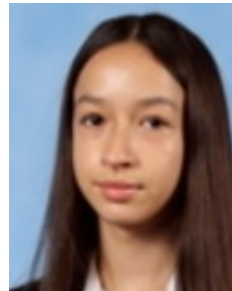
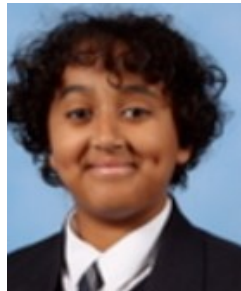
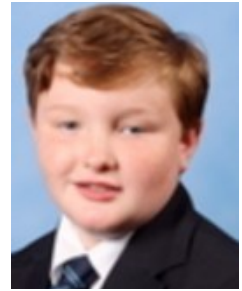
Year 7: Angela

Year 8: Joey

Year 9: Ammar

Year 10: Selma

Year 11: Jayden



Top of the leaderboard for Sparx Maths are:

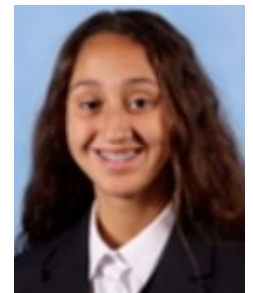
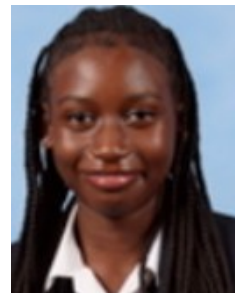
Year 7: Abdulnafi

Year 8: Kieran

Year 9: Faith

Year 10: Gina

Year 11: Yara

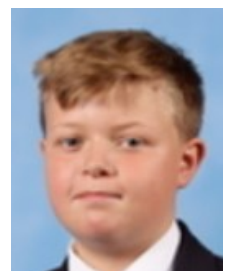
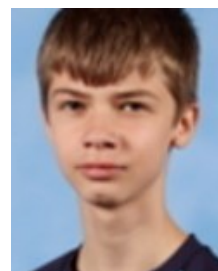
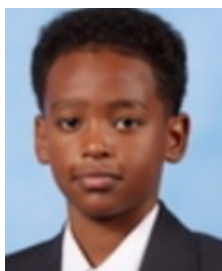
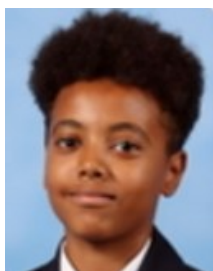


Top pupils for Sparx reader are:

Year 7: Renee and Yacin

Year 8: Milkias and Marthed

Year 9: Riley and Oliver



The Hurlingham Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Year 8 Scholars Programme

A group of 32 Year 8 students have been stretching their thinking and developing their academic curiosity through participation in The Scholars Programme. This exciting opportunity allows students to experience university-style learning, develop critical thinking skills, and engage with academic research beyond the classroom.

Students are working in two groups, each led by a PhD researcher. One group is exploring the historical context surrounding the arrival of the Empire Windrush in 1948 and examining how historians use sources to study migration. The second group is focusing on engineering, designing an infrared device for medical applications and exploring how this technology can be used in real-world contexts. Students have now completed their Launch Tutorial and first academic tutorial, showing enthusiasm and a willingness to engage with challenging ideas. They are currently working on their first assignment, and we would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support as students develop their independence and academic writing skills. We look forward to reading students' first draft assignments after the Easter break and seeing their progress as they continue this exciting programme.



Key dates for upcoming weeks

| Description | Date | Time |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|
| Easter Holidays | Monday 30th March– Friday 10th April | All day |
| Staff inset– no school for pupils | Monday 13th April | All day |
| Mandarin speaking exams | Monday 13th April | All day |
| Year 10 Geography trip | Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April | 9:30-12:00 |
| Drama GCSE exam | Friday 17th April | All day |
| Year 9 Brighton Trip | Tuesday 21st April | 8:00-16:00 |
| Bomb Factory Trip | Tuesday 21st April | 12:45-16:15 |
| Year 10 Ibstock Place Trip | Wednesday 22nd April | 9:00-15:30 |
| Year 7 Art Excellence Exhibition | Wednesday 22nd April | 16:30-18:30 |
| Year 11 Exam Essentials Evening | Wednesday 22nd April | 18:30-20:00 |
| Year 9 Brighton Trip | Thursday 23rd April | 8:00-16:00 |



The Hurlingham Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning