



## Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



As a school community, results are important to us. We care passionately about who wins the House Cup, we cheer loudly on Sports Day and we know that the GCSE results of our Year 11 pupils will open doors to a lifetime of opportunities. As the first external GCSE exam approaches this Monday, I know that our pupils are ready. They have worked exceptionally hard throughout KS4 and particularly in the lead up to their GCSE exams. Pupils have worked tirelessly, often opting to work through their lunch break in Learning Lunch, as well as coming in on Saturdays and during the holidays for study sessions. Their teachers have prepared them

thoroughly for every question on every paper and ensured they have the very best resources to revise. This year pupils are more prepared than ever due to the advanced information received from exam boards, meaning that although we don't know the exact questions, we do know the topics that are coming up on each exam. So what happens now? We need the support of parents and carers at this time to ensure pupils are in school for their 7:30am cram sessions and that they are properly prepared. We also need pupils to be looking after themselves by getting a good night's sleep and avoiding too many distractions during the exam season (that's right Year 11, delete Snapchat and Instagram for the next 6 weeks!!!). I truly believe that all pupils can succeed when they work hard; I have no doubt that this set of exams will lead to some brilliant results that our pupils truly deserve. Good luck Year 11, we are all behind you, supporting you.

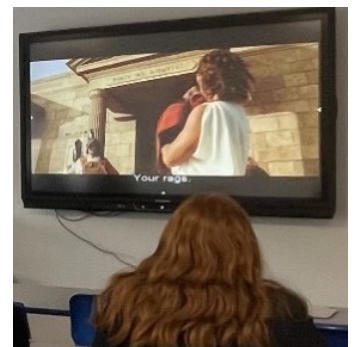
## French Connection Club

During lunchtime on a Thursday Mme Vidal holds French Connection Club, giving pupils the opportunity to see, hear, revise, and learn the French language and culture.

As part of the club, students can:

1. watch movies in French when it is on the "menu", learning about culture and working on their comprehension skills.
2. Partake in mentoring sessions, with KS4 pupils helping KS3 with their speaking skills
3. Play board games
4. Read French books

It is an incredible opportunity for our pupils to broaden their knowledge and to develop their interest in learning a language. If you are interested in attending please do come along to Mme Vidal's classroom on Thursday to say bonjour!



## Year 10 History Trip

On Monday Y10 historians went to the Old Operating Theatre in central London- the oldest operating theatre in Europe. It was a great experience and we had a talk from a lady who worked there, she gave us a walkthrough of two pretty grim operations: an amputation and removing bladder stones from a man. I think the goriest one was removing the bladder stones and there were a *lot* of pale faces after that explanation (even from the girls!). The operating theatre itself wasn't as dark or dinghy as I expected it to be, but then there were only 60 of us instead of 120 spectators and none of us were encouraged to smoke like they would have done in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The amputation table also seemed quite small but did fit Assad (our amputee for the day), it even had grooves for all the blood to drain off to be collected in a tray underneath. Outside the operating theatre there was what would have been some form of waiting area which had preserved brains, hearts and kidneys on display. There were also sections detailing other operations and the tools used to perform them, some of the childbirth tools looked horrific, especially the ones used to induce labour; however, some of the tools haven't changed much over time, like the forceps or clamps! There was a model apothecary and different herbal remedies and natural medicines. A few of us tried on a plague doctor's mask, which really suited Miss Mowbray! Overall, I think the trip consolidated the knowledge that we've been learning in our History of Medicine GCSE spec, and the interactive talk made certain facts very memorable! I'm really glad we got the chance to be immersed in the life of a surgeon and patient whilst being thrust 200 years back in time. It was an amazing trip and I'm sure that Year 10 historians will be all the better for it! Written by Niamh, 10H.



## 8L Bake Off

To raise money for their chosen First Give charity, 8L organised a Bake Off. The hall was absolutely packed with pupils all coming to see teachers being judged on their baking abilities. From Mme Quinton's cactus inspired cupcakes to Mme Hiscock's questionable sponge (rumour has it there may have been a few egg shells left in!) there really was quite the range. After fighting off some strong competition it was Mme Pang who was eventually crowned baking champion. Well done to all those who took part - next year I must get myself on the judging panel!!



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## Subject in the spotlight



This week's subject in the spotlight is.... science with Mme Wong.

This week in: science

**Year 7:** Students are now finishing Forces and Motion. They will soon move on to learn about ecology. They will study how animals and plants depend on each other. Revision lessons will start soon after to prepare students for the up-coming exams.

**Year 8:** Students have been learning about photosynthesis, a very important biochemical reaction that supports the food chain. Students also learnt about the work of George Washington Carver who advocated the technique of crop rotation in America. Students will start revising ecology, a topic that they have previously learnt to prepare for their exams.

**Year 9:** Students completed the module on cell biology recently and they have had the experience of carrying out a full scientific investigation on osmosis. Students have now begun a new chemistry module. They will have the chance to practise their practical skills in separating mixtures.

**Year 10:** All students have now learnt the Paper 1 topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Triple Science pupils are currently learning Ecology (Paper 2 Biology topic) where they will have the opportunity to understand how organisms depend on each other for survival, how sampling takes place, adaptations of different organisms, and efforts to maintain biodiversity. Combined Science students will learn about the Earth's atmosphere (Paper 2 Chemistry topic). They will look at how our atmosphere has changed over the past billions of years and the causes of these changes. They will then learn about greenhouse gases, carbon footprint and air pollutants. All Year 10 students will then begin their revision lessons prior to the end of year exam.

**Year 11** are continuing to prepare for their GCSE exams which start next week. We wish all Year 11 pupils the best of luck.



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## Mr Wilson's Commendations

Congratulations this week go to the following pupils, who made it to the top of our maths and science leader boards:

Top of the leader board for Hegarty Maths this week are:

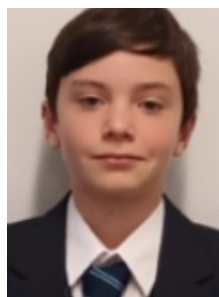
Year 7 - Eris

Year 8 - Laith

Year 9 - Joao

Year 10 - Alessandro

Year 11 - Phoebe



Top of the leader board for Educake Science this week are:

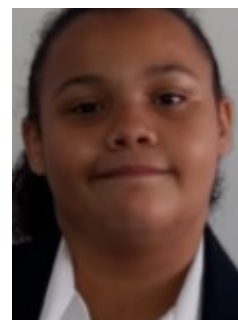
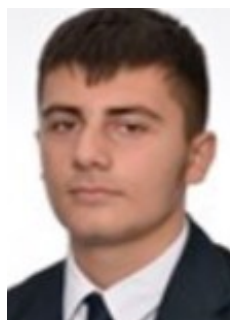
Year 7: Mya

Year 8: Alba

Year 9: Karis

Year 10: Yll

Year 11: Ezana



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## Year 8 First Give

Over the past few months, Year 8 have been raising awareness and money for their chosen charities. 8H & 8R collaborated to raise money for St. Mungo's (a homelessness charity) and Art Against Knives (tackling gang violence). They organised a student vs teachers penalty shoot-out and bake sale raising a whopping £100. Kabishan and Marley bakes delicious cakes for the bake sale, which were very popular with the crowds. The final score was 5-3 to the teachers with fantastic goals from Dr Patel, Kyreece, Archie and Mr Charkham. The final presentations will be on May 26<sup>th</sup> so there is still plenty of time to donate. All donations welcome, big & small!



## Key dates for weeks beginning 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Description	Date	Time
Whole School Assembly	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	08:30 - 09:00
GCSE exams begin	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	08:30 - 15:30
Year 8 First Give Practice	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	14:30 - 16:30
Higher Education Talk	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	15:15 - 16:45
Year 8 First Give Final	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	13:45 - 16:45

