

POST-16 NEWSLETTER

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Year 12 ESSA Water Sports Trip



Congratulations to Heike, winner of the Orwell Youth Prize!



Year 12 ESSA Water Sports Trip



Guest Speakers Trinity and Danajan from PwC

News

Year 12 Trip to ESSA Water Activities Centre!

“I found the trip super exciting! It was a surprisingly really joyful time where I could enjoy team-building in fun ways I wouldn’t have thought of; like making a human pyramid on a massive paddle board. There were many fun challenges that I completed and the workers were very caring, they ensured everyone’s safety and well-being (if you wanted to leave the waterboard, for example, they’d take you on their motorboat and they made sure that you were fine). Also, once all the activities were done we were allowed to jump off a pier into the lake - which I did and I highly recommend because it was fantastic!”

~ Avril, Year 12 Student

Coming Up and Recent Events

Upcoming

- Inset day: 20th October
- Half term: 21st - 29th October
- Y13 PPEs #4 beginning Monday 30th October
- Y12 PPEs #1 beginning Monday 6th November
- Post 16 Open Evening: 7th November 6-8pm
- Year 12 Enfield High Achievers Award: 16th November
- Inset day: 24th November
- Year 13 Progress Evening (online): 30th November
- Al-Fihri Day: 1st December
- Final UCAS Deadline: 8th December
- Last Day of Term: 20th December (12pm finish)

Clubs

1. UCAS Critical Support Session - Monday lunchtimes in SRC
2. Biology Club - Monday lunchtimes in O7
3. Chemistry Club (AS Level) - Wednesday lunchtimes in O7, (A Level) - Tuesday lunchtimes in O16

Achievements

- Congratulations to Heike who won the 'George Orwell Junior Prize for Literature'. The focus this year was on the idea of 'home'. Heike wrote an emotionally powerful short story titled 'The Catharsis of a Crane,' which portrayed the life of a man abandoned by his wife and daughter. Delia Jarrett-Macauley, the Chair of the Orwell Youth Prize Judging Panel for 2023, described Heike's story as 'beautiful and inspired by an intriguing concept, cleverly linking origami and politics'.
- "During UCAS week at the end of Year 12, one of our guests were two representatives from the company TB Cardew. They spoke to us about what they do as a public affairs and consulting company. I found their role in crisis management fascinating as it is a prevalent concern companies face. The representatives were offering a week-long internship and I was chosen to be a strategic communications intern. My favourite aspect of the internship was knowing my work was actively going towards the company and clientele. I would urge any Year 12 students to consider applying for their internship in June as it boosts your personal statement, CV and general skills needed for most lines of work." ~ *Lilibeth, Year 13 Student*

Kate Osamor Summer School

In the last week of year 12, I had the most amazing opportunity to attend and participate in Kate Osamor's Politics Summer School in Portcullis House, Westminster. The summer school was very insightful into the world of politics and the different routes that can be taken to be involved and help bring awareness to things that we believe in, e.g. climate change, equal pay, housing. I had an excellent time meeting and speaking with a variety of speakers from different walks of life that have an impact on our politics. I met Stafford Scott (a community activist who co-founded the Broadwater Farm Defence Campaign in 1985), Ann Pettifor (renowned economist who predicted the Global Financial Crisis of 2007-08), Jeremy Corbyn (Leader of the Labour Party from 2015-20), Angela Rayner (Deputy Leader of the Labour Party since April 2020), Gloria Morrison (Cofounder of Joint Enterprise Not Guilty by Association - JENGBA), Peray Ahmet (Leader of Haringey Council) and Lester Buxton (Mayor of Haringey). I also had the chance to have a tour of Parliament and observe a debate in the Main Chamber about the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill. One thing that really stuck with me in this whole experience was something that Jeremy said to me. He said, "On behalf of this country, I apologize for invading your country and its people", after I told him about my background and explained that I have family in Afghanistan who have to live under Taliban rule. Overall, this whole experience really made me understand the world of politics and that it is not just MPs or the Prime Minister that brings change into the country and our political system but that there are hundreds of people who are involved in the decision making and planning for what is best for the country.

~ *Negena, Year 13 Student*



Enrichment and Progression Opportunities

External Speakers

- PwC, one of the four major consulting and management firms, specialise in offering financial consulting advice. A pair of guest speakers from PwC (Trinity and Danajan) delivered an informative talk regarding degree apprenticeships and the different career pathways within PwC.
- Alison Freeman, part of the cooperative sustainability sector works with companies in order to reduce their environmental impacts. She now works for the port in Melbourne after working for many years at the well-known Ernest Young. Parts of her jobs include helping sort accounts to see where impacts are being made and to come up with strategic ways to alternately give her clients the same end goal with less damage to the Earth.

Book Review

- 'Birdsong'

Birdsong is not only a novel that depicts the reality of what it was like to be a soldier on the front line of World War One, but is also about love, loss and courage. Sebastian Faulks portrays the following themes through the character Stephen Wraysford who is, at the start of the novel, a young Englishman hoping to study textile manufacturing in the town of Amiens in 1910 unaware of the horrific acts that were to follow. This novel follows Stephen as he first discovers the true meaning of love, which for him is a short-lived moment as not long after the fearful news of the war hits the world, and Stephen courageously volunteers to fight on the Western front. Faulks depicts the struggles many soldiers went through such as the harsh conditions of trench life, dealing with "shell shock" now commonly known as PTSD, the addiction to substances (alcohol) and the very apparent disconnected feeling from those at home, whom the soldiers felt like could not and would not ever understand the true horrors faced. Stephen's character is also used to place emphasis on the deep and powerful bonds created amongst the comrades who made the soldiers feel more at home than they felt from their own family. Birdsong encapsulates not only the appalling conditions of the war but also the individual lives of the soldiers and how they were impacted by their experiences of war.

~ Fariha, Year 13 Student

Extracurricular Opportunities

- **Virtual Work Experience**
<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/>
- **The Sutton Trust Programmes**
<https://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/>



- **Volunteering at British Heart Foundation**
<https://myvolunteer.bhf.org.uk/event/list>



- **London Metropolitan University Big Writing Challenge and In Conversation With**



- **Volunteering at North Middlesex Hospital**
Email: northmid.volunteer@nhs.net

Open Days

25th November 2023

- **New Model Institute for Technology & Engineering** (10:30am - 3pm), book your place at <https://nmite.ac.uk/nmite-open-days>
- **City, University of London** (9:30am - 4pm)
<https://www.city.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/2023/november/undergraduate-open-day>
- **University of Westminster** (11am - 3pm), <https://your.westminster.ac.uk/form/ugopenday-25nov23>

Words of Wisdom

"Awakening is not changing who you are, but discarding who you are not."

~ Deepak Chopra

Reading

I'm going to break into 10 Downing Street; I will get caught.

This is not so much as an admission of guilt but rather a request for asylum. I want refuge in a country often spoken about by politicians. A place where endless budget cuts don't cause rips and tears in the fabrics of communities. A place where poverty doesn't run rampant behind the blueprints of redevelopments. I can't return home because I fear prosecution. Once a father – now feral – I hope you will sympathise with my plight.

"I wish all planes were made out of paper," my daughter once told me.

We had spent all summer assembling our papier war machines – each made out of a distinct parchment.

A sports magazine Supermarine Spitfire, a Times article Hawker Typhoon, and an urgent bill Bristol Beaufighter. Honestly, the names were all for show, a testament to my life thus far. A tired, rudimentary paper plane technique I had learnt at school many years ago transformed by the gleam in her juvenile iris into esteemed pieces of machinery. I never felt the gravity of her words then, too often I was preoccupied with my feelings of shame towards my 'rough' upbringing. Disappointed in my inability to nurture her bright mind due to my dim one. So, when opportunity struck to impart a fragment of wisdom (that would undoubtedly stick with her as it did with me) I clung to the chance. Undertaking my employment – the first were marred with wrinkles and utterly bereft of simple aerodynamics. In spite of this, by the end of those sunny days, each fold was masterfully sculpted and firmly pressed. Once that was struck off of the list; the lack of a garden proposed a downpour over our soluble sport. Hence, we set up shop indoors amidst my belongings – our belongings- and became air traffic control.

The first to take flight was the Bristol Beaufighter. Departing from terminal Dad, it was: agile, aimless and awfully agreeable.

"Because you can tell so much about the people that made them."

*She's right. She always was. It's such a shame that her discernment fell upon deaf ears – eager to finally teach **her** something, I missed what **she** was teaching **me**. So, when the aircraft heaved and soared above the suitcase mountaintops – you could tell who made it. When the sunlight pierced through the condensed windows and illuminated the 'FINAL NOTICE' printed on the underside – you could tell who made it. When it crashed into the far corner of the dining room – where damp colonies spread unchecked. You knew that I had made it.*

That was the last summer I spent with her. The Great British heatwave punctuated by an obstinate origami crane. It was a dreary thing. After work, I found it perched eagerly on the countertop. The harbinger observed as I searched. A missing object here. A missing object there. The belongings weren't so much ours but mine – yet the small touches of hope were hers. Entirely gone. The only evidence I had of her existence was a bluebird proclaiming her departure. Her mother had written it, my child had folded it and they both swanned out of my life.

Many years later, I still find myself recounting that fateful summer. A phrase usually used to reminisce about one's youth instead, reserved in my mind's dictionary for a misery-laden nostalgia. What really took my daughter away?

On my journey to this request's end, I caught a glimpse at the heavens. A glorious sight; metallic skyfish that weaved and bobbed, fleeting flashes like quicksilver. Some left white, cascading trails like trout darting from danger. By now, she must be a captain of an airbus beluga. Long forgotten are her childhood dreams of the transparency and tactility of paper...

Continue reading Heike's short story:



What is the UCAT?

The University College Aptitude test is an exam taken by Medicine and Dentistry applicants. It consists of 5 subsections: Verbal Reasoning (multiple choice questions which test your ability to critically evaluate passages), Decision Making (your ability to make decisions and judgements using complex information e.g. Syllogisms and Venn diagrams), Quantitative Reasoning (your ability to critically evaluate information in numerical form - basic mathematical calculations), Abstract Reasoning (your ability to spot patterns between shapes, eg. does a box of shapes belong in set 'A' or 'B'). These 4 sections are given a numerical scaled score, 900 being the highest and 700 as a good score to aim for. The last section, SJT, is graded by bands (band 1 = highest, band 4 = lowest), it tests how you would appropriately respond to real-life situations, focusing on medical ethics.

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