

HEDGEROWS PLANTING 19/12/24

Hedgerows

Last month, at Upper School, students from both sites came together to plant hedgerows. With special thanks to our headteacher Ms Gumbrell, and also the involvement of Mrs Thompson and Mr LLOYD who also came to help and support our students. Planting the hedgerows has allowed our school community to work as a team, and also connect as a school through nature. During creating these hedgerows, we shared many laughs, memories and joy! Some of us struggled, but we helped support each other through teamwork. We hope that there will be more future events to work together as a community! We, as a school, were given 120 trees for free from the Woodland Trust.

Mr Lloyd has shared more information on the hedgerow planting:

“These are all native and we’ve planted them in a hedgerow formation.

Hedgerows are essential for rebuilding our lost habitat. Our school is in a unique position to protect the hedgehogs. Enfield is a high risk flood area and we need more trees to absorb ground surface water. This initiative has been led by the head girl team over three successive years of representative partnerships through the generations to tackle climate change. We had representatives from every year of the school who planted the trees of the hedgerow. We planted dogwood, blackthorn, hawthorne, hazel and dogrows along with other species. “





Community Updates

Christmas Dinner - 11/12/24

Our sixth form shared a lovely Christmas dinner right before the holidays. We laughed, danced, and shared memories whilst we ate the delicious dinner made by our fantastic catering staff. This Christmas was extra special, as it was the final one we shared with our Year 13s before they leave at the end of this year. We hope that everyone treasures these positive Christmas memories!

Brilliant Club

We are so proud of the Year 9s and 12s who have participated in the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme! With their last session approaching on February 3rd, both year groups have shown excellent commitment, passion, and dedication for their learning. Year 12s studied sociolinguistics, delving into topics such as linguistic discrimination, language policies, and the importance of language and its nuances. Many students have said that it was a wonderful opportunity to access information on a topic that would not usually be available to them with one student saying that her knowledge has gone from 0 to 100!

The students had to complete a 2,500 word essay, a new experience of writing an extended essay on a topic that was interesting and fascinating.

It was an opportunity to have some good practice and preparation for university, as their essays are being marked university style. The students supported each other through engaging excitedly in the sessions, with the tutor and other members of the group creating a comfortable learning environment.

We also had the opportunity to ask one of our Year 13s, Ellie Rumble, about her experience of the Scholars Programme the previous year. The topic was "The Sound of the World, and the World of Sounds," which detailed the cultural and social impact of music. Ellie said that "during the process, it was a lot of hard work, but the pay off was enormous, as it was beneficial for my personal statement and UCAS application." Ellie also said that the programme has boosted her confidence in her subjects, because of the essay skills that she developed.

Ms Cowell said that "the Brilliant club has been a fantastic opportunity for the students to broaden their knowledge of a topic that is outside of their subject areas. It has been an exciting and challenging experience for the students, and undoubtedly will enhance their critical and independent thinking skills. Well done everyone!"

Community Updates (continued)

North London Hospice

Our school has been presented with the wonderful opportunity to raise money for North London Hospice. As a community, we could not be any prouder of our Year 12s and Year 13s who have participated in raising a whopping £633.65 for the North London Hospice! The Year 12s came together last month to sell bracelets at lower school, and have created personalised bracelets for staff to raise money. Many of the younger years at school were very excited to keep these bracelets for themselves, or gifting them to their family and friends. Thank you to these Year 12s for their participation! The Year 13s have raised money by involving many of our school staff in our very own Enfield County Bake Off! In order to participate in the competition, the teachers donated £5 each. Not only does this bring light competitiveness between different teams, but it also connects our community as a school by taking part in these fun activities.

There was team building between teachers, but some competitiveness between teams. As a school, we are very delighted with Ms Napolitano and Ms Hajidaniel for winning the bake off with their fantastic (and delicious) cakes!

Ms Costa, who is in charge of community links, has told us that "It was an exciting opportunity because schools have been asked across the borough to participate in the High Five Challenge in the summer term and we took up the challenge. The Year 13s students from no money to start with, raised money for the challenge. The initial interest took place in the summer of 2024, prior to when the Year 12s had started the year. Later in the Autumn term when we had organised it, Year 12s got involved and they did a separate project.

The initiative was student led, so it was really nice to see the dynamics and ideas that different students displayed beyond the classroom environment."



Media Recommendations



Album of the Month: songs by Adrianne Lenker

- Favourite track: my angel

“Cements Adrianne Lenker as one of the best natural songwriters of today”

“Intimate album, focuses on themes of loss, solitude, memory and regret”

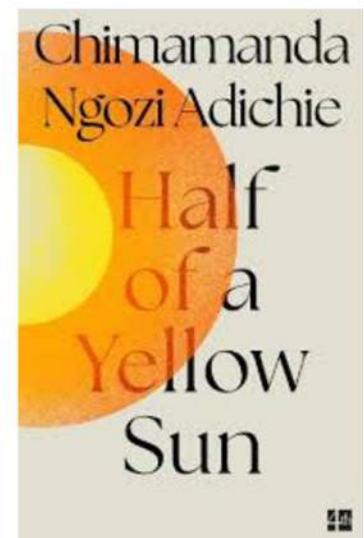
Book of the Month: Half of a Yellow Sun

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun* is a profound exploration of grief, loss, and self-discovery set against the backdrop of the Nigerian Civil War. This literary masterpiece vividly portrays the devastating consequences of the Biafran conflict on its people, unravelling the intertwined lives of its characters with remarkable depth and nuance.

Adichie deftly examines themes of love, identity, politics, and the enduring scars of colonialism, presenting a layered narrative that begins with Nigeria's struggle for independence from British rule. As the nation descends into chaos and war, the novel delves into the emotional and physical toll of living through such a tumultuous time.

Through the perspectives of its three main characters—Olanna, a privileged woman torn between loyalty and heartbreak; Richard, a British expatriate whose fascination with Biafra transforms into devotion; and Ugwu, a young houseboy who grows into a man amidst the horrors of war—Adichie offers a deeply humanized portrayal of the conflict. Each character's journey reflects how war shapes different genders, classes, and identities, making their experiences both personal and universally resonant.

Half of a Yellow Sun is not just a historical novel; it is an evocative and intimate study of resilience, humanity, and the determined will to survive in the face of unimaginable hardship. Adichie's ability to weave personal stories with larger social and political commentary ensures this novel remains an unforgettable and essential reading experience. Book review by Tara



Creativity Spotlight



The Year 13 and Year 12 students had the luxury of experiencing a sculpting class, which not only helped broaden their skill set but also provided a unique and nuanced addition to their UCAS applications.

Their commitment and talent were clearly displayed through the impressive sculptures they produced. This lesson not only offered an opportunity to showcase their abilities but also served as a way to relieve stress.





Exhibitions and enrichment in London

Naomi Campbell V&A

- Closes Sunday 6th April 2025
- V&A South Kensington
- Student ticket £10-12, Adult £16-18

"The first exhibition of its kind exploring the extraordinary career of fashion model Naomi Campbell. Through the work of leading global designers and photographers we celebrate her creative collaborations, activism and far-reaching cultural impact."

Citra Sasmita: Into Eternal Land

- 30th January - 21st April 2025
- Barbican Centre
- Free of charge

Taylor Wessing Photo Portrait Prize

- Closes 16th February
- National Portrait Gallery
- Student £7.65, Adult £8.50

The Devil Wears Prada

- Dominion Theatre
- TodayTix, on the day purchase, far cheaper tickets prices

Sightseeing in Central

- Kew Gardens;

A UNESCO World Heritage site with vibrant botanical displays, tropical glasshouses, and peaceful ponds. Perfect for nature lovers.

- Notting Hill

Known for its pastel-coloured houses, boutique shops, and the famous Portobello Road Market.

- St. Dunstan in the East

Serene hidden garden nestled in the ruins of a medieval church, perfect for a peaceful escape in the city.

- Neal's Yard

A colourful courtyard in Covent Garden, filled with quirky cafes, shops and vibrant decor.

- Little Venice

A picturesque canal area with colourful boats, charming waterside cafes, and scenic walks

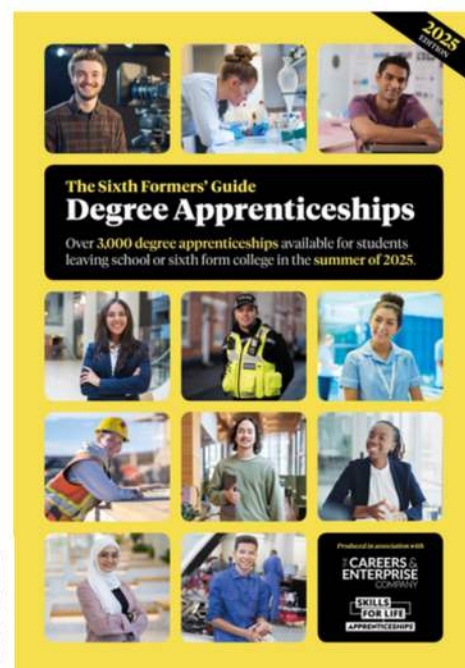
- Kyoto Garden in Holland Park

A tranquil Japanese garden with koi ponds, waterfalls, and landscaped greenery

THE SIXTH FORMERS' GUIDE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

THIS IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS LOOKING TO EXPAND THEIR SKILL SET AND GAIN EXPERIENCE IN THE SUMMER OF 2025!

THIS EXCLUSIVE PROGRAMME OFFERS A MULTITUDE OF APPRENTICESHIPS THAT WILL HELP FUTURE WORKERS BROADEN THEIR EDUCATIONAL HORIZONS. ACCORDING TO THE WEBSITE, STUDENTS WILL GAIN VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE, WORK TOWARDS A DEGREE OR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION, EARN A SALARY WHILE STUDYING, AND AVOID TUITION FEES AND STUDENT DEBT. THIS EXCITING APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY ALL



HISTORY & POLITICS SUMMER COURSE - UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

THE HISTORY AND POLITICS STREAM WILL FOCUS ON THE EVERYDAY ROLE THAT PARLIAMENT PLAYS IN OUR LIVES, LOOKING AT ITS HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS AND THE WAY THAT PARLIAMENT WORKS TODAY. WE WILL EXAMINE HOW HISTORIANS RECONSTRUCT THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT, WHAT THAT HISTORY MIGHT TELL US ABOUT HOW PARLIAMENT FUNCTIONED AS AN INSTITUTION IN THE PAST AND HOW THAT PAST SHAPES THE PRESENT.

WE WILL ENCOURAGE YOU TO CRITICALLY ANALYSE THE FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT, FROM APPGS TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS, AND HOW THEY IMPACT OUR EVERYDAY LIVES AND HOW LEGISLATION IS IMPACTED BY DIFFERENT GROUPS, FROM THINK TANKS TO PRESSURE GROUPS. IN ADDITION TO THE ACADEMICS, THE WEEK WILL FEATURE LECTURES FROM PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE EVERYDAY WORKINGS OF PARLIAMENT, FROM POLICYMAKERS TO MPS.

HISTORY & POLITICS



ACCOUNTING SUMMER COURSE - DURHAM UNIVERSITY 4TH AUGUST - 8TH AUGUST 2025

ON THIS COURSE, STUDENTS WILL GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO WHAT IT IS LIKE TO STUDY ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY. AREAS OF STUDY MAY INCLUDE ACCOUNTING INFORMATION AND THE LEGAL, REGULATORY AND SOCIAL CONTEXT WITHIN WHICH ACCOUNTING OPERATES. THE COURSE IS A GOOD INTRODUCTION FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING A CAREER IN ACCOUNTING OR FINANCE. STUDENTS MAY ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO NETWORK WITH STAFF AND PHD STUDENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT, AS THEY LEAD SAMPLE LECTURES AND SEMINARS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE STUDIED ACCOUNTING PREVIOUSLY TO APPLY TO THE ACCOUNTING STRAND.

ACCOUNTING DURHAM UNIVERSITY



ECS NEWSLETTER



Thank you for reading the February 2025 edition of the ECS Sixth Form Newsletter!

The past few months have been busy, with many events and programmes being run throughout the winter term. This newsletter is designed to compile everything that we are doing as a sixth form into a short and easy read, along with some other interesting segments that you may find useful!

In the coming months, the media team hopes to make the newsletter more interactive, hopefully hosting photography competitions each month, and continuously celebrating student achievements. Feel free to speak to us if you have any ideas for a section in next month's edition; anything is helpful, and we always welcome new ideas!

Thank you for reading.

The Media Team (Rawan, Tara, Isabella, and Cass)

We want to hear from you!

If you have a story to share please get in touch with the media team.

If you know someone who would speak to Y12 about their career we would love to host them over Zoom.

FROSTY MORNING

