

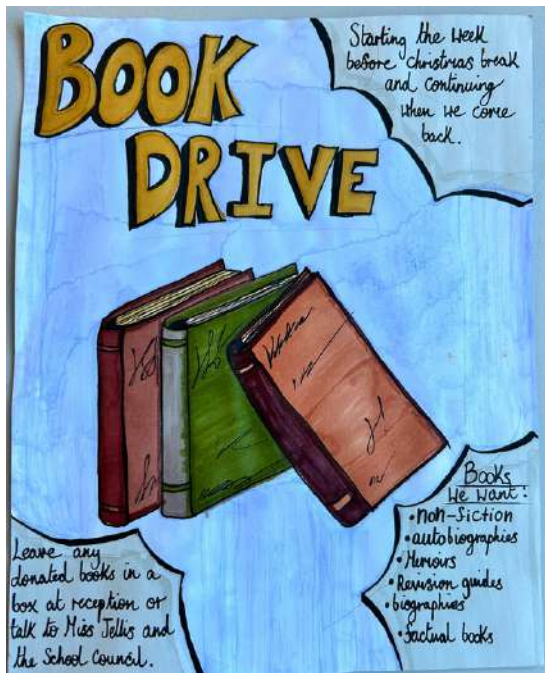
AUTUMN EDITION

DECEMBER 2023

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

At Harefield School, we are keen to offer as many opportunities to our students as possible. An example of this is the introduction of Harefield's School Council. We have representatives from each year group who will work together to help support students and staff and provide a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions that impact them. The school council's first project will be to support the relaunch of our school library. The school council is made up of:

- Jason N
- Julia G
- Amari O
- Brigitte T
- Sabine M
- William W
- Katie J
- Cici T
- Sadie M
- Isabella O
- Farrah B
- Jason A



The School Council would like to ask for book donations to help support our relaunch of the library. We are keen for any donations of non-fiction books including: autobiographies, biographies and revision guides. Please donate books to reception where they will be sorted ready for their new home!

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I would like to say how incredible this term has been at Harefield School. The student's keenness to learn is amazing. I particularly love the sense of community within the school and how, even though we continue to grow we maintain that uniqueness. I would like to wish you all a peaceful and safe Christmas break and a wonderful New Year.

Best wishes  
Ms Boyle

## HAREFIELD SCHOOL VALUES

As part of our transition from The Harefield Academy to Harefield School, we have refined our school values to now focus on:

Responsibility  
Compassion  
Respect  
Honesty

These are all qualities we look for in our students and staff in all aspects of Harefield life and areas that students will be receiving merits for when they are demonstrated.

# BREAKFAST CLUB



We have had over 60 pupils per day enjoy a free breakfast before school. Every morning, all year groups have helped themselves to bagels and cereal. Mr Fish would personally, like to thank all the members of staff who have donated their contributions to the Club and especially to Mr Bourne, Mrs Pitman, Mrs Ral, Mr Regan, Miss Jellis and Mrs Sweeney who regularly help him spread our vast array of bagels!

We are also supported by two 6th formers; Wilson F and Jason A, thank you. The Breakfast Club will continue each morning from 8.00am - 8.25am in the canteen. Come and join us for the best way to kickstart the day and the best part is; it is absolutely free for everyone!

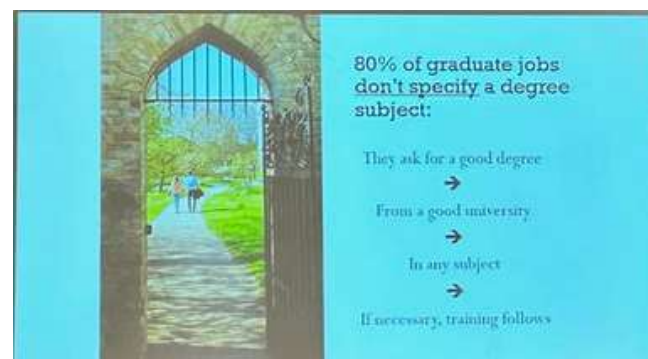


# YEAR 10 CAREERS EVENT

In our drive to raise aspirations for all our students, our year 10 students had a visit from Cambridge university. There was a talk on what courses are available at university; what skills are required, different pathways both before and after university as well as realistic jobs available after university.

Students were then free to ask any questions they had. It seems many of year 10 were concerned about food and accommodation but they also asked lots of questions which were personal to them.

Maya stated that 'I think that the Cambridge visit motivated me and drove me to realise that a Russell Group university is achievable for me'.



# EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

We are delighted that we have a vast range of extra curricular clubs on offer to all students this term at Harefield School.

We currently offer opportunities for students to take part in: Chess, Drama, Robotics, Art, DT, Netball, Football, Trampolining, Gym, in addition to Homework and various intervention classes for students in year 11.

Students of all year groups have been keen to showcase their talent in sports which has been enabled by our PE extensive programme which offers enriching opportunities across many different sporting areas such as trampolining, football and netball.

A new year means a new opportunity for all students to gain a place in the highly contested sport teams. This year we saw what could be record numbers turn out for the Yr7&8 football and netball trials. Mr Brown and Mr Ball had the tough task of selecting 6 squads from all the students that attended.



On Monday 26th November 2023, our girls football team won their first game of the season by beating Queensmead 5 goals to 1.

Goal scorers were Nadia M (8B) with a hat-trick and Maria D (7C) with two goals.

The Year 7 and 8 netball teams got to experience their first games of the season on Wednesday 13th December. We are proud of how they played in their first match and we are looking forward to future success.

# EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Below is a copy of our current extra curricular timetable. This is on our website and will be updated regularly with any changes.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Break 1/ 2</b>		KS3 Art club 11-11.25	GCSE Art- 1.30- 2.00		KS3 Art club 11-11.25
<b>After School</b>	Homework club 3-3.30	Homework club 3-3.30	Homework club 3-3.30	Homework club 3-3.30	DT
	Trampolining (all year groups)		Drama club Theatre	Chess club 3.15- 4	Geography intervention- year 11
	English intervention - invite only (year 11)		Sociology intervention- invite only (year 11)	Netball (years 7/ 8)	
	Robotics STEM club- (years 8-11 only)		Football (years 7/8)	Football (years 9- 11)	
			Maths intervention- invite only (year 11)		
			History intervention- invite only (year 11)		

## YEAR 11 INTERVENTION

In addition to the after school small group tuition we offer the year 11s, since October, they have been given the opportunity to receive additional intervention in Science, English and Maths during tutor time.

The entire year group are together in the circle room where the sessions are delivered. The students have worked very hard during these sessions which focus on common mistakes in exams and we are looking forward to seeing the results of this hard working in their mocks.

These sessions will continue in the new year to help build on lessons learnt in the December mocks.



# EXPEDITIONARY RANGER COMPANY

I am delighted to announce that Harefield School has now successfully launched the Expeditionary Ranger Company. Led by Chief Rangers Mr Hague and Mr Bourne (Lowland Expedition Leaders). This Ranger Company is the first of its kind in the UK, incorporating aspects from the Army Cadet Forces, the Outward Bound Trust and the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme.

Our motto was given to me by the Outward Bound Trust in 2022 whilst leading CCF Army cadets climbing mount Tarrenhendre in North Wales on a wild camping expedition. This motto inspires this new movement:

"To Serve, To Strive and not To Yield," from the poem "Ulysses" by Alfred Lord Tennyson:  
Come, my friends.

Tis not too late to seek a newer world.

Though much is taken, much abides; and though

We are not now that strength which in old days

Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are --

One equal temper of heroic hearts,

Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will

To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.



Sixteen Y7-11 Ranger recruits have joined of which 8 have now confirmed participation in Ranger Exercise - Dark Peak from 17-19 July 2024 in the Peak District National Park with Adventure Expeditions operating as our expert (Mountain Leader) providers. This will be a summer camp where rangers will take part in weaseling, mountaineering, river scrambling and canoeing. The focus of the Ranger Company is to develop leadership, team work & communication skills using outdoor adventurous training and expeditions as the vehicle for accelerated Personal Development. We also try to imbue the values of the British Army into the Ranger development programme:

Courage, Discipline, Respect for Others, Integrity, Loyalty and Selfless Commitment. These values link closely to those of the Harefield School- Responsibility, compassion, respect and honesty.

We are planning an exciting programme of events (Spring of 2024) to prepare ranger recruits for the summer camp including:

- Go Ape high rope course
- Forest paintball battle
- River Thames water based adventurous training
- Hill trekking - learning to navigate using map & compass.

We aim to open another recruitment window in the summer of 2024 in preparation for the 2024-2025 campaign, so keep your eyes peeled and your ears to the ground.

# HOMWORK

At the Harefield School, we are focusing on pushing all students to achieve their personal best. As part of this, students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning both in and out of the classroom.

The Education Endowment Foundation toolkit shows that completing good quality homework helps students make 5 months extra progress within a year.

## Practicalities of homework at Harefield:

While believing in the value of regular homework, we also recognise that students may have other demands on their time during the week. As such, students will always be given a reasonable amount of time to complete homework.

Staff may utilise a variety of resources and website when setting homework. However, this will always be set on class charts. This helps students to stay organised, and parents can also access this to check what has been set.

Key Stage 3					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week one	Science	Geography	Art	English	Maths
		Food			
Week two	Science	History	D&T	English	Maths

Year 10				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option Blocks A and B	Option Blocks C and D	English	Science	Maths

Year 11				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Option Blocks A and C	Option Blocks B and D	English	Maths

Year 12				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BTEC Sport	Sociology	BTEC Sport	Business	
Business		Geography	Sociology	

Year 13				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sociology	Geography	Sociology	BTEC Sport	
Business	BTEC Sport	Business	Geography	

# ART PROJECT

The Harefield School has recently completed an art collaboration with the Harefield Hospital to celebrate the work they do for complex cases of heart and lung diseases while celebrating disability month. All year 7 and 8 completed a collective artwork made out of individual art pieces that is now in permanent display at the hospital.

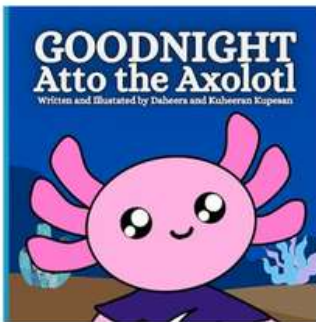
This initiative aims to engage young artists in creating artwork that embodies the themes of hearts, lungs, and disability. By collaboratively contributing to this project, the students will not only learn, but will inspire and uplift patients, families, and staff at the hospitals with their work.

Follow the link below to learn more about the project and see some of our students showcase their art work:

<https://vimeo.com/890793989/006ccaadc7?share=copy>



## PUBLISHING SUCCESS



One of our year seven students, Kuheeran, has recently written, illustrated and published his own book which is available to buy on Amazon.

There are already plans for a second book- Atto the Axolotl goes to school.

A year ten student, Mia, entered a short story writing competition and recently received the news that her story will be published. She has plans to enter more competitions in the new year as part of her end goal to get her first novel from her trilogy in shops around the country.



### THE GHOST OF OLD MAN KERCH

"He walked into the room, looking for unsuspecting campers to snatch." I leaned forward towards the campers sitting around the dying campfire, torch under my chin. They jumped backwards and I continued, "His footsteps echoed on the cold, hard floor." One of the counsellors snapped a branch. "The campers were all asleep, except one, little Timmy was in the bathroom, brushing his teeth. Old man Kerch knew, he stalked closer to the toilet, knocking lightly, "Just a minute." Kerch smiled wickedly and stood back in the shadows. Poor, unsuspecting little Timmy didn't know that the ghost of the drowned man Kerch, the grey man, the white wringer, was waiting for him." The campers waited, they all knew this ghost story, but not my one.

"Little Timmy exited the bathroom. "I'm done now," he whispered, as he went to his bunk. He didn't see old man Kerch pull out his axe or his rope, Kerch rushed forward, making no sound as he grabbed Timmy and pulled him back out of the door and into the night." I stopped; the camper's eyes were wide.

"But that wasn't the end of Timmy's story, he came back, with a gaping wound on his forearm from where the axe had struck him again and again. He decided to stay at the camp, protecting young campers from the wrath of old man Kerch." As I said the last words I lifted my arm, showing them my scar that I had earned from the ghost years ago.

Mia Bolton (14)

# YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY TRIP



Early September saw the first two trips out, the Year 11 Geography students spent one day in Swanage, Dorset and one day in Stratford, East London. They were completing the field work element of the Geography GCSE. At Swanage they assessed the efficiency of the coastal management schemes and the impacts of tourism on the small town. We were lucky with the weather and managed to paddle our feet too!

The redevelopment of Stratford was the focus of the second day, how successful it has been. Students found talking to the local residents really helpful in this matter.



# SILENT MINDS

On Tuesday 31st October, we welcomed the Silent Mind Theatre Community Project. Silent Minds are a community-led arts organisation who are keen to empower young people through the arts. Both KS3 and KS4 were able to watch a performance exploring mental health barriers followed by a workshop which supported students in how to meditate and explore other coping strategies.



# DANCING WINS



Casey in year 7 has competed in 11 dance competitions this year. She has had three wins and six second places. As a result of this success, she has now moved up to Premier Champ which is one of the highest grades in dance.





