

Hurstmere News

21st December 2023

Edition 13

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Pupils,

As the festive season approaches and we prepare to bid farewell to an eventful term, I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to you in this Christmas edition of our half-termly newsletter. Reflecting on the past few months, it is heartening to see how our school community has thrived, and how kindness and compassion has been embodied in our work.

The term has been a whirlwind of activities and achievements, with each year group contributing uniquely to our vibrant school life. For example:

The Year 7 Christmas Concert was a roaring success, showcasing our pupils' burgeoning talents and festive spirit. The concert not only brought joy to our audience, but also highlighted the dedication and hard work of our pupils and staff. The Year 8s took the initiative in leading a food bank collection for the local community, which is a testament to our commitment to extend kindness beyond our school gates. Their efforts in helping those in need during these challenging times have been nothing short of inspiring.

Our Year 9 pupils had the privilege of hearing from a Holocaust survivor, an experience that undoubtedly left an indelible mark on their understanding of history and humanity. This poignant encounter served as a vital educational opportunity, enriching their perspectives and empathy.

The Year 10s' engagement with the production of "A Christmas Carol" complemented their English Literature studies splendidly, offering a dynamic and immersive approach to understanding this classic work.

For our Year 11s, the receipt of their pre-public examination results marks a significant milestone in their academic journey. It is completely natural to feel a range of emotions about them, whether that is joy, disappointment, frustration, or uncertainty about what lies ahead. But I want our Year 11s to know that these feelings are not an endpoint; they are merely a stepping stone on their journey. The PPE exams are not just a test of what you know; they are an opportunity to learn about how to approach challenges, manage time, and handle pressure. They are a critical part of the learning process, providing valuable insights into where improvements can be made and how best to prepare for the final exams. My personal message to our Year 11s is:

Remember, success is not defined by never failing but by rising every time we fall. The courage and resilience you show now in the face of these challenges are the true indicators of your potential and character. This is a chance to reflect, regroup, and redirect your efforts with more focus and determination. Your teachers and I are here to support you every step of the way. We believe in each one of you and your abilities to succeed. Use this experience as a catalyst for growth and remember that your potential is not limited by a set of PPE exam results. We are proud of you and your resilience, and we look forward to seeing all that you will achieve.

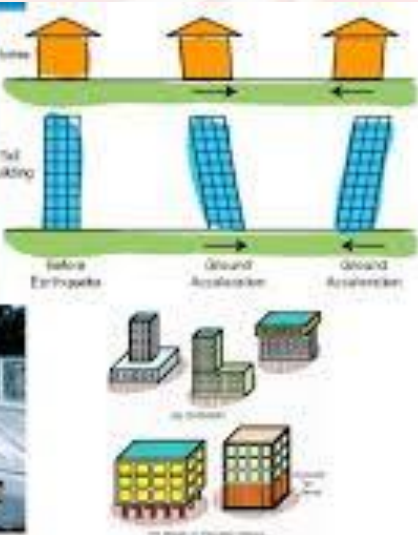
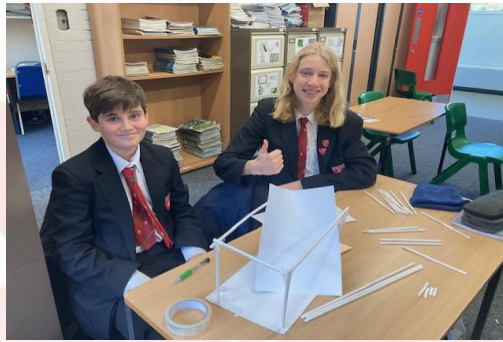
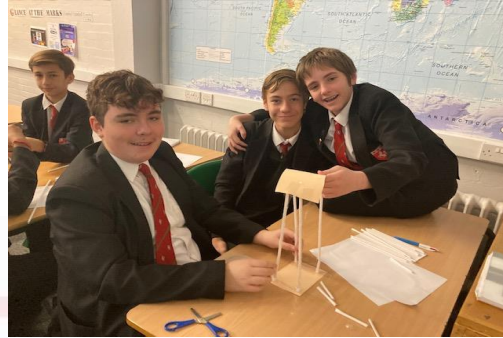
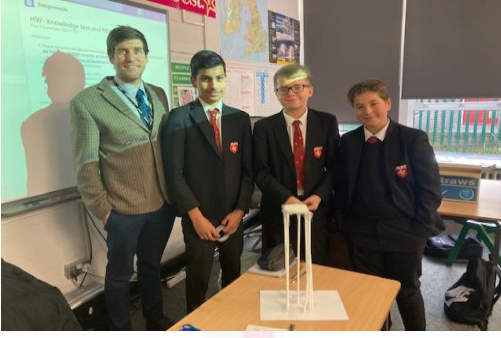
I would also like to take this opportunity to bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Anand, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Ogueh-Etan, and Mrs. Owusu Taylor, who are moving on to new schools in January. I thank them for their contributions to our school and wish them all the best in their new roles. We also say goodbye to Mrs. Gray and we wish her a joyful and fulfilling retirement.

As we look towards the holiday season and the new year, I extend my heartfelt wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May this time be filled with joy, peace, and cherished moments with loved ones.

With my very best wishes,

Lynn Bennett
Principal

Take a sneak peek into our classrooms...

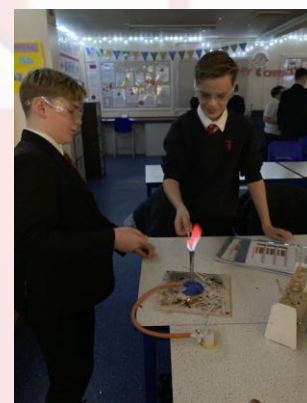
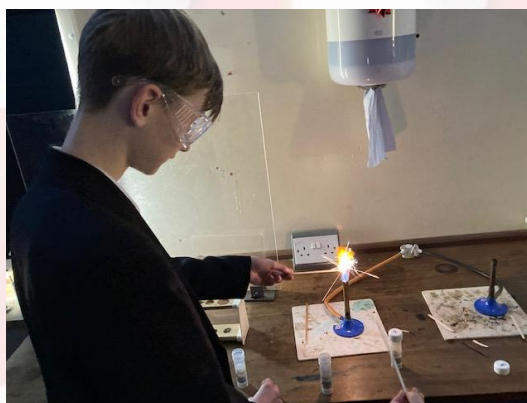


Year 9 Geography: In our ongoing efforts to explore solutions for mitigating the effects of tectonic hazards like earthquakes, Year 9 pupils have embarked on an innovative project. They have been diligently designing and constructing their own models of earthquake-resistant buildings. These structures were rigorously tested through the application of weights and simulated shaking to evaluate their durability and resilience. This exercise not only tested the buildings' integrity, but also helped identify which teams possess the potential to become the future's promising structural engineers.

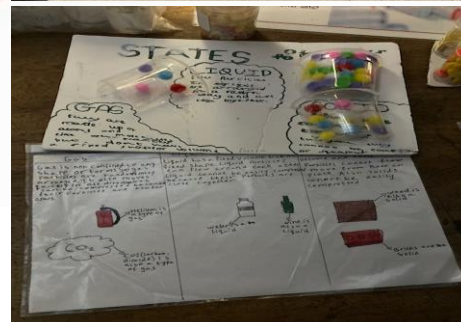


Take a sneak peek into our classrooms...

Year 8 Science: Pupils recently engaged in a captivating science practical, delving into the world of flame tests. This hands-on experiment provided them with a vivid demonstration of how different elements emit distinct colours when heated, an essential principle in chemical analysis. Through these tests, the pupils gained a deeper understanding of the unique spectral signatures of various substances, highlighting the significance of flame tests in identifying elements. This practical session not only enriched their scientific knowledge but also sparked their curiosity in the fascinating field of Chemistry.



Year 10 Science: In a recent interactive lesson, our Year 10 pupils demonstrated their understanding of the states of matter by creating models of solids, liquids, and gases. This engaging activity was designed to reinforce their knowledge of the fundamental properties of these states. By linking their models to the concepts of heating and cooling curves, the pupils were able to visualise and better comprehend how substances transition between these states under different temperature conditions. This hands-on approach not only solidified their grasp of theoretical concepts, but also provided a practical perspective on the dynamic nature of matter, enhancing their overall learning experience in the fascinating field of physics.

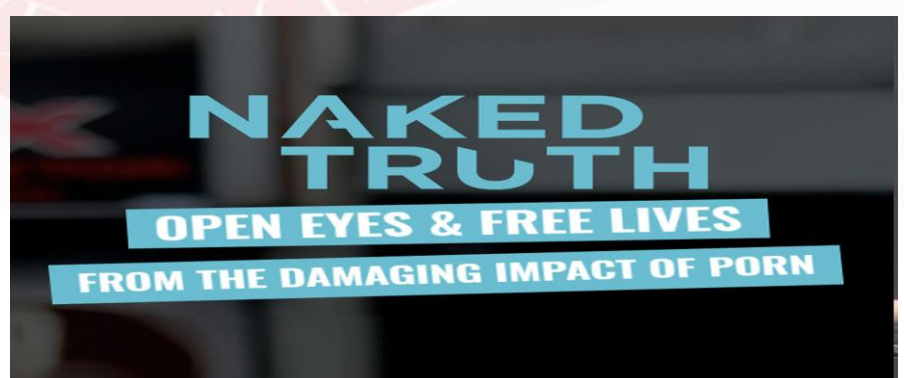


Take a sneak peek into our classrooms...

Year 7 French: Our Year 7 pupils recently engaged in an exciting game of 'Trapdoor' as part of their preparation for their key piece assessment. This interactive and fun activity was specifically designed to enhance their speaking skills. In the game, pupils practised articulating their thoughts and ideas clearly and confidently, a crucial skill for their oral examination. 'Trapdoor' not only provided a supportive environment for practising spoken language, but also encouraged camaraderie and a bit of healthy competition among the pupils. This innovative approach to learning has proven to be an enjoyable and effective way to bolster their communication abilities, setting them up for success in their assessments.



Year 9 PSHE: In a recent interactive assembly, Year 9 had the privilege of welcoming Mr. Owain Jenkins from the Naked Truth Project. During this session, they engaged in a vital discussion about the potential harm caused by pornography. The Naked Truth Project, a renowned charity, is dedicated to transforming minds and lives through its commitment to raising awareness, providing education, and facilitating recovery programs. This visit offered our pupils an invaluable opportunity to gain insight into this important issue, fostering a deeper understanding and awareness that aligns with our commitment to holistic education.



Take a sneak peek into our classrooms...

Year 11 Hospitality and Catering: Our Year 11 pupils recently showcased their culinary talents in the practical exam for their Hospitality and Catering course. This challenging exam required them to design, cook, present, and critically evaluate their own dishes, encapsulating the essence of creative and technical skill in the culinary arts. Each pupil demonstrated exceptional dedication and creativity, preparing dishes that were not only visually appealing, but also gastronomically delightful. Their ability to critically assess their work further highlighted their understanding of the intricate balance between flavour, presentation, and nutritional value.



Bon
Appétit



Honours Programme: Year 7 and Year 8

[Honours Programme 2023/24 - Timetable](#)



This term, as part of the Honours Programme, our Year 7 pupils have been actively engaged in a series of enriching sessions. In English, they delved into the realm of Dystopian literature, exploring its unique themes and styles. In Computing, they embarked on an exploration of Microbits, gaining hands-on experience with this innovative technology. Additionally, in Art, they honed their skills through the intricate technique of block printing.

Meanwhile, the Year 8 pupils participated in an intriguing Psychology session focused on morals and ethics, particularly in the context of conducting research involving human subjects. This session provided them with a deeper understanding of the ethical considerations and responsibilities inherent in psychological research.



Integrating the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)

The revival of our STEM club this term has been a tremendous success! Throughout the past six weeks, pupils from Years 7 to 10 have embarked on an educational journey, exploring and validating the mathematics underlying various STEM concepts. They have delved into topics such as nutrition, analysing what constitutes a well-balanced diet; the mathematical and logical design of spacecraft; the principles of special mathematical numbers; and the intricate calculations involved in popular Olympic sports.

Additionally, our pupils have thoroughly investigated the diverse career paths offered by science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Many have been astonished by the plethora of opportunities available within STEM fields. We might just be nurturing the next creator of a groundbreaking mobile app, a pioneering nuclear engineer, or a 'human calculator' who could embark on an expedition to discover a new planet. The possibilities are endless!

We eagerly anticipate the continued enthusiasm and participation of our pupils in STEM activities next term, especially within the Science department. The future looks bright with such promising young minds exploring the vast expanse of STEM possibilities.



Wider Learning Opportunities: A Visit From A Holocaust Survivor



On 15th December, 200 pupils from Year 9 heard a testimony from Holocaust survivor, Ivan Shaw, as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust and Mr Page. The testimony was followed by a question and answer session which enabled the pupils to better understand the nature of the Holocaust, and to explore its lessons in more depth. The visit was part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's extensive all-year-round Outreach Programme.

Karen Pollock CBE, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust, added: "The Holocaust Educational Trust educates and engages pupils from across the UK, from all communities about the Holocaust and there can be no better way than through the first-hand testimony of a survivor. Ivan Shaw's story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances and by hearing his testimony, pupils will have the opportunity to learn where prejudice and racism can ultimately lead. At the Trust, we impart the history of the Holocaust to young people, to ensure that we honour the memory of those whose lives were lost and take forward the lessons taught by those who survived."

Wider learning opportunities: End2End TV



Proudly sharing some photos of four of the Y9 Hurstmere Media Team [and end2end TV Crew] from their trip to Bexley Grammar School recently. They helped set up a temporary Studio and instructed groups of Bexley Grammar pupils on the cameras and sound equipment, during their filming day for the [Through Our Eyes](#) Heritage Project. From beginning to end, they were tremendous ambassadors for Hurstmere and e2e – we couldn't be prouder of them!

Memphis managed the floor in the Studio, conquered the autocue and organised the presenters superbly. Andrew took some fabulous still images (hence not being in many of them!) and all of them supported learning incredibly well. The BGS students had a brilliant time – loved experiencing the equipment and seeing how TV was produced – including mixing sound and vision live in OBU!

A super well done to the boys and a thank you to Hurstmere for supporting this incredible project. The footage is looking amazing!



Wider learning opportunities: A Christmas Carol Theatre Production



There was no Bah! Humbug! on Monday morning as Year 10 settled down to some Christmassy entertainment by Quantum Theatre Company, who performed the GCSE set text **A Christmas Carol** by **Charles Dickens** in superb style.

With quick changes, seasonal singing and great performances, the story unfolded before us.

Year 10 were an appreciative audience and hopefully will remember a few lines for their upcoming Key Pieces!



Wider learning opportunities in Personal Development

Year 7 PSHE: This term, our Year 7 pupils, during their PSHE lessons, are deepening their understanding of social issues by researching various charities. As part of their curriculum, they will be developing and presenting a class project in the final term.

The group that Mrs Lambert oversees has selected 'The Mizen Foundation' for their project. We recently had the honour of hosting Barry Mizen, the Chairman of the Foundation. Barry is the father of Jimmy Mizen, whose life was tragically cut short in an unprovoked attack the day after his 16th birthday. This senseless act of violence deeply affected the community, bringing unimaginable grief to his family and friends.

The Mizen Foundation's primary goal is to establish the safest possible environments for young people. Their mission encompasses three key areas: fostering personal responsibility, strengthening community ties, and creating accessible, safe spaces for youth facing challenges. This visit offered our pupils a unique perspective on the impact of such initiatives and the importance of community involvement in social change.



Year 9 RSE: The Little Fish Theatre Company recently graced our Year 9 pupils with a performance of their latest school theatre production and workshop, titled 'Cancelled'. This engaging show serves as an innovative approach to educating pupils about Relationship and Sex Education, specifically focusing on the legal aspects of images and consent. Beyond the conventional classroom setting, 'Cancelled' provides a platform for pupils to understand and discuss these critical issues within the context of real-life scenarios, offering a dynamic and impactful learning experience about the consequences and importance of informed consent and respectful relationships.





Our last newsletter featured Elevate Education presenting a workshop to our pupils regarding how to prepare for their Pre-public Examinations, here's what the boys had to say...

What is the most important thing you learned from the workshop?

I think that practice papers are the most important revision technique.
Isaac

I think the more past papers you can do, the better it is for you. This is because you become more familiar with the terminology used.
Liam

I thought the workshop was very informative. I picked up some good revision techniques.
Jack

I learnt a strategy for how to manage my time, which is a problem for me, so I will definitely use it moving forward.
Joe

I need to relax and not stress, so it was good to learn how to try and stay calm, but focused.
Joe

How would you rate the overall workshop?

Very helpful and informative. Good ideas for revising effectively.
Joe

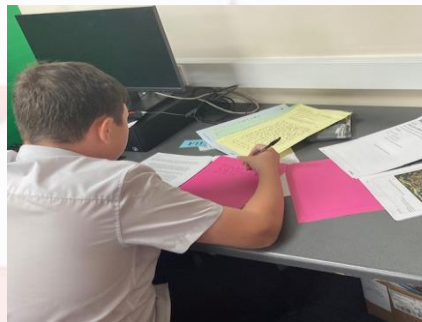
Pretty good. I gained some useful tips, which made perfect sense. The presenter was good.
Oliver

Really useful- the presenter described in detail how to plan, study and prepare for exams.
Johnny

Very useful for revision, overall interesting and helpful.
William

Year 11 PPE Exams and Results Day

As part of our commitment to preparing our Year 11 pupils for their upcoming final exams, we organised a series of PPE examinations. These PPE exams serve a crucial role in the educational journey of our pupils. They are designed to provide a realistic preview of the exam conditions, helping pupils acclimatise to the timing, pressure, and atmosphere of the actual exams. Furthermore, the PPE exams are an invaluable tool for both pupils and teachers to identify areas of strength and those requiring further improvement. This process enables targeted revision and support, ensuring that our pupils are as prepared and confident as possible for their final examinations. PPE exams are not just about assessing knowledge; they are a key part of our strategy to enhance learning, reduce exam anxiety, and maximise academic success.



Our Year 11 pupils recently received their PPE results, a significant milestone in their academic journey. This moment marks more than just the culmination of their hard work; it provides invaluable insights into their current academic standing and areas for improvement. Receiving these results is a critical opportunity for pupils to reflect on their performance, identify specific areas where they can enhance their understanding, and fine-tune their study strategies. It is an important step in their preparation for the final exams, offering a chance to celebrate their successes and constructively address any challenges. This feedback is instrumental in guiding them through the next phase of their revision, helping them to focus their efforts where it is most needed and ensuring they are fully prepared for the challenges ahead. Well done, Year 11s... keep up the good work!



Wider Learning Opportunities: Skills Event at the London Excel Centre



This is one of the UK's largest jobs and careers events, connecting young people with potential employers, education and skills providers to give practical advice and information. Year 11s visited a vast number of exhibitors representing a diverse range of sectors including digital & creative, engineering & construction, hospitality & visitor economy, education & skills.

This was a valuable experience for our pupils who were interested in exploring their Post-16 options.

Coming together as a community: Armistice Day

Armistice Day, a poignant time for reflection and gratitude, presented a significant opportunity for our school to come together in commemoration. Holding a school-wide assembly on this day served as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by service members past and present. Additionally, the school supported the Poppy Appeal, educating pupils on the symbol of the red poppy and encouraging them to wear poppies as a mark of respect. This collective observance not only honoured those who served, but also instilled a sense of unity and historical awareness among the pupils, fostering a deeper understanding of the significance of Armistice Day.



"I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who gave generously. It might seem like a small gesture, but by buying a poppy, you've helped to say 'thank you' to the brave men and women who give so much for our country." Poppy Appeal Rep.

Wider learning opportunities: Year 9 Trip to the London Stadium – Green Careers



On Thursday 2nd November a group of our Year 9 pupils visited the London Stadium to participate in a Green Careers Event. They had a great day joining in the activities and speaking with professionals working in the sustainability sector including finance, food, conservation, consultancy, energy and biotechnology.



What the boys had to say about the trip...



I really enjoyed the Green Careers Fair, it was made interesting as there were activities set up for us to participate in. I really enjoyed talking to professionals and learning about conserving energy, developing alternative energy, reducing pollution, and recycling. We all need to work together to look after our world. Alex S



Leadership Opportunities: C4L Festival



This term, Hurstmere's dedicated Sports Leaders, ranging from Year 8 to Year 11, have impressively organised and executed five School Games Events. In total, they have committed 13 hours to volunteering, a testament to their commitment and enthusiasm. These events welcomed 23 primary schools to Hurstmere, where our leaders skillfully managed physical activities and sports competitions for over 310 children from Years 3 to 6.



At each event, the Hurstmere boys exemplified the school's RTRAILS values, serving as exemplary role models to the younger children they interacted with. The school is immensely proud of how our sports leaders have conducted themselves. Their selfless dedication to creating opportunities for other children is truly commendable. A heartfelt well done to all involved for their outstanding contribution and for upholding the spirit of Hurstmere with such distinction!



Tenpin Bowling



A group of Hurstmere boys attended the Bexley School Games Tenpin event which was organised in partnership with the Panathlon Association. Our 2 teams competed against 5 other Bexley Schools, and we are so proud that one of our teams were crowned Bexley Tenpin Champions. Additionally, one pupil also received an individual award for the highest score. Well done, boys!



Musical Excellence at the Royal Albert Hall

Two young rappers took the Royal Albert Hall by storm on the 14th November as part of the Music for Youth annual show. Alex C and Micah A performed their rap about what it is like to grow up in the Bexleyheath area, with band members Max, Will, Rhys and Charlie. The boys said in an interview, "Bexleyheath is a typical place where people hang out, it looks a little run down, but we love it! Writing lyrics helps us to express ourselves and talk about how we are feeling. We can also create made up stories within our songs as well, which we really like."

Organisers of the annual show said this is the biggest Music for Youth Proms ever, with more than 3,000 young musicians from across the UK taking to the iconic stage in South Kensington. Ahead of their performance Alex and Micah said they were nervous and excited, but also "quietly confident". They said: "Music makes you feel free where all the stresses in the world disappear. It can give you a rush of adrenaline or completely relax you depending on the genre you're listening to. For us, rapping helps us to communicate our ideas more directly than singing or speaking."

The young musicians have grown in confidence since they started rapping two years ago. What an impressive achievement- well done, boys! Thank you to Mr Gilbert and Mr Monks for all their hard work and support.



[Read the Article >](#)

[londonnewsonline.co.uk.two-young-rappers-take-royal-albert-hall-by-storm-in-thank-you-note-to-music-teachers.hurstmere](https://www.londonnewsonline.co.uk/two-young-rappers-take-royal-albert-hall-by-storm-in-thank-you-note-to-music-teachers-hurstmere)

Celebrating our pupils' achievements: Prize Giving

On Thursday 5th October, we celebrated the academic achievements of 2022/2023 by hosting our annual Prize Giving Evening.

Mrs Bennett opened the evening by welcoming and praising the pupils for their achievements during the preceding academic year. We were delighted to welcome back Mr Jamie Moreland as our guest speaker. Mr Moreland is an ex-pupil of Hurstmere and he spoke fondly of his time at the school and the memories he had made. He also spoke about life after Hurstmere and his career as a BBC journalist. His speech was inspirational to all who attended including pupils, their parents and the staff.

In addition to the prizes awarded to our current pupils, we also welcomed back some of our Summer 2023 leavers to receive awards for which they were nominated by both the subject areas and the school.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended the evening and praise all the winners on the successes they achieved during 2022/2023 and hope that they continue to 'Believe and Achieve' and be the best that they can be!

We would also like to offer our thanks to Mr Moreland for freely giving his time and for his excellent speech.



And the Principal Reward goes to...

Well Done to our pupils who were awarded a Principal Award w/e 3.11.23
Keep up the good work!



Year 7 - Albie L, Cass W, Frankie B and Harrison F

Year 8 - Louie S, Harry J, Samuel G, Charlie A and Callum O

Year 9 - Seb D



Well Done to our pupils who were awarded a Principal Award
w/e 10.11.23 and w/e 17.11.23
Keep up the good work!



Year 7 – Alex C, Tony G, Jacob B, Tom B, Jack C, Kevin G, Tom W, Leo B

Year 8 – Harry P, Zac C, Kenzo K, George L, James C, Jacob F, William T

Year 9 – Jack K, Joseph P, Bobby L, Finn L, Daniel K



And the Principal Reward goes to...

Well Done to our pupils who were awarded a Principal Award w/e 24.11.23, w/e 1.12.23, w/e 8.12.23 and w/e 15.12.23

Keep up the good work!



Hurstmere's Christmas Card Competition 2023



In October, all lower school artists were set the challenge of designing an official Christmas card for Hurstmere. Pupils were able to work in any media of their choice, decide on suitably seasonal subject matter, and be as creative as possible in their technique and style. This proved to be an incredibly popular competition, and the Art Department was inundated with entries! Congratulations to Harry Baker in Year 8, whose design was selected as the overall winner. Harry won a first prize of Art equipment and vouchers.

The following pupils were runners up and received Art reward badges and Principal Reward Vouchers for their brilliant designs:

Year 7

Arthur Saunders, Oliver MacDonald, Ollie Keeble, Tom Wells

Year 8

Lewis King, Jayden Wells, Corey Cunningham, Ollie Wicks, Henry George, Lucas Normile

The first prize winner and all the runners up have also earned credits towards Hurstmere's exciting new Arts tie award scheme!

Year 7 Carol Service At Holy Trinity Church

In our latest heartwarming community event, Year 7 pupils beautifully showcased their musical talents at the annual carol service held at Holy Trinity Church. It was a resounding success, filled with a festive atmosphere and the spirit of togetherness. The service not only celebrated the festive season, but also demonstrated the hard work and dedication of our pupils and music staff.



Thank You from the 'Joy At Christmas Appeal'

Once again, we are profoundly grateful for the outpouring of generosity demonstrated through your contributions to our 'Joy this Christmas Appeal.' Your kindness will make a significant impact on those in our local community who might otherwise face a less festive season. Thanks to your donations, we can ensure that the spirit of giving and warmth reaches those who need it most during this special time of year. Your support truly embodies the essence of community spirit and the joy of Christmas.



Showcasing talent: Year 7 Christmas Concert 2023



The Year 7 Christmas Concert was a resounding success, marking a festive highlight in our school calendar. Our talented Year 7 pupils took to the stage with confidence and enthusiasm, delivering a captivating performance that showcased their musical skills. The repertoire included a mix of classic carols and modern festive songs, all performed with a vibrant energy that kept the audience engaged and filled with holiday cheer. The overwhelming positive feedback from parents and staff has been a testament to the event's success. This concert not only celebrated the festive season but also highlighted the blossoming talents of our Year 7 pupils, making it a truly memorable evening.



Hurstmere's Christmas Dinner 2023



Our school's Christmas dinner was a delightful celebration, brimming with festive cheer and a sense of community. The Christmas dinner, a beloved tradition in our school, once again proved to be a heartwarming and inclusive event.



'Thank You' from 8 Caxton Y



Mr Watson and his tutor group would like to thank everyone who kindly donated to their annual 'Food Bank' collection. All donations went to The New Community Church in Sidcup.

Thank You

At first glance, Year 8 Caxton Y may seem like any other form group at Hurstmere School, but a few weeks before the Christmas holidays, we do something very special and very important. We bring in food products, including long-life foods like rice and pasta, to be donated to the food bank at New Community Church in Sidcup. As you will almost certainly know, we are suffering from a cost-of-living crisis where hundreds of people are being forced into poverty and must rely on food banks. By bringing just a few tins, we could be saving someone from starvation. Doing things like this and helping people and the community is part of the reason why I am proud to say that I am a Hurstmere pupil.
Jacob F (8 Caxton Y)

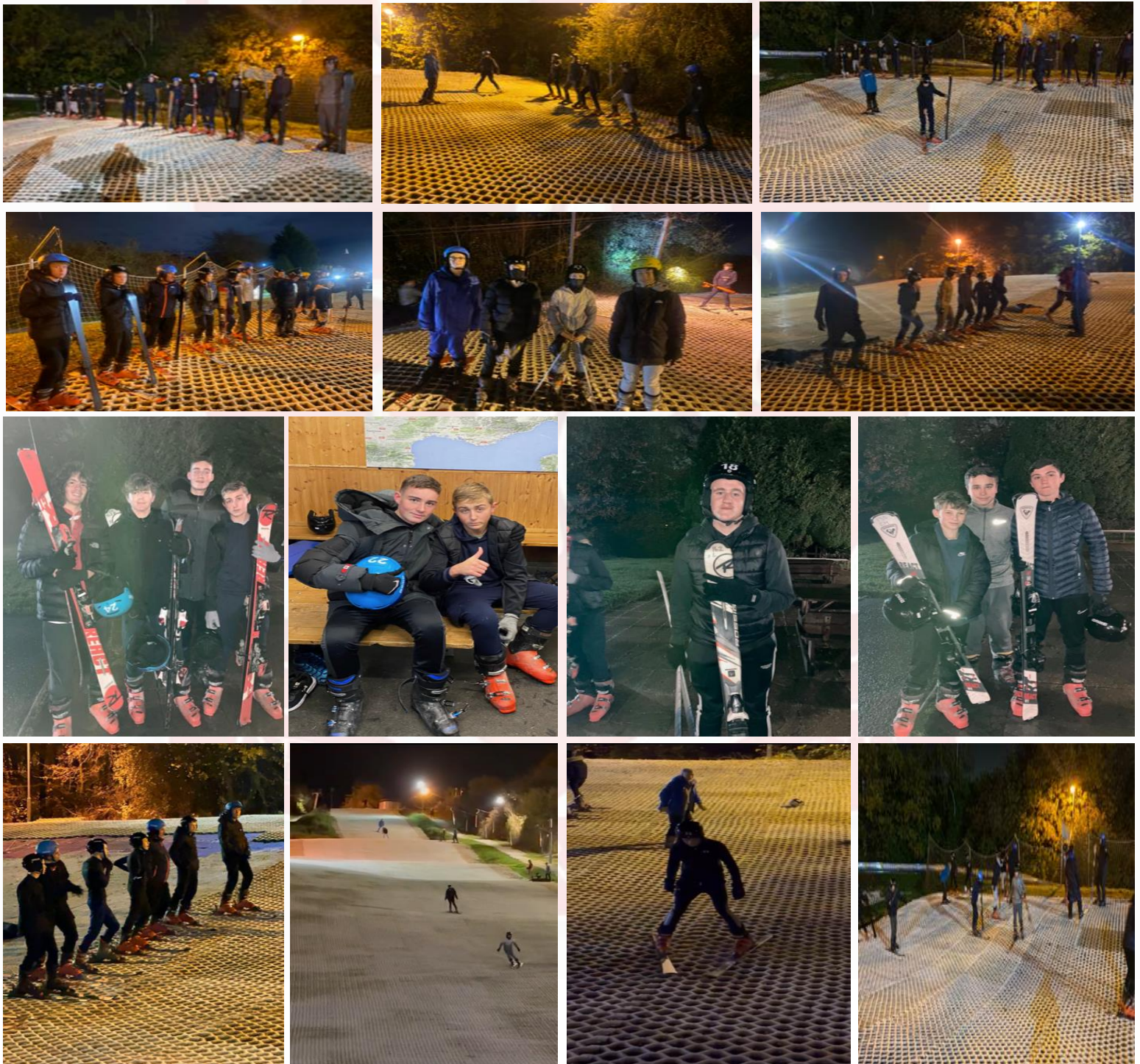
Our form 8 Caxton Y started an annual Food Bank donation scheme. The Food Bank is a way of providing people with a meal that they may not be able to afford due to the cost-of-living crisis. Our Food Bank donations went to the New Community Church in Sidcup who helped distribute them to families in need. We were told by Mr Watson (our form tutor) that we had to bring in non-perishable items because they will last a long time. Our goal was to fill 3 large boxes, but we ended up exceeding our target and filled a fourth box! Christmas is not only about receiving, but it's about giving too. On Christmas morning, when you see your sibling's face light up when they see their gifts, it's heartwarming. We, in Caxton Y, encourage you to give back to your community by donating items to your local Food Bank. Knowing that you could have helped a struggling family in the holidays is the best feeling you could ever have. Merry Christmas and have a happy New Year!
Written by Zac C (8 Caxton Y)

Ski Trip 2024 Information Evening and Ski Lessons



An Information evening took place on Thursday 2nd November- if you would like to refer to the slide show containing all the useful information, please click on this link - [Hurstmere Ski Trip 2024 - Killington USA](#)

The boys have been having fun practising on the dry slops in preparation for their February trip.



Killington U.S.A - Here We Come



Sporting News



Well done to our Year 10A team 2-0 victory against Ravenswood. The team move into Round 3 of the @schoolsfootball cup!



Year 7 A team beat Beths GS in the North Kent Cup!

Year 7 B team- massive well done on an outstanding win against Ravenswood 14.11.23

Year 10 B team vs Ravenswood in the ESPA Cup. Hurstmere showed resilience and teamwork throughout the game coming from 4-1 down. Well done to everyone who took part!

North Kent Cup Year 10A vs Welling. Hurstmere win 6-1 in the group stage. Well done to all who took part! (15.11.23)

Year 8A unfortunately lost to Thomas Tallis, but great effort and teamwork all around. Year 8B, 1-0 win against Bexleyheath Academy

Year 10 vs Wilmington GS. Hurstmere win 4 - 0 with a dominant 2nd half performance!

Well done to our Year 9 A team, winning 4-1 against a tough opposition, meaning the boys move into the next round of the ESFA Cup!



Well done to our Year 8 Rugby team- another victory against Darrick Wood! Our boys showed great sportsmanship throughout the game



Well Done Y7 B, winning 7-4 against St. Columba's School. Now onto the semi final of the Kent Schools FA Cup!

Well done to year 7B and Year 9B teams for progressing to the next round of the ESFA Cup!



Year 10 ESFA Hurstmere vs Oakwood Park GS game ended in a 2-0 defeat. Great 2nd half performance from the boys.

Christmas Jumper Day / Non-School Uniform

**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER
DAY**
Thursday 21st
December
2023

**CENTRE
POINT** ENDING YOUTH
HOMELESSNESS



Today's non-school uniform day was a remarkable success, demonstrating our school community's commitment to social responsibility and empathy. Pupils and staff participated by donning their casual attire in exchange for a £1 donation, with all proceeds going towards Centre Point, a youth homeless charity. This event was a powerful reminder of how collective efforts, even as simple as a dress-down day, can have a significant impact on our broader community. The empathy and generosity shown by everyone involved truly embodied the spirit of giving and community engagement.

'Thank You' from 8 Caxton Y



Miss Murphy and her tutor group would like to thank everyone who kindly donated to their 'Help the Homeless' collection. All donations went to the people of Woolwich who are sadly sleeping rough this Christmas.



#AntiBullyingWeek

The week of 13th - 17th November is recognised nationally as Anti-Bullying week. In order to kick start the week, Hurstmere participated with Odd Socks Day, which saw pupils and staff alike come to school and work wearing odd socks. The symbolism behind it represents that it is okay to be You! It encourages pupils to be themselves and to call out bullying. This promotes anti-bullying.



Macmillian Coffee & Cake Mornings



Thank you for taking part and supporting this worthy cause.
We raised an amazing £715.00 from our coffee and cake mornings.

Diary Dates

Subject Parents Evening

Year 7 – Thursday 21st March 2024 4 – 7pm

Year 8 – Thursday 25th April 2024 4 – 7pm

Year 9 – Thursday 14th March 2024 4 - 7pm

Year 10 – Thursday 9th November 2023 4 – 7pm

Year 11 – Thursday 22nd February 2024 4 – 7pm

Information will be sent to you prior to the Parents Evening event

Term Dates

Last Day of Term : Thursday 21st December 2023

Spring Term

Monday 8th January 24 – Thursday 28th March 2024
(Half term 1 week from Monday 12th February 2024)

Summer Term

Monday 15th April 24 – Wednesday 24th July 24th 2024
(Half term 1 week from Monday 27th May 2024)

Bank Holidays

Monday 6th May 2024
Monday 27th May 2024

Inset Days (Pupils not in school)

Monday 19th February 2024

Term Dates for Summer Term 2024 are available on our school website

[Hurstmere-Term-Dates-2024-2025](#)

