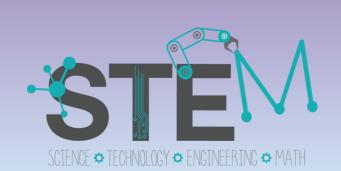


## The Howard School

Newsletter

### In this issue:

- Introduction by Deputy Head of School, Ms Samuels
- ADT work by our KS3 students
- Science pets!
- What's the difference between free speech and hate speech?
- GCSE Drama performance of 'Lord of the Flies'
- Medway Council's Make the Pledge Ioneliness campaign
- KS3 STEM activity
- School visit from Arsenal alum, Steve Eadon
- Year 11 Golden Ticket raffle Sponsor, Oxden Floors
- THS House Championship update
- Year 9 celebratory news!







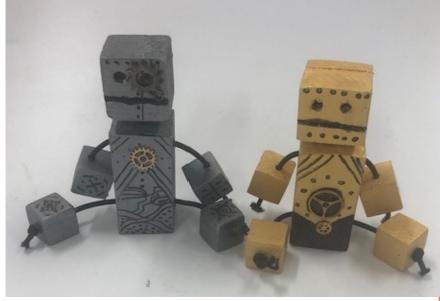
It is a very busy time of year for our Year 11 cohort, we are very proud of how they are immersing themselves in the exam preparation process and taking advantage of all the additional support the school has put in place. For some the build up to exams can be a stressful process but our Year 11s have been fabulous and are rising to the challenge. We ended last term with a mock results assembly to simulate the process of opening their results envelope in the summer. This was followed by a detailed analysis of individual performance and self evaluation, resulting in the formulation of individual improvement targets.

Many of the year group met with SLT and external employers to talk through their improvement targets and provide any additional guidance or support needed. The New Year started with the addition of our period 6 revision lesson; students are targeted to attend subject specific revision sessions based on their mock outcomes. The attendance to date has been excellent with students taking advantage of the additional support every day. We also have some subjects offering optional 7.30am revision lessons which are well attended. Students can earn rewards for attending all these extra interventions and receive a £10 voucher when they have completed their rewards card. To help prepare our students for the world of work, everyone in the year group had a formal mock interview with local employers who then provided feedback on how they represented themselves during the interview. We also have lots of mentoring going on to support our students that need additional one-to-one coaching. Parents & carers will be able to get subject specific updates at our second consultation evening on Thursday 1st February in advance of the second week of mocks scheduled for the week commencing 4th March. In summary the year group has made a fantastic start to the year and we could not ask for a better response from them as individuals. All their hard work will absolutely pay off, the GCSE results in summer 2023 were exceptionally good but this year group could do even better. Well done Year 11, let's keep the momentum going!

### BLOCKBOTSI

This term our year 7 students have been working extremely hard to create their wooden desktop figures/toys know as blockbots! This is their first timber-based project and is a great introduction to working with timber: designing it, manipulating it and cutting it developing on and learning their cutting skills using saws!





# ANIMALS

At The Howard we are proud to have a selection of school pets including Annie the coral snake, Britney the axolotl, Yoshi the Gecko and pictured here, Chyna the bearded dragon.

Students take a leading role in taking care of these animals; learning not only about animal care but also the responsibility of having live animals. It's such a pleasure to see clubs like this develop shared interests across year groups where our sixth formers are able to support and develop the required skills with our younger years.





### What Children & Young People Need to Know about

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to others. Whether online or offline, communication attacking or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives .

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely - even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.



Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's ideas were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin's theory today. Freely exchanging ideas promotes progress.



Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change justice and reform. Many modern UK rights such as women being allowed to vote or decent working conditions - couldn't have been achieved without it.

> Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for - or singing - the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal

### Meet Our Expert

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – which displays prejudice against someone's identity Derogatory, demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes ...

> Targeting people or groups because of who they are – including but not limited to aspects such as race, sexuality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on those same attributes: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example.

> Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way.

> Making up or repeating insults about a person or group because something about their identity is different to the person who's posting.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are.

The National College

National Safety #WakeUpWednesday

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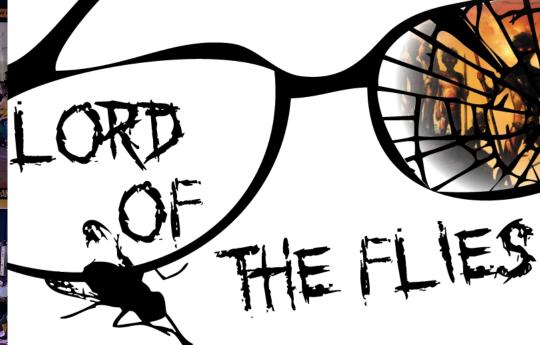


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This week our Year 9 Drama students took part in their performance of 'Lord of the Flies'! The story of a group of school boys stranded on a desert island with no adult supervision having to fend for themselves. The play starts with young, asthmatic Piggy meeting soon-to-be leader Ralph in the aftermath of a plane crash. As Jack and the other boys are introduced tensions begin to rise around desires to be leader and themes such as civilisation, law and order, innocence and inherent evil are explored!

William Golding's 1954 novel has been adapted for the stage in this production seeing our students play roles including Ralph, Jack, Piggy, Simon and twins "Sam'n'Eric"!

The school is immensely proud of our GCSE Drama students having performed this to parents, friends and family Thursday evening and we look forward to all upcoming productions they produce!





Make a #MedwayTogether pledge to reach out to someone in your community today and make them feel less lonely.





### What is it?

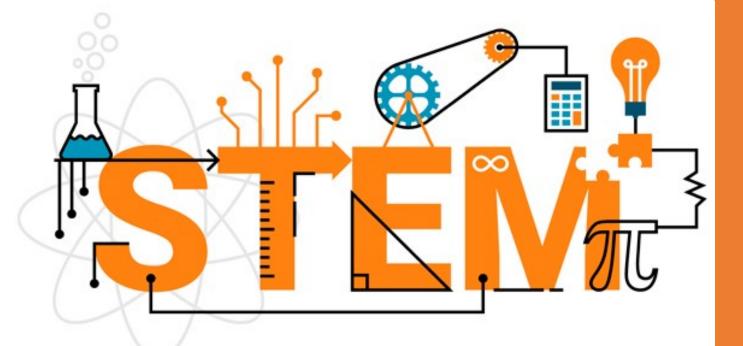
The A Better Medway – Together is Medway Council's new campaign to help people better connect with their local community and reduce loneliness and social isolation. The council are encouraging residents, groups, services, schools, and businesses to make a Medway Together pledge to help tackle loneliness in Medway. Pledges can be big or small and be made by individuals, groups, or whole organisations.

Watch the council's brilliant new video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/">https://www.youtube.com/</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/">watch?v=f7ukv0NvG8c&feature=youtu.be</a>

Pledges can be made <u>online</u>, or via a postcard at an event. Once a pledge is submitted, individuals will receive an email along with the attached supporting resources. The council's aim is to get as many pledges as possible between now and May, so they can showcase the difference they have made in June for National Loneliness Awareness Week!







This week students took part in the second of three events running throughout the 2023-24 school year with MEBP. Thirty students were selected to take part in a Geodesic Dome challenge where they had to use their knowledge from maths on shapes to make triangle and pentagon based domes. They first started off with a presentation from a MEBP repre-

sentative on famous structures which make use of domes and triangles including local bridges and famous domes such as the Taj Mahal.































































































## CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

# Have a concern about a student?

Need some help or advice? People you can talk to:



Pastoral Manager

Ms. McComas

Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mr. Green
Safeguarding Lead



Assistant Head Teacher SENCo

Mrs. Deakin

Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Senior Head of Year

Ms. Ali
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs. Parish
Safeguarding Officer



Senior Head of Year

Mr. Longe

Safeguarding Officer

Have a concern you would like to raise or discuss?

Visitors: please email greens@thehowardschool.co.uk

Howard School Staff: report on our internal reporting system

Students: contact any member of the safeguarding team



01634 388765 | www.thehoward-that.org.uk | office@thehowardschool.co.uk

The Howard School and the MFL Department were delighted to welcome a very special guest to the school recently...





Steve Eadon, who worked with **Arsenal Premier** League Football Club for most of his life, was keen to interact with a few students in a hour session to share his passion for languages and football via a practical session and delivered a whole school assembly to Year 8 in the morning.









With a HUGE thank you to OXDEN FLOORS LTD., our year 11 students are in with a chance of winning a 50" LG Ultra HD smart TV at the Golden Ticket raffle at the end of the year!

All they need to do to win this amazing prize donated by Oxden Floors Ltd. is earn Golden Tickets in their lessons, put half of it in their House's box in main reception and put the other half in their Year 11 LG TV box in main reception!

The draw will take place in their year 11 leavers' assembly in term 6!

Good luck to you all and once again, a huge thank you to Oxden Floors Ltd for their very generous donation!

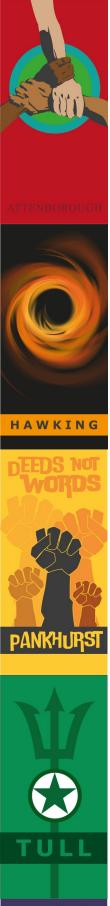
<u>http://oxden-floors.co.uk/</u> - Professional suppliers and installers of high quality flooring.

Oxden Floors Ltd are one of the UK's leading contract flooring specialists. Their rich near-40 year history brings a high level of professionalism, service and technical ability to every project they are involved with, and they are well respected within the industry.

They can supply and install an extensive range of high quality floor coverings for Industrial and Commercial applications. Their friendly, competent flooring team can offer advice and assistance to ensure the correct floor covering is used in the environment in which it is to be laid.

Family values are core to their professional team, and this is reflected in the service they provide. They always go the extra mile to ensure customers' flooring project is delivered and installed on time. Every time.





### **HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE**

This week our students have represented their Houses in a variety of Events! Years 12 and 13 have taken part in the term's first Spelling Bees competing to spell a variety of words progressively increasing in difficulty! Years 8 and 9 have taken part in House Mario Kart, both Years 7 and 8 have taken part in House Darts and years 9, 10 and 11 have taken part in House Golf! As a result, the current Championship Points totals are as follows:

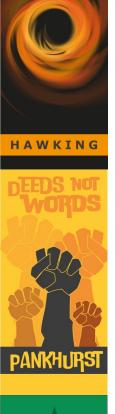
| Rank | House        | Championship<br>Points |
|------|--------------|------------------------|
| 1st  | Attenborough | 1,700                  |
| 2nd  | Tull         | 1,660                  |
| 3rd  | Hawking      | 1,390                  |
| 4th  | Turing       | 1,330                  |
| 5th  | Pankhurst    | 1,250                  |











TURING



### **ENGLAND NATIONAL TEAM PROGRAMME 2023/24**

Martin Peters, EIHA Director
Andy Daintith, EIHA Technical Director and Head of ENTP
U14's Boys Team – Janne Kaariainen, Clint Herring, Eve Joyce & Sarah Flint.



23rd January 2024

Dear Toby,

### **ENGLAND U14 TEAM - SELECTION 2024 TEAM**

On behalf of the England National Team Programme Staff and the EIHA Directors, we would like to thank you for attending and participating in the 2023/24 England Team Development Programme.

You are considered to be one of the top prospect junior players within the English Ice Hockey Association's elite player programme and you should be very proud of your achievements in the sport so far. The England coaching staff have been impressed with your hard work, commitment, and approach to the ENTP Pathway.

Your U14's Coaches and Manager would like to **CONGRATULATE** you, as you have been selected to be part of the ENGLAND **TURKU** U14s Boys Team who will be travelling to Finland between the 17<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

After the next camp, I hope to get more information out to you about who we will be playing, how much the trip will cost, etc.

If your player is unable to make the dates and so not able to make the team, can you please let me know by Friday 26th January 2024 the latest.

Again, congratulations on being selected for the team and we look forward to seeing you at the training camp on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. All information for this camp is on Team App under Boys Team.

As always if you have any questions then please get in touch.

Regards

Eve

Eve Joyce ENTP U14s Manager







Congratulations Toby, the school is immensely proud of you and your achievements! We look forward to seeing what your exciting future holds!





Mr. J Johal - Head of School johalj@thehowardschool.co.uk

Mr. J Knights - Rewards Lead knightsj@thehowardschool.co.uk

