



# The Howard School

## Newsletter

*High Standards lead to High Achievement*  
*Be Hardworking | Be Good | Be Kind*

# Welcome

We are incredibly proud to announce that **50 of our talented Year 7 and 8 students** have become **published writers!** Their poems have been selected for a special **Poetry Anthology**, marking a fantastic achievement and a moment to celebrate their creativity and hard work.

As part of our KS3 Poetry Competition, students had the opportunity to explore their imaginations and express themselves through poetry. The entries we received were inspiring, heartfelt, and showed a wonderful range of emotions and ideas. It was clear that our students put a great deal of effort into crafting their poems, and the judges were amazed by the quality of the work submitted.

Being selected for publication is no small feat. It means these students' poems stood out and will now be shared with a wider audience in the anthology. This is a remarkable accomplishment and a chance for them to see their names in print — something that not many people experience at such a young age.

We are so proud of all the students who took part in the competition. Whether or not your poem was selected, every single participant showed bravery and creativity by sharing their words.

A huge congratulations to our newly published poets! We hope this achievement inspires you to keep writing, exploring your ideas, and sharing your voices with the world.

Well done to everyone involved — we look forward to seeing where your creativity takes you next!



# EASTER BAKE SALE

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL  
STARTS AT 9AM,

OPEN ALL PERIODS & BREAK!

THE GALLERY THEATRE

Cash and card!



The Howard  
School

All profits go to...  
**CHARITY & YEAR 12 PROM**

Year 7 recently enjoyed a fascinating trip to Canterbury Cathedral, where they had the chance to explore one of the most historic and beautiful sites in the country. The visit offered a perfect blend of Religious Education, History, and Art & Design, providing students with a rich, cross-curricular learning experience.

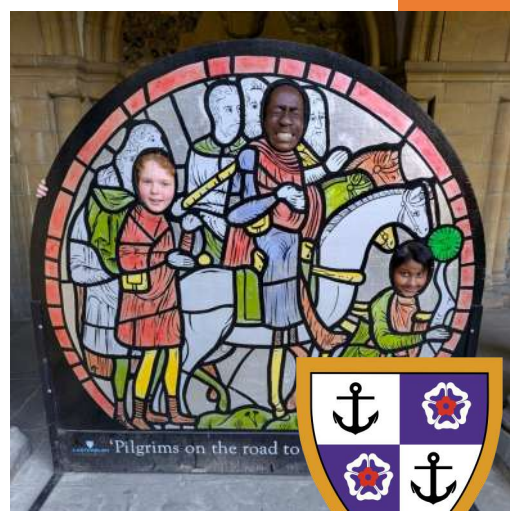
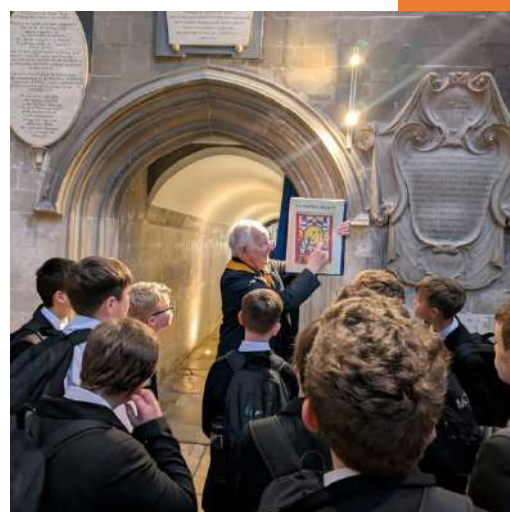
Upon arrival, the group was warmly welcomed and given a guided tour of the cathedral. Students were able to walk through the magnificent nave, admire the intricate stonework of the cloisters, and reflect in the peaceful atmosphere of the crypt. The stunning gardens surrounding the cathedral also provided a lovely space to take in the scenery and appreciate the beauty of the site.

One of the most memorable parts of the visit was following in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims. Students learned about the tradition of walking up the stone steps on one's knees as an act of penance, seeking atonement for sins at the top. While there was no official atonement on this trip, the students certainly felt the challenge of climbing the worn stone steps – a testament to the many pilgrims who had walked before them.

Throughout the day, students had the chance to engage with the cathedral's rich history and architecture, gaining insight into its significance as a place of worship and pilgrimage for centuries. They also explored the artistic aspects of the building, marvelling at the stained glass windows and intricate designs that have stood the test of time.

The visit brought classroom learning to life, allowing students to connect with history and faith in a meaningful and memorable way. It was a day full of discovery, reflection, and adventure – an experience that will no doubt stay with Year 7 for years to come.

A big thank you to the staff at Canterbury Cathedral for their warm welcome and engaging tour. We look forward to future visits and more opportunities to learn outside the classroom.



# RAMADAN MUBARAK

رمضان مبارك



**A MESSAGE FROM TEAM RE  
TO OUR MUSLIM STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES  
YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO U23 FOR**

- PRAYER
- RESPITE

**AT BREAK AND LUNCH**



The students in 8H1 have been working exceptionally hard in their art lessons with Ms Mitchell, producing a stunning collection of pencil self-portraits that deserve to be celebrated.

Over the past few weeks, the class has been learning and practising a range of artistic techniques to help them create realistic and expressive self-portraits. From mastering shading to understanding facial proportions, the students have shown great focus and determination to develop their skills. The results are nothing short of remarkable.

Each portrait is unique, reflecting the individuality of each student. Some chose to focus on capturing subtle facial expressions, while others experimented with light and shadow to create a sense of depth. The level of detail and care put into every piece demonstrates the students' growing confidence and artistic ability.

Ms Mitchell has been incredibly proud of the class throughout the process. "The students have shown such enthusiasm and commitment to their work. It has been wonderful to see them push themselves creatively and take pride in what they have achieved. The final pieces are truly inspiring," she shared.

Not only has this project allowed students to develop their technical skills, but it has also encouraged them to reflect on their own identities and express themselves through their art. Self-portraiture is a challenging task, requiring patience, observation, and a willingness to experiment. The students of 8H1 have embraced these challenges with positivity and perseverance.

The finished portraits are now proudly displayed in the art department, serving as a testament to the students' hard work and creativity. Anyone who has seen the artwork has been impressed by the attention to detail and the emotional depth captured in each piece.

A huge well done to the students of 8H1 for producing such outstanding artwork, and a big thank you to Ms Mitchell for guiding and inspiring the class throughout this project. The talent and dedication shown by the students have been truly remarkable, and we look forward to seeing what they create next!





# OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Principal Mr J Johal

[safeguarding@thehowardschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@thehowardschool.co.uk)

Scan Me



**MR S GREEN**

Vice Principal  
Designated Safeguarding  
Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3015



**MS T MCCOMAS**

Pastoral Support Manager  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3006

**MRS J DEAKIN**

Assistant Principal  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3030



**MISS A MULROONEY**

Assistant Principal  
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3038



**MR N LONGE**

Senior Head of Year  
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3036



**MR B DABURN**

Senior Head of Year  
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3046

**MRS S KEEGAN**

Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3009



Medway Council Children's Social Care can be contacted on 01634 334466  
Medway's First response Service is 01634 334466: 24 hour emergency number is 0300 041919  
Alternative telephone numbers where you have concerns about a child:  
NSPCC: 08088 005000 - ChildLine: 0800 1111

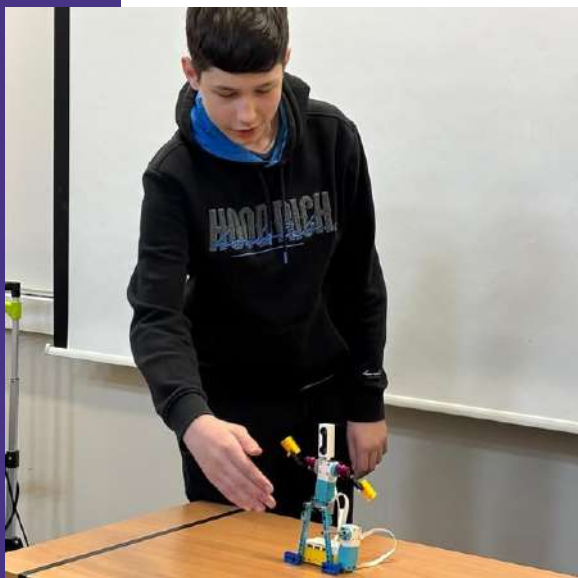


On Tuesday, students had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a STEM event at Canterbury University, where they built and programmed their very own dancing robots. The trip was a chance for students to dive into the exciting world of robotics, gaining hands-on experience with construction and coding.



Throughout the day, students worked in teams to bring their robots to life. They carefully assembled each part, ensuring every motor and sensor was in the right place, before moving on to programming. For many, it was their first time using coding to control a physical creation, and seeing their robots respond to the code they wrote was a rewarding moment.

One of the highlights of the day was the dance-off. Once the robots were constructed and programmed, the teams gathered to show off their creations. Each robot had its own unique set of moves, with some twirling, others shuffling, and a few even managing a full spin. The room was filled with excitement and laughter as everyone cheered on their robots.



Students shared how much they enjoyed the experience, describing it as both educational and fun. Many found the programming aspect particularly engaging, with one student commenting, "It was amazing to see how a few lines of code could make the robot move in different ways. It made coding feel really practical and exciting." Others appreciated the teamwork involved, as they collaborated to troubleshoot and solve problems together.

The trip not only helped students develop technical skills but also boosted their confidence in problem-solving and working as a team. By the end of the day, everyone had gained a deeper understanding of robotics and left feeling inspired about the possibilities within STEM subjects.

A huge thank you to Canterbury University for hosting such an engaging and educational event. It was a memorable day that sparked curiosity and enthusiasm among students, and many left feeling eager to explore more about robotics and programming in the future.



# House Events

## Term 4



1st - 50  
2nd - 40  
3rd - 30  
4th - 20  
5th - 10

**Say what you see!**



Year 7 - 18th March  
Year 8 - 17th March  
Year 9 - 19th March  
Year 10 - 18th March



Year 7 - 26th February  
Year 8 - 5th March  
Year 9 - 12th March  
Year 10 - 19th March

## HOUSE ROWING

To sign-up and represent your House on any event, head to your Google Classroom or see Mr. Hillier



ATTENBOROUGH



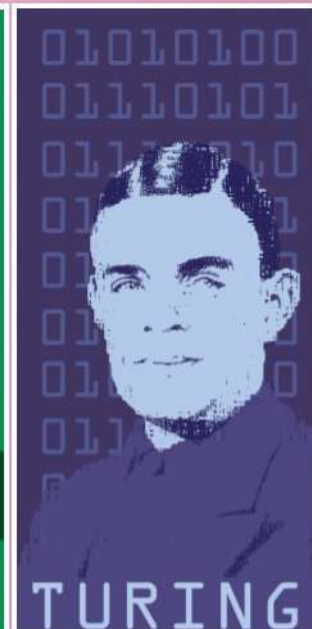
HAWKING



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING



Medway Music Association's  
Easter Music Courses 2025  
5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April

Information Letter

Venue: Rainham Mark Grammar School, ME8 7AJ

Closing date for applications: **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.**

We are delighted to announce our Easter Music Courses for 2025.

Please find below information on all courses and who they are suited to. *Please note, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.*

**Easter Holiday KS1 Music Course: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 09:45 – 11:45**

Our KS1 course is designed to introduce KS1 children to music through some exciting and engaging musical activities. The activities will include musical games, fun songs and the chance to perform together using a range of percussion instruments. We hope that your children will learn lots of new musical skills, which build and develop the foundations for learning instruments.

**Entry requirements:** No previous experience is necessary. For children in school years 1 and 2.

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Numbers will be limited so please apply early to avoid disappointment.

**Cost: £10.00**

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

### ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

### SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting more items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

### PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

## Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at [GAMMABLE.com](https://GAMMABLE.com).



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

This week, students from Years 7 to 10 took part in the exciting House Event: 'Say What You See'. The Main Hall was full of energy and enthusiasm as students competed to earn valuable points for their Houses as part of the ongoing House Championship.

The event challenged students to think quickly and creatively through a series of fun and engaging activities, including Dingbats, Catchphrase, Anagrams, and Quick Maths. Each activity tested a different skill, ensuring there was something for everyone to enjoy and excel at. Dingbats had students puzzling over visual clues, Catchphrase encouraged quick thinking and clear communication, Anagrams put word skills to the test, and Quick Maths pushed competitors to solve problems at speed.

The competition was fierce, with each House determined to claim victory. Students showed great teamwork, supporting each other and celebrating every success. The atmosphere was electric as teams raced against the clock, eager to secure as many points as possible.

It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and giving their all in each challenge. The event not only highlighted the diverse talents of our students but also reinforced the importance of working together and cheering each other on. Whether solving a tricky anagram, shouting out a Catchphrase, or nailing a Quick Maths question, everyone played their part in making the event a huge success.

A huge well done to everyone who took part. Your enthusiasm, determination, and team spirit were truly inspiring. Events like these are a brilliant reminder of the strength and pride within our House community.

The points from this event will be added to the overall House Championship total, bringing each House one step closer to the ultimate prize. Keep an eye out for the updated leaderboard to see where your House stands.

Thank you to all the staff and students who helped organise and run the event. We can't wait to see what the next House Event will bring. Until then, well done once again to all our competitors!



1  
  
DEFINITION OF A CHILD

2  
  
NO DISCRIMINATION

3  
  
BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

4  
  
MAKING RIGHTS REAL

5  
  
FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP

6  
  
LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT

7  
  
NAME AND NATIONALITY

8  
  
IDENTITY

9  
  
KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

10  
  
CONTACT WITH PARENTS ACROSS COUNTRIES


11  
  
PROTECTION FROM KIDNAPPING

12  
  
RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

13  
  
SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY

14  
  
FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

15  
  
SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

16  
  
PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

17  
  
ACCESS TO INFORMATION

18  
  
RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

19  
  
PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

20  
  
CHILDREN WITHOUT FAMILIES

21  
  
CHILDREN WHO ARE ADOPTED

22  
  
REFUGEE CHILDREN

23  
  
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

24  
  
HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

25  
  
REVIEW OF A CHILD'S PLACEMENT

26  
  
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP

27  
  
FOOD, CLOTHING, A SAFE HOME

28  
  
ACCESS TO EDUCATION

29  
  
AIMS OF EDUCATION

30  
  
MINORITY CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION

31  
  
REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS

32  
  
PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK

33  
  
PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL DRUGS

34  
  
PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

35  
  
PREVENTION OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING

36  
  
PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION

37  
  
CHILDREN IN DETENTION


38  
  
PROTECTION IN WAR

39  
  
RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION

40  
  
CHILDREN WHO BREAK THE LAW

41  
  
BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES

42  
  
EVERYONE MUST KNOW CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

43-54  
  
HOW THE CONVENTION WORKS

# CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



The Howard  
School

# Hire our facilities

Scan to book



- Table Tennis Centre
- Sports Hall
- Grass Pitches
- Gymnasium
- Dance/Drama Studios
- Changing Rooms
- School Hall/Classrooms

**Opening Hours:**

Mon to Fri: 16:30 - 22:00

Sat: 08:00 - 23:00

Sun: 08:00 - 20:00

**To Book**

[www.howard.schoolhire.co.uk](http://www.howard.schoolhire.co.uk)

# Free Adult Counselling

- Where? The Hundred of Hoo Academy, Secondary School
- Who is it for? Anyone over the age of 18 in Medway and Kent
- Who is it with? Adult trainee Counsellors who are in their final year of qualification and newly qualified Counsellors
- Appointment Times? 50 minute appointments during school hours
- Is it confidential? Yes, apart from risk to self or others, acts of terrorism or money laundering

All our appointments are offered face to face. The counsellors work within the BACP (British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy) Code of Ethics.

If you have any questions, or would like to arrange an appointment, please either email Paula Johnson at [counsellor@hundredofhooacademy.org.uk](mailto:counsellor@hundredofhooacademy.org.uk) or call 07599 657611 (school hours only).



**THE HUNDRED OF HOO ACADEMY**







# PE @ The Howard School

## What's been going on?



What are we currently offering as extra curricular?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS4 Intervention	Year 8 & 9 Football 	Rugby Year 9 	Boxing All years 	Basketball Years 11 - 13 
Football Years 7 	Gym Years 9 - 13 	Gym Years 9 - 13 	Rugby Years 7 & 8 	Gym Years 9 - 13 
Gym Years 9 - 13 		Basketball Years 7 & 8 	Basketball Year 9 & 10 	
		Table Tennis All Years 	Gym Years 9 - 13 	



Shout out the Yr 9 Rugby Team





# PE @ The Howard School



## Recent Results



### Year 9 Rugby Success at District Event

The year 9's entered their final competition of the school season, The Swale Cup. The year 9 team have won the competition the past two years in year 7 & 8 now hoping to make it triple champions. The boys faced teams from Sittingbourne, Fulston Manor, Borden Grammar School and the toughest opponents Queen Elizabeth. Howard boys began the campaign with 3 fantastic wins putting us in the hot seat to win the cup again. Our final game came against Queen Elizabeth with both schools knowing a win would secure them the title. QE fired first with a superb try down the wing before Howard dug in and got two quick tries to be up 10-5 at half time. The second half was tough with Howard defending their try line most of the game before AG got a quick turnover and powered to the try line. Howard victorious winning 15-5. This result meant Howard won the Swale Cup for third year running!!!! Huge standout performances from DA, JH, AG and AW.

Well done boys!!!

### Year 9 Football v Rainham Mark

Our Year 9s travelled to Rainham Mark that saw a much improved performance from the previous year! In a very close game, Howard came out with a 1-0 loss. However, performance was extremely and on another day, we walk away victorious. Chin up boys! We have a great team here! Shout out GT, RN, OK & LK at the back! Solid as always.





# PE @ The Howard School Recent Results



## Recent Golden Ticket Winners in PE



The golden tickets keep flying in. As part of our rewards system within school, that links to the whole school rewards system, students who attend clubs regularly or students who show outstanding attitudes within lesson have a chance of winning a PE Golden Ticket which gets them a slot in the end of term raffles. The prizes from these raffles vary, from equipment to school trips. Keep an eye out boys for the winners at the end of this half term! Keep showing the determination and attitudes we've seen so far! It has been great to see.

## District Rowing Event

Last week saw our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 boys attend a district event in rowing. This was part of the SSG calendar. Our boys showed great levels of determination and resilience to add to our teams overall score. Shout out to our Year 7 boys who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in their event. With our other year groups finishing just off of the podium places





# PE @ The Howard School



**Sixth Formers become us for the day**



Mr Halsey's Year 13 class took to the 3G pitches to try their hand at some coaching. As part of their final assignment as a Howard School PE student, they have had to plan, risk assess and deliver a coaching session showing the leadership qualities that have been explored in the build up.

Mr Halsey, supervised the Year 13s as they parted knowledge on our selected Year 7 groups and Mr Halsey was really impressed with their levels of proactivity, their willingness to apply their coaching methods to their sessions and also how they interacted with the groups. High levels of confidence and engagement were shown from both the coaches and the students! Well done guys! A very successful day.





# PE @ The Howard School



Gym club is now open to Year 9s aswell! Same rules apply. Come up on a Wednesday after school, have your induction and then you can access the gym after school every day!





# PE @ The Howard School



## Calling all Students, Parents and Guardians

We are always on the look out for kit donations. If you have any of the following at home that are old, don't fit or you simply don't use, we would love to add them to our spare kit selection.



- Trainers
- Astroturf trainers
- Football Boots



- Old PE Kit (Shorts, Polo, Purple Tops, Blue Jumpers)



Please feel free to  
drop them into the  
PE office or hand  
to your PE teacher



# GOLDEN TICKET

During each lesson, our students have the opportunity to receive a Golden Ticket. This Golden Ticket can be received for going 'above-and-beyond' during the lesson. These Golden Tickets are collected in our Main Reception and a portion of the ticket is also taken home so parents/carers can recognise this immense achievement as well.

The tickets are collected in boxes in each of the students Houses and tallied at the end of the academic year. The House that collects the most gets points added to the House Championship total for their House as they compete for the Laurel Cup.

But it doesn't stop there!

At the end of the academic year, all of the Golden Tickets will also be collected by Year Group where a Prize Draw will take place. Each year group were asked what they would like the opportunity to win, and the prizes by year group are listed below. The more Golden Tickets each student receives, the greater their opportunity is to win! Good luck!

## Year 7



£200 bike

2 x £100  
Amazon  
Vouchers



Year 8

\*voted for 2 winners

## Year 9



£200 JD  
Voucher

£200

Amazon  
Voucher



Year 10

## Year 11



PlayStation 5

*This initiative would not be possible without the support from our good friends at 'Camfil'.*





# Meet Your Head of House



Mr. Edwards

Ms. Samuels

Ms. Anglin

Mr. Dunn

Ms. Mulrooney



ATTBOROUGH



HAWKING



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING

ATTBOROUGH

HAWKING

DEEDS NOT WORDS



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING

## MedwayGo Easter Programme

Book a range of activities, from sports, swimming, theatre workshops, outdoor pursuits and more!

Monday, 14 April  
Tuesday, 15 April  
Wednesday, 16 April  
Thursday, 17 April

Bookings open on  
Monday, 17 March



GO.MEDWAY.GOV.UK

MedwayGo

A BETTER MEDWAY



Medway  
Serving You





Mr. J Johal - Principal  
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