

NEWSLETTER

May 2023



Young Volunteer

Lord Lieutenant Awards

Sofia, Year 8



Sofia was shortlisted, as a finalist in the Lord Lieutenants 'Young People Awards' and attended the ceremony at County Hall.

She was shortlisted for all her volunteer work for the local food bank where she arranged food parcels and her recent work in the Air Ambulance campaign where she gave up her time after school to pack donations for local charity shops.

It was absolutely fantastic to hear her announced the winner of the Young Volunteer category- an outstanding achievement!



National Teaching Awards

Pearson Awards

We are delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted for two national teaching awards.

The first being 'Secondary School of the Year' in the Pearson National Teaching Awards. We found out we had been shortlisted to 20 schools, out of 200! Teachers, students, SLT, parents and community members, then had to showcase our achievements to a panel of judges.

The recognition alone is fantastic and we will find out on 'Thank a Teacher Day' on the 21st June whether we have been awarded a bronze, silver or gold award.



Tes Schools Awards

Shortlisted

Staff Wellbeing School of the Year

Tes Awards

We have also been recognised by a second national award, the Tes Schools Awards. We have been shortlisted in the 'Staff Wellbeing School of the Year' category for the second year running.

This is a collective, whole school, achievement and supports the culture our staff have created and execute on a daily basis.

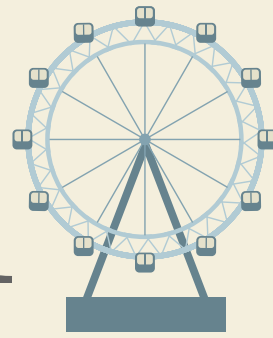
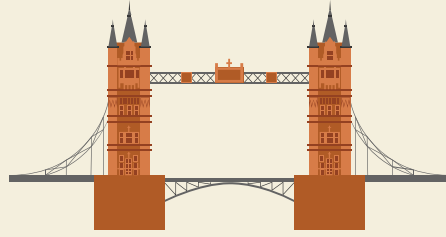
Eid Celebrations

We celebrated Eid in school this half term. All students took part in an assembly about the importance of this celebration.

The Year 8s then enjoyed a traditional meal! This is part of our commitment to ensure that our students experience the main festivals of the different faith communities, which make up our diverse school.



Year 8 Trip to London



In May, all 300 of our Year 8 pupil went on a paid for trip to London. They all got to ride on the London Eye and set sail on a Thames River Cruise!



Plastic Clever Schools Conference



This half term some of our Year 7s attended a 'Plastic Clever Schools Conference' at City Hall. They took part in lots of activities, which made us think more about our plastic use. We created a campaign and have brought the ideas back to school!

Our Year 7s were excellent role models and have learnt lots of new skills by presenting ideas to other schools.



Speed Networking



Careers Speed Networking (CSN) is an event that brings together young people and employers for short, informal meetings.

The aim of CSN is to expand the horizons and open the eyes of young people to the many opportunities available to them in the world of work. On Wednesday, 10th May, our Year 10 students spent the morning talking to 6 to 8 employers asking them a variety of questions which they had pre-planned during the week.

These events with local employers from different sectors enable young people to gain skills, knowledge and experience which will inform, inspire and motivate them. Our mission “We want every student to be the best they can be, thrive in the best possible career and contribute positively to society.” The opportunity for them to practise vital life and employability skills will certainly support our endeavours.

The benefits to the young people include:

- Gaining ideas and insights from inspiring people who can share their experiences about their job and the sector which they work in
- Motivating young people who don't have a clear future direction and who may be feeling unsure and confused about what to do
- Taking part in activities which allow them to shine and develop wider skills.

The employers came from Leicester City Council, PepsiCo International Ltd, Bright Legal, Police Force, De Montfort University, and Loros to name a few. We were also supported by our alumni from Severn Trent, Bilal Ali, Shahid Saiyed, Imran Ali.

Feedback from the students was positive, “I learnt to do well requires hard work and dedication. Focus on what I enjoy and not what has the best salary.” “I learnt that you don't always get your dream job first time, you have to work towards it.”

A big thank you to Leicestershire Education Business Company (LEBC) who supported us with this and to the volunteers who gave up their time to enable this to happen. The event was a great success and an extremely positive learning experience for our students.



Calling all Employers!

Can you provide work experience placements for students in Year 10 next year in June, 2024? If the answer is yes, please forward your details to ssquires@crownhills.leicester.sch.uk and we will be in touch. Thank you.

Parent Gatherings

We've had two parental gatherings this month. The first one being about summative assessments. They learnt about the reasoning behind summative assessments and got the opportunity to give their opinions. The parents gave valuable feedback about how they would like to receive the results of these assessments, which our leadership team will implement. We really value our relationship with parents and their feedback.

A new 'women's only' parental gathering was launched this month. after the introduction of our new Health and Wellbeing Champion we wanted give our female parents a safe space to discuss and learn about important issues. The first women's only gathering was themed mostly around breast cancer. We had a guest nurse attend who gave the women the signs and symptoms to look out for.

Although our parent gatherings are always topic based we encourage parents to chat with staff and other parents. It is often a nice social event where you can get to know new people.

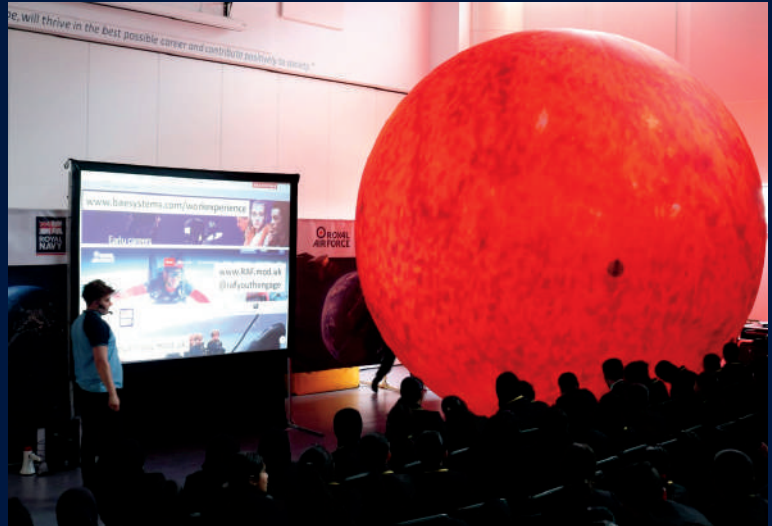
Our parent gatherings are always on the first Friday of every month. The next one being on the 9th June 8.45am-9.30am, after the half term. We hope to see more of you there, don't forget we have lots of chai!



STEM Roadshow

A big thank you to the Roadshow Team who came into school this Half Term. They delivered a very engaging and interactive STEM session to our Year 8 students. They spoke all about space, the ocean and land engineering.

It was a great 'raising aspiration' afternoon for our Year 8s and hopefully inspired them to one day join the Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy "Every single one of you in this room could become an engineer".



Stephen Lawrence Exhibition

The Stephen Lawrence Research Centre (SLRC), at De Montfort University, drives forward conversations that shape and influence how we think about race and social justice. The SLRC honours the enduring legacy of Stephen Lawrence's life and his family's ongoing pursuit of justice by asking new questions, debating critical issues, raising awareness, and advocating to bring about positive change.

4 of our students entered the 'Your Hopeful Futures Creative Challenge' and we were so pleased to hear that all 4 of them were successful. Yesterday, they got to visit The Leicester Gallery to see their work displayed in an exhibition!

Extra congratulations to Hamna, in Year 10, whose outstanding poem was recognised.



Year 8 Creative Writing Trip

In March, a group of Year 8 students attended a creative writing workshop held at the University of Leicester. The workshop consisted of two hours learning creative writing skills, led by professional writers. They were taught a range of skills that allowed them express their opinions on topics of their choice. Students produced poems which were witty, thought-provoking, reflective and most importantly, entertaining. Students were then given the opportunity to perform their poems in front of their peers.

Students also listened to a talk delivered by University of Leicester professor Nick Everett and students studying English Literature, where they were able to ask questions about English at degree level.

This trip was well received by all students that attended and we hope that the trip has inspired them to write more about topics that they love!

We would like to thank the University of Leicester for hosting this workshop and we look forward to taking our next cohort of Year 8s in the next academic year.



English Competitions

Alzheimers Society Poetry Contest:

Deadline 30 June 2023

Youth category, 18 years and under

Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award:

Deadline 31 July 2023

11 - 17 years old

Young Muslim Writers Award:

Deadline 6 August 2023

5 - 16 years old

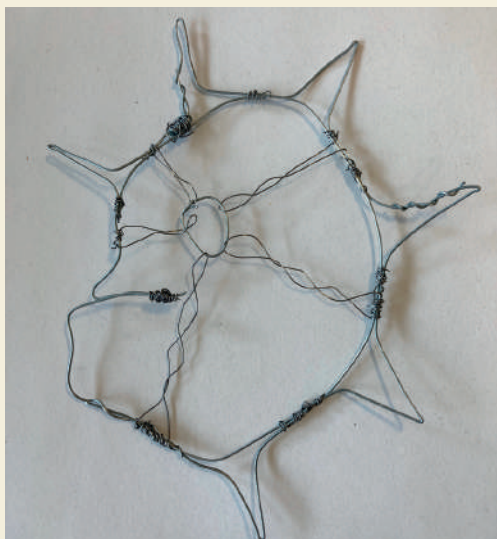
Writers aged 11 to 16 are invited to submit a poem, story, article, play script, and a screenplay



Art Corner



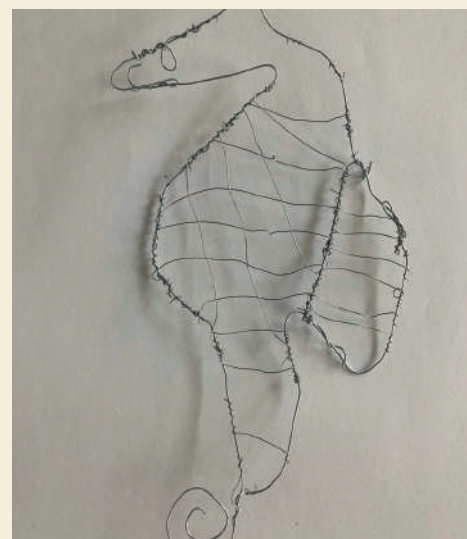
Fantastic Year 7 wire sculptures based on the sea life drawings of Ernst Haeckel, using wire is not an easy task so the level of detail shows each students commitment and hard work.



I. Adam



M. Bukera



J. Patel



An outstanding example of homework, this student has chosen not just one but three artists to independently research and present, as part of the Abstract Art project.

A trio of still life inspired lino prints, well done!

T. Sayed



A carefully thought out cut work composition, inspired by the artist and athlete Roald Bradstock (aka the Olympic Picasso).

S. Patel

Good luck Year 11!






We wish our Year 11 students the best of luck with their GCSE exams, which have started this half term. All Year 11s are being provided with breakfast and water every day before their exams.

Here's some top tips about how to handle exam days!



How to handle exam days





BE PREPARED.

-  Pack your bag before the day with equipment you need such as: a pencil, pen, calculator.
-  Bring a clear bottle of water (make sure it has no labels on it).
-  Go to bed early, sleep is really important.
-  Start the day with a good breakfast.
-  Give yourself plenty of time to get to the exam hall.

TAKE TIME TO CAREFULLY READ THE QUESTIONS SO YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU.

-  Highlight key words or phrases.
-  Plan for how much time is needed for each question, try to leave yourself enough time at the end to come back to it.

ONCE THE EXAM IS FINISHED, FORGET ABOUT IT.

-  Do not spend too much time going over it in your head or comparing answers with your friends.
-  Focus on the next exam ahead.

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Physical Education

Active in Mind



This half term some of our Sports Leaders started a pilot with the Youth Sport Trust called 'Active In Mind'. Our student leaders will be trained as mental health champions to support peers. Yasmin Clarke former junior British number one tennis player and commentator came to train the learners!

She gave the students different resources to help them plan different sessions, which they can run with peers. This is a 6 week programme, by the end of which they will be trained and equipped to help and support others through physical activity. They will play a crucial role in changing lives of other students by using physical activity to support wellbeing.



Physical Education

Successes

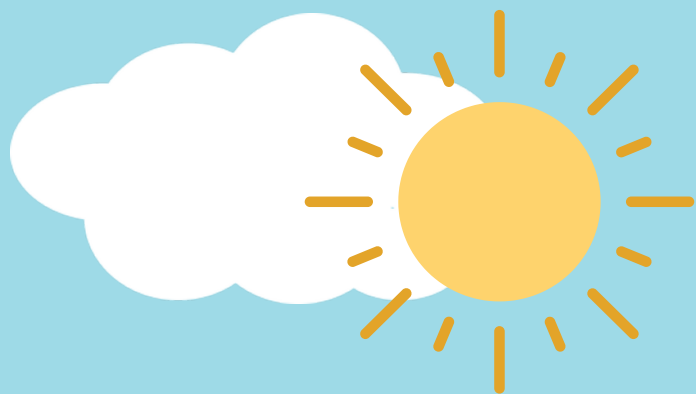


Our KS3 Girls Futsal The Year 7 Girls won the East Leicester Futsal Tournament on 19th April with 4 wins and 1 draw, qualifying for the Leicestershire County Finals in June.



Our sports leaders enjoyed a day leading at a Key Stage 1 festival this half term. They had many schools attend, including the whole of Year 1 from Mayflower Primary School.

They ran a mixture of Health and Wellbeing activities, including, team work, shoe stacking, hoop obstacle courses and learning about the food plate. They were complimented by staff throughout the day and made sure the children were engaged and had a positive experience.



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- **LEICESTER RIDERS**
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