



Katherine Warington School

HEADS UP

Newsletter no. 35

Friday 1st October 2021

Following on from our Open Morning, we are welcoming prospective parents to tour the school during the day accompanied by our existing students as tour guides. The students have been fantastic and every prospective parent has been so complimentary about our students self confidence, ability to articulate and the pride they have in KWS. To all our tour guides to date, thank you.

Period 7 has started back with a bang. With choices ranging from rockets to radio plays; aerobics to bootcamp; crochet to zoology there is something for every student and staff member to enjoy and end the day with a smile. There is more on period 7 further into this newsletter.

Clubs are also back as well as extracurricular opportunities such as girls self defence classes after school. We have concluded our student and staff vote for the charities we will be raising money for this year. We select one local and one national charity each year so that our efforts can be focused and the amounts raised are meaningful for the charities chosen. This academic year we will work with The OLLIE Foundation (local) and Cancer Research UK (national).

We have introduced all our students back to the library and the book lending services offered which have been limited during Covid. Our return to some kind of normal will also see our postponed Shakespeare Evening going ahead on Thursday 14th October. Every parent/carer is welcome. The evening will see scenes from a variety of Shakespeare plays from comedy to tragedy performed by our Year 8 and Year 9 students. If you would like to come along, tickets are available by following [this link](#).

Today has been an Inset Day which included training staff to use Unifrog, an on-line careers platform for all our students to use. There are interest and personality quizzes, lots of resources and information about future education, training and exploring careers in subjects that are of interest to students. It looks like a brilliant tool and a long way from the days of school careers leads deciding to recommend that a child who states a preference for working outdoors and enjoying walking should consider being a traffic warden.

Finally, I am aware that as we grow as a school with additional responsibilities spread across a growing staff, that growth puts an added layer of complexity onto our reception staff to direct enquiries to the right person. Please be patient and polite. Staff do want to respond and resolve queries in an effective and timely manner and reception is the first line in that.

Tony Smith - Headteacher

House Points

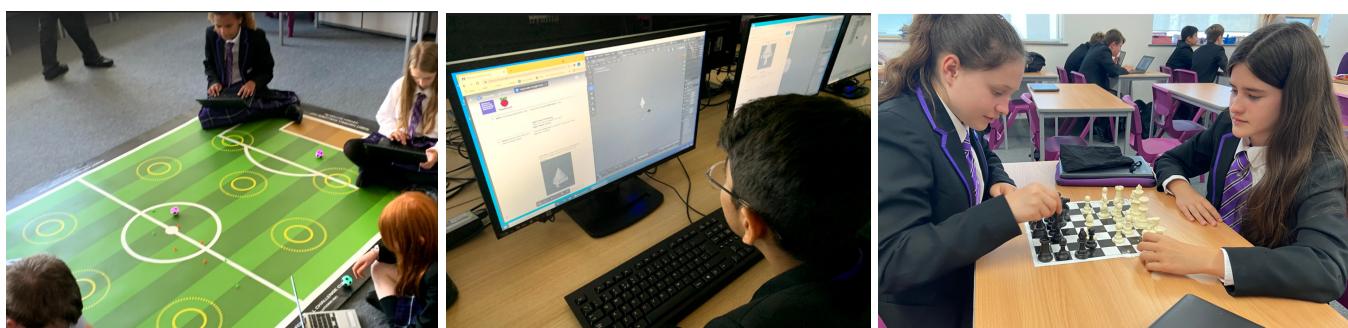
The house points winners for this week are **Nightingale** - Congratulations!

Form	Overall
Ali	2051
Armstrong	1992
Franklin	2156
Keller	2113
Nightingale	2339
Tesla	2053

Super Curriculum

We are now two weeks into our first period 7 block of the year and students are enjoying a vast range of activities. The buzz as students head home discussing what they have been up to is lovely to witness.

The photos below give you a taste of what our students have been up to under the period 7 categories of Mind, Body & Soul.



Mind Options: Robot Programming, Web Animation & Chess Club

Mind: Survival Skills, Typing Club & Eco Club



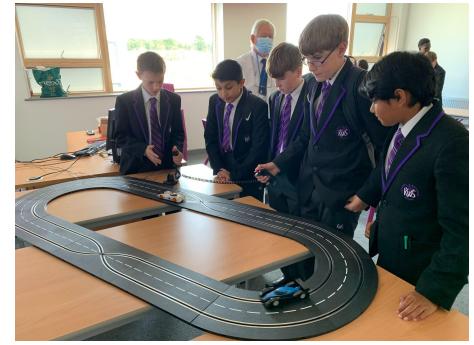
Body Options: Rugby, Gymnastics & Basketball



Soul: Rock Painting, Crochet & Poi



Soul Options: Cookery Skills, Ultimate Questions & Model Club



Soul: Small Animal Studies & Art Club



Mrs Coomber

In addition to this, lunchtime clubs are now in full swing including a great range of sports, gardening, chess, Duke of Edinburgh, choir, orchestra and much more.

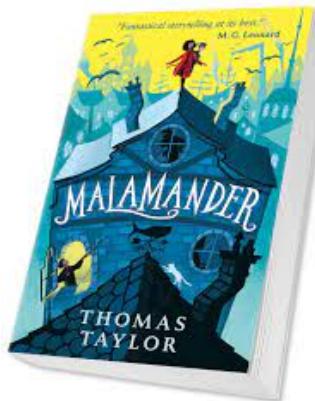
English and literacy update

Summer School New Year 7's

Students who attended summer school had an extra head start with their literacy! We were very impressed to see our new Year 7's taking so well to some very challenging written tasks.

Students worked through a booklet of activities focused on key literacy skills so that they could feel prepared for September. This included revising key language techniques, focusing on the basics like paragraphing and organising ideas as well as thinking about how to use their senses in descriptive writing.

The students also read as a year group every morning from our Year 7 book *The Malamander* by Thomas Taylor. All students were gifted a copy of this book so that they could continue the adventure at home!



Summer Reading Challenge:

Congratulations to the following students who worked particularly hard to complete the summer reading challenge. All have received a postcard home and a bar of chocolate to keep them going through their next novel!

Oliver S - **8Tesla**, Ollie T - **8Ali**, Sam J - **8Ali**, Isla W - **8Franklin**, Thomas K - **8Franklin**, Ethan H - **8Armstrong**, Annalisa R - **9Armstrong**

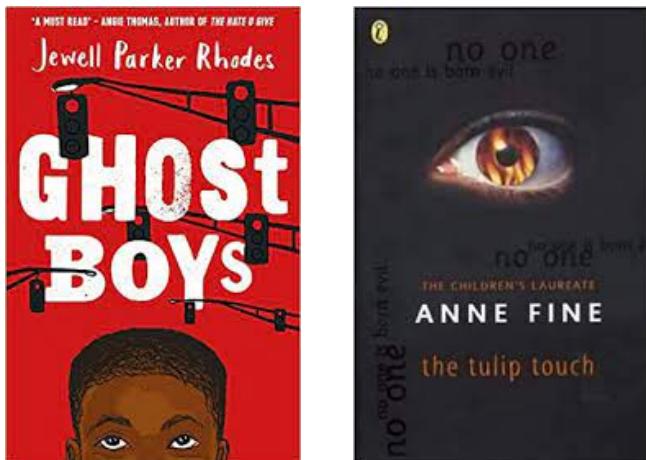
Read Aloud - The Vote:

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 all take part in Read Aloud. This is a reading programme that takes place once a week during form time. All students and tutors take time to read from the same novel. For children to continue to develop reading fluency and comprehension, they need to be consistently read to and this can in many become less frequent as they enter secondary school. This is why we take the time to read aloud as it is still important for children to have good reading modelled to them on a regular basis.

Students took part in a year group vote to choose a book they were interested in. Below are the books our students voted for. We have already started reading and look forward to launching The Big Purple Challenge and the Go for the Gold Challenge during these sessions.

Year 7: Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Year 8: The Tulip Touch by Anne Fine



Oracy and the Youth Speaks Competition!

We competed as a school in the Youth Speaks competition in our first year but many opportunities for competition against other schools were soon thwarted by the pandemic. However, our passion for public speaking has still developed over the last couple of years as Oracy and Debate continue to be an important aspect of our curriculum and our extra curricular offer.

Mr Church led the whole school in working towards their Oracy Awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold) and we continue to see lots of students engage in the Debate Club at lunchtime.

We are particularly excited by the latest development in our oracy curriculum which consists of our year group Oracy Assemblies. Students take time to reflect on a Friday afternoon, share ideas and discuss current affairs/debates as a whole year group.

With all of this practise, it makes us feel confident as we prepare for the Youth Speaks Competition. Congratulations to the following students who have made the team this year:

Cuan P - **9Armstrong**, Annabel S - **9Ali**, Becky D - **9Armstrong**, Omari W - **9Ali**, Harry H **9Armstrong**, Freddie C - **9Nightingale**

Library Induction Part 1

Mrs Prickett, our Library Consultant visited us this week to support students with an induction to the library. Based on the pandemic, students have accessed a lot of their reading using our online library. This has been a fantastic resource which we hope students will continue to take advantage of now restrictions are being lifted. However, there really is no replacement for a physical library or a physical book! This is why we were keen to formally introduce students to the library space and all it has to offer. For example, there are many online and physical resources that can help students to learn outside of their studies in English and Mrs Prickett planned an interactive session to get students up to date on everything they need to know!

Thank you Mrs Prickett for your time and enthusiasm!



Details to follow	<p>Spooky Story Competition Launch</p> <p>The illustration features the text "TELL ME A SCARY STORY..." in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the text is a purple tree with a face, surrounded by floating ghostly figures holding books. There are also some small, colorful shapes at the bottom.</p>	<p>We ran the competition last year and it really is as it sounds! Students write a haunting story and send it through to their English teacher on Google Classroom. Details will follow on the 4th of October but here is a link to get you thinking... There are always yummy prizes to be</p>
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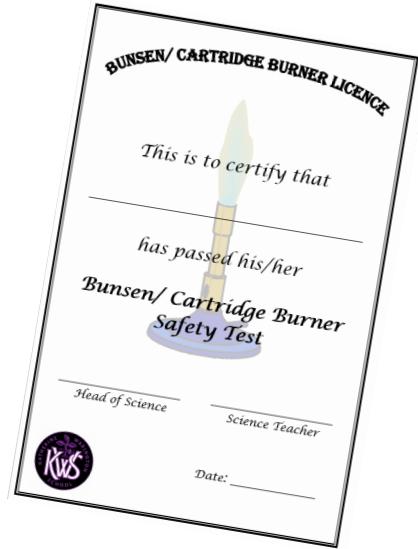
		won!
7th October	National Poetry Day Theme: Choice	On National Poetry Day, all students will work on a poetry inspired activity with their form tutor. Those that choose to participate can participate in a poetry competition in the library at lunchtime. Here is a link to the details.

The English Department

Science Update

Congratulations Year 7!

Congratulations to all of our Year 7s, who have all successfully completed their Bunsen Burner training and acquired their (virtual) Bunsen Burner licences. The full range of practical work that our fab labs offer is now available to them. Ask them to wow you with their in-depth knowledge about the Fire Triangle and/or the word equation for Combustion reaction.

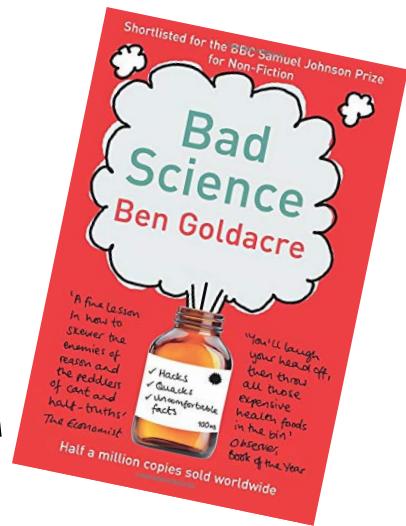
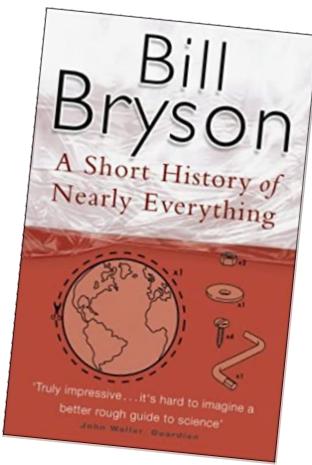
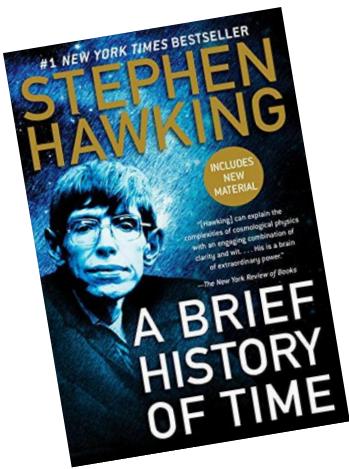


Prep Room Support

As we increase our science practical offering and the number of hours of teaching in the department, we will increasingly need more support in the Prep Room to ensure that our students can have access to a full and varied practical science curriculum. Volunteer support in the Prep Room is a hugely rewarding way to spend any free time you may have and to contribute something hugely valuable to the KWS Community. There is no minimum time commitment: we can fit around whatever works for you, and no experience is required; just a 'have a go' attitude (and perhaps a smile!) If you're interested to find out more or have any questions, please contact: s.creamer@kwschool.co.uk.

Science Hub

In the coming weeks we are hoping to set up one of our 'spare' labs as a Science Hub (for research, reading, super-curricular activities and scientific discussion). To this end, we are appealing to our parent body to donate any no-longer wanted/ needed good quality **books** or **magazines** that relate to science. Please don't be put off by a title being too popular, too simple or too advanced/complex: it would be fantastic to provide our students with a range of resources to spark any and all interests. Any donations can be dropped off at reception (please label them as **Science Hub Donations - for Lab 071**)



Attendance Procedures: Reminder

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, urgent appointments or other reasons please telephone the 24hr school absence line on 01582 314800 or email absence@kwschool.co.uk by **8.30am at the latest on the first day of absence and every subsequent day thereafter**, giving your child's name, tutor group and **full reason for absence including symptoms**.

Where possible, please give plenty of notice for any planned absence, for example hospital appointments, and provide a copy of any medical/dental appointment letters/cards/screenshots to the school. We would appreciate all dental and non-urgent doctor appointments being made out of school hours.

Please [click here](#) to visit the attendance page on our website.

Grace Aikman
Assistant Headteacher

Forgotten items for school

It is important that students take responsibility for being prepared for the school day, to ensure that they have every item that is required on a daily basis, therefore we strongly discourage forgotten items being brought into school during the school day.

KWS Vacancies

- Part-time Finance Assistant
- Science Technician/Senior Science Technician

For further details visit www.teachinherts.com

Eco Garden



Our sunflowers are in full bloom and are looking beautiful. Our tallest one has been measured at 2.47m.

The Eco garden students enjoyed their first lunchtime club picking produce from the garden. They picked a large ball courgette which has now been donated to the kitchen so they can make soup. Other produce they have picked includes: runner beans, small ball courgettes and tomatoes.

Ms Brandon



Parenting Support



Please find attached a DSPL7 booklet outlining all available parent training during the autumn term (2021) in the DSPL7 area.

[Click here](#) for more information:

KWS Charities



Our students and staff voted last week on The charities they would like as the KWS local and national charity of the year.. Our national charity of the year is Cancer Research UK and our Local charity is The Ollie Foundation. Look at our social media for more information on the amazing work our charities do, keep an eye out over the year for information on fundraising events to help KWS make a difference to those in need.



The OLLIE Foundation - Summary of Letter from the CEO

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

We were thrilled to learn that we are one of the charities you will be supporting this year - thank you so much, your support means everything to us!

As you may know, the OLLIE Foundation is a St Albans based charity set up five years ago by three parents who had each lost a son to suicide. They met in bereavement counselling, and vowed to do all they could to stop another family going through the heartache they were experiencing. OLLIE stands for One Life Lost is Enough.

Today we provide wellbeing, prevention and intervention training as well as talks and panel events for professionals, parents and students. All our training is available in person and online, available via our open sessions and through in-house delivery.

We also create bespoke training as needed by clients for more tailored conversations. We host a range of creative wellbeing sessions; on alternate Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons we run our Zentangle, mindful art classes. These sessions are suitable for all ages. We also have outdoor wellbeing events and host a wonderful community space in an allotment in St Albans. Sessions are free to students and families at Katherine Warington School. These can all be accessed and reserved via our online calendar here: [Events and Trainings Calendar | The OLLIE Foundation](#)

We run a private Facebook Page for parents and carers whose child is in crisis. [Click here](#) to access it.

We strive to ensure training is always free to those who need it. We can do this because of the incredibly generous support we receive from communities, schools and families like yours.

So can I once again thank you for choosing OLLIE. We look forward to working with you across the school year and hopefully seeing you at some of our events and workshops.

With very best wishes,
Debi Roberts - CEO The OLLIE Foundation

This week's notices to parents /carers:

- Shakespeare Festival - 14th October
- Chromebook Support for Year 7 and 8 - 20th October

Upcoming Events

Thursday 7th October - National Poetry Day Competition
Thursday 14th October - Shakespeare Evening - 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday 20th October - Student COVID vaccinations
Wednesday 20th October - Parents Chromebook Evening - 6.00pm - 7.30pm
Friday 22nd October - Half term starts - School finishes at 2.30pm
Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October Half term
Monday 1st November - Students return to school

Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KWAF)

If you would like to get involved and support your school's parents' association please email kwaf@kwschool.co.uk or look out for updates on [Facebook@kwafkws](https://www.facebook.com/kwafkws). If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us!

Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms by clicking on the links below:

[Facebook @KatherineWaringtonSchool](https://www.facebook.com/KatherineWaringtonSchool)

[Facebook @KWSchoolSport](https://www.facebook.com/KWSchoolSport)

[@KWSHarpden](https://twitter.com/KWSHarpden)

[@kwschoolharpden](https://www.instagram.com/kwschoolharpden)

[@kwschoolsport](https://www.instagram.com/kwschoolsport)

Non KWS Events / Publicity

Harpden Rugby Club



Oasis - Coffee, Cake and Chat

Oasis

Coffee & Chat

Crabtree Church, 139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden, AL5 5RD

Coffee. Cake. Chat.

If you need someone to talk to or if you just need a coffee.

Everyone welcome
1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month

- 10.00-11.00 am
- Coffee/Tea/cold drinks
- Free parking available

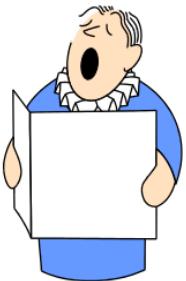


Contact: oasicrabbtreechurch@gmail.com
Phone: 07955 592974
Facebook: Crabtree Church

St Nicholas Church Choir

Music at St Nicholas Church

Would **YOU**
or **YOUR**
CHILD like to
join us?



We are recruiting for children aged 7 to 14 for our BOYS and GIRLS choirs – no experience is needed and there are no auditions.



We are also recruiting for EXPERIENCED SINGERS, who can read music, for our Adult Choir from age 14 up.

Contact:
Music@ParishofHarpenden.org

Do YOU have a son, daughter, granddaughter or grandson, neighbour or friend who enjoys singing?

We are always keen to welcome new members of our two children's choirs at St Nicholas Church.

Why join a choir?

Anyone who has heard a good choir sing will appreciate the **magic and beauty** of choral singing. The human voice is a musical instrument to be treasured.

There is **no charge** for the vocal and **musical training** the children receive, and the children themselves receive **pocket money** for their work in the choir!

Learning to sing is a challenge and **learning to sing with others** is even more rewarding.

You will **make friends!** Choral singing can become a **hobby for life** and musicians are notoriously sociable!

Research has shown that studying music **benefits children** across the academic curriculum in many ways. They will learn transferable skills and **gain in confidence** too.

Learning to sing is also enormously beneficial to those already learning to play instruments.

Children can join at **any age from 7**, the junior choirs go up to 14 so older starters are welcome.

No previous experience is necessary and there is no audition!

To begin with your child will join as a '**probationer**' while they get used to being in the choir. Older children will help them settle in.

They will attend **Rehearsals** –

- Girls – Thursdays 5.15-6.15pm
- Boys – Thursdays 6.15-7.15pm

And **Sunday Services** –

- 9am rehearsal for 9.30 service.



Each choir has some Sundays off. Duties increase as choristers get older and more experienced and may involve singing for Weddings, for which there is **additional pay!**

We provide
robes, music, pencils, friends, training, experience, expert advice, fun, treats, sense of belonging, pride, pocket money, rewards, etc.

You provide
your child - ready to attend regularly on time and grow as a singer, your support and encouragement!

Contact music@parishofharpenden.org
If you & your child are interested, or for more information.

Flowers by Catherine

Flowers by Catherine created a stunning bouquet for our reception desk for the KWS Open Day early last month, based in Wheathampstead High Street, she provides a full range of dried and fresh flowers and an array of gifts from local suppliers.



FLOWERS
by Catherine

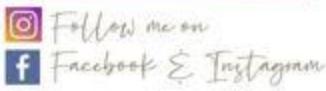


TEL: 07971 876 547

WEBSITE: WWW.FLOWERSBYCATHERINE.COM

EMAIL: CATHERINE@FLOWERSBYCATHERINE.COM

- FRESH & DRIED FLOWERS
- PLANTS, GIFTS
- FRENCHIC PAINT STOCKIST
- REDUCE-RECYCLE-REUSE RANGE



Facebook & Instagram

CONTACTLESS ORDERING & DELIVERY AVAILABLE TO HARPENDEN,
WHEATHAMPSTEAD & SURROUNDING AREAS

8 HIGH STREET, WHEATHAMPSTEAD, HERTS, AL4 8AA (OPPOSITE TESCO)**

Herts Police - Park Safely Campaign

**Please park
SAFELY**

We need everyone to play their part in keeping the roads near schools safe.

DRIVERS SHOULD NOT:

- park on yellow zig zag markings.
- park on double yellow lines at any time, or on single yellows during restricted hours.
- park or drive on footpaths.
- park within 10 metres of a junction, as this decreases visibility.
- block driveways or dropped kerbs.

You may be issued with a fixed penalty notice.
Thank you for your cooperation.

HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY
Prevention First