

# HAYES SCHOOL Newsletter

Edition 12

15th MARCH 2024

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Show week has well and truly taken over the school this week with this year's whole school production of Oliver coming to life on the Hayes stage. I have heard nothing but positive reviews of the students' performances, choreography and musical numbers from students, staff, friends and families in the audience; and I look forward to seeing it this evening and on Saturday evening with my friends and family. The production has seen one of the largest and youngest ever casts come together supported by our band, backstage crew and all involved in months of preparation (and some last minute preparations!) including set painting, costume, make-up, sound, lighting and the acquisition of props. I would like to express my personal thanks to Mr Gunning, Mrs Duggan, Mrs Elford, Mrs Jefferies, Ms Werry and Mr Brett for their roles as directors, producers, dance captain and musical directors. I congratulate all the students involved in Oliver and know they will look back on this with fond memories for many years to come.

It was lovely to welcome Year 9 students, parents and carers into school last week for our Year 9 Parents' Evening and to have the opportunity to discuss their progress and consideration of Year 9 options as they prepare to start their GCSE courses in September. Thank you to all who attended for your support of the school and your child.

Supporting our students to look ahead and plan for their futures, we have accompanied Year 11 and 12 students on a recent trip to Mansfield College, Oxford with students in Year 10 completing a day of work shadowing last week to gain important insights into the world of work. We do not take for granted the willingness of employers to provide this valuable opportunity for our students, and the support of parents/ carers in helping their child to find a work placement, often at their own place of work or through contacts. We are excited to be launching our Careers Fair next Wednesday and to be inviting over 40 organisations into school, representing a range of careers, education and training providers. These encounters with employers and professionals will help our

young people to find out more about careers, reflect on the skills and qualifications needed, and to consider their futures.

In the latest edition of the Hayes Herald, Jacob Fenwick Read (Editor) reflects on the budget announced last week by Jeremy Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Together with my colleagues in school and across the trust, I will be preparing our annual budget for the next academic year and a threeyear budget forecast with no additional funding for schools for 2024-25 and no indication of the levels of funding schools will receive over the 3 year period. The government's next spending review is expected in the autumn. I know that many families are experiencing difficulties and all will be continuing to experience the impact of cost of living increases, with increased charges and inflation impacting on the public sector, including schools.

The next generation of budding student leaders (and maybe politicians?) has been elected to Bromley Youth Council following elections held in school last week. Thank you to all who stood for election and congratulations to Sathvik and Hope who will be representing Hayes students on the council and influencing change in Bromley for all young people.

I had the opportunity to visit an all-girls Muslim school in Bradford last week and came back buzzing with ideas and examples of great practice, which I look forward to sharing with members of the Senior Leadership Team in the coming weeks. Having seen students' preparations for Ramadan in this school, it was a pleasure to meet with a number of our Muslim students with colleagues on Monday at the start of Ramadan. They will be a support to each other during this month, will I know be supported by members of our school community, and will be only too happy to share with us the importance of Ramadan to Muslims and what this means for them and their families.

Mr Whittle Principal



Miss Thompson

# **Election Fever Comes to Hayes...**

Most of us will have experienced and taken part in the election process whether this be at a local or national level. We understand the importance and value of living in a democratic society, having the freedom of choice to elect our leaders and representatives who will act as our voice. In this, my third instalment, I wanted to share our students' experiences of this process as they voted in the Bromley Youth Council Election to choose two members of our student body to act as their voice and represent their views at the Borough Youth Council.





Last Friday our school library became the focus of the Bromley Youth Council Elections, with the usual quiet space turned into a hubbub of excited anticipation as election fever hit the school. Our five candidates had been busily campaigning over a number of weeks to get their messages seen and heard, in the hope of becoming one of the two BYC representatives for Hayes School.



Gone were some of the rows of book shelves and work tables to be replaced with polling booths and registration tables manned by our polling clerks; a group made up of our Year 8 student leaders.

Students from all year groups were invited to cast their votes with a steady stream arriving at our Polling Station across the morning to make their two important choices under the watchful eye of their teachers, Mrs Hussain our Librarian, our polling clerks and leaders from BYC. By lunchtime over 1200 votes had been cast and placed in our ballot boxes.





### Hope - Year 10

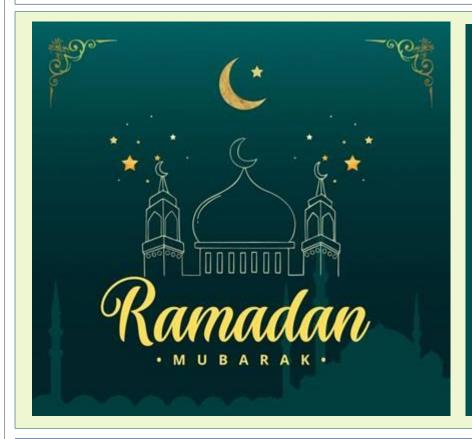
The votes were carefully counted and verified under the watchful eye and scrutiny of leaders from the Bromley Youth Council with the result being kept under wraps over the weekend. I had the pleasure of sharing the results with our five candidates alongside Mr Whittle on Monday morning in a specially convened meeting and am pleased to introduce you to our two new Bromley Youth Council representatives:



Sathvik - Year 8

We look forward to hearing more from our newly elected BYC representatives in future newsletters and assemblies and know they are eagerly awaiting their formal introductions and training as they step into their new roles.

Miss Thompson Senior Vice Principal



Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March marked the start of Ramadan and we wish all those members of our school community observing Ramadan a blessed and peaceful month.

#### **NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH**

We look forward to shortly launching a new look school website with improved navigation and accessibility features across a range of devices. We are busy working behind the scenes to ensure that our content is migrated and up to date, and we look forward to



updating and publishing new content for current students, parents and staff as well as those looking to join our school.

As part of our new website, we will also be launching a micro site for Hayes Sixth Form with specific information about Sixth Form life, our courses and useful information for students, parents and carers.

We hope that you will enjoy exploring our new site and find it easier to find key information.

Mr Whittle, Principal



## In the Spotlight



## **British Science Week**

British Science Week is taking place from 8<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March.

The British Science Week poster competition is on the theme *Time*, and as a school we can submit 5 entries.

For further information and inspiration the link to the science week website is here

https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/ poster-competition/

<u>Please hand in posters to Mrs Shipley (Head of</u> <u>Science) in the science offices by Wednesday 20th</u> <u>March.</u>

There are activities and lots of other information and activities on the British Science Week website, including information on their smashing stereotypes campaign.



## Science Week at Hayes

Due to mock exams, and the school show we choose to celebrate this in the summer term.

During the Hayes School Science Week, students can look forward to:

- Science week activities in lessons.
- Science activities at break and lunchtime.
- Chicks hatching during the week.
- Science competitions.





## Science Club

At Hayes School, the science department have been running a Science Club for Years 7 and 8 to aid their learning, understanding, and proficiency within science, and with great success. Working with Mrs Pearson, the students cover the 3 core subjects of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Students have been provided with a wider range of access to demonstrations, practical work, and scientific theory, otherwise being taught to older years and Sixth Form, enabling them to build their confidence, curiosities, and commitment to the sciences. This advancement in learning aids their future endeavours for when they enter their GCSE years and beyond. Previous sessions have increased their skillset with using lab equipment, both basic and



specialised, safely identifying and using chemical substances with great care and respect, and learning effective lab etiquette, which are all vital components of being a successful scientist.

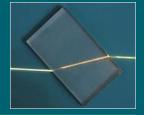
We encourage any student wishing to enhance their scientific knowledge to come and join us where knowledge, experience, and friendships are all gained.

Recently students have made and launched paper rockets.

# What are students learning in Science?

There are lots of interesting things being learnt in science across the different year groups, here are a few.

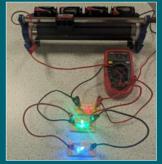
- Year 7 are learning about the reproductive system and the signs a chemical reaction has taken place.
- Year 8 are learning about reflection and refraction in the waves unit.
- Year 9 are learning about how group 1 metals react with water in Chemistry, the role on enzymes in Biology, and about insulation materials in Physics.
- Year 10 are learning about osmosis in biology, using the change in mass of potatoes to see whether water has moved into or out of the cells. This is also being covered in greater depth in Year 12.
- Year 10 are dismantling plugs (safely) in Physics when learning about electrical safety. They are also leaning about the National Grid and how electricity is efficiently and safely distributed.
- Year 10 are learning about exothermic and endothermic reactions in Chemistry.
- Year 11 have been learning about the atmosphere and resources in Chemistry.
- Year 11 are using the air track in Physics to demonstrate conservation of momentum
- Year 11 are learning about evolution in Biology.
- Year 12 physicists are learning about quantum physics, using LEDs to determine fundamental constants.













# Getting involved in Science at Home

There are lots of brilliant citizen science projects if you would like to get involved with real current science projects.

https://www.zooniverse.org/

There are projects for any interest.

Some current projects include.

- \* Identifying distant galaxies to help measure dark energy.
- \* Helping scientists at CERN look for particles formed in the large hadron collider.
- \* Counting cells in fossilised leaves to track climate change.
- \* Identifying whale and dolphin calls to understand their communication.

There really is something for everyone so go and check it out!



# **Recommended Reading and Viewing**

Looking for something to extend on what we teach in lessons? See if anything below piques your interest.

Title	Where Can I Find It?	Further Information		
Women in Science: 50 Fearless women who changed the world by Rachel Ignotofsky	All good book shops	A great introduction to 50 brilliant female scientists who are not covered in the National Curriculum as much as we would like.		
<b>Kay's Marvellous Medicine</b> by Adam Kay	All good book shops	A gruesome guide to the history of medicine.		
Almost Astronauts by Tanya Lee Stone	All good book shops	The story of 13 women who took on the government and are true pioneers of the space age.		
Periodic Tales: Curious Lives of the Elements by Hugh Aldersey- Williams	All good book shops	Gives some of the colourful stories behind common and not so common <i>elements</i> .		
What If? By Randall Munroe	All good book shops	Serious scientific answers to absurd hypothetical questions, very funny.		
Why Can't Elephants Jump? By New Scientist	All good book shops	Answering 113 interesting science questions.		
Catalyst Magazine	<u>https://catalyst-</u> magazine.org/	Science journal covering scientific research and developments for young people		
Planet Earth III	BBC iPlayer	Sir David Attenborough shares amazing stories about the wonders of planet Earth.		
Attenborough's Life in Colour	BBC iPlayer	Great series that has lots of links to the adaptation topic in Biology		
The Secret Genius of the Modern World	BBC iPlayer	The secrets behind the technologies of the modern world and their invention.		
Brian Cox's The Planets	BBC iPlayer	Interesting series with lots of links to the year 7 space unit.		
Secrets of Size: Atoms to Supergalaxies	BBC iPlayer	Interesting series linking the 3 science specialisms together		

# Hayes School student successes in national Physics competitions

This year, students in Year 13 have participated in physics problem-solving competitions run by the British Physics Olympiad.

The British Physics Olympiad is an annual Physics problem-solving competition involving over 2,800 students from across the UK. It is a very difficult competition, with only 6% of entrants achieving the top Gold award.

Seven Hayes School students entered Round 1 of the competition, which consists of three hours of written physics problems under exam conditions. They achieved the results below:

Isabella Basson	Bronze II
Matthew De Zoyza	Bronze II
Ciaran Murphy	Bronze II
Sam Carter	Bronze II
Ewan Sutherland	Commendatio
Eben Sabour	Commendatio
Yuna Fothergill	Commendatio



I should particularly like to highlight the achievement of Sam Carter and Yuna Fothergill, the only Year 12 students who entered (the others are all from Year 13). Many of the questions in the competition would have addressed Physics topics that they have not yet been taught, which makes their awards even more impressive!

## **Science Trips**

We love to get students to see where science can take them and we aim to take students on trips

closer to home, and further afield. Some recent and upcoming trips include.

- Taking A-level and GCSE students to science live events with world renowned guest speakers including Prof. Robert Winston and Dr Maggie Aderin Pocock.
- Taking 30 students to Geneva to visit CERN, the United Nations, and the Swiss Plasma centre this month.
- Year 7 visiting Hurstmonceax Observatory this summer.
- Trip to Florida to visit the Kennedy Space
  Centre subject to interest in October 2024.



# Social Communication Family Workshops

science

HE Observatory

A-

#### Social Communication/Autistic Spectrum Termly Family Workshops

Are you the parent or carer of a Hayes student with social communication needs or a diagnosis of Autism? Would you like to meet other families and share experiences? Learn about the approaches being developed at Hayes to support social communication needs? Do you struggle with helping your child with homework, revision, routines and change? Would you like to explore ideas to help your child's independence and social confidence?

#### Yes?

Then why not come along to the twilight SCD/ASC workshops this year?

Themes and dates are:

Spring Term: Supporting your child with revision and exam anxiety:

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 4.00pm – 5.30pm

<u>Summer Term</u>: Surviving the summer break and preparing your child for change and the new school year: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Hosted by Hayes School, the sessions will be led by Paul Cabb, an independent Social Communication Difficulties Advisor. Paul spent many years as an Autistic Spectrum Advisor for Bromley LEA before setting up his own independent advisory service working for schools in Bromley and neighbouring London Boroughs. Paul has enjoyed working with Hayes School for almost 20 years.

So, come along to the sessions and join us in working together at Hayes to support you and your children to thrive.



# International Women's Day was on Friday 8th March 2024. This year's theme is #InspireInclusion.



With well over a century of history and change, the first International Women's Day (IWD) was held in March 1911. IWD isn't country, group or organisation specific. It's a day of collective global activism and celebration that belongs to all those committed to forging women's equality.

World-renowned feminist, journalist and activist, Gloria Steinem, reportedly once explained: "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organisation, but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights." When women aren't present, we must ask: "If not, why not?"

When women are discriminated against, we must call out poor practice.

When the treatment of women is not equitable, we must take action.

And we must do this each time, every time.

So together, let's all help fight the good fight.

Students and staff at Hayes School were keen to show their support for this important day in the calendar.





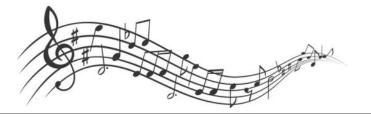
# EasterCoasterCoasterCoasterStadutsConcessions

## Easter Concert, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Our Easter Concert will feature performances from all our main ensembles, including Choir, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Wind Band, Junior Jazz Band, Stringcredibles, HUB, Musical Theatre, Boyvox, Hayes Harmonies, Jamsesh and Brass Quintet. All performers should keep an eye on our blog <u>www.hayesmusic.blog</u> for details of the rehearsals on the day of the concert.

Tickets are £5 for adults with U18s and seniors free. They are available online: <u>https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/</u>

hayes-school-music/t-zzdgpjy



# Music Department trip to the Churchill Theatre, February 2024

n Thursday 29th February, 48 students ranging from year 7 to year 13 met at the Churchill Theatre to see a new production of the iconic global phenomenon, Jesus Christ Superstar. Featuring lyrics and music by Emmy, GRAMMY, Oscar and Tony winners Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, and with choreography by Drew McOnie (*King Kong, Strictly Ballroom*), Jesus Christ Superstar is set against the backdrop of an extraordinary series of events during the final weeks in the life of Jesus Christ, as seen through the eyes of Judas. Reflecting the rock roots that defined a generation, the legendary score includes '*I Don't Know How to Love Him*', '*Gethsemane*' and '*Superstar*'.

We had a wonderful time at Jesus Christ Superstar. The singing and acting were amazing and the plot was captivating. It was a great opportunity to get together with friends and watch a good theatre show in the evening. Tobie



Thanks for organising the trip, I really enjoyed it! My favourite part was Gethsemane as whenever I've seen the show it has always been the point that I find the most interesting. I also really enjoyed seeing Julian Clary as Herod! Will

The Jesus Christ Superstar trip was amazing. My favourite part was the singing but the chorus was fun to watch as well. Unlike many shows I have seen it was really cool as it was a bit different. Elinor

The Jesus Christ Superstar show was fun and different it was not like many other shows I have watched before. The vocals were incredible and the choreography gave a different aspect. I was in awe for much of the show. My favourite part of the show was the whipping scene as I thought the use of the slapstick and glitter made it realistic. Matilda

Jesus Christ Superstar was absolutely incredible - the vocal talent and musical ability was just incredible, and the atmosphere was so intense, which made it such an amazing experience. Emma

I \*LOVED\* Jesus Christ Super Star! Totally would recommend and would always want to see it again! SO worth it because it was very dramatic, unique and the music was unlike any other musicals I've heard before! Lyra



I really enjoyed the show. The singing was fabulous and the performers were great to watch . Paige



I really enjoyed the show! I found the bit with the glitter really interesting and the vocals in general were just amazing!! Lavinia The Jesus Christ Superstar trip was a really special experience. The show was incredibly unique and not what I was expecting! My favourite part was the way the dancers moved completely in sync, almost like they were moving as one and I was completely mesmerised. It was a really fun trip and I would love to see more shows like this :) Katia

The Jesus Christ Superstar show was brilliant. When I walked into the Churchill Theatre I was expecting no where near as good a show as it was. The set was sooooo good with the band built in so all was visible. The lead guitarist was absolutely incredible! I would love to see it again! Henry

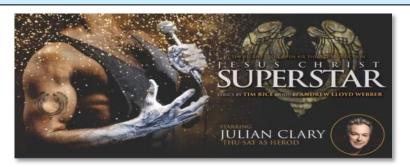
Amazing show! The music was absolutely amazing and the use of glitter throughout the show was so interesting! Nikol

As one of my first musicals, Jesus Christ Superstar was a brilliant experience. I loved everything about it and would recommend others to see it. I especially enjoyed hearing the orchestra make the performance come alive. Thank you for taking me. Finn

I really liked the show as it was very well made. My favourite part was when they entered the stage for the very first time. I also liked it as it was all singing and dancing. I didn't get how the dancers could dance for 30 minutes straight! Albertine



JCS was amazing! There is not one negative thing I could say. Andrew Lloyd Webber's music was AMAZING as usual, the musicians were so great and I loved that you could see them. The actors' voices were astounding, the vocal range and technique was jaw dropping and the set was so creative, symbolic and interesting. I loved it. What a great show! Bibi



#### Visit to Mansfield College, Oxford: thirty year 11 and 12 students

For many people, the initial response to a trip to Oxford University might be to spark an association with Harry Potter's Hogwarts, or perhaps to the famous people who have studied there, actress Emma Watson or Oscar Wilde. Our visit to the university revealed the beautiful architectural buildings but also the diverse, youthful atmosphere to it, which made the experience that much more enjoyable.

Upon arrival, we were warmly welcomed with tea, coffee and biscuits, then an introductory talk to Mansfield. This provided a clear insight into studying at Oxford, followed by an interesting and helpful Q and A session with three current students, which included studying tips, societies they had joined and preparation for admissions tests. Our tour of Mansfield allowed us to see their main library, one of the only ones in Oxford with hand painted ceilings. After a busy morning exploring the college, we enjoyed a delicious lunch in Mansfield's fine chapel, which is also their dining hall, watched over by figures in the stained glass windows. Two taster/workshop sessions enabled us to experience a university style of teaching. One group experienced a lecture on the history of South Africa with stimulus material to interpret which, with my own South African background, I found very intriguing. The other group attended a Materials Science session where groups of three made solar cells, learning the differences between the ones they made and silicon solar cells seen in everyday settings.

We then met up with two of our ex Hayes students -Megan, second year English and Spanish, and Stephen, second year Chemistry. They kindly showed us around their college, Wadham, answering further questions about life at Oxford. One of our party also met his cousin who showed a small group around Christ Church. Without a doubt, our visit to Oxford held so much more than a quick day out and instead increased a sense of motivation! Or perhaps it was the marble staircase that reminded me of Harry Potter talking?



Anastacia Byrne Year 12

#### Year 10 Oxbridge Introduction Workshop

On the 13th of March, ten Year 10 students had the chance to attend a workshop run by Gonville and Caius College (Cambridge University) and Mansfield College (Oxford University). The event was held at Hurstmere School, and it was extremely useful and provided a clearer understanding of the universities, for instance, the application process, how to manage the workload, accommodations and many more.

The workshop began by explaining how to choose what you wanted to do for a degree. For me personally it really highlighted how I do not need take specific subjects to do a particular degree, for example, you could take Physics, Maths and Chemistry and you could study Law. It was established exceedingly early on that you need to pick a subject you enjoy as it allows you to do better. This is because those with a better degree have a higher chance of getting a better job.

We were then introduced to super curriculars. This was highly informative, and we were given examples of some that we could do: listen to a podcast about the subject, read outside your curriculum, go to a museum, or go to lecture. Many of us found this helpful as super curriculars are a way to make yourself stand out in your personal statement.

Following this, we were shown a timetable for a STEM student and humanities student. It was interesting how both universities provide seminar style tutoring. This is basically a few students and a tutor meeting up each week to discuss work, and during this session tasks are also set for the following week. Though there were many free periods, the workload was still immense (for humanities you had two 2000 word essays due each week on top of other work). However, it was made clear there were many places where you could seek help with your workload.

For me, student debt was one of my biggest worries with university. I found it helpful how student debt was explained to us, for example, I did not know that it did not affect your credit score.

My most favourite workshop of this event was where we had students from these universities answer questions. It was very inspirational, they answered questions about what extra curriculars they did, sixth form options, why they picked the college they are staying in, how they manage their finances and why they picked their subject. Lastly, many resources were shared with us.

To conclude, this day was such a privilege to be a part of and really made clear what the universities are looking for.



Teodora Mindru



WORK SHADOWING DAY – WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2024

This year we were able to offer our Year 10 students the opportunity of having a day work shadowing an employee. Just under 90% of students secured a placement where they had the chance to observe employees in their roles, and carry out new tasks under supervision of the employee.

This beneficial and valuable opportunity is a positive learning experience for students to learn new skills they are unfamiliar with and gain a good perception of what working life is like. Lots of wonderful comments have come back from employers where they highly praised the students and expressed how impressed they were with students' positive attitudes and enthusiasm.

Students who remained in school were given the opportunity to participate in a programme of activities driven by Young Enterprise's "Learn to Earn" scheme.

Teodora Mindru has provided a fantastic outline of the day overleaf with a picture of the presenter and one of the volunteers who attended.

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of March a few Year 10 students had the opportunity to participate in the Learn to Earn workshop for Work Shadowing. This workshop was a wonderful experience where you learnt many key skills to help when applying for a job.

During the workshop we were in groups where we could discuss the tasks we were given, for instance, we had to order what jobs will remain with all this innovative technology and what will not. We also played a board game to see how quickly we could get to our dream lifestyle with all the obstacles ahead. The workshop began with us highlighting our ideal lifestyle and this was extremely eye-opening to the costs of this ideal lifestyle and how much our yearly salary should be. After this, we discussed what success meant to us and circled five phrases from our sheet.



We were extremely lucky to have had three guest speakers, to whom we could ask questions about their job and why they choose it. One of the guest speakers was managing her own two businesses and the other two worked in the banking sector. I really enjoyed this as I had never considered these jobs as one of my careers.

We were then given a jobs directory and this booklet was very beneficial. There were many jobs in all different sectors, with each job showing what qualifications were needed, the starting salary and what you could earn after years of experience. We then used our starting salary to see if we could afford our dream lifestyle, with many of us finding out that we had to cut back on some of the expenses.

To finish this session, we did an interview role-play, which I really enjoyed (I was the interviewer). It highlighted necessary qualifications for the job as well as the several soft skills needed, and you would frequently be asked when you used these skills. The guest speakers also taught us some interview etiquette and what they look for in an interview, for example: confidence, a smile, handshake, and the ability to communicate well. On top of this we were given a 'STAR' (situation, task, action, and result) booklet, including the eight employability skills. Out of these eight skills, we developed communication, financial capability, initiative, and confidence.

I learnt a lot about financial capability and further learnt about the cost of living and how many taxes need to be paid. Taking everything into account this day was highly informative, and I enjoyed writing my goals down and what I want to achieve. It further motivated me and many others to work hard towards achieving these goals.

Teodora Mindru

memory!

The Year 9 Bookclub took part in the London Southeast Regional heat of the National Reading Champions Quiz.

It was over 2 hours of book related questions, taxing the brains of Elliot Collymore, Lewis Foard, James McCay and William Preston. They demonstrated admirable focus and impressive knowledge, however, the competition was tough with 22 other schools participating. It was a great experience with a few



Change your story

agonising moments when a book title would be on the tip of their tongues but just that little bit out of reach of





Well done to the team for taking part.

Тор	Top Attendance W/C 4t
Year	Year Tutor group
7	7 7SZA
8	8 8SRH
9	9 9YGE
10	10 10JEH
11	11 11ATS
6	6 6MMM
Year 7 8 9 10 11	YearTutor group77SZA88SRH99YGE1010JEH1111ATS

# Start your Social Communication Needs Journey here...

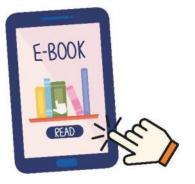
Scan the QR code or click the image to see the new online enquiry pathway form



Check it out & share our new Flipbook for the Social Communication Needs Targeted Support Service!



Early Intervention and Family Suppor



Let's unravel the mystery of Social Communication Needs (inc. Autism)











## Shaping your Local Offer - making your views count

The Bromley Local Offer is a source of information and advice about the local services and support available for families including children and young people aged 0 - 25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities.

The Local Offer has been created using feedback from children, young people, parents, carers, local services, schools, colleges, health and social care agencies and we want to make sure that our local offer website continues to develop to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND in Bromley and their families.

Your feedback is important to us as it will be used to develop the local offer website and to inform and improve our SEND services.

Please share your thoughts about the Local Offer including improvements that we could make by completing our short Local Offer Survey.



To raise and enquiry or to submit a request for inclusion of your business or service on the Local Offer please use <u>our feedback form</u> or email us at <u>localoffer@bromley.gov.uk</u>.



# METROPOLITAN POLICE

Dear Parents/Caregivers

#### Subject: Warning Regarding Dangerous Vape Devices in Bromley Borough

I hope this letter finds you well. We write to bring your attention to a concerning issue affecting our school communities. There have been reports in London of young individuals experiencing health complications after using vape devices containing drugs.

We wish to emphasise the importance of informing parents about the hazards associated with unregulated vape pens, given the recent surge in related incidents. Law enforcement authorities across London, including our local police officers, have seized numerous vapes from students in the past weeks. Some of these devices are currently undergoing testing to detect dangerous Class B substances such as Spice or THC, the active component in cannabis.

It has come to our understanding that certain reusable vape pens are being illicitly filled with drugs by dealers. Officers have received information about students falling ill after using these altered devices, which are then believed to be distributed among young people through platforms like Snapchat and other social media apps.

Parents/caregivers must be aware that unregulated vape pens pose a serious threat to the health of young individuals. Those contemplating the purchase of these unauthorised, home-filled devices are unaware of their contents and the potential dangers they pose. THC and Spice are harmful psychoactive substances that can lead to severe health problems, necessitating heightened vigilance on the part of parents/caregivers.

THC, the primary psychoactive compound in cannabis, and Spice, a group of synthetic Class B drugs, are known to mimic the effects of cannabis. Inhaling Spice through a vaping pen is particularly hazardous for young people, leading to various health issues such as breathing difficulties, chest pains, heart palpitations, seizures, extreme anxiety, paranoia, suicidal thoughts, psychosis, vomiting or diarrhoea, and acute kidney injury. In some instances, a single dose can prove fatal.

Our Bromley Police Schools Officers are collaborating closely with our schools and partners to share information and intelligence on this matter so we can better understand the issues. We urge parents, guardians, and anyone with pertinent information about those supplying these vapes to contact the Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously online at <u>www.crimestoppers-uk.org</u>, <u>https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless</u> or by calling 0800 555 111.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. Your cooperation and awareness are crucial in ensuring the safety and well-being of our children.

**Yours Sincerely** 

Hayes School and Bromley Police















SPORT

ENGLAND

IMPACT

Multi Academy Trust