

The

Haywood News

Spring 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the Spring edition of **The Haywood News**. I can't believe it was just three weeks ago that I wrote to you as the new Principal of Haywood Academy - it really is both a great privilege and a huge honour to be here. The staff and students have made me feel very welcome and I have met many wonderful, hardworking and caring young people. As you know I was here between 2001 and 2017 and it truly is great to be back!

The academy remains as busy as ever, as you can see from this newsletter and don't forget to take a look at our social media accounts too! We really do have a lot of kind and talented children here at the Academy.

Highlights for me have been handing out achievement certificates to so many children for their hard work, determination and kindness in assemblies this week and seeing them thoroughly enjoy the **Easter Bounce** reward.

We also participated in the charity event **Race To Raise** this week raising **£16,000** for the Dougie Mac with other schools in the City Learning Trust. This is an amazing achievement and representatives from the charity wanted me to pass on their thanks to you all - as do I.

All that leaves me now to say is have a lovely Easter holiday, and Eid Mubarak to you all. I look forward to seeing the children once again on Monday April 8th.

A Mills

Adele Mills
Principal, Haywood Academy



Race To Raise!

On Wednesday 20th March, Students and staff came together, along with the rest of the City Learning Trust, to **'Race to Raise'** for Stoke-on-Trent's Dougie Mac Hospice.

The day started early, with some bright-eyed members of staff getting on their bikes to take the first shift of cycling, raising over **£1,000 before 8am!**

As the students started to pour into the academy, the main hall was packed with racers, supporters, staff members cheering on, and student helpers ensuring the event ran smoothly and had a fantastic atmosphere. Even our very own Character and Arts Foundation mascot, Sunny the Duck, took their turn to pedal their webbed feet off in the name of a fantastic cause.

Some students even had multiple turns on the bikes to keep the momentum going as the running total of donations kept sky-rocketing, a sight that was so wonderful and well-deserved.

The final total raised on the day by the City Learning Trust was a whopping **£16,000!** A truly remarkable achievement from our school community, demonstrating the togetherness, the hard work, and most importantly, the kindness of everyone involved to make this happen. We are so proud of all of our students for taking part, and thank you all for your donations, your kind words and encouragement for supporting us.

Sam from the Dougie Mac fundraising team said:

"On behalf of Dougie Mac, I'd like to say a huge heartfelt thanks to every single one of you, the massive teamwork of staff, students and your families working together has raised a phenomenal amount of money for our charity today.

I want to say how grateful we are for all the hard work and dedication you all have put into organising this mega charity fundraiser. This is months of planning and hard work so huge thanks. It's been great to see how much fun both staff and students have had today.

Your amazing fundraising will continue to help provide the outstanding care and support services to over 3500 local people including children, young adults, adults and their families...you are all Superstars!"

Book Bonanza!



On World Book Day we launched our honesty library in **RE2!**

The library has around **1000 books** that have been donated, and include fiction, non-fiction, study guides, maps, books for older readers, and stories to read to younger siblings.

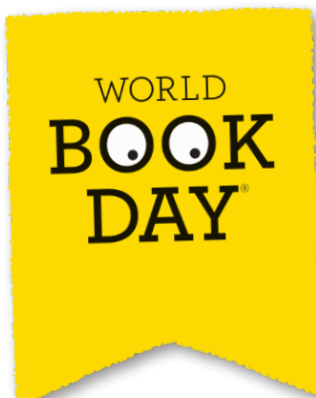
The books can be borrowed by everyone, and we trust our students to return them when they are finished for someone else to enjoy.

On the day, our students also took part in a 'Marauders Map' challenge, with over 300 students managing to track down all staff dressed in costumes to receive a chocolate treat and rewards points for completing their map!

Many staff volunteered to dress up in costume, and they were rewarded with a certificate! Awards included, 'best costume coordinated to their own hair' (Ms Hancock), 'most beautiful' (Mrs Jan), and 'best horn blowing' (Mr Convey). You can see Mr Convey doing his best BFG impression on our social media sites if you missed it - go and check it out!

Staff also read excerpts from their favourite books, and we ran a 'guess the published author' contest! For this, book covers that appeared to be written by our staff were posted around the academy, but only one staff member is a real published author. Did you work out who it is?

The honesty library is open every break time in **RE2**. Please pop down and have a look!



Dates for your diary

All dates are subject to change.

8th-12th April 2024

Year 11 Art, Photography & Textiles Exam

15th April 2024

Year 11 photos

22nd April 2024

Year 8 'My Digital Future' Workshop

29th April- 3rd May 2024

Year 12 Mock Exams

2nd May 2024

Years 7-9 Art Trip- Black Country Living Museum

3rd- 10th May 2024

Year 10 Mock Exams

6th May 2024

May Day Bank Holiday holiday

7th-25th May 2024

Year 11 & Year 13 Exams

27th-31st May 2024

Half Term

3rd-28rd June 2024

Year 11 & Year 13 Exams

4th-6th June 2024

Year 8 Exams

7th June 2024

Year 7 Hallé Concert

11th-13th June 2024

Year 7 Exams

12th June 2024

Year 10 Parents Evening

13th June 2024

Year 8 HPV vaccinations

17th-18th June 2024

INSET Days

1st-4th July 2024

Year 9 & 10 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

2nd July 2024

Year 11 Leavers Assembly

3rd July 2024

Summer Showcase

12th-18th July 2024

Year 8 Outward Bound Trip

15th July 2024

Year 11 Prom

19th July 2024

Last day of term

Amazing Artists!



Students have been working on a weekly basis this term across the Art department with different artists on locally inspired projects.

Groups across Years 7, 8 and 9 have been working with artist **Richard Franks** on a project called 'Re-imagining Burslem' in which they are drawing, deconstructing and reimagining the buildings in Burslem. Through this project they will be making ceramic and cardboard 3D and relief structures.

Next term, students will have the opportunity to visit the Black Country Museum to explore different approaches to industrial heritage.

Students have also had the opportunity this term to develop their approaches to illustration with **Rumbidzai Savanhu**.

Over 3 weeks they have drawn images of people and objects that have meaning to them, developing their work through the processes Rumbi herself uses.

Every week they have used illustration to explore different inspiration and drawing techniques, and have learnt that anyone can draw!

Both of these projects are delivered by **PICL** (Partners in Creative Learning) and Funded by the **Arts Council**, and students' work will be showcased in an exhibition later in the year!



Impressive Impresarios!

As part of the **Character & Arts Foundation**, our students had the opportunity at the end of February to take part in a Hallé Impresarios programme, led by the team at **Hallé Connect**.

Throughout the programme, they had the opportunity to engage in the process of planning and organising a musical concert, and at the

end of the day, they presented their final idea. We are extremely proud of everyone who participated!

A special mention must go to our runners up team 'Youth Choir', and our overall winners, team 'Harful Harmonies'!



Innovative young people!

Through the **Character & Arts Foundation**, Haywood and City College students - alongside students from Trentham Academy - had the opportunity to represent the academy at the Youth Innovation Conference in Manchester back at the end of January.

Our young people were invited as guest speakers to lead a workshop around a topic of their choice.

They shared their views on some of the struggles that young people face, and led a workshop to industry professionals to get them thinking about how they could support young people.

The workshop was a huge success, and all of our young people did an incredible job!

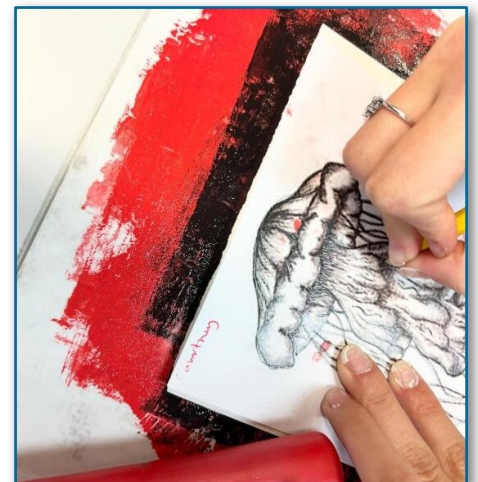


Local Talent

On Friday 15th March the contemporary artist **Kate Windsor** visited KS3 and 4 Art and Photography lessons.

Local to Stoke-on-Trent, Kate gave an inspirational talk about her life and career, alongside showcasing her mono-printing and mixed media pieces.

Kate then ran practical workshops sharing her mono-printing technique with the students.

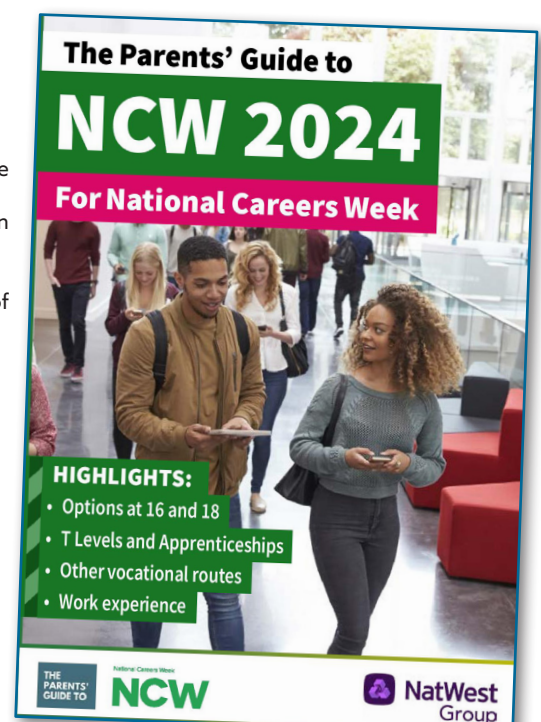


Facing the future

National Careers Week (4th-9th March) was a whole week dedicated to careers guidance. It is an opportunity for students of all ages to start thinking about the options that are available to them when they leave education, and where they might want to be headed. Students have been signposted towards a range of resources that they can use, and they can talk to staff within the academy about their future plans.

For parents and carers, why not download the free '**Parents Guide to Careers**', for a range of up-to-date advice about the range of opportunities available to young people?

The guide is available here: ncw2020.co.uk/booklets-guides/



Amazing Apprenticeships



Monday 5th – Sunday 11th February was National Apprenticeship Week, and so we dedicated our PSHE Day on 7th February to apprenticeships and careers!

Students engaged in a range of activities across the day, learning about critical skills that employers are looking for, attributes for a successful career, and jobs of the future.

Years 9 and 10 heard from **Ornua Foods** and the **Royal Navy** about their apprenticeship programmes, and all students across the academy met training providers and employers at our first Careers Fair!

 **Apprenticeships**
National Apprenticeship Week
5th to 11th February 2024

Students have been introduced to 10 key career skills that they will be using throughout their lessons, and which staff will signpost to students when they are being used with these icons on the board:



Students will also have a booklet that they will fill in during Community Time to evidence their use of these career skills, and which can then be used when it comes to writing CVs and making applications to college, university, or employment.

On Thursday 22nd February, 19 Year 7 & 8 students visited **Wedgwood** as part of an ongoing project with the **British Ceramics Biennial**.

The students were able to look around the museum and galleries to see the fantastic ceramics collection on display.

Students created studies from the pottery they saw, and this provided inspiration for their own plates which they decorated later in the day.

Students also had the opportunity to go on a factory tour to see the process of creating ceramic pieces from start to finish.

Seeing techniques such as the use of sprig moulds allowed students to use this technique when decorating their own plates in the craft studio.

A massive thank you to the British Ceramics Biennial for organising these ongoing activities and opportunities for our students, including trips like this and our weekly ceramics club.

Hands-on Heritage



An Inspector Calls at Haywood!



The **manACTco** theatre group called at Haywood on 23rd January to perform an exciting rendition of *An Inspector Calls* for our Year 11 students. The three actors interchanged roles on stage and were excellent at portraying the characters, really bringing them to life for their audience.

Students were able to ask questions to deepen their understanding of the inner thoughts and feelings that each character may have felt about their role in the death of Eva Smith.

Both staff and students commented that it was very enjoyable and aided revision for Year 11's upcoming GCSE exams!



Poetry Live!

A number of Year 11 students attended **Poetry Live!** at Nottingham Concert Hall on 29th January.

Various poets of the GCSE Power and Conflict anthology were in attendance, and they both performed their poems and offered the students insight behind the meaning and significance of lines within their work.

All the students behaved impeccably throughout the event and represented the school brilliantly. They particularly enjoyed performances from **Imtiaz Dharker**, **John Agard**, and current Poet Laureate **Simon Armitage**, saying they had relished the experience and that it had benefitted their studies.

Animal Attractions

On 7th February we welcomed Year 5 pupils from **Norton-le-Moors** and **New Ford** primaries for an interactive session with **Wings & Things**, where they got to meet a whole host of birds and other animals, including Bob the boa!



Learning and growing

Year 7 have been learning about 'Stewardship' in their RE lessons this term. 'Stewardship' is our responsibility to look after the planet, and to put this into practice, students planted grass heads as part of their learning.

It is clear from Miss Taylor's window ledge which students have been showing stewardship and looking after their grass heads, and which students have not been back to water them!

This is an excellent example of the difference we can make when we look after our planet!

Ayobami Falodun and **Leo Dingwall Williams** have been rewarded for their stewardship with a chocolate reward.

You can see a brilliant example of what happens if we don't show stewardship and look after the planet from the dead grass heads at the front!



We had a brilliantly busy Sports Hall on 21st February for our **Year 9 Options Evening**, and it was great to see so many families in attendance.

Staff gave out lots of information about the wide range of subjects we offer at GCSE level for students to either broaden their horizons and try something new, or focus in more depth in an area they already love!



FAREWELL TO STAFF

Mrs McGorie has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Haywood Academy since 2010 and at City College since 2018.

Over the years, she has supported many students, giving up her free time to offer maths revision after school in addition to her classroom duties.

As a trained chef, Mrs McGorie was regularly found toasting bagels for the students and will be fondly remembered for her catchphrase, "**Would you like to hear me sing?**", followed by a distinctive rendition of the Hallelujah Chorus.

Mrs McGorie has taken up a post at The Grocott Centre in Blurton supporting young adults with learning disabilities in their Life Skills programme.



Festival of Football



On 5th March, our Year 8 girls' football team - **Maddison Barlow**, **Kinvarra Baxter-Lawson**, **Chanel Beard**, **Skye Hall**, **Natasha Jones**, **Kourtney McCue**, and **Chinazo Njoku** - went to Fenton Manor to attend a girls' football festival, run by St. Margaret Ward as part of Girls Football week!

They really enjoyed the experience, and represented Haywood brilliantly!



Year 9 Boy's Football

This term, our Year 9 Boys' football team played **St Margaret Ward** and beat them **6-0** to be crowned the **North League Champions!**

This victory meant topping the group with three wins out of three, and also means that the boys have guaranteed a spot in the semi-finals of the Stoke North Championships!



Key Stage 4 Handball



Our Handball team is made up of 18 of our fantastic students who have been working with **Miss Barnes** over the last two years. The students can only be described as dedicated, passionate and driven to improve and create a place for handball in Stoke-on-Trent. Several of our students attended county trials last year, were successful, and have now joined the England Academy, representing for the Midlands!

Our Haywood Academy girls' team, captained by **Harriet Clarke**, attended the England Handball Schools Games, and came second in the regional rounds, acquiring a silver medal! Special mentions must go to **Grace Harvey**, who received player of the tournament, **Leona Yeboah**, top goal scorer throughout, and **Charlie Coates**, player of the tournament.

Fantastic Football!



Our Under 16s Football team - comprising of **Tanisha Ali**, **Hadia Baig**, **Maddison Barlow**, **Harriet Clarke**, **Grace Ojo**, **Ruby Schemlt**, and **Chloe Stone-Parkes** - played at the Under 16 City of Stoke Girls Football Tournament on 7th February, and finished joint 2nd in the city!

All of these students were amazing, but a shoutout must go to **Maddison Barlow** in Year 8, who played 3 age groups up!



Sporting Stars

We love to hear about some of the exciting things our students get up to in their own time, with students doing drama, swimming, and martial arts, to name but a few! Here, we have **Harrison** and **Kenny** from Year 11, who play for **Stoke Rugby!**

Watching them play, it is clear that they have a lot of respect for the game, and put in a lot of hard work, which makes us really proud.

Well done!

Feathery fun!

City College welcomed Year 10 ASDAN students this term as part of their Animal Care course, where they got to meet a range of animals courtesy of *Wings and Things*.

They handled a Harris hawk, barn owl, royal python, and leopard gecko, and they saw a tortoise and cockroaches! The students have even had a go at training the birds!



Preparing for their next steps

We welcomed some eager Year 11 students to City College on 11th March to get a taster of our *Employability & Life Skills* course!

They spent a morning in the kitchen creating some scrumptious Rocky Road tray bakes, and then spent some time thinking about the requirements of a town or city, and set about planning their own!

