

Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the summer edition, and the final, newsletter of this academic year. Where has the year gone?!

As you will see throughout this newsletter, we have witnessed many much-loved academy experiences and opportunities; experiences our children absolutely deserve. Whether this has been in the form of curriculum-related trips, exciting rewards experiences, residential character building or the opportunity to perform in front of an audience, this year really has seen it all.

Our children continue to rise to the challenge of the higher expectations we have set and they really do make me smile with pride when I see how polite, hardworking and caring they can be. I am truly honoured to have presented so many awards this academic year and continue to be so impressed by the talents of our children.

I wish our Year 11 and 13 leavers the very best for the future and do hope that they keep in touch, they will be made to feel very welcome if they ever wish to return. And as those cohorts leave us, another joins us! It was a real pleasure to host two amazing, fun-filled transition days with our Year 6 students. They are going to be a fantastic addition to the Academy and I am really looking forward to seeing them again as Year 7 in September.

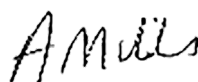
The Academy continues to grow from strength-to-strength and we are now oversubscribed in a number of year groups and in particular the new Year 7 2025 cohort. We had record numbers applying to join us, large numbers on our waiting list, and over 200 first choices. I am really pleased and proud that Haywood is a popular choice with parents/carers and children not only in our local area.

All that is left for me to say is thank you to all the Haywood staff for their hard work and dedication in ensuring that our children get the very best opportunities. Thank you to the children for giving their best every day and for embodying the school motto of **DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE!**

Finally, thank you to the parents and carers for their ongoing support of the Academy, and I hope that all the Haywood community has a lovely summer break.

Take care and see you all on Wednesday, 3rd September.
 (Year 7 at 8.25am, Years 8-10 at 12:00 & Year 11 at 9.15am).

Take care,



Mrs Mills
 Principal, Haywood Academy



Sports Day - Records Broken!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st & 2nd September

Inset Days

8th – 13th September

Year 7 & Year 9 photographs

19th September

Flu Immunisations for Years 7– 11

23rd – 27th September

Year 6 School Tours & Year 8 & 10 photographs

26th September

European Day of Languages
Macmillan Coffee Morning

30th September

Year 7 Form Tutor Evening
Year 11 Success Evening

4th October

Year 6 Open Morning (10am–12pm)

6th – 10th October

Assessment Week 1

10th October

World Mental Health Day

3rd – 7th November

Year 11 Mocks

11th – 15th November

Anti-Bullying Week (Odd Socks Day)
Mock Results Day
Children In Need

18th November

Work Experience Trip

21st November

INSET Day

2nd – 5th December

Year 11 Hospitality Practical Exams

4th December

Year 8 Parents' Evening

5th – 12th December

Paris Trip

11th December

Winter Fayre
Christmas Jumper Day

15th – 19th December

Celebration/Rewards Assemblies
Enterprise Day

Haywood Academy students shine on Work Shadowing Day

On 26th June, over 100 Year 10 students from Haywood Academy stepped out of the classroom and into the professional world for an enriching Work Shadowing Day.

The initiative gave students the opportunity to gain first-hand insight into various career paths, with many attending placements in person while others participated in virtual experiences within the school.

Those who completed the virtual program earned certificates to enhance their CVs and college applications.



Glowing Employer Feedback

Employers were full of praise for our students, commending their politeness, maturity, adaptability, and professionalism. One student impressed with their confidence in answering questions and eagerness to step outside their comfort zone. Another demonstrated genuine kindness and patience while supporting younger children, showing strong potential for a future in specialist education settings.

Students tackled real-life tasks, from assisting with meetings and branding projects, to customer service and stock management. Employers described them as polite, reliable, and engaged, with several showing a natural flair for communication and teamwork.

Student successes

Many students reflected positively on the day, sharing personal highlights and lessons learned:

Osman travelled to Manchester for a professional photo shoot with his brother, gaining hands-on experience with **drone footage** and **video production**. "It was an awesome day and an outstanding experience," he said, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to learn valuable photography skills.

Faye visited **Knights Solicitors**, where she toured the office, joined branding meetings, and contributed to admin tasks. The welcoming environment helped her feel at ease, and she appreciated the insights into PR and communications.

Paige spent her day at **Keele University**, where she was warmly hosted by staff and immersed in the world of social work. From campus tours to student meetings and admin duties, Paige described the day as "amazing," noting how much she learned about potential career paths and university life.

Rosa-May supported operations at **Music Mania** alongside her dad. She took pride in organizing stock, serving customers, and contributing to daily tasks. "It helped me with my anxiety and confidence," she shared. "I wasn't just doing what I was told—I was taking over tasks to be more independent."

A Proud Moment for Haywood Academy

The enthusiasm and professionalism shown by students reflected the values of Haywood Academy, and it's clear this initiative made a lasting impact. Whether shadowing legal professionals, engaging in creative industries, or supporting university departments, our students displayed maturity, curiosity, and a readiness to explore the world beyond school.

We're incredibly proud of each participant and grateful to all employers and families who helped make the day a success.

Cadbury World

Year 10 Business Students Experience the Sweet Side of Learning!



On Friday 4th July 2025, 45 Year 10 Business Studies students embarked on an exciting educational visit to **Cadbury World** in Birmingham. The trip offered a fantastic opportunity for students to see their classroom learning come to life in a real-world business environment.

The day was carefully aligned with several key topics from the Business Studies curriculum, including **risks and rewards**, **product range**, **marketing**, **competition**, **adding value**, and **branding**. Seeing these concepts in action at one of the UK's most iconic brands gave students valuable insight into how successful businesses operate and stay ahead in competitive markets.

During their visit, students took part in a **one-hour GCSE Business workshop**, where they explored Cadbury's strategic business decisions and learned more about the company's journey from a small family business to a global brand. They also enjoyed an immersive **4D cinema experience**, indulged in **chocolate tasting**, and even tried their hands at chocolate-tempering during a **chocolatier experience**. A **self-guided tour of the factory** provided a behind-the-scenes look at the chocolate-making process and Cadbury's history.

The students were a credit to the school, demonstrating enthusiasm, curiosity, and excellent behaviour throughout the day.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and enriching experience – both educational and delicious – and we are proud of how fabulously our students represented the school.



Haywood Academy Celebrates VE Day



At Haywood Academy, we proudly commemorated **VE Day** with a day of reflection, creativity, and learning. During tutorial sessions, students watched specially selected videos that highlighted the significance of Victory in Europe Day and the sacrifices made by those who lived through World War II. These resources sparked meaningful conversations, with students discussing the importance of remembering such pivotal moments in our nation's history.

Across the academy, lessons were designed to deepen understanding and appreciation of this historic day. In Art, Miss Weston's classes embraced the spirit of celebration by designing vibrant VE Day-themed bunting. Their creations, inspired by wartime motifs and national colours, brought a sense of unity and pride to our corridors. The day served as a powerful reminder of the courage and resilience shown during the war, and encouraged students to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy today.

Through discussion and creative expression, our students gained a deeper appreciation for the significance of VE Day and why it's essential to honour and remember those who came before us.

Art Trip to the Black Country Living Museum



Back in May the Art Department visited the **Black Country Living Museum** and **Dudley Tunnel**. This was part of an ongoing project supported and funded by **@piclstocecep**.

During the day students experienced different historical crafts, shops and industrial heritage. They learnt what it was like to live during different periods of time and experienced going down a drift mine in the dark.

Students discovered that there were a lot of connections and similarities between Stoke and the Black Countries. They explored bike, sweet and record shops as well as different toilets through time.

They also went on a canal trip through the **Dudley Tunnel** where students were treated to an underground light show in massive caverns. Everyone learnt something about their heritage, had new experiences and saw different things they can incorporate in to their artwork.

Greenpower at Blyton Park

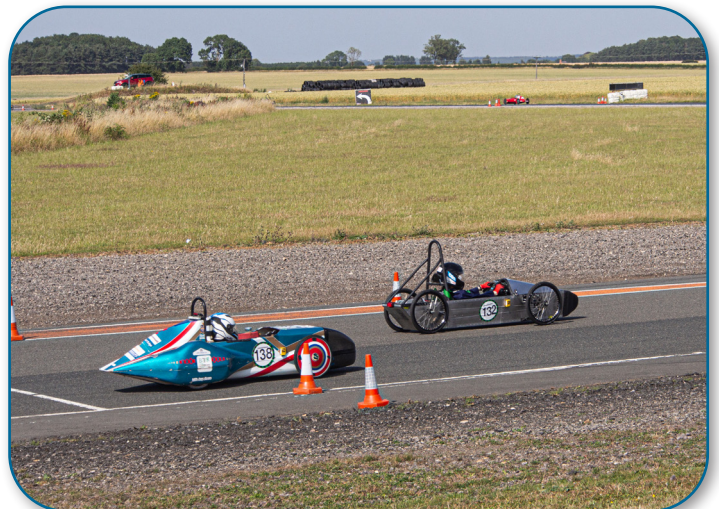
After a very early start, our Greenpower team attended **Blyton Park** race track on the 8th July, racing the electric powered car they have been testing and modifying during the Greenpower after school club: No. 132, the **Haywood Flyer**.

They competed in two races against over 30 teams from schools all across the UK.

They managed to achieve a perfectly respectable 5th place in the first race of the day, and managed to gain 4th place in the second race, only narrowly missing out on the chance of a trophy.

It was an excellent achievement for the team, showing great teamwork and putting in a brilliant amount of effort.

Well done to everybody on the team!



Future-Ready

Haywood's Careers Day Sets Students on Course



Year 8: Exploring STEAM Careers

Year 8 students immersed themselves in the world of **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths)** through a lively programme of expert talks and interactive sessions. Guest speakers from local universities and creative industries helped bring each subject to life. Students rotated through breakout sessions in designated groups, gaining deeper insight into how **STEAM** fields shape the modern world.

Year 9: Green Careers in Action

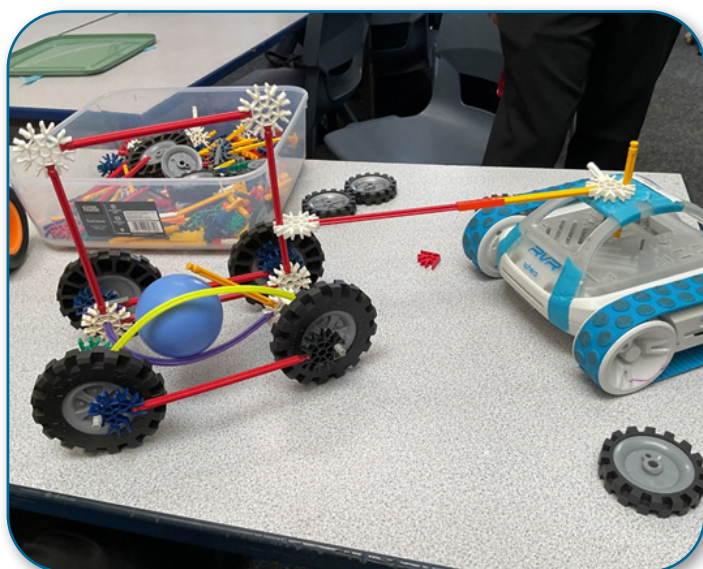
Year 9 was introduced to sustainability-focused careers through a hands-on **Green Careers Day**. The morning began with themed lessons about environmental responsibility, followed by a student-led project in the afternoon. From planting and recycling to upcycling and energy audits, students explored how eco-conscious careers make a positive impact. They concluded the day with reflection activities designed to encourage long-term interest in green industries.

Haywood Academy proudly hosted its third Careers Day of the year—a dynamic, school-wide event that connected students to real-world career experiences and professional insights. From Year 7 through to Year 10, students took part in tailored programmes that showcased diverse industries and practical learning opportunities, fostering curiosity, independence, and a clearer vision of life beyond education.

Year 10: Into the Working World

On 26th June, **Year 10** students stepped out of the classroom to embark on their Work Shadowing Day. Those who participated spent the day gaining firsthand experience by shadowing professionals in their chosen fields. Following the event, students reflected on their experiences during Form Time sessions and considered future career pathways.

Students who didn't engage in external placements completed a Virtual Work Experience programme through **Springpod**. This structured alternative allowed them to explore different industries online and earn certificates upon completion, which served as valuable additions to their college applications and CVs.



Year 7: Stoke Centenary Media Challenge

Year 7 students took part in a creative **Media Challenge** celebrating Stoke's centenary. The day began with an introduction to media roles and skills, followed by group tasks in prop-making and on-camera interviews. Students worked together to produce news segments using digital editing tools like **Canva**, and the final presentations were showcased in a celebratory event where standout entries were recognised.

A Day That Shaped Aspirations

Careers Day at Haywood Academy reflected the school's dedication to preparing students for success beyond the classroom. Through thoughtful planning and community support, each year group experienced meaningful opportunities to explore the world of work, creativity, and innovation.

It was a day filled with discovery, ambition, and future-thinking—one that empowered every student to reflect on their passions and imagine where those could take them next.

The Cascade Project

People's Parade!



Photo Credit: Jennie Harper

Over the last 5 months, the **Year 7 Cascade group** have been meeting weekly after school to work towards creating something special for the huge celebratory event, the People's Parade, which took place on a soggy Saturday in June.

In the lead up to the event, the group developed a theme for their section of the parade (wildlife, environment & nature), they created a new creature for Stoke-On-Trent (a **Foxolotl**), they had loads of brilliant ideas and they commissioned artists to bring these ideas to life.

Some of the students even came in during the holidays to look through CVs and score applications of the artists who had applied for their commission. The artists they chose to work with were **Holly Johnson, Eve Dearbail Travis, Louise Worrall, Jess Rost** and **Kate Powell**.

The group spent time collaborating with the artists and would give direction when they thought things needed to change, which was a fun and exciting process for both the artists and students.

Holly ran workshops for the whole of Year 7 to create Guardians of the Greenspaces costumes and flags for the parade.

Louise went into **Mill Hill Primary Academy** and **Smallthorne Primary Academy** to run costume making workshops with Year 5s. Eve created the Symbiotic Scavenger costumes for the steering group. Jess & Kate created the big Foxolotl (half Fox, half Axolotl), which was a big puppet on wheels that ate trash and was bursting out of the Stoke Incinerator.

The students were even lucky enough to visit the artists at their studios and see how the creations were coming along. They visited Jess & Kate at the artist co-operative at **Ashbank Farm** where they live and work. Here they met other artists working onsite, saw new work being created and they added their vines and posters to the Foxolotl. In the afternoon they visited Eve & Holly at **The Block** in Newcastle-Under-Lyme to try on their costumes.

On Saturday 7 June the group saw all their ideas all come together in the **People's Parade**. They were joined by other year 7s from Haywood Academy, 2 students from Smallthorne Primary Academy and 2 students from Mill Hill Primary Academy.

They walked in the parade alongside 1000 other participants and were watched by thousands more in the audience. They were all full of energy feeding trash to the Foxolotl and did not let the rain dampen their spirits! We are so proud of what they achieved and their commitment!

Since the parade, some members of the Cascade group have delivered a presentation and a creative workshop to Year 6 students at **Smallthorne Primary Academy** which was to share the work they'd been doing this year and to encourage those who might be attending Haywood next year to join the cascade group. They were confident, clear and delivered a session that the Year 6s loved!

More of the steering group will be running the same session with Year 6 at **Mill Hill Primary Academy** in July.



Photo Credit: Jennie Harper



Photo Credit: Andie Dale

Year 8 STEAM Careers Day



For Year 8 **STEAM Careers Day**, the Art department hosted two visiting artists, illustrator **James Fox** and sculptor **Sally Fitchard** from **Partners in Creative Learning (PiCL)**.

Both artists shared their life stories and discussed their careers as artists. Students learnt how to draw self-portraits and how to make seated figures out of clay.



Stoke Centenary Language Competition

The **MFL department** recently entered a competition run by **Port Vale Football Club** and **Keele University**. Students were invited to create a poster advertising all the wonderful things that we have here in Stoke-on-Trent.

One of the rules of the competition was that the poster had to be written in another language.

There were over 250 entries from schools across the city.

Haywood snapped up first place for KS3 with **Lucy's** beautiful poster in **Spanish**, and **Liliana** and **Zara** came runners up in the same category for their work in **French**!

A fantastic effort was made by all, and the reward for their hard work will be match day tickets as well as their posters being displayed at **Port Vale**, **Keele University** and the **Potteries Museum**!

The girls were also invited to take part in the **celebration parade** in Hanley.



MFL Homework Projects

Yet again we have been blown away by the quality of MFL student projects in years 7, 8 and 9. Year 7 were tasked with creating their own **pinatas**. Some students even went the extra mile and filled them with sweets! Well done to everyone!

Years 8 and 9 made their own **Mardi Gras masks** and again, we had some absolutely stunning entries fit for a masquerade ball.

Spirited Arts Competition



We are delighted to share that our RE students have entered this year's prestigious Spirited Arts national competition. The standard of work was so high that we simply couldn't choose just one winner from our school—so we selected five outstanding entries!

Each student demonstrated incredible creativity, thoughtfulness, and skill in exploring big questions about faith, spirituality, and the world around us. From vibrant artwork to reflective pieces, the entries showcased the dedication and talent that make our school community so special.

We are immensely proud of all the students who took part and worked so hard on their projects. Fingers crossed that we have some national winners—though to us, you're all winners already!

Well done, everyone!

Staff Farewells...

A number of staff are leaving us at the end of this term:

- **Miss Burczak**
- **Mr Hickman**
- **Mr Langstaff**
- **Miss Malpass**
- **Miss Rigby**
- **Miss Wyatt**

Joining us in September will be **Miss Whittingham**, our new Teacher of Music.



PE Highlights

A Term of Sporting Excellence!



At Haywood Academy, our commitment to physical education and sports is shining brighter than ever, with remarkable achievements across a variety of disciplines.

From thrilling football tournaments to impressive individual performances, our students have shown exceptional talent and determination.

Here's a round-up of some of our top highlights this year!

Football Successes

Year 10 Boys Handball Final

Our Year 10 boys' handball team were just one goal away from the national final, finishing 1st in Staffordshire. A hard-fought battle, and an achievement that has certainly raised the bar for future teams.

Year 7 Boys Football

The Year 7 boys did Haywood Academy proud by securing 2nd place in the City Tournament. Their teamwork and spirit were outstanding!

Year 9/10 Girls Football

Our girls made history by claiming 1st place in the City Tournament. Their determination and skill were unmatched, and they certainly made their mark on the competition.

Year 10 Boys Football

Not to be outdone, our Year 10 boys brought home a 1st place victory at the City Champs. An outstanding display of tactical play and resilience!

Rounders Glory

Our Year 9/10 rounders team brought home 1st place in the North Stoke competition. A fantastic team effort that demonstrated skill, strategy, and an excellent understanding of the game.

Cricket Excellence

The mixed cricket team remained undefeated this season. Their teamwork and competitive edge saw them dominate every match, a testament to their commitment and coaching.

Athletics Achievements

Our athletes have truly excelled this year, with some incredible individual accomplishments

Tala (100m & Long Jump)

Tala has been a standout athlete this season. He not only qualified for the county championships but also finished in the top THREE in Staffordshire for the 100m.

In the Long Jump, he came 1st in Staffordshire with an impressive 6.61m, which places him in the top 5 for his age group in England!

Tala has also qualified for the prestigious Mason Trophy and was selected to compete for English Schools in July.

He will be representing Haywood Academy alongside England's top athletes in Birmingham—a truly remarkable achievement!

Harvey (200m)

Harvey's speed earned him a spot in the county championships, showcasing his incredible potential in track events.

Oliver (1500m)

Oliver's endurance and focus earned him a county qualification in the 1500m, securing his place as one of the best middle-distance runners in Staffordshire.

Charlie (Shot Put & Discus)

Charlie has been exceptional in field events, qualifying for the county in both shot put and discus, showcasing his versatility and strength.

Looking Ahead

We are incredibly proud of all our athletes and teams who have represented Haywood Academy with such dedication and passion. Their hard work is a testament to the high standards of PE at our school, and we are excited to see what the future holds for them. With upcoming events, including the English Schools Athletics Championships in July, the future is bright for our sports stars! A huge congratulations to all of our students – we look forward to more success in the future!

Keep up the great work, everyone!



Sports Awards Evening 2025

An Evening of Celebrating our Sporting Achievements!



This year's Sports Awards Evening was a fantastic celebration of talent, teamwork, and dedication across the school. The awards given out on the evening included:

Sporting Highlights

- **City Champions:** KS4 Girls Handball & Year 9/10 Athletics
- **Undefeated Teams:** KS4 Badminton & Mixed Cricket
- **Big Wins:** to both the Year 10 Boys Football for winning the league, and to the Year 9/10 Girls for becoming City Football Champions!
- **Near Miss:** KS4 Boys Handball – just one goal from the National Finals!
- **Individual Shoutouts**
 - **Ellie-Mai Forrest** (Year 7) scored the winning goal for the under 16s!
 - **Luca Abbotts** – Top 5 long jump in England, competing at English Schools
 - **Tala Nde-Muyamah** – Dominating 100m and Long Jump at county level
 - **Harvey Bradbury** – County, GB, and England handball recognition!

Fun Awards included:

- "Clutch Gene": **Gabriel Fatu**
- "Cheer Master": **Kourtney McCue**
- "Most Likely to Argue with a Corner Flag": **Mason Eaton**
- "Rookie of the Year": **Dylan SB**

Major Awards

- Community Award: **Sam O'Brien**
- Resilience Award: **Ruby Simpkin**
- Captain's Award: **Frankie Abbotts**
- Most Improved Team: **Year 8 Boys Football**
- Team of the Year: **KS4 Girls Football**
- Most Successful Team: **KS4 Boys Handball**

Top Honours

- Sportswoman of the Year: **Maddison Barlow**
- Sportsman of the Year: **Harvey Bradbury**
- Sports Personality of the Year: **Luca Abbotts**

Congratulations to all our students who took part in sport this year – whether winning trophies, showing team spirit, or just giving it their all! The evening was a great celebration of the effort you've all put in over the course of the year. Well done to you all!



JULY 2025

Character & Arts Foundation

What we've been up to

Foxylotl on Parade

Come rain or shine – and it was definitely rain – our children brought energy and colour to the streets of Stoke as they proudly took part in the People's Parade.

As part of the CASCADE project, they worked closely with artist Emily Andrews from PiCL and a number of other commissioned artists to bring their creative vision to life. Through weeks of workshops, they designed and made vibrant costumes and an eye-catching float featuring the Foxylotl – a recycling-loving creature that was “fed” by the crowd as it travelled through the city.

It was a brilliant way to celebrate Stoke-on-Trent's centenary through creativity, community, and collaboration.



Hallé Concert and Adopt-a-Player Project

Over 200 of our children visited Victoria Hall this term to watch the Hallé Orchestra perform live. The concert included an interactive section where children sang along with the orchestra, giving them a wonderful opportunity to be part of the music.

As part of the **Adopt-a-Player** project, children from Haywood, Mill Hill, and Smallthorne worked with a Hallé musician to create their own interpretation of Holst's *The Planets*. The project culminated in a joint performance at Haywood, where the children came together to share their work and perform with the musician they had been collaborating with.



United by our values, we place children and young people first in everything we do.

C&A Impact Award: Summer Fair Success

The C&A Impact Award challenge this term was to plan and deliver a whole-school community event. Our students rose to the occasion with creativity, leadership, and enthusiasm, working with staff to organise a brilliant Summer Fair from scratch. From budgeting and marketing to designing games and running stalls, they took charge every step of the way. The result was a fun-filled afternoon for all and a huge success we couldn't be prouder of.



Officially Part of a World Record!

Yes, you read that right – we're in the record books! As part of Stoke-on-Trent's centenary celebrations, our students took part in the World's Biggest Tea Party.

Over scones and tea, we joined thousands of others across the city in a heart-warming (and officially record-breaking!) event. It was a lovely afternoon filled with community spirit, local pride, and a shared love for our amazing city.

Valentine's Clay Enterprise Challenge

As part of the city's 100th birthday celebrations, our Year 7 students took on the Valentine's Clay Enterprise Challenge. They didn't disappoint! Tasked with designing a commemorative piece inspired by Stoke-on-Trent's rich ceramic heritage, they produced some incredible work. We're excited to announce that 23 winning students will now visit Valentine's Clay to try their hand at throwing a pot on a real potter's wheel. A fantastic way to honour local tradition while building enterprise skills!



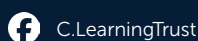
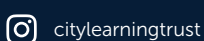
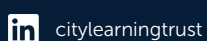
What's coming next

We've got some really exciting things lined up, including:

Our children will take on a new challenge as part of the C&A Impact Award, getting out into the community to make a real difference through volunteering and local projects.

At the same time, we'll be kick-starting the year for Years 7, 8, and 9 with our exciting Enterprise Challenges, inspiring creativity and teamwork right from the start.

Character & Arts Foundation - Part of City Learning Trust



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