

The



Haywood News

Easter 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Haywood News, I can't believe that two years has passed since I returned to Haywood Academy as the Principal and we are half way through this Academic year! Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff for all their hard work and commitment and the students for rising to the challenges that we set for them, being focused on their learning and for being kind and considerate of others. Good, luck to all our year 11 students for the final summer examinations, you have worked so hard and thoroughly deserve to do well.

I am very proud of how the Academy's reputation grows from strength to strength. Once again, we have had record numbers of first choice applications to join our new year 7 in September 2026 and we have waiting lists to join our all other year groups. I would like to thank all our staff, pupils, parents/carers and stakeholders for your continued support.

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 talented children here at the Academy who often go that extra mile to contribute to school life. This was particularly the case regarding our amazing performances at the Spring Show. Highlights for me have been handing out Principal Awards and Class Charts winners to so many children for their hard work, determination and kindness and seeing them thoroughly enjoy the vast array of rewards they receive.

It was also amazing to see how many children attended our Eid celebrations with a fabulous time had by all. I look forward to seeing our plans for the Summer Fayre coming to fruition (please come and support our PTFA on Thursday 9th July for raffles, rides, games and fun!) and our World Culture Day on Thursday 9th July.

All that leaves me now to say is have a lovely Easter break, Eid Mubarak and I look forward to seeing the children on Monday 13th April.

Take care

A Mills

Mrs Mills
Principal, Haywood Academy



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www.clt.haywood.coop

www.citylearningtrust.org



@haywoodacademy_

Dates for your Diary

13th April 2026 – School opens to students

13th April 2026 – Enterprise Day / GCSE Art / Photography / Textiles exams start

23rd April 2026 – Year 10 Mock Results Day

27th April 2026 – Year 9 Assessment Week

28th April 2026 – Year 7–10 Careers Day / Year 11 Intervention Day

29th April 2026 – Year 7 and 8 Junior Maths Challenge

29th April 2026 – Year 8 HPV Immunisations

1st May 2026 – Year 8 and Year 10 Reports sent out

4th May 2026 – School closed for May Bank Holiday

5th May 2026 – GCSE Exams start

19th May 2026 – Year 9 Reports sent out

22nd May 2026 – School closes for Half-Term

1st June 2026 – School opens to students

4th June 2026 – Year 7 Parents' Evening 4–7pm

5th June 2026 – Year 7–10 Enterprise Day / Year 11 Intervention Day

8th June 2026 – Year 10 Assessment Week

11th June 2026 – Sports Awards Evening

15th June 2026 – Year 7 Assessment Week

17th June 2026 – Halle Orchestra Concert

19th June 2026 – Girls Football Tour

25th June 2026 – Year 11 Prom

26th June 2026 – Sports Day

27th June 2026 – Character and Arts International

Trip (returns 4th July)

30th June 2026 – School closed to students for INSET Day

1st July 2026 – School closed to students for INSET Day

2nd July 2026 – New Year 7 Induction Day 1

3rd July 2026 – New Year 7 Induction Day 2 / New Year 7 Evening 6–7:30pm

9th July 2026 – Year 10 Cadbury's World Trip

10th July 2026 – World Culture Day / Summer Fayre 3–5pm

13th July 2026 – Year 7 Reports sent out

15th July 2026 – Rewards Day (Chester Zoo and Alton Towers trips)

17th July 2026 – School closes for the End of Term

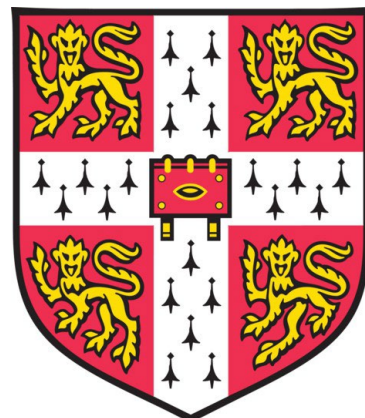


Celebrating Success! Wendy Wang Secures a Place at Cambridge University

We are bursting with pride for Wendy Wang, one of Haywood Academy's outstanding alumni, who has officially secured her place at Cambridge University!

Wendy's journey is a shining example of dedication, ambition, and the power of believing in your own potential. From her time at Haywood Academy, through the City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form, and now onto this incredible next chapter, she continues to inspire both our students and staff.

A huge congratulations to Wendy — we can't wait to see all the amazing things she will go on to achieve!






Yr. 10 Work Experience
9th -13th Feb 2026

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING EMPLOYERS

- A D Dale
- AimeeStudio
- Alpha damp proofing
- Annie's 'Airdressers
- Assurant
- B.ARTS
- Baddeley green hedgehog rescue centre
- Baddeley Green Pre-School & Toddler Group
- Ball Green Primary School
- Barhale
- Bike Tech Stoke Ltd
- Bourne Electrical Contractors Ltd
- Burnwood Primary Academy
- Burslem Food&Wine
- C.G Supplies/Love Pub Snacks
- Carl Bickerton
- Carse & Waterman
- CBP (Services) Ltd T/A Co.Plant Tool Hire & Sales
- Chell Heath Family Hub
- Chell Heath Residents Association
- City Music Service
- Clean and Shine
- Click Dealer
- Cobridge Community Health Centre
- Congleton Auto Car Service
- Connor's Mobile Barber
- Co-op Grove Academy
- Cornhill Oatcakes
- Craig Rosson Plumbing and Heating Ltd
- D&G bus depot
- Darren Lowe Window Cleaning service
- Davlyn House care home
- Dean Franks Window Fitting
- Dimensions
- Drayton Beaumont services
- Engage Communities
- Essar Pump
- Euroseal Windows
- Fresh Telecoms Ltd
- Freshways Cash and Carry Hanley
- Garden of Eden
- Glam HQ
- Golden Seafood and Steakhouse
- Goodwin Farm's Limited
- Goodwin International
- GymTech
- HDServ Catering Engineers Ltd
- Head Start Day Nursery
- Hempstalls Primary School
- Hilliswood Lodge
- Hobby Goblin
- Holdcroft Volvo
- Horton Building Plastics
- I.H Beauty Fashion LTD
- Inspire pharmacy
- iRepair
- Jackfield Infant School
- JB Joinery
- Jeans shed
- Kiddies Kingdom
- Little Dreamers Nursery
- Lodge Farm Equestrian Centre
- Luxe Aesthetics Nails Beauty & Training Academy
- Mad Reptiles
- Mane Street hairdressing
- McDonald's
- Middleport Pottery
- Mill Hill Primary Academy
- Mitchell Arts Centre
- Moores Metals
- Moorland Inn
- Moorpark Junior School
- MTM property/Building maintenance services
- Murphy's Cleaning Services
- Natural Beauty
- Newcastle Town FC
- North Road Academy
- North Staffs Combined Healthcare Mental Health Services
- Northwood Stadium Centre
- Nurtured Chell
- Nuvison Opticians
- Oasis Fast Food
- Packmoor Pharmacy
- Palace Restaurant
- Port Vale Football Club
- Property Maintenance and Improvements
- Queen Street Pharmacy
- R & S Plastering and Property Maintenance
- Rock Cottage Care Home
- Royal Stoke Hospital
- S B Autos
- Sadaf Hair and Beauty
- Saint Nathaniel's Academy
- Salon Bellissimo
- Samzy's Cutz
- SCDC dance school
- Sernotado
- Smallthorne Oatcakes
- Smallthorne Primary Academy
- Smarter Recruitment
- Sneyd Academy
- St John's CE Primary School, Wetley Rocks
- St Marks Primary School
- Staffordshire Police Cadets
- Steelite International
- Stoke Chiro Spinal Health
- Stoke on Trent City Council
- Stone Strength and Conditioning
- Swan Bank Methodist Church
- The Entertainer
- The Salon @ No 7 / Eden Academy
- The Willows Care Home
- Thomas Boughey Kindergarten
- Timmy's
- Trampoline Store
- Trentham Academy
- Trentside manor care home
- Tui
- Twin Cuts
- Unilathe Ltd
- University of Stoke
- Voluntary Action Stoke-On Trent
- Wallace Centre
- Watermill school
- Whitfield Valley Community Nursery

Year 10 Work

(Statements from Employers)

Archie kicked things off in style over on the Isle of Man, fully embracing his placement at Goodwin Farms Ltd. From the look of these photos, he's thrown himself into every moment and we couldn't be prouder of the way he's representing Haywood.



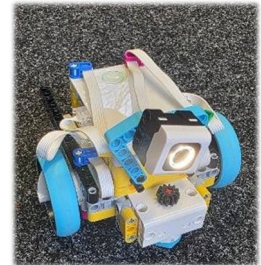
Aiden arrived suited, booted and ready to go for his placement as an LSP at Haywood Academy. He spent the day supporting KS3 learners, helping them grasp new concepts, offering intervention where needed, and showing exactly the kind of patience, maturity and leadership that makes us so proud.

Alyssa was hard at work supporting the cleaning team here at Haywood Academy, showing real commitment, a fantastic work ethic and a willingness to get involved in every task that came her way. She's made a brilliant impression and we're so proud of the maturity she's shown.



Elliot was keeping busy on a house renovation with MTM Property Maintenance — getting stuck into real tasks on site, learning new skills and seeing first-hand what goes into transforming a property. He's shown great focus and enthusiasm, and the team have been really impressed with how quickly he's picked things up.

A brilliant group of our Year 10 students spent a day with Higher Horizons, taking part in an exciting STEM Coding Careers Day. They explored digital pathways, tried out hands-on coding challenges, and discovered just how many opportunities the world of tech has to offer. The feedback was fantastic — engaged, focused, and full of questions. Exactly what we love to hear.



Here in the Academy, a brilliant group of our Year 10 students have been stepping up in a big way, providing reading and writing intervention for our Year 7 and 8 learners, supporting in practical subjects, and even taking the lead in LSP-style roles. Their patience, confidence and professionalism have shone through in every session.

They've been absolutely amazing throughout, making a real difference and showing just how capable they are when given the chance to lead and support others.

Lily-May has worked brilliantly with the team at D&G Buses. She's learned new computer skills every single day, getting hands-on with real tasks, and confidently interacting with staff across the company. The feedback has been glowing. She settled in so well and has made the most of every opportunity.



Experience week 2026

Seb did an incredible job over at Horton Plastics in Crewe. He threw himself into every task, from helping customers find exactly what they need in the showroom to getting stuck into general workshop duties. He worked long days, showing real resilience, and getting a true taste of what life in the working world is all about.



The students here at Haywood Academy have been fantastic helping with classroom tasks, supporting younger learners, and putting in so much effort to build positive relationships. Their kindness, patience and enthusiasm have shone through, and the feedback from staff has been nothing short of glowing. They're making a real difference and representing Haywood with pride. We couldn't be prouder of the way they've thrown themselves into school life from the other side of the desk!



Tilly has thrown herself into every part of the job at Mad Reptiles caring for the animals, feeding them, cleaning enclosures and keeping everything tidy. The team have been so impressed with her attitude, her confidence and the care she's shown towards every creature she's worked with. Brilliant work, Tilly. You have made Haywood proud and we loved seeing you shine in such a unique placement!



These students have spent the week rotating around our amazing technicians at Haywood Academy and the photos say it all! From getting hands-on in the science prep room, to supporting the team in the IT office, to helping keep everything running smoothly in reprographics, they've shown real maturity, teamwork and enthusiasm.



Three more fantastic students have been working alongside our brilliant cleaning team at Haywood Academy.

They were grafting behind the scenes to help keep the academy clean, tidy and running smoothly, showing real teamwork, responsibility and a great attitude. From sweeping and organising to learning the routines that keep a busy school spotless, they took on every task with enthusiasm.

Some students have been helping out across Dance, Music and Drama. They've thrown themselves into every part of department life. Supporting lessons, helping to prep resources, tidying and resetting spaces, and getting involved with the creative buzz that makes Performing Arts such a special place in school.

Their enthusiasm, teamwork and willingness to get stuck in has been brilliant to see.



Year 10 Work

No job has been too much trouble here at the Academy. Whether it's supporting staff, organising resources, helping in classrooms or getting stuck into those behind-the-scenes tasks that keep everything running smoothly, they've shown real maturity, enthusiasm and a fantastic work ethic.



Lennon was absolutely thriving at the Royal Stoke Hospital during his placement as a Water Hygiene Craftsman. He's shown real professionalism, dedication and maturity, getting stuck into every task, learning quickly and working incredibly hard throughout the week. Staff were full of praise for his attitude and the way he's embraced such a unique and important role within the hospital. Well done, Lennon. You did a fantastic job and representing Haywood brilliantly!

Jacob has been working incredibly hard at C.G. Supplies. He has shown that he's definitely not afraid of hard work, getting stuck into every task, showing real determination and proving himself to be a reliable and enthusiastic member of the team. The feedback coming in has been fantastic, and it's clear he's made a great impression.



Darius has been an absolute dream supporting the English department. He's taken on every task with enthusiasm, worked incredibly hard, and shown such a polite, positive attitude throughout. Staff have been full of praise for the way he's thrown himself into the role and helped out wherever needed.

Lexi & Ruby, did brilliantly at The Salon @ No 7 during their placement. They've shown real professionalism, confidence and enthusiasm. Getting stuck into every task, supporting the team and proving themselves to be hardworking, reliable and eager to learn. The salon has been full of praise for how well they've adapted and how quickly they've picked things up. Well done, Lexi and Ruby. You both did an amazing job and representing Haywood beautifully!



Owen worked with our brilliant site team getting properly stuck into every job, helping to keep the site safe, tidy and ready for everyone to use. From practical tasks to problem-solving on the go, Owen has shown real commitment, maturity and a fantastic work ethic. He's done a fantastic job and the feedback has been nothing but positive.

Experience week 2026



Neha thoroughly enjoyed her placement at Chell Heath Family Hub. She has worked incredibly hard throughout the week, supporting staff, getting involved in activities and showing a calm, caring and professional attitude in everything she's done. The team have been full of praise for her effort and enthusiasm.

Ellie and Poppy, did a fantastic job at their old primary school, Smallthorne Academy.

Staff have been so impressed with their punctuality, their positive attitude, and the brilliant way they've contributed to the classroom.

Ellie has been exploring a future career in teaching, and this week has really helped her to solidify that ambition.

Poppy has been described as an absolute godsend in the nursery, the teacher even said she "doesn't know what she would have done without her this week! "



Ethan spent the week at Holdcroft Volvo and he's had an amazing experience.

He's really thrown himself into the role, learning what it truly takes to be a mechanic and getting hands-on with the day-to-day work in the workshop. Staff have been impressed with his attitude, effort and willingness to learn.

A brilliant group of students were based at the Dudson Centre, busily planning and prepping for a gardening event taking place at the end of the week.

They showed fantastic teamwork, organisation and creativity, getting stuck into every task and helping to bring the event together beautifully. Staff have been full of praise for their attitude and effort, and it's clear they're making a real impact.



A huge special thank you to all the wonderful employers who took in our students for the week and helped them to gain some valuable new skills and life experiences!

Enterprise Days

Creativity, Heritage and Innovation Across Key Stage 3

Our recent Enterprise Days have been a fantastic celebration of creativity, teamwork and real-world problem solving across Years 7, 8 and 9. Rooted in the rich heritage of Stoke-on-Trent, students embraced hands-on challenges that blended design, business and entrepreneurial thinking.

To mark the centenary of our city, Year 7 students stepped into the world of design and craftsmanship by creating their own clay commemorative items, a tribute to the pottery skills that have shaped Stoke-on-Trent's identity for over a century.

The classroom was buzzing with ideas, teamwork and enterprise spirit as students produced thoughtful and imaginative clay pieces that reflected pride in their local history. A huge well done to Year 7 for embracing this challenge with enthusiasm and flair. The future of enterprise is looking very bright!



Years 8 and 9 had their own opportunity to shine as they were tasked with designing and building mini golf courses inspired by the achievements of famous Stoke-on-Trent residents. To begin, students explored the city's most influential figures, matching local icons to their accomplishments and celebrating the people who have shaped our community.

The results were fantastic. From imaginative themes to cleverly engineered obstacles, the mini golf courses showcased impressive creativity, problem-solving and teamwork. Well done to all our Year 8 and 9 students for their innovation and enterprise spirit. With talent like this, the future of design, engineering and business is in excellent hands.





A Remarkable Term of Music

This term has been nothing short of spectacular for our students, thanks to the incredible opportunities provided by The Hallé Orchestra. We are enormously grateful for the wealth of musical experiences our students have enjoyed. Each one inspiring, enriching, and truly unforgettable.

One of the highlights of the term was attending a full Hallé concert at the Victoria Hall, where students were able to experience live orchestral music in all its power and beauty. The atmosphere was electric and left many students feeling inspired and in awe of the musicianship on display.

Our Enhanced curriculum groups were also treated to a more relaxed and inclusive concert at The Hallé's home in Manchester, offering a calm, supportive environment tailored to their needs. This thoughtful experience helped make live music accessible and enjoyable for every student involved.

In addition to the concerts, students have taken part in Adopt-a-Player workshops, where they worked directly with professional musicians, learned about orchestral life, and even showcased their learning in a performance. Alongside this, a series of workshops explored everything from musical instruments to vocal techniques, giving students hands-on insights into the world of music.

These experiences have sparked creativity, built confidence, and opened up new passions for many of our students. We are incredibly thankful to The Hallé Orchestra for their time, talent, and dedication in creating such meaningful opportunities.

A huge thank you to everyone involved. What an unforgettable term of music!



World Book Day



Haywood Academy was buzzing with imagination and excitement as staff and students came together to celebrate World Book Day 2026! From the moment the gates opened, the school was filled with colourful characters, inspiring stories, and a shared love of reading. Throughout the day, students took part in a range of book-themed activities from quizzes and mystery-book challenges to staff-led reading sessions designed to spark curiosity and creativity. Our incredible staff also joined in the fun, dressing up, recommending their favourite reads, and encouraging students to explore new genres.

Whether diving into fantasy worlds, solving thrilling mysteries, or discovering powerful real-life stories, our Haywood community truly embraced the magic of reading. World Book Day was not just a celebration of books. It was a celebration of imagination, joy, and learning together.

Here's to another year of stories that inspire us!



Spring Showcase: A Celebration of Talent



The school hall was full of excitement as students, staff and families gathered for this year's Spring Showcase. The evening celebrated the creativity and talent of students across the school through a fantastic programme of music, drama and dance.

The night included impressive solo singing performances from students in Years 9, 10 and 11, a powerful choir performance of I'm Feeling Good, and an energetic set from the band Bullet-point. Each performer showed great confidence and musical talent, earning enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Drama students in Year 11 performed scenes from the play Teachers, delivering an engaging and humorous performance that was one of the highlights of the evening.

Dance also played a major role in the showcase, with students from every year group taking part in a range of routines. Many of the dances were choreographed by the students themselves, demonstrating both creativity and leadership. The evening also featured a high-energy cheer-leading performance that impressed the audience with its teamwork and spirit.

The Spring Showcase was a wonderful celebration of student talent, dedication and hard work, both on stage and behind the scenes. We are already looking forward to the next showcase and to our first school musical, Hairspray Jr., coming in 2027!



The Well Pantry a community food pantry based in Swan Square, Burslem, Stoke on Trent. Supporting local individuals and families who are struggling with the rising cost of living, general bills or people who just need a little extra support by providing access to essential food and household items in a dignified and welcoming way. The pantry works closely with local services and the community to make sure support reaches people who need it most.

It's free to come along, no sign-up fee, we are open Thursday evenings 4-6pm and Fridays 10-12:30pm. 1 bag is £3, which generally lasts 3 days. For 2 bags you get a loaf and either coffee tea and sugar. Free toiletries with every purchase and ladies products. Also free children's books!

Foreign Language Focus



Native Language Day

On Friday 27th February Year 8 students participated in Native Language Day, immersing themselves in cultural activities and linguistic exploration. The day featured workshops such as researching famous scientists, code breaking, baking hot cross buns, exploring the meaning of culture, and Italian style drama. Some of our students who are native speakers of Tamil, Bengali, Urdu, Japanese and Kurdish (to name a few) planned and delivered interactive sessions for the year group. Students engaged in learning key phrases from various native languages, fostering appreciation for linguistic diversity. The event encouraged cultural understanding and respect for our multicultural school community.

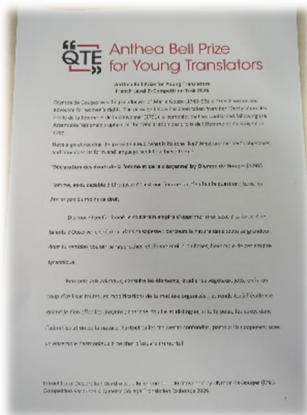
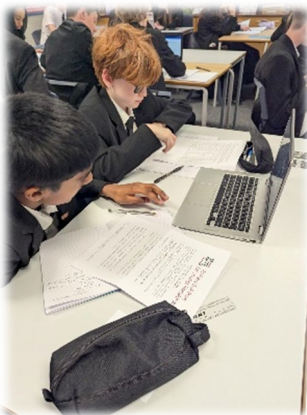
Stephen Spender Prize

Our Year 9 students are currently taking part in the Stephen Spender Translation Prize, immersing themselves in the art of literary translation. Each student is translating and interpreting a poem either from French or from a language of their choice, giving them the chance to exercise real creative freedom.

Alongside their translation, they are producing a commentary in the form of a blurb, video, or drawing, showcasing their personal response to the text. It's an inspiring project that celebrates language, creativity, and cultural curiosity.

Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators

Our Year 9 students are proudly taking part in this year's Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators, exploring the craft and creativity involved in translation. They are working with a challenging but rewarding non-fiction text, developing their ability to interpret meaning, make thoughtful language choices, and use a glossary effectively to support accuracy. This experience is giving them a valuable insight into the art of translation and strengthening their confidence as young linguists.





University Workshop

Year 10 students visited **Staffordshire University** as part of the Stoke Scholars programme, where they took part in a range of engaging activities designed to introduce them to university life. During the visit, they attended a Q&A session with a panel of current university students, which gave them the opportunity to ask questions and learn about the student experience. They also participated in subject sessions including automotive and transport design, computing, music, and graphic design, allowing them to explore different areas of study and develop new skills. The trip helped students gain a better understanding of what university is like and the variety of pathways they could pursue after college.



Key Stage 3 PiCL Project: Partners in Creative Learning

Groups of Years 7 and 9 students have been working with ceramicist Sally Fitchard. For the first stage of the project they have been hand modeling relief clay portraits. They have learned new techniques and looked at both historical and contemporary artists in order to create and decorate their ceramic figures.

For the second part of the project they have been learning how you to use armatures for model making. Students have used reinforced cardboard tubes to create clay heads and modeling tools to refine their sculptures. They have also used small cardboard boxes to create seated figures. We cannot wait to see how they look once completed and decorated.



Future Ready Fund!

A small group of Year 8 students from the Future Ready Fund recently had the exciting opportunity to attend the Big Apprentice Expo at Stoke City. The event brought together a wide range of employers, colleges and training providers, giving students a chance to learn more about apprenticeships and future career pathways.

Throughout the morning, students explored different stands, spoke with professionals from various industries and discovered the many opportunities available through apprenticeships. From engineering and construction to digital technology and healthcare, the expo showcased



how young people can learn practical skills while working and gaining qualifications.

Students found the experience both inspiring and informative. Many were surprised by the variety of careers that apprenticeships can lead to and enjoyed asking questions directly to employers. It was a valuable opportunity to start thinking about future goals and understand the different routes available after school. Overall, the visit to the Big Apprentice Expo was a fantastic experience. It helped students broaden their horizons, build confidence when speaking with professionals, and begin to consider the many exciting possibilities for their futures.

Building Resilience at Haywood: BounceBackAbility Sessions for Years 7 & 8

This term, our Year 7 and Year 8 students have been taking part in a series of BounceBackAbility workshops, designed to support their wellbeing, emotional awareness, and relationship skills. These sessions have quickly become a much-loved part of the timetable, giving students the chance to reflect, talk, and develop the tools they need to confidently navigate life both in and out of school.

Throughout the programme, students have explored topics such as managing emotions, building resilience, understanding healthy relationships, and developing positive communication. Each session has been engaging, reflective, and tailored to help students feel more empowered and emotionally aware.

We are incredibly grateful to Russel who has delivered every workshop with enthusiasm, compassion, and a genuine connection with our students. His guidance has helped create a safe, supportive environment where students feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and growing in confidence.

This is a fantastic programme, and our students are very lucky to have had the opportunity to participate. We're excited to see the lasting impact these sessions will have as they continue to grow and develop throughout their time at Haywood Academy.



Exploring Volcanoes in Nurture



Our nurture students have been erupting with enthusiasm this term as they explored the explosive world of **volcanoes** with Mr Courts! Through hands-on learning, engaging discussions, and creative activities, students have been diving deep into how volcanoes form, why they erupt, and the impact they have on people and the planet.

To bring their learning to life, students were set a special homework project: **create their own volcano model**. And wow did they deliver! The results were absolutely outstanding. From towering paper-mâché mountains to detailed painted landscapes and cleverly designed eruption mechanisms, every model was unique, imaginative, and brilliantly made.

We are truly **blown away** by the effort, creativity, and pride shown by our nurture students. Their hard work has created a spectacular display of volcanic masterpieces that has impressed everyone who's seen them.

A huge well done to all students and a big thank you to Mr Courts for inspiring such fantastic learning this term!

Setting the Stage

The English department has been buzzing with creativity this term as students took part in a fantastic **Plays and Stages Set Design Competition**. Building on the plays they've been studying in lessons, students were challenged to design and build their own miniature stage sets and the results have been nothing short of spectacular!

Using cardboard, paint, craft materials, and huge amounts of imagination, students produced detailed models that perfectly captured key moments, themes, and atmospheres from their chosen plays. From haunting lighting effects to cleverly constructed backdrops and props, every model showed an impressive understanding of staging, design, and dramatic interpretation.

The level of effort, thought, and creativity that has gone into these set designs has truly amazed the English team. It's been wonderful to see students approach literature from a new angle not just reading the plays, but *bringing them to life*. A massive well done to all who took part. The work produced has been outstanding and a real celebration of the talent we have here at Haywood Academy.

Year 10 Cook Up a Storm With the Royal Navy!



This half term, our Year 10 Hospitality students had a truly unique and inspiring opportunity as the **Royal Navy** visited Haywood Academy to deliver a hands-on culinary challenge. The task was to **design and cook a full three-course meal** using a set list of ingredients — all within a strict time limit!

Students worked brilliantly under pressure, showing teamwork, creativity, and impressive kitchen skills as they planned, prepared, and presented their dishes. From flavour combinations to plating techniques, the challenge pushed them to think like real chefs, and the results were outstanding.

Alongside the cooking, our visitors shared fascinating insights into **life in the Royal Navy**, discussing the wide range of roles that keep operations running smoothly including those in **catering, hospitality, logistics, and professional cookery**. Students were able to ask questions, hear real stories from naval life, and learn how essential food, teamwork, and discipline are to the Navy's daily operations. The experience gave our Year 10s a deeper understanding of career pathways linked to hospitality, as well as a taste of what it's like to cater under real-world pressures.

A huge thank you to the Royal Navy team for giving our students such an inspiring and memorable workshop.

Student Leaders Join the Six Towns School Council

This term, our two nominated Student Council leaders have been proudly representing Haywood Academy at the **Six Towns School Council**, a partnership that brings together young people from schools across Staffordshire to discuss the issues that matter most to them and to their communities.

At each meeting, two students from every participating school come together to share ideas, debate important topics, and contribute to decisions that help shape opportunities and experiences for young people across the region. Our representatives have taken an active role, speaking confidently, listening respectfully, and offering thoughtful, well-considered contributions.

Throughout the sessions, students have had the chance to engage with **guest speakers**, learn about local initiatives, and work collaboratively with peers from other schools. They have shown maturity, leadership, and a real desire to make a positive difference.

We are incredibly proud of the way they have represented Haywood Academy. Their commitment, communication skills, and passion for student voice have been outstanding.

Well done to both of you, you have represented Haywood Academy brilliantly!



Year 10 and 11 Geography Fieldwork in Action



Our Year 11 geographers recently swapped the classroom for the real world fieldwork as they headed out on a local fieldwork investigation to explore environmental quality and housing characteristics in our community.

Equipped with clipboards, survey sheets and plenty of enthusiasm, students carried out a range of primary data collection methods. These included environmental quality assessments, where they evaluated factors such as litter, noise and green space, alongside housing surveys examining building size, condition and land use. Students also recorded their observations systematically, ensuring their data was reliable and suitable for later analysis.

This fieldwork forms a vital part of the GCSE Geography course, directly supporting **Paper 3: Geographical Applications**. In this exam, students are required to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts and demonstrate their understanding of fieldwork processes by completing their own investigations. Back in the classroom, students will now use the data they collected to create graphs, analyse trends and practise exam-style questions. This helps to build confidence in tackling the six- and nine-mark questions that make up a significant portion of Paper 3.

It was fantastic to see students engaging so positively with their surroundings, asking thoughtful questions and working collaboratively. Experiences like this bring geography to life and help develop the skills needed not just for exams, but for understanding the world around them.

Well done to both Year 10 and Year 11 Geographers, a brilliant example of learning beyond the classroom!

Senior Prefects Lead the Way: Meetings With Mrs Mills

This term, our **Senior Prefects** have been taking an active role in shaping student life at Haywood Academy through a series of productive and engaging meetings with **Mrs Mills**. These sessions have focused on a wide range of topics, all centred around improving the student experience across the Academy.

From discussing ideas to enhance wellbeing, to exploring ways to strengthen the sense of community, to sharing feedback gathered from their peers, the Senior Prefects have shown maturity, leadership, and a genuine commitment to making a positive impact. Their thoughtful contributions and willingness to represent the voices of students have made these meetings incredibly valuable.

A huge **well done** to all Senior Prefects who have attended and taken part. Your dedication, professionalism, and enthusiasm have been outstanding. These meetings have been brilliant, and we are excited to see how your ideas help shape the future of our Academy.



Our Future Leaders Take the Stage!

It has been an incredibly exciting few weeks at Haywood Academy as students applying for **Head Student positions** took part in this year's **Prefect Hustings**. Each candidate stepped up to deliver their speech to the *entire school*, a huge challenge that every one of them handled with confidence, passion, and professionalism.

Their speeches were thoughtful, inspiring, and full of brilliant ideas about how to make Haywood Academy an even better

place. The whole school community students and staff has been taking part in the voting process, and the ballots are still being counted as anticipation builds!

The next stage of the selection process is interviews. Head Student candidates will sit down for their interviews with **Mrs Mills**, while all other prefect applicants will meet with different members of staff from across the Academy.

We want to say a massive **well done** to every student who has taken part so far. You have represented yourselves and our school incredibly well. Your courage and commitment to student leadership have made this year's hustings truly outstanding.

Good luck to all candidates... and watch this space for the results!

Year 9 Peer Mentor Hustings Begin!

This week marks the exciting start of the **Peer Mentor Hustings** for our Year 9 students. As they prepare to move into Year 10 next year, students have been given the opportunity to apply for a peer mentor position, a role that carries responsibility, leadership, and the chance to support younger students across the Academy.

The application deadline has now passed, and we have been incredibly impressed by the number of thoughtful, passionate letters submitted. These applications will be carefully read and considered over the Easter holidays, as staff look for students who demonstrate empathy, maturity, and a genuine desire to help others.

Once the holidays are over, the next stage will begin: **Interviews** for those who have applied. Students will meet with members of staff to discuss why they want the role and what qualities they can bring to the Peer Mentor team.

We are thrilled to see so much interest in student leadership and we can't wait to share the results soon.

Watch this space after Easter for the next steps!





Valentine's Raffle Success!

Love and a bit of friendly competition was in the air this term as our **Valentine's Day Raffle**, ran by PTFA, became a huge hit across the Haywood Academy community! Thank you to everyone who supported the event by buying tickets, spreading the word, and joining in the fun. The raffle created a fantastic buzz around school, with students and staff eagerly awaiting the announcement of the lucky winners. Your enthusiasm helped make the event a great success, and we're so grateful for the positivity and participation shown by all.

If you didn't win this time... don't worry!

Keep an eye out next term for another exciting chance to take part and win!

The Year of the Horse

This term, our Haywood Academy community came together to celebrate **Chinese New Year**, sharing good wishes, positivity, and excitement for the year ahead. This year marks the **Year of the Horse**, a symbol of energy, strength, and determination qualities we see every day in our fantastic students and staff.

Across the Academy, we wished all members of our community a very happy and prosperous Chinese New Year. The celebration provided a wonderful opportunity for students to learn more about Chinese culture, traditions, and the significance of the zodiac.

The Year of the Horse is associated with ambition, confidence, and enthusiasm, themes that perfectly match the spirit of Haywood Academy as we continue to grow, challenge ourselves, and support one another.

We hope this new year brings joy, success, and good fortune to all!



Ramadan & Celebrating Eid

Throughout Ramadan, Haywood Academy has been proud to support our students and staff who were observing this important month of fasting, reflection, and prayer. Across the school, we created dedicated spaces that were available every day for **quiet prayer, reflection, and spiritual focus**, ensuring that everyone had a calm and welcoming environment in which to observe their faith.

We are incredibly grateful to our students for the maturity, respect, and positivity they showed during this period. It has been wonderful to see the school community come together in understanding and support. Over the last few weeks, many members of our community have celebrated **Eid**, marking the end of Ramadan. We want to say a huge **Eid Mubarak** to everyone who celebrated, we hope it was a time filled with joy, togetherness, and blessings.

We were also delighted to host an **after-school Eid celebration**, bringing students, families, and staff together to share food, music, and community spirit. Thank you to everyone who took part. Your enthusiasm and participation helped make it a truly special event.

Eid Mubarak from all of us at Haywood Academy!





Supporting success!

In the lead-up to exam season, our Year 11 students have been taking part in a series of Exam Stress Workshops designed to help them understand their emotions, manage pressure, and feel confident and prepared. Each session focused on practical tools and positive mindset strategies, giving students the support they need during this important time.

Session 1: Understanding Anxiety

In the first workshop, students explored what anxiety is and how our thoughts influence our feelings and behaviours. By understanding why exam stress happens, students learned that anxiety is a normal response and that by adjusting the way we think, we can change how we feel and react to challenges.

Session 2: Managing Worries and Attention

The second session focused on how worries can take over our attention and make it harder to focus on revision or lessons. Students learned techniques to recognise when worry is taking control and practised shifting their attention back to the present moment. They also explored which worries they can solve and which ones they can let go of.

Session 3: Challenging Negative Thoughts

In Session 3, students reflected on negative automatic thoughts that often appear before exams, such as “I’m going to fail” or “I can’t do this.” They practised strategies for spotting these unhelpful thoughts, challenging them, and replacing them with more balanced, supportive ones. The session also emphasised choosing helpful behaviours that reduce anxiety and build confidence.

Session 4: Building Confidence and Effective Study Habits

The final workshop helped students develop healthier perspectives on exams, focusing on what they can control, their preparation, mindset, and study habits. They learned practical revision strategies, organisation tips, and approaches to managing workload in a way that supports both wellbeing and academic success.

Together, these workshops have given Year 11 a toolkit of strategies to help them stay calm, confident, and ready for the challenges ahead. We are incredibly proud of the maturity and engagement they’ve shown throughout the programme.

Lent at Haywood Academy

A Time for Reflection and Community Throughout Lent, Haywood Academy has offered a dedicated space for rosary, prayer, and quiet reflection, supporting all members of our community who wished to take a moment of stillness during the busy school day. This peaceful environment has allowed students and staff to pause, reflect, and connect with their faith in a calm and welcoming setting. We are proud to provide opportunities for spiritual reflection across different traditions, and it has been wonderful to see our community making use of this space with respect and thoughtfulness.

As we move into the Easter season, we want to wish all of our Haywood Academy community a wonderful Easter. Whether you are celebrating with family, enjoying a well-earned rest, or taking time for personal reflection, we hope the break brings joy, peace, and renewal.

Happy Easter from everyone at Haywood Academy!

Haywood Achievements!



Celebrating Student Success!

This half term has seen some fantastic achievements across our school community. A brilliant **367 students** have earned **Bronze Awards**, with a further **235 students** going on to achieve **Silver Awards**.

Year 7 are currently leading the way with the highest number of positive points, while **Year 8** continue to impress with the best attendance across all year groups.

Meanwhile, **Year 10** have secured the most **Golden Tickets**, recognising their outstanding attitude and contributions around school.

To top it off, **25 Principal Awards** have been presented to students who have demonstrated exceptional effort and excellence.

Well done to all our hardworking students — keep it up!

Hello's and Goodbyes!

Staff Welcomes

Mr. E Healey - Learning Mentor

Starting after Easter

Miss H Loft - Teacher of Maths

Miss R Washington - Teacher of Maths

Starting September

Mr. T Gibson - Teacher of Humanities

Miss H Davis - Teacher of Humanities

Miss S Copestake - Teacher of Maths

Miss A Harvey - Teacher of English

A huge Haywood hello and welcome to all our new staff.

Staff Farewells

Mr. A Griffin – Teacher of Maths

Mrs. I Walton – Teacher of English

Mrs. S McCormack – Teacher of Maths
(Maternity Leave)

We would like to wish Mrs. McCormack a fantastic maternity leave.

We would also like to wish Mr. Griffin and Mrs. Walton luck in all their future endeavors.

Student Shout outs!

At Haywood Academy, we are always proud to celebrate the achievements of our students outside school and in the wider community!



We are bursting with pride for Layla, who did something truly incredible on Friday after school. She had 50cm of her hair cut and donated it to the Little Princess Trust. A charity that creates real-hair wigs for children who are experiencing hair loss due to cancer or other conditions.

This is kindness in action.

This is compassion in its purest form.

This is making a difference in someone's world.

Layla, your generosity and courage are inspiring.

You've shown what it means to use what you have to help others and we couldn't be prouder of you.

We are incredibly proud of Chanel. A true superstar in every way! Your hard work, kindness, and shining spirit never go unnoticed. Keep being the amazing person you are; the world is brighter because of you.



Duke of Edinburgh



This half-term the DofE cohorts from Year 9 to 11 have been hard at work collating evidence for their 3 sections, Physical; Skill and Volunteering of which students have enjoyed a range of experiences to date. Their commitment to the DofE programme means taking responsibility for the setting and achieving of goals across activities over a sustained period of time.

It has been an absolute pleasure to deliver an information assembly to our parents/carers regarding our impending expedition that we have coming up in the summer term, something that our students are extremely excited about and we cannot wait to get underway. This also presented us with the opportunity to share all the amazing things that our young people had already achieved, in addition to how parents/carers could support their child on the award to ensure that they could reach their full potential.

In other news, we have already seen some outstanding success this academic year with the DofE award with our first approved award being given. Maisie T in Year 11 has achieved her Bronze award and is already well on her way to completing her Silver, which shows the dedication and determination to do well but also the impact that the DofE has on our young people.

The impact of the DofE award for our young people is that they are able to access opportunities that they wouldn't necessarily ordinarily have access to otherwise. It helps students to build essential life-skills, self-belief and resilience and complete personalised non-competitive programmes that are based on their individual needs and preferences.



PE Highlights

A Term of Sporting Excellence!



Year 10 Football Update: Haywood vs Excel

Our Year 10 Boys delivered their strongest performance in years last night. A brilliant display of teamwork, resilience, and determination from start to finish. From the opening whistle, Haywood controlled the game, dictated the tempo, and showed just how far this squad has come. The standout moment of the match came from Will, who struck an unbelievable volley directly from a perfectly delivered Jeff corner. The ball rocketed into the net before the keeper could even react — a goal worthy of any highlight reel.

Despite dominating throughout and clearly being the better side, the boys were unlucky not to come away with a result. What shines through, however, is the progress being made every single week. Confidence is

growing, the quality of football is rising, and the team is heading firmly in the right direction. A performance to be proud of and plenty more to come from this talented group.

Year 9 Football Update: Haywood vs Excel

The Year 9 boys faced a challenging away fixture against league leaders Excel Academy. A tough test from the very first whistle. Excel showed their quality early on, and Haywood went into the break 5–0 down.

However, what followed in the second half was a huge credit to the resilience and character of our team. The boys regrouped, showed real grit and determination, and refused to concede another goal. Not only that they created several chances of their own and were unlucky not to put a couple away.

This performance shows that the team is heading in the right direction. There are clear areas to develop, but the attitude and work rate are exactly what we want to see as the squad continues to grow.

Next up, Year 9 will take on St Margaret Ward in their final match before the Easter break. The boys will be looking to build on their second-half performance, bring home a win, and add three well-earned points to their league campaign.



Year 7 & 8 Girls' Football: Haywood Secure a Brilliant 2–1 Win!

What a fantastic afternoon of football from our Year 7 and Year 8 girls! They faced Saint Margaret Ward in a brilliantly competitive match and came away with a superb 2–1 victory.

Haywood showed outstanding teamwork and determination throughout, with goals from Elsie and Ellie securing the win. Every player demonstrated real Haywood spirit. Working hard for each other, battling for every ball, and keeping their composure under pressure.

A brilliant result and a performance the whole school can be proud of!

U16 Boys' Basketball: Unbeaten Run Continues with Two Outstanding Wins

Our Year 11 boys' basketball team delivered another phenomenal week of performances, securing two dominant victories and extending their unbeaten run. These results have officially placed Haywood into the North City Finals, where we now await our potential opponents.

Game 1: Haywood 31–14 Birches Head

Haywood came out firing in their first game of the season, taking control early and never looking back. Every player brought energy, focus and a real competitive edge, resulting in a confident 31–14 win.

Game 2: Haywood 42–11 OSSMA

The momentum continued into the second fixture, where Haywood produced an exceptional defensive display and an even stronger offensive performance. With quick transitions, sharp passing and clinical finishing, the boys secured a commanding 42–11 victory.

Top Scorers Across Both Games:

Ben 12 points

Marvellous 10 points

Favour 9 points

Dorian 6 points

Osman 5 points

A brilliant all-round effort from the full squad and a fantastic achievement to remain unbeaten. The North City Finals await and this team is more than ready.



Badminton League

On Wednesday our KS3 and KS4 badminton squads took on Excel Academy in a high-energy evening packed with fast rallies, determination and outstanding sportsmanship. Every team gave their all, and Haywood spirit was shining throughout.

KS3 Boys and girls

A tough set of matches ended in a narrow loss, but the performance was full of positives. The teamwork, effort and resilience shown by the KS3 squad were exceptional, and the players should be incredibly proud of how they represented the Academy.

KS3 Girls had another close and competitive fixture which saw our KS4 girls battle for every point. Their grit, composure and great sportsmanship stood out, making this a brilliant performance despite the narrow result.

KS4 Boys

A fantastic win for the KS4 boys! With brilliant energy and clinical shot-making, they secured a well-deserved victory. A superb effort from the whole squad.

A huge well done to all our badminton players — your hard work, enthusiasm and team spirit made this a brilliant evening of sport for Haywood.



Handball Success: Both Teams Through to the Regional Finals!

A huge congratulations to both our boys' and girls' handball teams, who have officially qualified for the Regional Finals! This is an incredible achievement that reflects the players' hard work, commitment and constant drive to improve. Both squads have shown impressive teamwork, skill and determination throughout the competition, and their place in the finals is thoroughly deserved. We wish them the very best of luck as they prepare for the next stage. The whole Haywood community is behind you!

Ace Padel PE Trip:

Our Students Smash Their First Experience! Our students absolutely smashed it at Ace Padel!

A group of our gifted and talented pupils visited Ace Padel in Burslem for their very first introduction to the fast-growing sport of Padel and they loved every moment of it.

With expert coaching on hand, students learned:

The rules of Padel:

How it differs from tennis

How to return serves, hit volleys, and take on a series of fun skill-building drills

For many, it was their first ever time stepping onto a Padel court but you wouldn't have guessed it.

The energy was high, the rallies were impressive, and the smiles said everything.

A brilliant experience for all involved, and a fantastic opportunity to try something new and exciting in PE.

Port Vale Foundation Empowers Haywood Academy Girls Through Football

This term, we've been thrilled to welcome the Port Vale Foundation into Haywood Academy as they work closely with our students to develop their football skills — both on and off the pitch!

Across a series of energetic and inspiring sessions, the Foundation coaches have teamed up with our girls to improve technical ability, build confidence, and nurture a deeper understanding of the sport. Dribbling, passing, teamwork, communication, every session has been packed with practical coaching and positive encouragement.

But the programme goes beyond playing the game. The girls have also been developing their leadership and coaching skills, learning how to plan drills, support younger players, and communicate like true team leaders. It's been fantastic to see so many students stepping out of their comfort zone and discovering new talents.

We're incredibly grateful for this partnership with the Port Vale Foundation and proud of the dedication shown by our students.

Here's to building skills, confidence, and a lifelong love of the game!



Outward Bound - outstanding week



What a week it has been! We set off at 8:30am on Monday 16th March, with all students packed and ready for a week full of fun activities, alongside a healthy dose of traditional hard work.

Our trip to Ullswater, Howtown in the Lake District was designed to engage, empower, and enrich the lives of our young students. Accompanying the group were Mr Adlington and a dedicated team

consisting of Mrs Ryder, Mrs Defreitas, Mr Machin, Mr Cartwright, and Mrs Hazel, who supported the students every step of the way.

Throughout the week, students took part in an unforgettable range of experiences, including gorge walking, canoeing, sailing, cliff jumping, camping, and stargazing.

The students were exceptional from start to finish, consistently demonstrating our key values of being ready, respectful, and resilient. It was truly a memorable and rewarding experience for everyone involved. Mr Adlington was extremely proud of all the students! Outward Bound will be on next year and we will be stopping at the Aberdovey center.

Please message Mr Adlington to reserve a space for next residential which will be in June 2027.

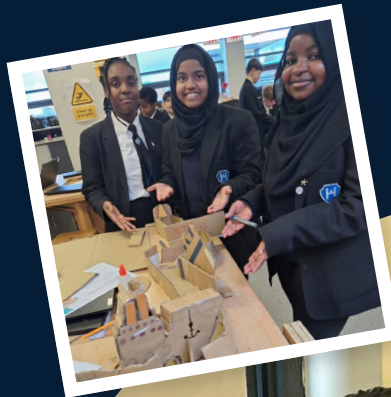


Character & Arts Foundation

What we've been up to

C&A Enterprise Curriculum

We started the term with the Enterprise Challenge for Years 7, 8 and 9. Our Year 7s were delving into their local heritage, using air-dry clay to create pieces inspired by the centenary celebrations and connected to the local business, Valentines Clays. Meanwhile, Years 8 and 9 explored local legends, designing their very own golf course holes themed around these stories. The final creations showcased their creativity, imagination, and connection to the community. A huge well done to all!



Volunteering Trip to Ghana

We are delighted to congratulate the 15 students who have successfully secured their places on the fully-funded volunteering trip to Ghana. They will be joining 15 students from Trentham Academy to support a small fishing village, contributing through teaching, coaching, and building projects. Over the coming months, our students will be running a variety of fundraising events in preparation for their trip at the end of June – an incredible opportunity to make a real global impact!

CASCADE

The CASCADE group has been working hard to shape this year's project, exploring creative ideas through drama workshops with artist Martin Gooding. They have chosen to create an Audio Trail for Burslem alongside a short film, selecting Ian Pringle and Anderson West to bring these projects to life.

Throughout March, illustrator James Fox has been capturing sessions through live illustration while sharing insights into his career. The group also now has a brand-new CASCADE font, created by Siobhan McAleer using students' previous printmaking work, ready to be used in future projects and exhibitions.

We look forward to sharing their final outcomes soon!



Musical Pathways Programme with the Hallé

This term, our students have enjoyed some truly inspiring musical experiences as part of the Musical Pathways Programme. Our nurture groups attended a Relaxed Concert at Hallé St Peters, taking part in creative workshops with professional musicians before enjoying a live orchestral performance in a relaxed, welcoming setting.

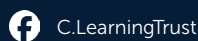
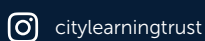
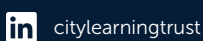
Year 10s took part in Hallé Impressarios, stepping behind the scenes to see what it takes to run an orchestra – from budgeting and planning to hiring conductors and musicians, even tackling surprise challenges to make the performance a success and of course, make a profit!

Meanwhile, our Year 7s joined Adopt-a-Player, working with a musician to create their own unique version of a piece of repertoire. This programme culminated in a special performance alongside our trust primary schools, Smallthorne and Mill Hill Primary Academy, which parents were also invited to attend, celebrating the students' teamwork and creativity.

Finally, all Year 7 students attended the Hallé live concert at Victoria Hall, joining 1,100 children from Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire for an unforgettable orchestral experience.



Character & Arts Foundation - Part of City Learning Trust





**Happy Easter from all of us at
Haywood Academy**

**Stay safe and we look forward to
seeing everyone on the
13th April!**