



Ben Rice Head of School

So I have survived my first full term as a Head of School! It has been an incredible experience. I am immensely proud of the school we are running. The staff and students are a wonderful bunch of human beings who are trying their hardest to work together to achieve the best outcomes they can.

In terms of last year's results it was another record year for us as a school. 93% of students achieved five or more qualifications which is incredible. That has enabled them to walk into a range of college courses and apprenticeships.

This term has seen our current Year 11's sit the first set of mocks and it was so encouraging to see how they responded to this. The early results show they are on track to keep pace with the improvement we have seen over the past few years.

One of the highlights of this term was to see the students commemorating remembrance day in such a respectful manner. Particular mention should go to Mr Crawford who organised and ran the event so well. All students showed themselves to be polite and well mannered young people during an event that can be extremely emotional.

Wishing you all a safe, restful, peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year.

We say fond farewell to :-

Ms Dillon—Assistant Headteacher
Mr Rolfe—Driver

School Calendar

Term Ends

21st December 2022 at
12.30pm

Spring Term

INSET Day

Thursday 5th January 2023
Friday 6th January 2023

Student Parent Review Day

Monday 9th January 2023

Form Tutors will arrange a convenient time to meet with parents and students.

Term Starts

Tuesday 10th January 2023

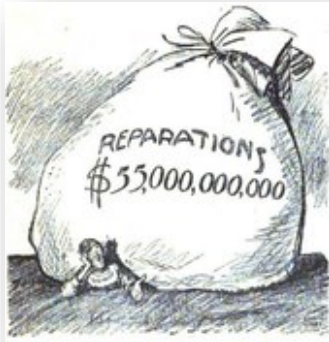
Half term

Monday 13th February
2023
to
Friday 17th February 2023

GCSE History

GCSE students have been learning about the fascinating rise to power of Hitler through the topic of Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939.

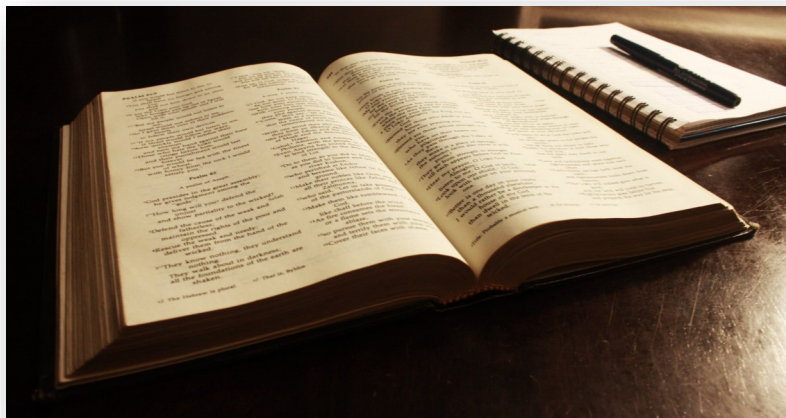
This term, we have concentrated on the ending of the First World War and how Germany was forced to accept the Versailles Peace Treaty in 1919 which led to many political, economical and social problems.



GCSE Religious Studies

This term, students have been learning about Christianity and its core beliefs some of which are the Trinity, Creation, Evil and Suffering.

Religious Studies is a worthy subject because students are introduced to points of view, why it is important to be tolerant of others' religious beliefs and having discussions. Part of the course also explores philosophical and ethical studies in the modern world.



Design and Technology

School Bench



Throughout this term Annellesse and Sammy have excelled in their course and class work and have already completed the majority of their level 2 course.

They are now developing their learnt skills, applying and exploring new and more complicated techniques. They have both planned, designed and started to produce a bench for the school.

They continue to show a love for the subject and their passion for creativity just beams through! Their level of finish and detail is above average for the peer group.

Between now and them leaving us at Links Academy they will produce more projects and one day become great trades people.

Humanities Department

Geography

This Autumn term the KS3 students have impressed us with their amazing geographical skills, especially in identifying the majority of nation flags and in answering geographical quiz questions this strongly demonstrates excellent locational geographical knowledge and the skill in locating nations all over the world. Suffice to add, the students beat the teachers in answering the most questions correctly. Very well done!



Humanities Department

History

KS3 groups successfully completed detailed family tree projects for the late Queen Elizabeth II with focus, attention and much enthusiasm. It was a lovely way to honour our beloved late Queen and it was a great way in which to reinforce and acknowledge the history and importance to our nation of the Royal Family.



Social Sciences

Child Development

Year 10 students have made a strong start to the year with thoughtful input, interesting comments and a great work ethic.

The Year 11 Childcare students have shown impressive focus and diligence in creating revision materials for their mock exams in November.



Social Sciences

Public Services

This subject explores the wonderful services we receive from our local authority, the Welwyn-Hatfield Council. This term we have looked at the many Emergency Services provided by the council linking textbook information to real life situations in order to understand why it is often beneficial for Emergency Services to work together. Praise to all our students in this group for their participation and interest, and in coming up with their own thoughtful suggestions.



GCSE Art and Design

This term the Year 11 students have been working extremely hard towards their GCSE Art qualification. The theme for this project has been based around the title 'Fragments'. Students have been responding to the theme by exploring the art movement of Cubism and researching the work of Picasso and various other artists.

We were impressed by the hard work and dedication students displayed whilst completing their mock GCSE in Art.

Below are some of the wonderful outcomes produced within the six hour sustained focus period. Well done year 11!





This year we are celebrating Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. In honour of this, the nationwide project known as the "The Queens Green Canopy" was launched last year which encourages individuals and organisations to sustainably plant trees to create a legacy of the Queen's 70 years on the throne.

Hertfordshire schools play a vital role in shaping the future of our country. As such we planted two trees for the Jubilee in our grounds. Deputy Lieutenant Akhtar Zaman visited the school to plant the trees to commemorate the Queen's Canopy.



Rewards Trip October 2022

Ms Dillon and Mr Day took 5 students on a reward trip to an activity centre in Stevenage. The students were also treated to a pizza for lunch.

Our students behaved exceptionally well and had so much fun. Mr Day spent time with the students on the activity and it was lovely to see them all interacting positively. Ms Dillon was approached at the end of our session by the manager who complimented our students on how polite they were and how well they conducted themselves during their session.

Well done, Annellesse, Sammy, Conor, Toby and Jude for earning their place on the rewards trip, but also for being so much fun to take out for the day and showing how wonderful our school really is.





Over the last few weeks, I have been busy asking colleagues to raid their kitchen cupboards and add a few extra tins onto their weekly shopping list to fill a big box with goodies that I could take to The Trussell Trust. They will then distribute the food to various food banks within our catchment area.

The Trussell Trust supports a nationwide network of food banks and together they provide emergency food and support to people who are struggling to make ends meet whilst also campaigning for change to end the need for food banks in the UK.

Over the last six months, 320,000 people have been forced to turn to food banks in the Trussell Trust network for the first time. The Trussell Trust provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people who are in crisis as well as supporting people to resolve the crisis they are in.

This support is open to anybody who is in need of short-term food support. This can include those who are homeless and unemployed. You may also be surprised to learn that you can get this support even if you are working with one in five of those people referred being employed! It is for anybody who has insufficient funds to meet their needs.

If you would like further information on The Trussell Trust or any other organisation, please either contact the numbers given on this newsletter or give our reception a call, we can do anything from point you in the right direction if you want to help to applying for food vouchers on your behalf.

I would like to say a huge thank you to my colleagues and a big thank you to The Trussell Trust for the amazing work they do.

Miss Bruce

FOOD BANKS NEED YOUR SUPPORT.



Remembrance Day Project



During the build up to Remembrance Day every Design and Technology Class began working towards creating a memorial for Remembrance Day. Most students designed wooden symbols and poppies where they wrote messages to loved ones or messages to the fallen.

Their great effort and practical skills learnt throughout their DT lessons has resulted in a humbling memorial. Mr Crawford, who is Ex Royal Air Force and currently the DT Teacher, had great passion for the project and the 2 weeks leading up to it was humbling for him and for the majority of the students as they truly respected the project and what it stands for, they put in a lot of effort.

Remembrance Day

Friday 11th November was Remembrance Day. The Whole school took part in an assembly where the students respectfully engaged with the presentation. Later in the day the whole school took part in a short memorial service where we gave thanks to Mr Crawford for leading this service. A special thanks to Dolcie for her amazing reading of a poem to mark the start of the two minute silence and to Clifford for assisting in the laying of the poppy wreath on behalf of the staff and pupils of Links Academy Hatfield.

“It was an extremely proud and emotional day for me as the all the pupils remained respectful and took the days’ events seriously. Clifford and Dolcie volunteering to help me with the service was a great test of their character and they delivered to a high standard that I hope would make those who died for our freedoms proud.” Mr Crawford.



Services for Young People (SfYP) is here to support young people

Services for Young People (SfYP) provides free youth work projects, information, advice, guidance, work related learning and wider support for young people aged 11-19 across Hertfordshire. This includes helping young people with any challenges that they may be facing, including careers guidance, managing money, independent living, substance misuse, relationships and sexual health and emotional wellbeing.

How we can help: Careers Advice & Guidance

Are you worried about making plans for the future? SfYP are skilled in supporting young people to their next destination with the help of our friendly and qualified Personal Advisers. Links Academy has their very own SfYP Personal Adviser, Kath Weston, who can support you with exploring your options, completing applications, writing CVs, finding work experience and much more. Kath can be found in school every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

How we can help: youth work projects

SfYP also delivers a wide range of free [youth work projects](#). As well as learning new skills, these projects enable you to boost your emotional wellbeing, meet new people and challenge yourself to take part in new opportunities. Projects include plenty of different activities, such as recording music in our music studios, sports, drama, quizzes and art. We also have specific emotional wellbeing projects where you can learn CBT techniques to help manage anxiety, as well as projects to develop your confidence and look after your mental health. All of our projects are delivered in our Young People's Centres in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield.

Access Point Projects

Our [Access Point Projects](#) provide information, advice, guidance and support for 13-19 year olds. You can access support for finding work, training, apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities, as well as accessing our youth work projects and young people's relationships and sexual health services.

How to get in touch?

To [find out more](#) or [sign up](#) you can visit our website (www.servicesforyoungpeople.org), or you can email: sfyp@hertfordshire.gov.uk, call: 0300 123 7538 or text: 07860 022943. You can also keep in touch over Instagram and Twitter (@HCCSfYP).



**Services for
Young People**



The staff at
Links Multi Academy Trust Hatfield
would like to wish you all a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year

Please remember to stay safe

