

Sumo Trip to Royal Albert Hall

Over 40 top Sumo wrestlers from Japan are visiting London for a 5 day tournament this October - the first time they have visited the UK in 34 years! On Friday 17th October 28 Hendon students were lucky enough to see the wrestlers in action at the Royal Albert Hall in central London.

After travelling to the Royal Albert Hall by tube, the students took their seats inside the historic venue. A traditional Sumo ring and spectacular temple style roof had been constructed inside the hall, and the atmosphere was electric with hundreds of spectators cheering in anticipation.



After the wrestlers were introduced, we learnt about the rules and rich history of the ancient sport. The Sumo wrestlers demonstrated some of their training routine and possible moves before going head to head in live bouts. The size and athleticism of the wrestlers was really impressive!

At the end of the presentation, some primary school pupils were selected to take on the wrestlers! With all the crowd cheering them on, a group of 5 pupils were eventually able to gain victory by bringing one of the wrestlers to the ground.

This was a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience one of Japan's most iconic and historic sports. Through the presentation, we not only enjoyed watching some exiting live matches, but deepened our understanding of traditional Japanese culture.



Ms Fitt - Teacher of MFL

Year 13 Dancers attend London Studio Centre

On 10th October some of our year 13 dancers were lucky enough to be invited to the London Studio Centre in Finchley for a contemporary workshop. LSC is known for its intensive professional dance training and many of their students go on to be professional dancers and choreographers for West End shows, commercials, music tours and videos.



The students were pushed out of their comfort zones and to their limits but rose to the challenge with determination and confidence. Our Hendon students were commended on their high level of focus and maturity by staff members from The London Studio centre; they really did us proud! We hope to attend more workshops in the future but in other styles of dance.



Ms Goodman - Head of Dance

Hendon School Joins the "School Uniform Reuse Network"!

We're proud to announce that Hendon School has officially joined the School Uniform Reuse Network, continuing our commitment to sustainability and supporting families.

After running our Pre-Loved Uniform Shop for the September 2025 start, we're thrilled to share the impact you've helped us make:

♻️ 25.7 kg of waste saved from landfill

🌍 98.8 kg of CO₂ emissions prevented

💷 £855.58 saved by families

This is a fantastic achievement! Thank you to everyone who has donated pre-loved uniforms.

We're now in the running to win cash prizes and attend a student textile workshop – a brilliant opportunity to further engage our students in eco-conscious learning. Let's keep the momentum going. Every uniform reused is a step toward a greener future!

Ms Stolk - Office Manager

Diary Dates	
❖ Monday 27 th - Friday 31 st October	Half Term Break
❖ Tuesday 4 th - Monday 10 th November	HS6 Public Examination
❖ Wednesday 5 th November	Parental Coffee Morning (Careers)
❖ Thursday 13 th November	HS6 Open Evening
❖ Tuesday 25 th November	Kindness Mitzvah Day
❖ Wednesday 26 th November	Parental Coffee Morning (Year 11 Progress)
❖ Thursday 27 th November	HS6 Student Progress Evening
❖ Wednesday 3 rd - Thursday 18 th December	Year 11 & 12 Mock Examinations
❖ Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch KS3 House Reward Movie afternoon Christmas Concert - 6 pm
❖ Thursday 18 th December	KS4 House Reward Movie afternoon
❖ Friday 19 th December	Last day of Autumn Term

This Autumn Term, our library has been buzzing with exciting activities to welcome back our students! Our colourful space was covered from head to toe for Halloween, Poetry Day, Black History Month, Banned Books Week, and many book displays! Additionally, five initiatives really stood out to us this term:

🏆 Summer Reading Challenge Results: This year, over 70 students from Years 7 & 8 participated in our Summer Reading Challenge. We are overjoyed that so many students took part in this project, discovered new books and submitted lots of creative pieces. Fitting all of them up on our display boards was a challenge of its own! The challenge came to an end on September 26th, and our library team a celebratory movie party on October 9th where 40 winners collected their certificates, free books and achievement points - all while enjoying well-deserved snacks. A huge congratulations to all participants, we look forward to organising the 2026 challenge next year!



📖 Year 12 Research Skills Lessons: In collaboration with the Science department, our library team gave lessons on research skills and information literacy to Year 12 Chemistry students. They were presented with research strategies, free available resources, methods to critically evaluate their sources, and engaged with a practical exercise. We aim to best prepare them for their A-Levels, as well as any further studies they may embark on. Due to their success last year, these sessions will be adapted across all Key Stages!



📖 Year 7 Library Inductions: We were delighted to officially welcome our new Year 7 students into the library with a series of fun and interactive induction sessions. These lively introductions gave students a chance to explore the library space, take part in book-themed quizzes, learn about our code of conduct and behaviour expectations, and discuss the importance of reading for well-being, confidence and academic success. They also got creative, working in groups to write about their favourite books and authors, and individually discovering

and reviewing a brand-new book. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and curiosity shine through!

📖 Young Writers Success: A huge congratulations to our talented Hendon School students who submitted creative writing pieces and got published by Young Writers! These writing competitions - Grim Tales, The Magic Map and Empowered - included both poetry and short stories. What an achievement! The latest poetry competition, I Have A Dream, which just closed, encouraged students to reflect on their goals and aspirations. But there's still time to enter the Ghost Stories competition, open until 5th November. Budding writers can email or bring their entries to the library—we'll handle the submission!



📖 Weekly Library Clubs - Key Stage 3: Don't forget to check out our list of weekly KS3 library clubs during Period 4. There's something for everyone, from book chats to arts and crafts and more!

✉ Stay Connected: Keep up with all our exciting activities, events, clubs, and workshops by reading our monthly library newsletter via ParentMail.

Wishing all students and families a restful and happy half-term break!

Warm regards

The Library Team - Mrs Indran & Miss Ledeme

Library lunchtime clubs for KS3

- MONDAY**
Book Club: cosy book discussions. We'll be reviewing and voting for the *Information Book Awards* shortlist until November.
- TUESDAY**
Anime & Manga Club: all Mangakas are welcome to participate in discussions and creative projects on *Studio Ghibli* movies.
- WEDNESDAY**
Super Readable Book Club: easy-reading stories and creative activities related to the illustrations.
- THURSDAY**
Creative Workshop: easy arts and crafts projects, designed to encourage mindfulness and well-being.
- FRIDAY**
Library Quizzes: a fun, friendly and educational competition with exciting prizes to win each week.

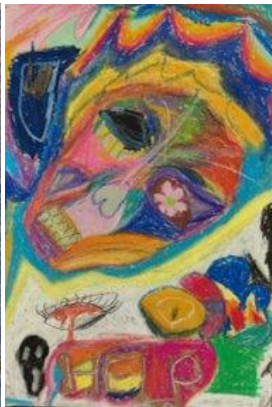
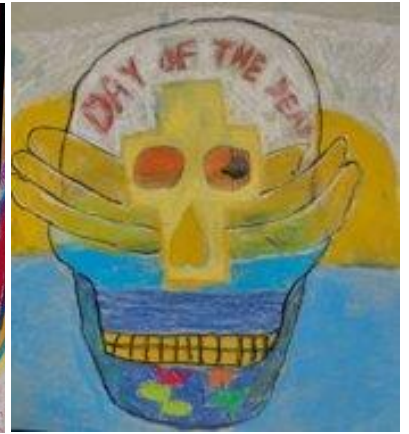
Well done to our new Year 10 GCSE Photography students who were inspired by Black British photographer Dennis Morris' work to refine their manual lens camera skills.



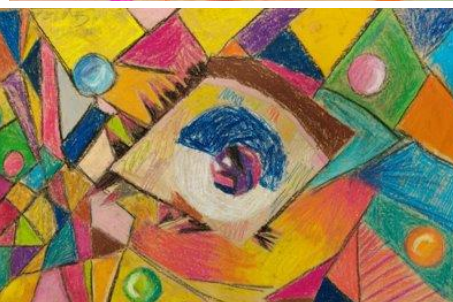
Thank you to Year 12 Art students for their amazing Black History months posters: Adjoa (12.1), Nicolý (12.2), Malina (12.7) and Keisha (12.1).



Year 9 students created beautiful skulls drawings using oil pastels to celebrate the memory of relatives and ancestors which was inspired by the Mexican Day of the Dead festival in November



Well done to students in 8.3 for their brilliant abstract eye group artwork which was inspired by Black British artist Rachel Jones. Students showed impressive creative ideas and worked well as a team.



Ms Schmid - Head of Photography



Hendon's DofE Girls Conquer Ashdown Forest



Twelve determined Hendon students traded comfort for challenge as they set off on their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition to the wild and wonderful Ashdown Forest. Over two adventurous days, the girls navigated hills, heaths, and the occasional wrong turn – armed only with their maps, compasses, teamwork, and the skills honed during weeks of evening training sessions.

The journey was far from easy. Battling unpredictable weather, uneven terrain, and the occasional “are-we-sure-this-is-the-right-path?” moment, the group showed impressive resilience. Even when they famously managed to get lost—on the campsite itself—the girls handled it with humour and grit, proving that sometimes the best part of an expedition is finding your way back again.



Meals became their own mini adventures. The team fuelled themselves with mountainous servings of instant noodles, tteokbokki, and pancakes that were as creative as they were delicious. Energy bars and snacks kept spirits high, while laughter and teamwork kept everyone moving forward.



Guided and supported by Mr Ramjhon, Mr Dickie, and Ms Raghwani, the expedition was a triumph of endurance and camaraderie. And when the exhausted but elated group finally returned to Hendon, they were rewarded with the ultimate treat: bubble tea – the sweet taste of victory.

A special congratulations goes to six students who, as of October 20th, have officially completed their full Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards:

 Hana (10.3)	 Adriana (10.3)	 Sahar Moghnieh (10.3)
 Minhaal (10.1)	 Sophie (10.6)	 Manel (10.7)

Their hard work, perseverance, and spirit truly embody what the DofE Award stands for – adventure, teamwork, and growth.

As Hendon's DofE girls proved this autumn: getting lost is just part of the journey – what matters most is how you find your way back (preferably before the noodles run out).

Mr Ramjhon - Teacher of Geography

Girls Football

It has been a fantastic start to the girls' football season, with over 50 girls attending training each week. We are delighted to see these numbers continue to grow and are so proud of the enthusiasm and progress shown by our players.

This year, we have competitive teams in all year groups from years 7 to 11. It is great to give all girls the opportunity to represent the school in competitive fixtures as part of the Barnet School Leagues. Training is open to all girls of all abilities – from complete beginners to those who play regularly outside of school, and we encourage those who have not yet attended to join us every Wednesday from 3.20-4.30 pm on the school field.

We are proud to continue our partnership with local 'girls only' football club Barnet Panthers, encouraging our students to take their football further. Over 10 of our girls now play for the club, and we have been thrilled to see their confidence and skill development on and off the pitch. For those looking to continue their football journey outside of school scan the QR code on the flyer below and start training with Barnet Panthers now.



Year 7 & 8

The Year 7 and 8 girls' football team have made a strong start to their season. As a brand-new team, they have spent time getting to know one another and learning how to work effectively together on the pitch. They showed great promise in their first match against Belmont, demonstrating teamwork, determination and a growing understanding of the game. We're really excited to see this talented group develop and progress as the season continues.

Year 9

The year 9 girls football team have made a brilliant start to their season. Currently sitting top of the league with two games and two wins. Being unbeaten at this stage of the season has been a huge improvement to the season before. The girls have been so dedicated and committed, with a positive attendance to training every week, making it extremely difficult to pick a squad. They are using what they learn at training and implementing these tactics and skills in their games making them all round better footballers.

I am so proud of their attitude and team spirit. They are a credit to the school and represent the year group and PE really well. Let's hope the girls can remain unbeaten and bring a league title back to Hendon School.



Year 10 & 11

What an exciting start to the season for our Year 10 and 11 girls' football team! We were delighted to welcome back several experienced players who have represented the school in previous years, alongside some new recruits making their debut in the first game of the season.

The team showed outstanding resilience and determination throughout the match, with moments of real quality both in attack and defence. A special mention goes to Olivia for her standout performance in goal and to Chloe for her incredible work rate and

commitment, tirelessly covering the pitch from box to box to support every play.

Boys Football

Year 7 V Bishop Douglas

New ownership, new season, new era! Expectations were high for the Year 7 football squad in their debut match. With heavy investment from up and coming Sporting Director Lynch, there was a pressure during the game that hasn't been present at Hendon for some time. The obvious trophy drought in NW4 brought a well-deserved shake up to the PE department, with Director Lynch even getting himself on the training paddock to oversee proceedings.

Barnet football was back with a bang, all the usual mind games back in place for the season. Hendon fans being denied entry at the front door, undersized goals for a 9-a-side game and a delayed kick off all came as a surprise to the fresh crop of players. However, it did not affect the professionalism to which the Year 7 boys approached this fixture. They started incredibly well, fast paced, dominant football but to no end. A 0-0 game which was becoming increasingly frustrating. To make matters worse, after all of the hard work and effort, Bishop Douglas broke and scored a superb goal on the counter attack. 1-0 to the opposition. A penalty to Hendon came soon after to even up the score, but was missed by Pierre, adding to the away team frustrations. Already it looked like it was going to be a short tenure for the manager and his assistant, Adam. Assistant to the assistant manager, Amauri, was nowhere to be seen...

Hendon were forced into early substitutions. Bringing on Idris was a master stroke from the sidelines with his hard work and enthusiasm quickly earning him a goal. 1-1. Luka was a menace all game, with runs to the byline, threatening crosses and a natural ability to find space. A well-deserved goal for Luka as he received it at the back post and smashed it in. 2-1. Hendon were into their stride now with big money signing Noel, the Mill Hill Iniesta, dominating the game with quick feet, excellent passing and an immense toughness. He was instrumental in the 3rd goal after building up from the back and playing Idris in for a debut brace.

Comfortable at half time, the boys were composed with Pierre having some honest words about where improvement was still needed. The management unloaded the rest of the bench with Muhammed, Leon and Hamza all getting game time. A joke and a laugh were had about Leon in his extra small football top before business resumed as normal. Pierre, younger brother of Daniel, often compared to the footballing talent of the Bellinghams, was writing his own story. With fierce leadership and a free kick scored from range, he put the game at 4-1 and out of sight.

Management acted again returning Tudor to the no.9 position. Establishing himself as the club social secretary, Tudor had won the hearts and minds of team mates off the pitch but needed to convert in the final third. Thankfully he did with an excellent finish that sealed the 3 points.

Result: 5-1 Hendon. Goals: Idris (2), Pierre, Luka, Tudor. MoM: Luka

Year 7 V Christ College

Year 7 star centre back Anik has called for calm after a shockwave was sent through NW4 today following the heavy 5-0 defeat to borough giants, CCF. A tough afternoon away from home where the final result will overshadow the copious amount of effort and hard work that went into the performance. 'Listen, it wasn't our day,' Anik stated. 'We need to go away now and regroup before putting this right next week. That will start tonight in peri peri over some chicken wings, nothing but honest conversations in there.'

The game started well with both teams going toe to toe, CCF eventually breaking away and scoring a superb opener. However, Hendon weren't phased. They battled hard and kept it to a 1 goal difference until half time. Brilliant defending from a well established back 3 of Neil, Anik and Shane had a lot to do with Hendon's outstanding first half. Rumours of the Mill Hill Iniesta had spread far and wide as Noel dazzled again with quick feet and ferocious tenacity. The second half only went one direction with Hendon struggling to do any damage against a CCF back 4. Although no matter what goals were conceded, it didn't take away the Hendon fight, with Gabriel and Shane in particular driving the team all the way to the final whistle.

These boys should still be commended for their hard work, grit and determination. They have learned a lot more in a 5-0 defeat than they will from any victory.

Result: CCF 5 - 0 Hendon. Goals: n/a. MoM: Shane Winter-Kokoli

Year 8

The Year 8 football team has made a brilliant start to the season, sitting top of the table after two convincing wins – 6-2 and 4-2. Even with several senior players missing, the squad has shown outstanding togetherness, determination, and team spirit. With five different players on the scoresheet, the goals have been spread throughout the team, making them the form side of the competition and setting the standard for the season ahead.

Year 9

The Year 9s are eager to kick off their long-awaited campaign. After a challenging season last year, confidence is high and the squad are ready to prove a point. Training has been sharp and full of energy, a sign this team is hungry to make an impact

Year 10

The Year 10 football teams have been hugely impressive this season, narrowing the gap in skill and physicality when competing with other schools. Impressed by their attitude and resilience, even in tough moments. The boys have been training hard, and it's paying off on the pitch, with some standout performances in their first four fixtures: 1 win, 1 draw, and 2 losses. The squad depth has grown with promising contributions from several new players. The team is focused on building consistency and continuing to improve ahead of the final 2 fixtures.



Girls Netball

It's been great to see strong attendance at netball training each week. Every Thursday afternoon, more than 60 girls are on the courts developing their skills and gameplay.

The Barnet League has recently begun and many of the teams have started their season. The season will run through to Easter, with league fixtures, tournaments and the possibility of play-offs and finals. We're pleased with the commitment shown so far and look forward to the season ahead.

Year 7

The Year 7 girls' netball season has started strongly. Attendance at training has been outstanding, and the girls have been working hard. They were unlucky in their first fixture against CCF, narrowly losing, but they walked away with plenty of positives. Their teamwork and determination have been impressive; the girls are confident they'll build on this momentum. They're eagerly anticipating their next game against King Alfred after half term.



Year 8

The Year 8 netball team are as strong off the court as they are on it. They're a supportive group of friends who consistently model what it means to work for each other—communicating well, putting in effort at training, and playing with teamwork and persistence every match. They didn't get the win they wanted in the first game of the season, but took away many positives and some areas to focus on. The hard work has begun and they will continue to improve with their great work ethic to training!

Year 9

The competition in year 9 is high with enough players at training to make three teams! They have started the season well with a comfortable 26-2 win in their first game of the season! We are keen to continue to push these girls and organise some friendlies across the year to ensure every player takes part in competitive netball.

Year 10

This team has always been our smallest squad with just two dedicated players in year 7 attending each week. However, across the years they have continued to grow and we have seen the confidence of this year group increase in netball lessons and now have a double figure squad for the 7 on court positions! These girls will be taking on Saracens School in their first game this Thursday.



Year 11

Our Year 11 squad continue to show strong commitment to training, as they have over the past four years. Their long-standing time together is evident in the way they play as a team—anticipating each other's movement and finding the pass. Their tactical understanding develops year on year, and we look forward to seeing this translate into confident performances this season after half term.

Seniors

This year we welcome a new senior team, following the departure of seven players to university last season. The squad are beginning to bond and adapt to playing together on court. We're looking forward to their first fixture this Thursday against Saracens and to seeing their progress over the term.

Rugby

This half term, every Key Stage 3 student has taken to the rugby pitch, benefitting from expert coaching through our partnerships with the Saracens Foundation and Finchley Rugby Club. Pupils have developed skills in both T1 and contact rugby, and we've been genuinely impressed by the progress across all year groups—among both boys and girls.



A special highlight was a dedicated afternoon of T1 rugby at Finchley Rugby Club for 15 of our Year 7 girls. They showed fantastic teamwork, confidence and sportsmanship throughout.



Next half term students will continue to work with Saracens Foundation before we begin the rugby season, taking teams across years 7, 8 and 9 to both T1 and contact matches and festivals.

For any girls that would like to continue their rugby journey we would encourage them to join Finchley Girls Rugby Club who provide a safe, supportive environment for girls to learn from qualified and experienced coaches.

Running Club & Cross Country

Students in the Running Club have been training hard this term, both on the treadmill and around the school field. Their fitness and confidence have improved greatly, and they're now ready for the cross-country competition after half term. Hendon School is set to have a strong athletics squad this year. If you would like to join training, please come either Monday P4 lunch, or after school on Tuesday. All levels welcome.

Volleyball

Every Monday, we're fortunate to have Stuart Fullerton, Head Coach at Willesden Volleyball Club, leading squad training. Attendance has doubled this year, so we've split sessions by year group to maintain high-quality coaching.

We're also pleased to share that we've been approved for Sport England funding to help grow volleyball at Hendon and within the local community. We'll share more details after half term, but for students this means weekly training will continue.

Weekly training times (Mondays):

- Years 7-9: 3:20-4:30pm
- Years 10-11 & Senior Team: 4:30-5:30pm

We look forward to building on this progress over the coming months.

Cheerleading

We are very lucky to have a cheerleading coach run sessions every Tuesday after school for girls in all years for FREE. This half term we welcomed back last years squad and have introduced some new year 7s into the team too. Students have been working on their acrobatics and lifts this half term and will be creating some routines they will be sharing with the group soon.