

Hendon School helps with community food bank donation



One of our fantastic parents, who works for Co-Op, got in touch to let us know that they would like to make a donation to a community food bank. They wanted to know if we could help; of course we said yes. We arranged for a group of students to go to the West Hendon branch of Co-Op where they loaded up the minibus with their very generous donation. From there, we then headed to the Colindale food bank, based in Trinity Church on Avion Crescent in



Colindale, to deliver the goods. The students learned about the food bank, how it runs and how many people use it from the manager Pat and her colleague Ken who were very impressed with the donation we brought and also with our student's attitude and willingness to get involved.

The Colindale Food bank provides support for 500 people per week and values every donation, big or small. If you have any big donation and require help transporting it, let us know and we can help you. A massive thank you to Halema and her team at West Hendon Co-Op for arranging the donation. Furthermore, thank you for taking the time to show our students the vital work that they do.



Mr Dickie - Head of Year 8

Year 13 - RE conference

On Thursday 20th March, 8 eight sixth formers and Mr Meldrum went to an RE revision conference at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church to hear Peter Vardy speak. Peter Vardy is a published philosopher and theologian who students study as part of their A-level; it is the third time that A-level students from Hendon School have had the opportunity to see him speak. He shared essay writing skills and tips with our students as well expert insight into Christianity to help out students improve their grades.

At the end of the session, we all got our photos taken with Peter Vardy. It was a very valuable experience meeting and hearing from someone that we study as a scholar in our A-level textbook and whose ideas students discuss in essays. Everyone was a little star-struck!

Mr Meldrum - Head of Humanities



Subject: Hendon School donation - A Huge Thank You

A Huge THANK YOU for bringing the donations of food today to Colindale Foodbank. Thanks especially to the mum who organised the Co-op donation and the year eight students who helped unloading.

We will use all these donations to meet the needs of the 500 people each week that need food and other items from our food bank. Attached is a photo showing the huge amount donated which weighed an amazingly total of 127.90 kilos with school helpers.

Kind Regards
Pat Mansfield
Project Manager
Colindale Foodbank
Avion Crescent, Grahame Park Way, Colindale NW9 5QY
07415 223963

Foodbank Open **for Clients needing food:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12.00noon to 14.30 pm. Please bring a food voucher each time you come.

Foodbank Open **for donations** Mondays 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm
Tuesdays to Thursdays 10am to 3.30pm



Careers Workshops

On Wednesday 12th February, Hendon School hosted a number of careers events for Year 10 students. Former student, Weronika, volunteered to speak to Year 10 students about her career pathway in one of the workshops.



Weronika pictured with her Art Teacher, Mr Keller

"It was such a pleasure visiting and returning to the school for their annual Careers Week. I had a fantastic time catching up with old teachers and connecting with new students. After finishing sixth form, I went straight to university with the goal of pursuing a career in fashion photography. My journey to where I am now wasn't easy—it involved working in retail, interning at a streetwear brand, freelancing photoshoots, and taking on free work. But those are the sacrifices you make to follow your dreams. It only takes one person to help you get your foot in the door.

I hope the students found my visit valuable and enjoyed hearing about my path to becoming a photographer. They were very curious, asking insightful questions about my career and advice for their own futures, even if their paths are different from mine.

A big thank you to the teachers for such a warm welcome back—I hope to return again soon!"

Q&A with Antony Costa

On Wednesday 19th March, former student Antony Costa from boyband Blue, visited Hendon School with friend and fellow former student, Andrew Murray. The morning included a tour with Year 13 students, Chidi and Zahraa, performances from Year 11 students who are currently preparing for their Music GCSE and a Q&A session for 35 students selected for their interest in music or a career in the creative industry.



Antony and Andrew, back in their old form room, where they first met and became firm friends

"It was fab to be back at Hendon. I really enjoyed the school tour, remembering where our old form and classrooms were and where we spent breaktimes playing football. To my surprise, I caught up with another student from my year who works at Hendon, Riyaz, or as the students call him, Mr G. It was good to see him thriving in school. I also loved the Q&A session with students. It was so refreshing to talk to them about the entertainment industry. A lot of

memories came flooding back. It was a walk down memory lane, looking at old photos and meeting the lovely staff too." Antony Costa



Antony and Andrew, on the field, aged 13



Antony and Andrew, back on the field, 2024



"Returning to Hendon School for the first time in 25 years was certainly an enjoyable trip down memory lane. There have been some major developments to the school layout, such as the extended reception area (which was formerly some steps), the Sixth Form block (formally tennis courts) and the Performing Arts building (formally classroom huts - without heating...).

It was a lovely surprise to see Riyaz G, a former classmate of ours, as a teacher at Hendon school. Not only was it fantastic to catch up with him personally, it was great to see his passion,

skills and enthusiasm when teaching his students.

The atmosphere and energy generated by the students and teachers was also great to see. Everyone who we interacted with was really passionate about what role they play and why they are here.

Many fond memories came rushing back as we took a tour around the school, I found it surprisingly easy to navigate around despite it being a quarter of a century since we last visited. My fondest memory was of our first lesson on our very first day of school. Antony and I sat next to each other and started talking about which football team we support (myself being Arsenal, and Antony Spurs). Despite our disagreements on which team was better, we hit it off from the start and have been great friends ever since." Andrew Murray



Nowrooz Egg-Painting



Roughly 40 wonderful students turned up to celebrate Nowrooz, New Year, on Tuesday 18th March. This date is marked by the Spring Equinox, initiating the New Year across several countries such as: Iran, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia; for Parsi people across Pakistan and India, and Kurdish people



across Iraq, Syria and Turkey. This ancient festival dates back to 550BC, under Zoroastrian traditions of the Achaemenid Empire. It has morphed and spread in many ways, with Kurdish traditions attributing the festival to the triumph over a tyrant by a blacksmith named 'Kawa'. There are many other myths and folkloric tales following this celebration, making it a perfect intergenerational tradition and event.



We gathered to paint eggs together, a tradition most observed in Iran, whereby eggs symbolise fertility and new beginnings and are displayed on the 'Haft-Sin' table spread. Ms. Yazdi kindly explained this as including seven items beginning with the letter 'S', which have deep, symbolic meaning.

Students had a great time painting their eggs with their flags, favourite colours, a pomegranate design and various other patterns. They bonded over sharing paint and paintbrushes, finding moments of similarity and difference in tastes when negotiating song choices (Gol Pari is always a winner) and using a school tie as 'Ser Chopi' for Kurdish dancing. A group of Year 10 ladies looked after boiling the eggs, after Mrs Stolk from Admin team kindly ran to Tesco to buy more (we did not expect such a brilliant turnout). Two Year 10 students later made tea and served it to their peers. Rituals of care, consideration and hospitality found their way into this new year. Thank you to everyone, staff and students, who came to paint eggs to initiate this celebration, it will remain a fond memory for years to come!



نوروزتان پیروز!

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator

GCSE Art - Tate Britain & Tate Modern Trip

As a part of their GCSE exam preparation the Year 11 Art students went on a trip to both the Tate Britain and the Tate Modern. Both museums hold exciting collections of traditional and modern art. Students were asked to draw and photograph works that inspired them and that they could use in the development of their individual projects. Although the students were exhausted by the demands of the trip they came away both tired and culturally enriched.

Mr Keller - Head of Art



Year 8 'Pop Art'

As a part of their 'Pop Art' unit of work in Year 8, we teach students about the essential elements of comic design. Here are some examples of the creative responses they have produced.



Mr Keller - Head of Art

REACH students run a café at The Shire Golf Club

This term, our REACH students have taken on an exciting new challenge; they are currently running their very own café!

Thanks to our fantastic partnership with The Shire, the golf club where our students attend weekly sessions, they've been gaining experience in a real working environment. Each week, they take on different roles within the café, developing key life skills such as communication, teamwork, confidence, and money handling!



This initiative is not just about learning, it's about empowering our students to recognise their potential and gain valuable real-life experience.

Ms Robles - Head of Reach

Hendon School: A Hub for Interfaith Dialogue and Respectful Learning

Hendon School has always been a place of diverse learning, where students from various backgrounds come together to create a vibrant, inclusive community. One of the standout features is the commitment to fostering mutual respect and understanding among students of different faiths. This spirit of unity is beautifully reflected in the experiences shared by Rabbi Michael Pollak, an Orthodox Rabbi who teaches here and his reflections on teaching a mostly Muslim class.

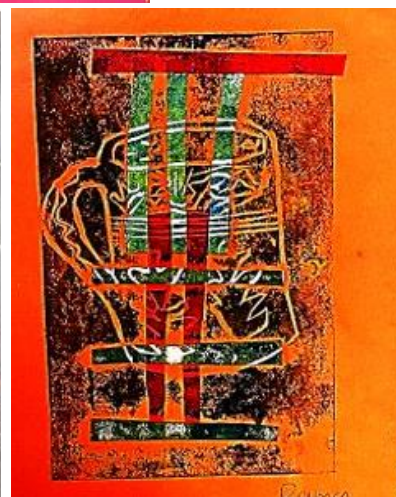
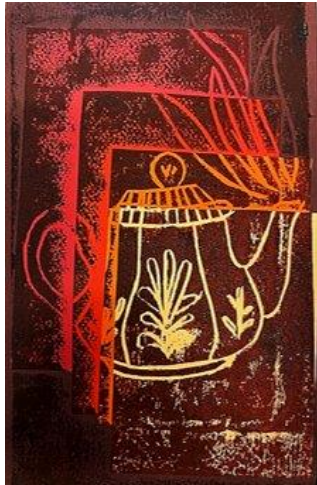
In his recent article for *The Jewish Chronicle*, Rabbi Pollak offers insight into the unique dynamics of his classroom. Despite being an Orthodox Rabbi, he has built strong, respectful relationships with his Muslim students, helping to create a space where faith, culture, and learning intersect. Rabbi Pollack highlights the importance of interfaith dialogue, and how his students' openness to learning about Jewish traditions has led to enriching, heartfelt conversations. This dynamic not only benefits his students but also deepens his own understanding of the importance of shared values like respect and community.

To read more about Rabbi Pollak's inspiring journey at Hendon School and the lessons he's learned from his diverse classroom, click the following link: [Read the full article here](#)

Year 10 Lino and Colour Prints

Year 10 GCSE Art students have been exploring different types of materials, techniques and processes for part of their GCSE coursework. These images show the process of lino cutting and printing onto different coloured papers. Students learned the lino cutting and printing process, then developed their own personal ideas with different collages and colour combinations.

Miss Cowles - Art Department



Alumni Dr Ian Ellis visits for National Science Week

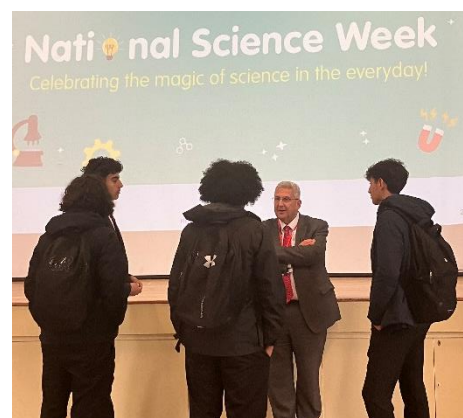


On Monday 10th March, Hendon Alumni, Dr Ian Ellis, visited us for National Science Week to present a case to Year 10 and 11. Here, they performed a gene diagnosis by learning how to ask the right questions and using their phones as a research tool.

As a Senior Lecturer at the University of Liverpool, and owner of his own practice, Dr. Ellis offered valuable advice on how to engage with science 'beyond the test-tube'. Advocating for seeing the 'art'

in science, he bridged the gap between technical knowledge and practice. Students learned the process of forming a 'working diagnosis' and how to read a family tree. Students enjoyed the session and took the initiative to network with him after the session. We hope for this to be the start of a long and successful career for aspiring scientists!

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator



Spring Term at Hendon School Library

This term, our library was buzzing with events, displays, clubs, workshops and quizzes! But most notably, our library team went all out for the most exciting event of the term: **World Book Day**. 📖 We celebrated with a week-long schedule of exciting events for our Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students:

☺ **Monday** kicked off with a **Bookmark Competition**, where over 20 students unleashed their creativity, each of them coming up with so many stunning and original designs. Choosing winners was tough – but five talented artists will have their bookmarks printed and made available for everyone to use in the library! ✂️

📖 **Tuesday's** special **Manga & Anime Club** session saw students creating their own characters and matching playlists in fun writing and drawing exercises. 🌀 Then, on **Wednesday**, we hosted a **creative writing workshop** on Microfiction, challenging students with short and punchy writing prompts. ✍️ Both of these sessions were hits, and we loved seeing so much creativity in action! ✨

🏆 **Thursday** (*World Book Day itself!*) brought our ever-popular **Literary Kahoot Quiz**, where 20 students battled it out for fun prizes - and of course enjoyed some well-earned popcorn and snacks. 🍿

🍷 **Friday's** grand finale? Our library transformed into a **cosy French café** for a **Book Tasting!** Students wore chef hats, browsed books from a “menu,” sampled pages, and borrowed their favourites – all while enjoying delicious French pastries.



✨ This year's World Book Day was also extra special as we were thrilled to welcome **Tia Fisher**, award-winning author of *Crossing The Line* and winner of the 2024 Yoto Carnegie Shadowers' Choice Award, to Hendon School Library. Tia captivated our Year 8 students with an **insightful talk about her powerful book**, which explores the topic of county lines violence. She didn't just stop at storytelling – she also empowered students with important resources on whistleblowing and staying safe. Meanwhile, our Year 9 and 10 students got creative in an



exciting **poetry writing workshop** and got to experiment with calligrams. 📝

Huge shout out to our amazing **Library Ambassadors** for making it all feel extra special by playing the role of waiters and waitresses for our Book Tasting - and overall for being so helpful in the library every single week! We look forward to keep on planning fun and educative literary events for the **Summer Term** 🙌

Hendon School Library Team

Diary Dates	
❖ Thursday 3 rd April	Year 7 Student Progress Evening
❖ Friday 4 th April	Last day of Spring Term - students dismissed at 12 pm Non-uniform day
❖ Monday 7 th April - Monday 21 st April	Spring Holiday
❖ Tuesday 22 nd April	Inset Day - School closed to students
❖ Wednesday 23 rd April	First Day of Summer term - all students
❖ Wednesday 23 rd April	Year 8 & 9 Ben Kinsella Trust Trip
❖ Tuesday 29 th April	Year 8 Smart Futures Careers Day
❖ Wednesday 30 th April	HARP Trip - Brent Cross Town
❖ Thursday 1 st May	UKMT Junior Maths Challenge
❖ Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday - School closed
❖ Monday 12 th May - Wednesday 14 th May	Year 10 Geography Trip - New Forest
❖ Monday 19 th May - Friday 23 rd May	Year 7 Bertha Residential
❖ Thursday 22 nd May	REACH Trip to Kew Gardens
❖ Monday 26 th May - Friday 30 th May	Half Term holiday

Year 7 Inter House Geography Scavenger Hunt



On Monday 10th March, we ran a Year 7 inter-house Geography scavenger hunt competition. In groups, students had to find geographical features and take photo evidence of them within the school grounds. The features they were looking for included evidence of erosion, a mature tree, a flower bed, a hedgerow and more. The boys who took part had a great time engaging with the human and physical geography of the school grounds. It enlivened the debate about what is a mature tree anyway - and is that a hedge? What is erosion?



The final photo they took was of something that interested them and the winners of that photo got extra house points. The Buddha statue (7.8) and the 'snug area for bugs' beneath the building (7.2) won this for their innovative nature and the explanations that accompanied them.

Results
7.6 - 40 points
7.8 - 37 points
7.5 - 20 points
7.2 - 21 points

Well done all who got involved including Mr Gadatara and Mr Ramjhon who helped to run this. We hope



to open up more Geography inter-house competitions in the future.

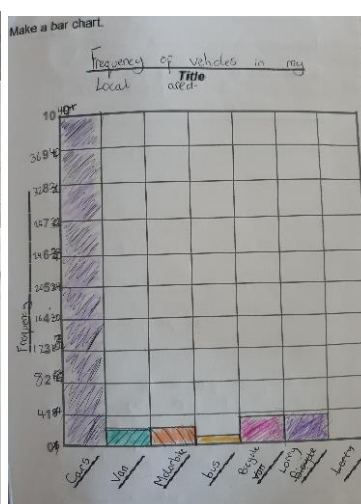
Dr Lawy - Head of Geography

Year 7 Investigate 'How safe do people think my local area is for cycling?'

Year 7 have been working hard this term on developing their Geographical Investigation skills. We have been investigating 'How safe do people think my local area is for cycling?'. We took two Geography classes out this half term to conduct their fieldwork, on two fieldsites immediately around the school.

We conducted traffic counts for 5 minutes in each site, and then aimed to complete 5 questionnaires each per group. Groups of students gained their confidence as they approached members of the public asking them to engage in a short questionnaire.

Questions	Answer options
1. Do you own your own bike?	Yes Yes but it is broken No and I don't want to No but I'd like to
2. How often do you take Public transport?	All the time Sometimes Barely Rarely Never
3. How safe do you feel taking Public transport?	Safe In the middle Fairly Safe Never Safe
4. Do you think cycling is safe on the road?	Always not all the time Sometimes never
5. What time of day is the most dangerous for cyclists?	Morning Afternoon Evening Nighttime



To prevent accidents

Data collection

Trappe Count

Traffic counts record the number and type of vehicle using a road over a 5 minute period. It helps us to investigate how busy roads are.

Location	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5
Date					
Time					
Type of vehicle					
Cars	1	1	1	1	1
Motorcycles					
Buses					
Trucks					
Other					
Total number	1	1	1	1	1

1) They are not on the road and being a short distance.

2) Get a little bit of the road are being a short distance.

Maybe keeping track for example if the road are being a short distance.

Pen - A partner

Time - 10 minutes

Shed - 10 minutes

Also disbursement (compensation)

It was great as each group had a slightly different set of questions that they had developed in the classroom in preparation for the event. I could see their confidence grow each time they approached someone - and, imagine, the members of the public that they asked sometimes said no! Their determination and tenacity shined through, most groups were able to collect 5 or more questionnaires in each of the two fieldsites.

Back in the classroom we drew bar charts, analysed the data, concluded and evaluated our results. For many students this was the first taster of conducting research; it was exciting to watch the students unravel their findings in the classroom.

Dr Lawy - Head of Geography

Year 9 visit the London Screen Academy



Students in Year 9 Performing Arts, attended the London Screen Academy on the 17th, 18th and 19th of March as part of their film making project. This was an incredible opportunity for students to pitch their films and work with the LSA students in a stop motion animation workshop, where they had the chance to



work with and meet Oscar-winning and BAFTA winning animator, Lisa Kenney.

Students created armatures and had the chance to work in their million-pound facilities to create their own short animations using professional tools and equipment.

Miss Morland - Head of Creative Arts Faculty

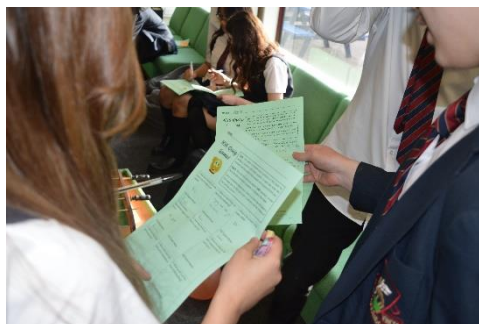
HS6: Year 11 Transition to Sixth Form

We have had a very busy month in HS6, working closely with our Year 11 students who have applied to sixth form. All students who applied were invited to a HS6 Applicant Meeting with a member of the Sixth Form Team. These meetings provided us with an opportunity to discuss their application for next year. We ensured that their subject choices matched their current attainment to support students in moving on to the right courses. We also asked students about their future aspirations; it was lovely to hear so many students talking about heading off to university to study medicine, law, mechanics, computing or marketing, as well as those keen to pursue apprenticeships in teaching, engineering, finance or social care.



as a prize for completing their sixth form quiz sheet. It was a lively and fun event, and we could feel the excitement of our Year 11 students as they prepare for their Post 16 journey.

Following on from these meetings, we hosted our HS6 Applicant Tea, where all students in Year 11 who have applied for sixth form were invited to join us in the Sixth Form Centre after school. Students were able to explore our facilities from our dedicated study suite to our common room, they were able to ask questions of our current Sixth Form students to hear directly from them about what life in Sixth Form is really like, and they were able to enjoy some well needed refreshments! At the end of the event, 10 students won an Easter egg



Offer letters for HS6 will be sent out to students after Easter and we will also invite them to our induction days in the summer for the next stage of our transition process. In the meantime, we wish them all the best as they undertake their final few weeks of study before their exams, and we look forward to welcoming many of them into Sixth Form in September.

Ms Saunders - Director of Key Stage 5

Mitzvah Day Awards

Last week we were incredibly proud to be invited to attend the Mitzvah Day Awards.

We were nominated by Blue Weiss from CitizensUK *"Hendon School is a school with a large diverse student population, in an area with a large orthodox Jewish population. The Mitzvah Day activity was not only about collecting for charity but celebrating inter-faith positivity & building bridges across difference. Not only did Hendon collect 3000 items, but an enormous donation also - they got 20 students from a very diverse school to represent Mitzvah Day & diligently sort food into Kosher & non-kosher. Both Gift (a Jewish charity) and Southgate Mosque were overwhelmed by the donations and show of solidarity. This to me was 'stronger together' in action"*



This award reflects our school's commitment to fostering interfaith cooperation, empathy, and social responsibility through acts of kindness. Winning this award was an honour, but the real reward is knowing that we have begun a movement for change. We look forward to continuing our work, inspired by the belief that together, we can create a better world for all.

<https://www.thejc.com/family-and-education/schools-are-top-of-the-class-at-mitzvah-day-awards-rlg5og40>

Ms Doona - Assistant Headteacher

Year 9 Synagogue Trip to Belsize Square Synagogue

On 11th and 13th February, Year 9 went to Belsize Square Synagogue to learn about the Holocaust. The day included a talk from the Rabbi who gave a brief history of the Jewish people and some of the reasons why anti-Semitism has occurred over the centuries. The questions from our students that followed were interesting and insightful.



Hendon School has taken advantage of the established Holocaust Programme that has been running for many years. It included a brilliant video summarising the key events and the significance of the Holocaust, some excellent discussion sessions and activities which served to give students an understanding of what it might be like to be a victim of the Holocaust. Finally, there was a memorial ritual where a number of Hendon School students took part to light a candle in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and other genocides. **Mr Meldrum - Head of Humanities**

"When I entered the synagogue they gave us Jewish hats which are called a kippah. Then we entered into the big main hall where they told us some amazing facts. After we went inside little class rooms in small groups and we watched a movie about the Holocaust. After they gave us some cookies and cakes. Then we went back to the main hall and watched a bit more of the movie. 'The Holocaust Workshop was very informative - we learnt a lot.'"

Umut Karahan (9.3)



Neurodiversity Celebration Week - 17-23 March

Our amazing HARP students got creative in the kitchen for Neurodiversity Week! They baked delicious biscuits and cakes to share with our hardworking school staff, spreading kindness, awareness, and, of course, some seriously tasty treats!



At Hendon, we celebrate the beauty of different minds and the power of inclusion. A huge shoutout to our HARP students for making this week extra special!



HARP students visit Brent Cross Town



On Wednesday 5th March 2025, some HARP students and staff returned to Brent Cross Town for an enjoyable lunchtime trip.

Similar to the trip in January, a group of KS4 and 5 students and teachers hopped into the minibus, which took us to the Spruce and Larch café. Once there, we met with students from JCOS and Whitefields Autism Provisions. We got to practice social and communication skills, while enjoying food and drink.



Fortunatley, we were extremely lucky with the weather, because the spring finally woke up, and the sun's warm hug encouraged everyone to go to the new Claremont Park. The new Claremont Park is complete with a large lake, trees, flowers, playground, with and ice cream galore. It was a beautiful place, and all the students went crazy on the play area, which had an overwhelming amount of equipment to choose from. The weather was perfect for ice cream which was enjoyed by many, and best of all, everyone had fun.

Many thanks to all for planning this friendship project, and we can't wait to go back there soon!!!

Sasha (12.4 HARP)

www.hendonschool.co.uk

Spring Term Music Showcase

Last Thursday evening on 27th March, the Hendon Music department held its annual Spring Term Showcase. KS3 and Year 10 students performed a range of solo and ensemble performances from many different styles and genres. It was amazing to see newly formed ensembles such as the Hendon Drum Ensemble, Pop Band and the Choir playing together so confidently on stage.



Some highlights included self taught brothers Karim and Amin Saban's piano solos, and Rubie Rees' assured vocal performance of Jealousy Jealousy by Olivia Rodrigo.

In the words of Dr Povey, the talent on stage was undeniable. Congratulations to all the students involved for putting on such an excellent showcase.

Mr Rienecker -Music Department

GCSE Drama

Year 11 GCSE Drama students performed their script work to parents and the examiner on Thursday 13th March. There were three performances from various writers in very different styles, each group had to perform two extracts from the same play, they were all wonderful and if they forgot a line they didn't let it show!

Group 1 Colder than Here by Laura Wade

This is a black comedy about a mum who is dying from cancer. Myra arranges her own funeral. The characters are talking about cat food and the boiler not working! Nobody can ignore the fact that Myra is dying, but in the meantime life goes on. Baran (11.7), Barbara (11.7) and Jakub (11.2) really understood the sub-text of the character's grief and showed that in the midst of sadness there is still laughter.



Group 2 performed Game Plan by Alan Ayckbourne - a comedy.

When Sorrel's mum gets into financial difficulties Sorrel has a 'gameplan' to make some extra money. Her friend is not amused when Sorrel asks her to be her maid! Eustyna (11.8) and Kambili (11.8) really understood the comedy of the piece and had a wonderful contrast between the characters and great timing.



Group 3 performed Our Country's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Set in Australia in 1789, this is an epic play that tells the story of the first fleet of convicts and the officers sent to keep order. Adonis (11.5) and Bogdan (11.2) played both high and low status characters and showed expertly the hardships that



everyone had to endure.

GROUP 4 performed Blackout by Davey Anderson

A prison cell, a crime has been committed. A young offender narrates the story of how he came to be accused of murder. Yan (11.5) and Hadeed (11.6) were superb at moving and stage fighting. They both played various different characters in the story (multi-role) in this highly stylised play. Congratulations to all.

Ms Gill - Carey - Drama Department

Wates Construction

On Wednesday 5th March, Management trainees from Wates Construction led a workshop for Year 10 and 12 students aspiring for a career in the industry. Working to dispel myths, they initiated the workshop with stereotypes about identities and subsequent career paths and asked the students to question their perceptions. Learning about the management and consulting roles available within the construction industry allowed the students to broaden their perspective of the opportunities within the sector. Then, they had to construct a tower using lollipop sticks, tape and blu-tack whilst adhering to a client brief.



Working in a team, under timed conditions, exposed them to the method of work that is expected in assessment centers and beyond. It was great to see their creativity unfold and particularly entertaining to see Parham's potential future as a lawyer unfold as he successfully negotiated his way through failing to meet client standards. He explained that they failed to meet the height requirement on their tower, but were within their rights to charge for the project as adequate notice was not given for amendments to the tower, as per their contract. Very cheeky, well done!

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator

Northeastern University Trip



On Wednesday 12th February, a group of Year 10 students visited the new Northeastern University London campus, exploring what student life at an American university could look like. The campus was small and modern, with a games room and complimentary hot drink facilities. Operating on a small class-size model, this campus did not have any lecture halls as students were taught in seminars for every class. They learned about the 'pathways' degree structure, meaning they can gain a degree in two subjects. Further, they can extend their studies by 1-year, moving to their Boston campus and achieving a dual degree from both the US and UK!

The students were then tasked with creating their own student society, showcasing their teamworking and presentation skills. These were the clubs that they formed: Experience Society, Great Minds Society, Culinary Society and Movie Society. Experiencing a small campus was interesting for the group, allowing them to feel more confident in decisions about which type of university life they are aiming for in the future.



All Hail, Northeastern!

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator

Motivate visit Hendon on 24th & 26th March

As a youth led, grassroots (bottom-up) organisation that aims to diversify the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) industries, CEO George Imafidon MBE led an introduction assembly. He introduced himself as being a Race Engineer for Sir Lewis Hamilton's electric race team and named Young Engineer of the Year in 2022.



Excitedly, students then applied to partake in a competition whereby they design a healthcare related product and pitch it to judges across several stages, ending in a final against other schools across London. 32 students were selected and 3 teams have won this round. The came up with inspiring, sustainable ideas which fit a brief aligned with Johnson & Johnson's company values and goals. Designs of reusable syringes, casts made from natural fibers, reusable gloves and masks and biodegradable plasters were brilliant to hear about. Congratulations to EcoGrip, Moving Masks and EcoCast for making it through this round - all the best with the next stage!

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator

Imperial War Museum Trip

On Thursday 6th March, Year 8 visited the Imperial War Museum in preparation for their upcoming Jack Petchey Cultural SpeakOut Challenge. Luckily an Army General happened to be visiting on that day, the students excitedly took photos with him!



Gaining exclusive access to the Holocaust Memorial exhibition, they used tablets to navigate the space and interact with the displays. Year 8 learned about the everyday objects, such as decorative pins and broaches, that hold significant meaning when contextualized historically, socially and culturally. These items were used to identify, resist and form intergenerational heirlooms before making it to their current state as a displayed fixture in a museum.

Ms Nobahari - Careers Administrator



Commonwealth Day celebrations at Westminster Abbey

On Monday, March 10th, our Hendon School students had the incredible opportunity to attend the Commonwealth Day celebrations at Westminster Abbey! They witnessed the royal family, diplomats, artists and performers from all across the Commonwealth coming together to honour cultural diversity. The event was a powerful reminder that a diverse society is a rich one, and it's up to all of us to celebrate and preserve it.



Attendance Matters!

As we focus on learning, friendships, and personal growth, one thing stands out as a key to success: Attendance

At Hendon School we believe that regular attendance is a team effort. Let's work together to ensure every student is on track for success!

Here's how we're doing across the school:

Year 7 has the best attendance across the school.

The tutor groups with the top attendance in each year are:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
7.4	8.2	9.80	10.8	11.4
7.7	8.4	9.30	10.7	11.3
7.6	8.7	9.10	10.4	11.8

Meet Our Attendance Officer: Mrs Spray



We are pleased to introduce Mrs Spray our dedicated Attendance Officer here at Hendon School. With a passion for supporting students and ensuring they get the most out of their education, Mrs Spray plays a key role in monitoring and improving student attendance.

In her role, Mrs Spray works closely with students, parents, and staff to track attendance, address concerns, and provide support where needed. By identifying patterns and working proactively, Mrs Spray helps ensure that every student is present, on time, and on track to succeed.

When not monitoring attendance or working with families, Mrs Spray enjoys baking, listening to true crime podcasts and reading. Her approachable and supportive nature makes her an invaluable part of our school community.

If you have any questions about attendance or need support, don't hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Spray via email - attendance@hendonschool.co.uk

She is always happy to help!

PE News



@HENDON_SCHOOL_PE

Keep up to date with all PE news and upcoming events on our Hendon School PE Instagram

Rugby



This half term we have been working with the Saracens Foundation. Every Tuesday they have been delivering rugby lessons to years 7,8 and 9. We have been really impressed with the effort and ability in these sessions and have since entered a number of leagues and festivals to further challenge the students.

Year 7's have had two fixtures since starting these sessions and have performed really well in both, securing a few wins in their opening games. We are looking forward to seeing them progress as they play in a range of touch and contact fixtures next term.



Year 7 Rugby Festivals:

Monday 28th April (Boys)- 12-3pm at Stone X Stadium

Thursday 1st May (Girls)- 12-2.30 at Stone X Stadium

Saturday 14th June (Mixed)- Full Day at Twickenham Stadium. Students will be watching the Premiership Rugby Final and then playing on the pitch at half time in front of over 50,000 fans.

Year 8 Rugby Festivals:

Monday 5th May (Boys)- 12-3pm at Stone X Stadium

Tuesday 13th May (Girls)- 12-3pm at Stone X Stadium

Thursday 8th May (Mixed)- 9am-12pm at Stone X Stadium. Following the tournament students will have the opportunity to watch the Saracens men team train.



For those looking to continue their rugby journey outside of school there are some great local clubs which are always looking for new players:

Barnet Elizabethans RFC:

Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields, Byng Road, Barnet, EN5 4NS
020 8449 0040

www.berfc.co.uk

Finchley RFC

Summers Lane, London, N12 0PD
02084453746

www.Finchleyrugby.com

Netball

The end of the Spring Term brings us to the end of the netball season. It has been a great season with high commitment from both boys and girls this season. Well done to all of our teams and social players that have committed and made netball so fun this term. A special mention to our Year 13 Netball Team who will be leaving us this year.

Girls Netball

We will be continuing to run girl's social netball sessions in the Summer Term. These sessions will be focussed on game play and will be open to all girls in all year groups. Sessions will continue to run every Thursday after school from 3.20-4.30pm.



Boys Netball

This year has been the first year we have run male only netball sessions and it has been a great success. Our male netball teams in Years 10 and 11 have shown great ability, even beating the staff team this term! Over the Easter holiday's England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) will be running a male Netball Camp at Hendon on Friday 11th April. This session will be open to all of our male netball players in Years 8-11.



For those looking to continue their netball journey outside of school there are some great local clubs which are always looking for new players:

Sparks Netball Club: Training is held in N6 & N8 dependant on age group Sparksjuniorregister@gmail.com	AP Saints Netball Club: Training is held in N6 & N10 dependant on age group www.apsaintsnetball.com	London Giants Men's & Mixed Netball Club: Training is held in Leyton www.londongiantsnetball.com
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Trampolining

Students have been training throughout the year for the annual Barnet Trampolining Competition. We have been really impressed with the commitment and dedication to training which enabled us to take 5 squads to the competition; Year 7&8 girls, Year 7&8 boys, Year 9 girls, Year 10&11 girls and Year 10&11 boys. All students performed excellently on the day performing their routine in front of judges and their peers.



A special mention to the following who were awarded medals on the day:

Year 7 & 8 Boys: 2nd place, Silver Medallists
Year 9 Girls: 3rd place, Bronze Medallists
Jakub, Year 11: 2nd place in his age category, Silver Medallist
Alexandra, Year 9: 2nd place in her age category, Silver Medallist



For those looking to continue their trampolining journey outside of school there are some great local clubs:

Hendon Gymnastics Club- Trampoline: Hendon Leisure Centre, London, NW2 1XQ hendon@gll.org 0208 4550818	Harrow Trampoline Club: Training is based in Wealdstone & Edgware Jan Harley (head coach): 0208 866 1528 www.harrowtrampolineclub.co.uk
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Girls Football

On Monday 10th March, we marked International Women's Day with a Girls Football Tournament. In partnership with local girl's football team Barnet Panthers, all girls in years 7,8 and 9 headed to Powerleague for a full day of competitive football. It was an exciting event that aimed to break down barriers for girls in sport. The day was a huge success and showcased the incredible talent, teamwork, and determination of our girls.

The tournament provided a fantastic opportunity for our girls to compete, develop their football skills, and most importantly, have fun! Throughout the matches, they demonstrated great sportsmanship, resilience, and a passion for the game. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow and their hard work pay off on the pitch.

We were incredibly fortunate to have **Katie Chapman, former England player and Chelsea Captain**, visit the tournament. She spent time watching some of the finals, sharing her inspiring journey in football, and speaking to the girls about the importance of pursuing a sport you love, working hard, and the opportunities that can present themselves through a career in Football. Katie then presented the **prizes and trophies** to the winners, making the event even more special for everyone involved.



We would like to extend our congratulations to the **tournament winners**, who displayed outstanding teamwork and skill.

Cup Competition Winners & Runner's Up

Year 7 Cup Winners	Year 8 Cup Winners	Year 9 Cup Winners
England	Albania	India
Year 7 Cup Runners Up	Year 8 Cup Runners Up	Year 9 Cup Runners Up
Mexico	Dominican Republic	Netherlands

Plate Competition Winners & Runner's Up

Year 7 Plate Winners	Year 8 Plate Winners	Year 9 Plate Winners
Albania	Germany	Dominican Republic
Year 7 Plate Runners Up	Year 8 Plate Runners Up	Year 9 Plate Runners Up
Spain	India	England



Additionally, we are incredibly proud to announce that **40 students were scouted** to join Barnet Panthers Football Club and continue their footballing journey with professional football coaching and an opportunity to train with the competitive teams. This is a fantastic achievement that highlights the potential and talent within our school. For those who were **scouted to play competitive football**, we encourage you to take the next step! Use the **QR code on your scout card** to sign up for a **free training session** with Barnet Panthers—this could be the start of your football career!



A big well done to all of our **raffle prize winners**, who walked away with some fantastic prizes, including **England football shirts, football boots, football kits, balls, shin pads, goalkeeper gloves, meal vouchers, kit bags, water bottles, gym memberships, and much more!** We hope you enjoy your prizes and that they inspire you to continue your football journey.



We would love to encourage all the girls to keep playing football and take advantage of the **community football sessions** we are offering in partnership with Barnet Panthers Football Club for just **£1 per session**, starting on **Thursday, April 24th**. These will be available for both secondary and primary students from schools Years 4-9. To take part, players will need to sign up using the QR code.

A huge thank you to **Barnet Panthers Football Club** for their support, coaching, and encouragement. Their involvement has been invaluable in promoting girls' football and providing opportunities for our students to thrive in the sport. We are excited to continue to work with the Panthers to increase the number of girls at Hendon and in Barnet playing football.

We are incredibly proud of all the girls who took part and look forward to more opportunities to develop and celebrate their footballing skills.



Year 8 Girls Football Team watch the Lionesses at Wembley

On Wednesday 26th February, our Year 8 girls Football Team had an unforgettable trip to Wembley to watch the lionesses in action.

This was a reward trip in response to the hard work and dedication shown by the team this season. We are excited to watch this team continue to grow.



Basketball

Year 7

The Year 7 Basketball team has had a really promising start to their season. Having currently played 2 games with a win and draw, the team remain undefeated. This is a small squad of only 7 players. Despite this, the team have shown great commitment through their regular training sessions before and after school. Being new to the sport, the students have had to learn the rules, develop their skills and progress as a team. These are all valuable traits of a well-rounded team that want to succeed and progress. The hard work in training continues in preparation for our next two games of the season.



Year 8

It was not the start we wanted after last seasons strong finish, but the team's dedication cannot be questioned. They've been putting in the work and currently stand with 1 win and 2 losses. With two games left and the league wide open, back-to-back wins could place them in the Cup Finals. The pressure is on. It is time to dig deep and make a statement!

Year 9

It has been a challenging start to the season for our Year 9 team, who went up against some of Barnet's toughest teams. The results may not have gone their way, but their dedication has been nothing short of inspiring as they have shown up to every training session and game with passion and grit. With just two games left against TTA and SMSJ, they're fired up for the battles ahead.

Year 10/11 Girls

It has been a long-anticipated wait for the girls to kick off their basketball season and it has not disappointed. Storming to the top of the league with 3 wins from 3 games, the girls have been fantastic and have worked extremely hard. Captain Xhesika has led from the front, scoring a bucket load of points in our last game with other stand out performances coming from Chloe, Zainab and Alex. Here's hoping the playoffs can be as successful as the league games as the basketball looks to land their first trophy.



Year 11/Senior Boys

Both the Year 11 and Senior teams have had a promising start to the season, each securing their first wins—Year 11 beat Barnet 37-34, and the Senior team narrowly defeated SMSJ by 2 points. The teams also faced a tough 1-point defeat to Wren in the last minute, but this hasn't dampened their spirit. Injuries to key players



tested the squad, but the teams have shown great resilience. Several players stepped up, proving the depth of talent in both teams. The boys have pulled together well, and despite challenges, continue to show strong performances as they move forward in the season.

Ms Downing - Head of PE

3D Clay Ceramics Club

Congratulations to our 3D clay club members Rey, Koto, Yaretzi and Anushka who have created amazing ceramics this term. They have learned how to use clay to form 3D sculptures and use glaze to create colourful designs.

A big thank you to our brilliant Creative Arts technician Ms Ballam for sharing her 3D knowledge with the students and for her professional kiln firing skills. We couldn't have done it without her.



Clay club starts again in June. Tuesdays from 3.10 - 4.30pm.



Ms Schmid - Head of Photography

Y7 Fruit Monster Paintings

Well done to 7. 2 for painting amazing fruit monsters inspired by Arcimboldo's artwork. The class learned about colour theory and mixing tones to match their photographs. They improved their brush skills by using tone, texture and detail to create 3D realistic painting outcomes.



Culture Photography Competition- Mariam Benfkir Winner



Well done to Mariam Benfkir 11.6 who won the CULTURE themed Photography competition.

Please come and have a look at our display in the C block corridor.

Thank you to all students who contributed photographs from their different amazing cultures.

Ms Schmid - Head of Photography



Y9 Art - Guernica group paintings

Year 9 art students have been studying Pablo Picasso's famous anti-war painting GUERNICA and created large-scale group paintings in response.

They worked as a team and developed their creative skills by communicating the anti-war message using shape/form, colour and tone.

I was very impressed with their mature attitude and focus during the practical parts of the project and the way each group presented their final outcomes to the class.

They explained how their paintings express loss of life showing innocent casualties of war but emphasised elements of hope for a future where people may live in peace.



Ms Schmid - Head of Photography

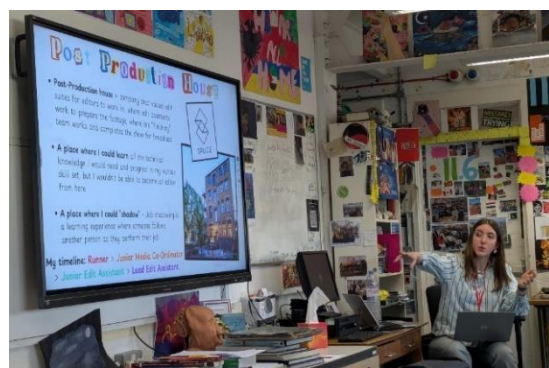
Louiza Krokatsis - careers talk -video editor at SKY sports

A big thank you to Louiza Krokatsis, a former Hendon School A level Photography/Art/Textile student, who gave a careers talk to Y10 and Y11 GCSE Photography classes.

Louiza inspired them with her versatile creative background talking about her professional career journey as a video editor at SKY Sports.



She talked about her entrepreneurial skills as a co-founder of BURST, a successful art-music venture which was founded in 2020, and her freelance work of producing and filming music videos and as a creator of social media marketing. The students were very impressed and



realised that they were already learning professional digital film & photography programs by using Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Moviemaker in their lessons.

Ms Schmid - Head of Photography

Year 10 Photography Self Portraits

Year 10 GCSE Photography students are currently working on a self portraiture animation project. They have experimented with a range of media to create 'destroyed' version of their own face based on Shirin Neshat's Women of Allah and Rankin's Destroy series. They were asked to add words to photographs of their faces to express personal thoughts and hidden feelings. They really loved going into the darkroom in C2 to create photograms to discover how the chemicals transformed the original images in surprising ways.



Ms Schmid - Head of Photography

Sam R: A Year 12 Student Who Turned His Challenges Into Triumph

Sam (12.2), has proven that determination and creativity know no bounds. Despite being born with Hydrocephalus of which he describes as a "gift," Sam has accomplished something truly remarkable—he has written three books focused on the vast and mysterious universe.

Sam's journey to becoming an author was not easy, but it was one fuelled by his passion for astronomy and his desire to explore the cosmos in new and exciting ways. His books delve into topics ranging from the formation of galaxies to the possibility of extra-terrestrial life, blending scientific facts with imaginative storytelling. His work not only showcases his deep knowledge but also highlights his resilience and ability to turn challenges into opportunities for growth.

Sam recently shared his online books with the "Steps to Success" students, offering insight into how he managed to balance his academic responsibilities with his personal pursuits in turn with being a key member of the Equalities club.

Ms Sooknanan - Deputy Headteacher

