

Year 10 and 11 Geography Students Shine at London Youth Conference



On the last Thursday of the Spring term, 13 enthusiastic students from Year 10 and 11 had the incredible opportunity to attend the London Youth Conference at the picturesque London Wetlands Centre. This event was a melting pot of knowledge, creativity, and environmental activism, providing our students with a unique platform to engage with a variety of workshops and activities.

The day included an exciting pond dipping workshop. Armed with nets and trays, our students explored the rich biodiversity of the wetlands. We were shown a 'legless lizard' or slow worm. They were thrilled to discover and identify

various aquatic creatures, learning about their roles in the ecosystem. This hands-on experience not only deepened their understanding of freshwater habitats but also sparked a newfound appreciation for the delicate balance of nature.



Following the pond dipping, the students participated in an activism workshop. Here, they learned about the power of youth voices in driving environmental change. Through interactive sessions, they discussed pressing issues such as climate change, pollution, and conservation. The workshop empowered them to think critically about their roles as young activists and inspired them to take action within their own communities.



The conference also featured a captivating poetry workshop. Students were encouraged to express their thoughts and feelings about the environment through creative writing. Guided by experienced poets, they crafted beautiful poems that reflected their personal connections to nature. This session not only honed their literary skills but also provided a therapeutic outlet for their environmental concerns.

In addition to these workshops, the conference offered a range of other engaging activities, including how to make our school more sustainable. Each session was designed to educate and inspire, leaving our students with a wealth of knowledge and a renewed passion for geography and environmental stewardship.

Overall, the London Youth Conference was a resounding success. Our Year 10 and 11 geography students returned with enriched minds, ready to share their experiences and newfound insights with the school community. This unforgettable day at the London Wetlands Centre has undoubtedly left a lasting impact on their educational journey and their commitment to protecting our planet.



- Neela - The scenery was so serene and tranquil, lifted my mood a ton :)
- Husna - I felt like I could speak my opinion because there were a lot of people who were really confident and that made me confident as well.
- Riziki - it opened my eyes to see that no matter who, you can make a huge difference as long as you are passionate.
- Madina - it was a really beautiful place and made me realise how much better the environment can look when you take care of it.
- Ranim - it was a really interesting day. We learned how to make our school more beautiful, and they learned us that our responsibility to make our school nice and good, we saw a lot of animals.
- Yaren - It was very fun. We walked around and saw some beautiful animals. We learned some interesting things.

Dr Lawy - Head of Geogrpahy

Year 8 Abstract Self Portraits Art Project

8.2 and 8.8 art students have all created amazing abstract self portraits and were inspired by British- Nigerian artist Chris Ofili's No Woman No Cry, abstract painter Rachel Jones and Black Cubist portraits inspired by African masks. Students worked with acrylic paint and loved the bright colour tones it produced.



I was very impressed with their artwork, enthusiasm and excellent teamworking skills. The artwork has been accepted for the Colour Pop Young Artist 2025 exhibition and it will be on display at the artsdepot Aphorp Gallery from 25th -31st May 2025. *Ms Schmid - Art Department*





On 7th May 2025, our PDS students met with Merle Mahon and Ruth Nightingale from University College London (UCL), who are working on the Both EARS (BEARS) research project. BEARS is looking at whether virtual reality (VR) training can help deaf young people with cochlear implants aged 8-16. As part of the project, Merle and Ruth have interviewed young people testing out the VR to find about their everyday listening experiences.

In their workshop, Merle and Ruth explained what they had found out during their interviews with the young people taking part in the BEARS project. Our students had an interesting discussion about their findings, including whether they agreed or disagreed with what Merle and Ruth had found out!

Merle and Ruth said: 'A big thank you to the PDS students and staff. We found the students inspirational, they were really engaged and we learnt so much. They helped make our research more relevant and reinforced how important it is to understand the real-life listening experiences of deaf young people'.

Comments by our students:

"I found the interview to be truly engaging and the questions asked were well thought out. I am glad that what I had to say will be able to help Ruth and Merle in their fascinating project; I look forward to learning more about it. The interview also served as a reminder that there are other deaf individuals, our age whose experiences were both similar but also different. It reinforced the diversity of being deaf."

Naomi 12.2

"It was really nice to meet Merle and Ruth; the comfortable space they held allowed me to express my experiences as someone who wears hearing aids and I hope it does prove beneficial to the research. It was refreshing and also interesting to also be able to relate to the other deaf students around the UK."

Hamira 12.2

Diary Dates	
❖ Monday 26 th May - Friday 30 th May	Half Term holiday
❖ Monday 2 nd June - Friday 20 th June	KS3 Assessments
❖ Wednesday 4 th June	Year 10 Photography Trip
❖ Friday 6 th June	Year 10 & 12 Video Game and animation conference
❖ Friday 6 th June	GCSE Art Exhibition (Drama Studio) 3 - 5.30 pm
❖ Friday 13 th June	Carnegie Book Award Event
❖ Friday 13 th June	Year 12 UK University & Apprenticeship Search - Emirates
❖ Wednesday 18 th June	Year 10-13 Photoshow Opening (Library) 3.20 - 5.30 pm
❖ Wednesday 18 th - Thursday 19 th June	Year 12 Induction Days
❖ Thursday 19 th June	Year 11 Prom
❖ Monday 23 rd June - Friday 4 th July	Year 10 Mock Exams
❖ Monday 23 rd June - Friday 27 th June	Year 12 UCAS Exam Period
❖ Monday 23 rd June - Friday 27 th June	KS3 Enrichment Week
❖ Monday 23 rd June - Tuesday 24 th June	HARP Trip - Cherry Green Trees
❖ Monday 23 rd June	Year 12 Homecoming
❖ Monday 30 th June - Wednesday 2 nd July	Year 12 Geography Trip - Overstrand Hall Norfolk
❖ Monday 30 th June	Year 9 Smart Futures Day
❖ Tuesday 1 st July	Barnet Champs - Athletics
❖ Friday 4 th July	Year 12 Post 18 Day
❖ Tuesday 8 th July	Year 8 HPV immunisations
❖ Wednesday 9 th July	Year 10 Smart Futures Day
❖ Thursday 10 th July	Sports Awards Evening
❖ Tuesday 15 th July	Year 8 HPV immunisations
❖ Thursday 17 th July	KS3 Sports Day
❖ Thursday 17 th July	Year 10 & 12 Trips Day
❖ Friday 18 th July	Last Day of Summer Term - Students dismissed at 12.15 pm



Year 10 Geography students swapped their classrooms for the cliffs, beaches, and BBQs of the stunning Dorset coastline as part of their GCSE fieldwork requirement. The trip was not just an academic adventure—it was a week packed with discovery, laughter, and plenty of ice cream.

On the first day, fieldwork focused on investigating the impact of coastal management strategies on both natural processes and local communities. Hengistbury Head, near Christchurch, served as the perfect location for the first day's data collection. Armed with ranging poles, clinometers, and calipers, students got stuck into

measuring beach width, gradients, and sediment clast size—gaining hands-on experience and a healthy dose of sea air.

"Today for our Geography trip we went on a field trip to Dorset so we could collect our own primary data on the width of the beach. We were split into groups, given tape measures and ranging poles to determine the distance from the back of the beach to the water line at low tide, in addition to using clinometers to measure the angle of the slope we conducted a sediment type assessment (sand, shingle, etc.).

The day was bright and sunny, which meant we could take readings with maximum accuracy. We also created tables of data, drew diagrams and took photographs of the beach. It was a great way to learn about beaches, their formations and how they are impacted by coastal processes." - **Nariman 10.3**



Day two brought a change of scenery (and snacks) as the group took a scenic drive to the iconic Lulworth Cove. There, students observed one of the UK's most famous concordant coastlines while enjoying some well-earned ice cream in the sunshine. The day continued with a hike up the rugged cliffs to Durdle Door, where students were treated to panoramic views, a close-up of natural arch formations and sea caves—and even a surprise appearance from a curious local grey seal!



Evenings were just as exciting, toasting marshmallows, games of football, frisbee and badminton bringing the group together after long days in the field.

The final stop on the trip was Barton-on-Sea, where students saw the real-world consequences of coastal management first-hand. The area has been affected by Terminal Groyne Syndrome—

caused by sediment being trapped at Hengistbury Head and failing to replenish Barton's beaches, leading to significant erosion. It was a powerful way to connect theory to reality.





"I really enjoyed our trip today to Hengistbury Head as I have learned how structural engineering would affect the shore with long shore drift. I also found very interesting how the rocks get smaller along the shore because of LSD and the manmade groynes." *Ali 10.3*

From scientific surveys to seaside hikes and seal-spotting, the trip was a brilliant mix of learning and fun. It's safe to say the Year 10s came back with more than just field notes—they returned inspired, sun-kissed, and a little sandy. Future geographers, get ready—this is one field trip you won't want to miss!

Mr E Ramjhon - Teacher of Geography



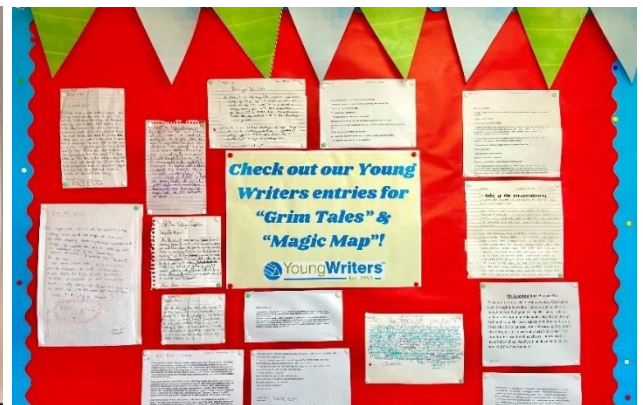
Hendon School Library News

Our library has been buzzing with exciting events, group activities and competitions! Here are a few highlights:

- ❖ Hendon School Library and EAL department teamed up to organise library induction sessions for EAL students. These sessions were designed to help EAL students familiarise themselves in the library space, and to be able to independently search and choose from all our different resources: dual languages books and dictionaries, past GCSE papers, EAL-suitable fiction and non-fiction books, etc.
- ❖ To mark the 80-year anniversary of V.E. Day, our library had the pleasure of welcoming Hugh Petrie from Barnet Local Studies and Archives. He gave a fascinating and enthusiastic presentation to a group of Year 9 students on World War 2 - with lots of interesting stories and photographs of 1940's Barnet and Hendon School!
- ❖ On Tuesdays, a group of Year 8 students meet up to prepare for the Carnegie Awards shadowing ceremony. They are currently discussing and writing reviews for the shortlisted books. On June 13th, they will have the opportunity to participate in the literary award ceremony by doing a presentation for their chosen book - "*Little Bang*" by Kelly McCaughrain. They'll also get to vote for their preferred shortlisted alongside other Barnet Secondary schools. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to bring their personal contributions to a national literary award!
- ❖ This term, over 20 students have wowed us with original creative writing submissions for three different Young Writers Competitions. National initiatives like these are proven to boost confidence, well-being and writing skills in young people - which is why we never miss an opportunity to encourage them to participate!



Hugh Petrie's WW2 presentation to Year 9 students



Display of some Young Writers students' submissions

Make sure to keep up with our monthly library newsletter via ParentMail for updates and details on all of our events, displays, clubs, and Young Writers competitions results!

Mrs Indran & Ms Ledeme

Year 8 & 9 Students visit The Ben Kinsella Trust

Last month, ten students from Years 8 and 9 took part in a thought-provoking and unforgettable visit to the Ben Kinsella Trust in London. The visit, arranged by our school to raise awareness about the devastating impact of knife crime, left a lasting impression on everyone who attended. The Trust was founded in memory of Ben Kinsella, a 16-year-old boy who tragically lost his life to knife crime in 2008. The charity is dedicated to educating young people and preventing knife crime through powerful, real-life storytelling and immersive experiences.



During the visit, students took part in the Trust's award-winning exhibition, which follows the story of a fictional young person whose life is cut short by knife crime. As students moved through a series of thought provoking rooms, they saw first-hand how one bad decision can have lifelong consequences not just for the victim, but for their family, friends, and even the perpetrator. The sessions were interactive and deeply emotional, encouraging students to think critically about peer pressure, personal choices, and the importance of speaking out. They also had the chance to take part in workshops where they discussed real life scenarios and explored ways to stay safe and make positive decisions.

The visit also sparked important conversations among students about how knife crime can be prevented and what role young people can play in making their communities safer. Teachers who accompanied the group noted how maturely the students engaged with the experience and praised the Trust for its impactful approach. The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive, with many describing the visit as "eye-opening," "emotional," and "inspiring."



As a school, we are incredibly proud of the students who represented us on the trip and look forward to continuing the conversation around youth safety and responsibility. The visit to the Ben Kinsella Trust wasn't just a day out, it was a powerful lesson in empathy, awareness, and the importance of standing up for what's right.



Ms Constantinou - Director Of Key Stage 3 & Head Of Steps 2 Success

A Breakin' Success

Hendon School's legendary Breakin' crew attended the 'Step Around Town' competition showcase at Acland Burghley School on Wednesday 7th May which was hosted by The Royal Academy of Dance. The crew wowed the audience and gained many fans due to their high energy, impressive moves and overall captivating vibe.

We recently found out that we have been selected to perform at 'Step Live' at the famed Cadogan Music Hall



in South West London. The show will comprise of some of the best KS3/4 dance groups across London and will be held on Tuesday 1st July at 7.30 pm. If you see any of the Breakers please congratulate them on their hard work and success.

Ms Goodman - Head of Dance



U16 Girls Basketball Team are Regional Champions!

The U16 girls basketball team became regional champions on Tuesday 13th May following their debut performance in the Junior NBA 3v3 tournament. With the vast majority of the squad in the GCSE RE exam, the U16s were made up entirely of the Year 10 girls.

They had 4 games to play and won all 4 demonstrating grit, determination and a high skill level. The girls also brushed aside any doubts in their self-confidence having to play in front of so many people, the majority of whom were male. One of the strict Junior NBA rules is that no coaching is allowed from staff during matches, therefore the girls had to do everything from motivating each other to tactical decisions by themselves. They were composed and professional in everything they did, including the interview they were asked to do for London Marathon Events.



These girls have now progressed to the London finals which take place at Trafalgar Square; the first time in its rich history that basketball has ever been held there. Not only will they compete in front of other players but the members of the public as well and parts of their game will be on the big screen for those that can't get close enough to the action.

As well as their basketballing brilliance, the girls were also commended for their class off the court, being the only team to remain behind and help the Junior NBA load up their mini bus. **Congratulations to Chloe (MVP), Neela, Tyra, Sharifa and Ikram.**

Rugby Season Kicks Off with a Bang!

We've launched this term with an exciting boost to our rugby programme!

Boys and girls from Years 7, 8 & 9 have been showcasing their skills at the Saracens Rugby Festivals, taking part in a fantastic mix of tag and contact fixtures. The enthusiasm and team spirit have been brilliant to see!



Our Year 7 boys and girls have also kicked off their T1 Barnet fixtures, building momentum as they prepare for an unforgettable opportunity – playing at the Premiership Rugby Final on Saturday 14th June!

A huge well done to all our players – we're proud of your passion, effort, and sportsmanship. The future of rugby at Hendon School is looking bright!

VE Day 2025 - 80th Anniversary Celebrations

On Thursday, 8th May, members of our Senior Leadership Team proudly donned period attire to take part in the 80th anniversary celebrations of VE Day 2025.

It was a day filled with reflection, gratitude, and joy as we honoured the courage and sacrifice of those who fought for peace and freedom during World War II. From heartfelt tributes to lively re-enactments, the day was a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that defined a generation.



GCSE ART EXHIBITION



**HENDON SCHOOL
DRAMA STUDIO
FRIDAY 6TH JUNE**

**3PM -
5:30PM**

Photoshow 2025 Hendon School

**in the library
opening event
Wed 18 June
3.00-5.50pm
all welcome**



image by Shuraiya Chowdhury



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