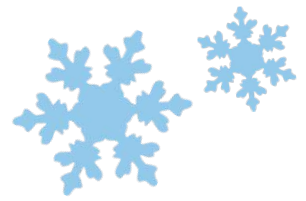


NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025 EDITION



HENDON SCHOOL

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



Young City Poets – School Trip to Guildhall Art Gallery

This month, our fantastic group of Year 9 Young City Poets took part in an inspiring trip to **Guildhall Art Gallery**. Organised by the Library, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust and the English Department, the program aims to **introduce students to poetry** through creative activities, including lessons, writing workshops and visits to iconic London landmarks: Guildhall Art Gallery and St Paul's cathedral.

During the visit, students explored the gallery and enjoyed informative talks from enthusiastic staff members who brought the art to life. The goal was to **spark ideas for their own poetry by drawing inspiration from the artwork**. From themes and styles to structure and tone, the gallery provided a rich source of creativity. We were incredibly proud of how **engaged, insightful and curious** our students were throughout the day.

This visit sets the stage for the next big event in the program of the month: a **writing workshop** with professional poet and author Paul Cree (see following article).

Another **big congrats** to our fantastic students – check out the pictures below!





Young City Poets – Writing Workshop with Paul Cree

Inspiration in action!

Another exciting milestone for our Young Poets: after their inspiring visit to Guildhall Art Gallery this month, our group took part in a writing workshop led by **published poet and author Paul Cree**.

The workshop was designed to be interactive and fun, encouraging creativity and collaboration. By the end of the day, each student had the beginnings of a poem they felt proud of.

Paul shared his experience with his writing process, performed one of his works, and gave students tips on finding their voice by drawing inspiration from their daily lives in London. This session was for them to **practice their imagination** and **gain confidence** in their own writing skills.

A huge thank you to Paul for his participation and enthusiasm – this was a fantastic opportunity for our young pupils!



Year 10 – Research Development lessons



Developing research skills for our Key Stage 4 students.

This month, we finally expanded our research development lessons beyond Sixth Form and into other key stages – starting with our **Year 10 Science students**.

The session introduced our Year 10s to **essential research techniques**: how to use academic resources, use effective search strategies, evaluate sources for reliability, and understand the influence of algorithms, bias & targeted ads on search results.

After the presentation, students had 30 minutes to apply what they learned by conducting their own research. We were impressed by their **focus** and **thoughtful research** they had throughout the whole session. These skills will come in very handy for their **GCSE's** next year, as well as their A-Levels or any further studies they might embark on. And, beyond their studies, we also believe they are crucial for **navigating today's information-rich world** and developing strong media literacy.



Sixth Form – Citations, References and Research Skills lessons

Year 12 History – Citations and References

Academic success isn't just about finding information – it's also about using it responsibly. We presented our Year 12 History students with a lesson on how to correctly cite and reference their sources. We also equipped them with knowledge on plagiarism, identifying rigorous sources, and practical tips for keeping a record of their references. They also practiced writing citations, a vital skill for their A-Levels.



EPQ – Research Skills

In another collaborative initiative with academic departments, we equipped EPQ students with the skills to locate reliable resources, critically evaluate information, organise their research and use that information effectively and ethically. These sessions are also closely linked to curriculum topics, and students developed their own inquiry questions to further guide their EPQ research.



By building these habits now in our students, we are ensuring they are prepared as best as possible for GCSEs, A-Levels, EPQs, and any further academic path they might embark on!



New Library Ambassadors team

A growing team!

We're thrilled to announce that our Library Ambassadors team has grown to **32 volunteers!** These students play a vital role in keeping the library organised, welcoming, and vibrant. From organising shelves to helping decorate the space, their contributions make a huge difference.

Being a Library Ambassador isn't just about helping out – it's also about **developing valuable skills** like teamwork, communication, and leadership. Plus, ambassadors get to enjoy fun perks, including an end-of-year trip as a thank-you for their hard work.

Our new team members have already started their shifts and are proving to be fantastic additions.

A huge thank you to our ambassadors – past and present – for making the library such a special place for everyone, and proving why they were elected **"Best Student Team at Hendon School"** at this year's awards ceremony! ❤️

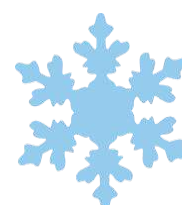
Happy Holidays from our Team!

See you next year!

Wishing all students, family and staff a **very happy and restful Winter break!** We are looking forward to embarking on the *National Year of Reading* in 2026 with lots of new exciting activities, trips and events in the library.

All the best,

Mrs Indran and Miss Ledeme



Library lunchtime clubs for KS3



MONDAY

Book Club: cosy book discussions. We prepared and wrapped up the NLT's exciting Verse Novel Challenge.



TUESDAY

Anime & Manga Club: all Mangakas are welcome to participate in discussions and crafts on animes, mangas and origami.



WEDNESDAY

Super Readable Book Club: easy-to-read stories, with arts and crafts activities related to the books' illustrations.



THURSDAY

Creative Workshop: accessible arts and crafts projects, designed to encourage mindfulness and well-being.



FRIDAY

Library Quizzes: fun, friendly and educational competitions with exciting prizes to win each week.



Other displays around the Library:








Library Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8am - 5pm

Friday: 8am - 4pm

New Magazines & Periodicals:

-  **Edge:** In-depth insight into the art, design, and future of **video games**. Issues feature interviews with industry pioneers and expert analysis on influential games.
-  **Harper's Bazaar:** The luxury **fashion** publication with interviews, editorial and literary features, and high-quality photography.
-  **Spider-Man:** A classic, fun and well-loved superhero **comic**.



FREE & ONLINE RESOURCES



BBC Bitesize: free revision and learning games and resources.

Book Trust: here, use Bookfinder to browse through book recommendations, Writing Tips for advice from well-known authors, and Bookmark for information on disability representation in children's books.

JSTOR: register for a free account and access up to 100 free academic articles per month and a wide range of open access resources – indispensable to prepare for any kind of higher studies!

Khan Academy: free online courses, instructional videos and practice exercises, as well as a personalised learning dashboard.

Learn Out Loud: free podcast-format cultural and educational resources.

LoveReading4Schools: a great portfolio full of recommendations if you struggle to start reading, as well as mental health resources.

National Literacy Trust's "Zone in": this page contains practical tips on boosting reading, writing, speaking and listening skills for young people.

Oxplore: made by the university of Oxford, this website presents debate questions that encourage critical thinking and links to further resources.

Physics and Maths Tutor: free revision courses and past papers – great to prepare for GCSE and A-Levels!

Reading Well For Teens: health and well-being experts put together book recommendations, digital resources and exercises to help young people manage mental health difficulties (eg: confidence, anxiety, neurodiversity, grief, body image, depression, navigating LGBTQ+ identities, etc.).

Reading Zone: free reading resources for families and young people.

Seneca Learning: free homework and revision platform.

Young Writers: information national writing competition for teens to participate in and free reading resources for parents.