

## Headteacher's Message

Another busy half term comes to a close as we celebrate another week of learning and enrichment. Last week, a group of History students took part in the Lessons From Auschwitz project, visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland. It was a sobering yet powerful experience as they witnessed key sites, including the Execution Wall, exhibitions of personal belongings from victims, and the Gas Chamber and Crematorium.

On a lighter note, our Wicked movie event was a huge success, raising over £60 for the Toilet Twinning charity. A huge thank you to Bridge JLT for organising a fun-filled

evening of music and laughter - all for a great cause! Meanwhile, 7 Loughborough delivered an inspiring assembly on the importance of being an upstander rather than a bystander. They reminded us all that speaking up against unkindness is crucial in fostering a positive school environment. Their message was clear: - small actions can make a big difference. The Y7 girls basketball team played in the Coventry basketball league on Wednesday against strong rivals Cardinal Wiseman.

Year 11 trial exams finished this week. We wish students well as they start to receive their crucial feedback from teachers after half term. It was a pleasure for the school to host

a city-wide community event this week. A Post 16 information evening for Y10 and Y11 students, parents and carers who are or have been part of Afghan and Syrian refugee resettlement schemes. The school welcomed 90 guests /interpreters and a range of external providers, with stalls for students and parents to explore and ask questions. A huge thanks to the Post 16 students that supported the event, especially Aala, for delivering a speech in Arabic about her experience of Post-16 study.

Finally, a quick reminder that school starts again on Monday 24th February following the half term break.

**Mrs E Martin**

# Post 16 Trip to Auschwitz

Last week, a group of History students visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland as part of the Lessons from Auschwitz project. This educational trip offered students the opportunity to witness firsthand the harsh realities of the Holocaust, including sites such as the Execution Wall, the Gas Chamber and the Crematorium. The visit also featured powerful exhibitions showcasing personal belongings of the prisoners, including shoes, hair, and other artifacts. These sights left a lasting impact on the students as they learned about the atrocities that occurred at this former concentration camp.

## Reflections from Students

When asked about the most intriguing aspect of the visit, **Adriana**, a Year 12 student, shared, *"The most interesting part was definitely exploring Auschwitz-Birkenau because it showed the living and working conditions of the prisoners, such as where they slept. Furthermore, finding out from our guide that there wasn't actually enough space for all of the Jewish, disabled, and homosexual people in the concentration camp was both impactful and disheartening to hear."*

**Karamjot**, another Year 12 student, spoke about the importance of trips like this: *"To educate us and ensure, as a society, that we are well educated on past events, especially those as severe and dreadful as the Holocaust." Adriana added, "It's also important to remember and consider the individuals and their unique story rather than grouping them all as 'victims.'"*

**Martyna**, also from Year 12, reflected on how the knowledge of Auschwitz's history impacted the visit: *"I think it made everyone more cautious and careful with what they say and how they act. It's better knowing beforehand—rather than going without the knowledge - to assure you remain respectful given the sensitivity of the topic."*

This visit served as a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering history and honouring the memory of those affected by the Holocaust. It's a pivotal step in ensuring future generations learn from the past and work towards a world founded on respect and understanding.



Ready, set go! It's time to exercise your imagination, with a chance of having your work exhibited at the Royal Academy of Arts. Aged 4 - 18? Enter your work into the Young Artists' Summer Show by 5th March 2025. It's free to enter, so get involved 🎨

*If you are interested please speak with Mrs Stafford for more information.*

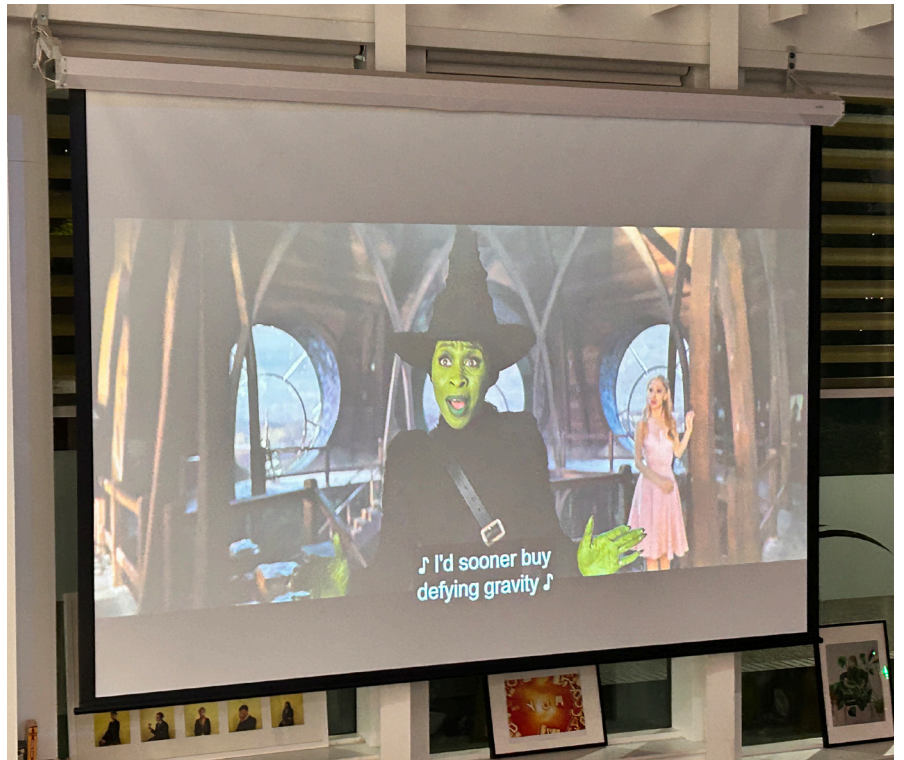


# A Wickedly Good Time for a Great Cause

This week, we are excited to share that we raised over £60 for the Toilet Twinning charity thanks to the amazing efforts of the Bridge JLT who organised a fantastic movie event!

Students and staff gathered to watch the hit musical Wicked and there was no shortage of enthusiasm as everyone joined in for some loud singing of those iconic high notes. It was a fun-filled evening of entertainment and we are proud to support such a worthy cause while enjoying a memorable event together.

Thank you to everyone who took part and made this event such a success!



# Powerful Assembly on Being an Upstander



This week, 7 Loughborough delivered a fantastic tutor assembly focused on the bystander effect and the importance of being an upstander. They explored how watching others be unkind can affect our mental health, but also how important it is to report any concerns to staff members so that we can put the right support in place. Demonstrating a strong sense of responsibility for ourselves and those around us. Their thought-provoking presentation highlighted the power of taking action when we witness something wrong, encouraging everyone to be proactive and supportive in creating a positive environment.

Well done to 7 Loughborough for their insightful and inspiring assembly!

# Y7 Girls Basketball Team Shows Determination in Tough Match Against Cardinal Wiseman

The Year 7 girls basketball team played in the Coventry basketball league on Wednesday against strong rivals Cardinal Wiseman, a team they often face in the finals. The girls played exceptionally well and fought hard throughout the match. The first quarter was a challenging one, conceding 10 baskets to the opponents. However, after some tactical changes, the team improved significantly, moving the ball well and defending much better. **Judith** and **Binta** were standout performers, with both players consistently regaining possession and delivering the ball into dangerous areas on the court. Despite their amazing efforts, the team struggled to get the ball through the rim and unfortunately lost 18-6.

The team is now ranked 3rd in the league and with their continued improvements, there's hope that they can perform well in their final game to secure a spot in the finals.

With the fight that the players showed in the final two quarters we are optimistic about the team's chances in making it through to the final!



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## Barr's Hill Year 8 Football Team Show Fighting Spirit but Fall Short in 3-1 Defeat

Barr's Hill Year 8 football team showed great determination and resilience in their latest fixture, but ultimately fell to a 3-1 defeat after a hard-fought contest.

The match started with Barr's Hill on the back foot, conceding an early goal as the opposition capitalised on a defensive lapse. Despite the setback, the team responded with confidence, pressing high and creating chances. Their efforts were rewarded when Dmytro found the back of the net with a well-taken finish, bringing the game level at 1-1.

However, just before the half-time whistle, the opposition struck again, regaining their lead and making it 2-1 at the break. Barr's Hill came out in the second half with renewed energy, pushing forward in search of an equalizer. They created multiple opportunities but were unable to convert their chances.

As they committed players forward, the opposition managed to score a third goal against the run of play, sealing a 3-1 defeat for Barr's Hill.

Despite the result, the boys can take pride in their performance showing great effort and teamwork throughout the match.



# World Book Day - 3 weeks to go!



Design a National Book Token Competition

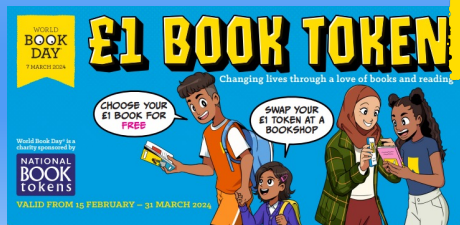
## WORLD BOOK DAY®

6 MARCH 2025

Other events happening:

- Name the dragon competition
- Hooked On Books Quiz
- Book shop trips
- WBD Bingo Challenge

£1 Book Tokens to be given to all students in KS3

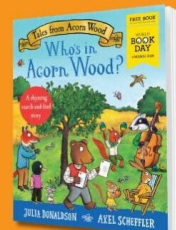
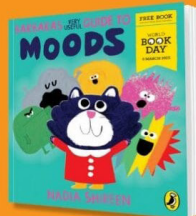
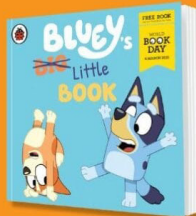
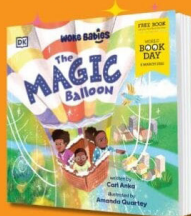


Damani Dennisur will be visiting Barr's Hill School!

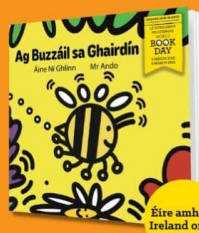
- Y8 Assembly
- Workshops with Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.



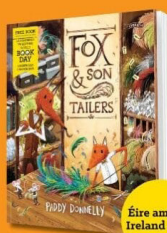
## Our brilliant 2025 £1/€1.50 books



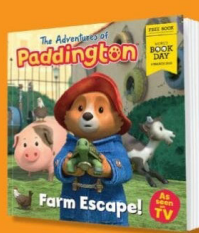
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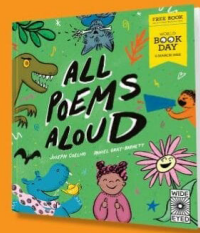
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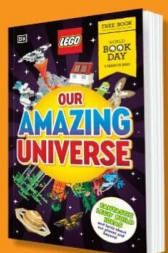
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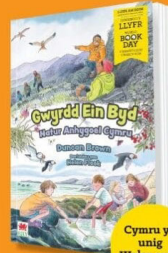
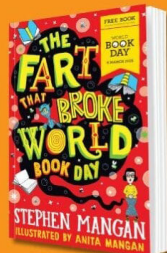
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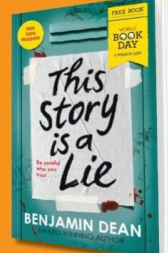
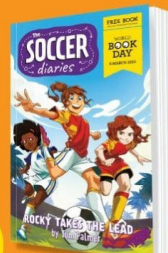
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# Library Ambassador Book Review

This week's review has been written by David O from  
7W

Book: Wolverine

David says: He figures out that he has powers. I like it  
because I love the action.

Rating: 5/5

## Book of the Week

The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

ZPD: 5.0

Description: Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. That is, until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Now Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with a little help from a surprising and brilliant cast of supporting characters.

