

THAMESMEAD TALK – Autumn 1 2025

Y7 Trip – The Weald & Downland Living Museum

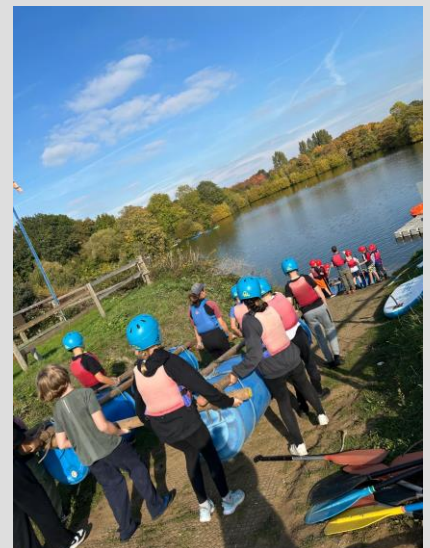
At the end of September, the whole of year 7 visited the Weald and Downland Living Museum in Sussex to find out about life in the Middle Ages, the period of history we are now studying in class. There were lots of hands on, interactive activities including wool carding, bridge building, traditional games and grinding wheat. We were very lucky with the weather too!



Y7 Thames Young Mariners



On Saturday 11th October, myself and lots of other year sevens went to Thames young mariners water activity centre. We got to do kayaking and raft building. Everyone had such a great time making rafts with people that were not in their classes. The weather was on our side and thankfully didn't rain. It was exhausting but really enjoyable, we even got to jump in the lake! Everyone agreed that the challenge of the day was to try and get Mr Patel in the water! Unfortunately, Mr Patel could read our minds and knew what we were plotting and despite a team effort he evaded our mischievous plan. Freya M



Y8 Humanities Trips – Bocketts Farm

Our Y8's had an amazing three days at Bocketts Farm investigating the diversification of the farm. Students built on their fieldwork skills learnt in Geography in their Y7, to prove or disprove their hypothesis. Here are a couple of comments about their experience from our year 8's "I was surprised that they had a such a big garden and to learn that they sold what grew in the meals in their café. I enjoyed the tractor ride and learning about diversity (at the farm). Bethany S. "We were learning about pastoral and arable farming. It was good to retrieve the learning and experience it (at the farm) I enjoyed the tractor ride and pig race!" Rajanan S.



Year 8 Humanities Trip

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Neasden Hindu Temple

In September, our Year 8 students had the enriching opportunity to visit the Neasden Hindu Temple as part of their RPE curriculum. The visit offered a valuable insight into Hindu worship and culture, and we were incredibly proud to hear that temple staff complimented our students on their exemplary behaviour and respectful engagement throughout. It was a fantastic experience that deepened their understanding of world religions and showcased the maturity of our pupils.



Y8 Humanities Trips- Hampton Court

Practising being courtiers on Henry VIII's privy council

Year 8 visited Hampton Court Palace to find out about the religious turmoil during the reign of the Tudors. Along with visiting the Tudor kitchens and getting lost in the maze we were treated to an interactive workshop with a member of staff from the palace in full Tudor dress!



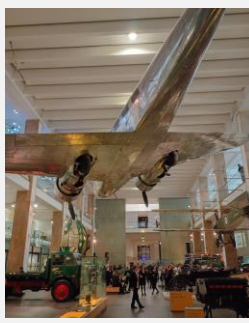
We made it through the maze!

Guess the smell research being undertaken by the Palace. Ms Bond swears one of them was butterscotch, but not all were pleasant... (and no, they didn't tell us the correct answer afterwards!)



Y9 Science Museum

This term a group of year 9's went on an academic enrichment trip to London's Science Museum. We saw a wide variety of science, medicine and engineering related exhibitions to ignite and inspire academic curiosity and success in these fields. Trip highlights were the space exhibition and the 'Who am I?' interactive gallery all about DNA



Brooklands Innovation Event

On 1st October, some of our year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to attend the Brooklands Innovation Academy at Brooklands Museum. This was a STEM education event aimed at inspiring young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and maths through hands-on workshops and inspiring talks from STEM professionals and businesses.

Niamh A, one of the students who went on the trip had this to say: ' I had an amazing time at Brooklands Museum on the science trip. It has inspired me to think about STEM related jobs for the future and I learned a lot. The speeches - especially Nash Vracas - were very informing and entertaining and made me think about engineering in a new light. Some of the activities we did included: building and changing Lego buggies to travel on Mars, making toothpaste, learning how to lay cables and using Turing Tumbles. It was a really fun experience and, who knows, maybe one day I will be a space buggy engineer!



Thamesmead Summer Fair

Thamesmead summer fair was an incredibly fun way of coming together as a school community, to create fun activities for everyone. The afternoon brought so much laughter and excitement, providing the school with a lovely atmosphere, and really showing off Thamesmead's core values. It was an excellent way to put student's talented ideas to life, whether that was a nail painting extravaganza, or popping water balloons over teachers' heads! As well as this, we managed to raise money to make Thamesmead school an even better place, by using a great sense of community and teamwork. It was a fantastic way to end the school year. Izzy B

The Thamesmead School Summer Fair was a really fun and exciting event that brought everyone together. Each tutor group had to design and run their own stall, which meant there was a wide variety of activities, from games and competitions to food and crafts. Instead of money, we were given tokens to spend, which made it fair for everyone and encouraged us to visit lots of different stalls. The fair raised a good amount of money for the school, but it was also more than that – it gave us a good insight into careers, because we had to think about planning, teamwork, and how to attract customers. Overall, it was a great experience that mixed fun with valuable skills for the future. Cassidy R.

GCSE Art Trip to RHS Wisley

Year 10 GCSE art students visited RHS Wisley making sketches inspired by the beautiful plants, landscapes and foliage, for their portfolios.



Nature Club - Bushy Park Trip

Watching Stag Rutting

On Thursday the 16th October Miss Brackenbury took the Nature Club out after school to Bushy Park to witness the Rut. This is when male Red Deer (stags) take part in a strength battle to win the mating rites to a heard of females (a hareem). We had a brilliant time and saw lots of great wildlife activity including herons, cormorants and rabbits, as well as lots of deer activity. The stags were making lots of noise but unfortunately, they didn't rut for us this time.

Fun fact: a red deer antlers are made of bone. They have to grow a new pair every year which can grow at a rate of 1 inch a day! This makes them the fastest growing bone in the animal kingdom!

Thank you to Mrs Newling-Ward and Mr Liyanage for joining us on our adventure.

If your child would like to join Nature Club, we meet every **Friday at 2.55 in S4. New year 7's are very welcome!**



Community work

Uganda Lodge

We are delighted to be able to share that some of our old PE kit and uniforms have been donated to Uganda Lodge. The UK Charity Uganda Lodge Community Projects supports over 500 disadvantaged children from rural villages in Western Uganda. Through the generosity of sponsors, they are able to heavily subsidise the children's school fees and offer them an excellent but affordable education at Ruhanga Development School alongside free medical care. Thanks to Mrs Jeffrey who collects our donations and passes them on to this charity.



Since this photo was taken we have learned of a devastating fire that has destroyed the dormitory- they have lost everything. The uniforms they are pictured wearing is all that many of them have left.

Please consider donating the cost of a cup of coffee (£3–£5) to help rebuild and rehome the boys:

<https://www.goodhub.com/go/schoolfire>

Every small donation makes a big difference — thank you for helping when it's needed most.

Open Evening October 2025

A huge thank you to all our wonderful students who volunteered to come back into school and support our subject departments and be tour guides. We were so proud of how they represented the values of our school.



Year 11 Netball-District Champions

The team clinched their fourth consecutive district championship title on Tuesday afternoon, going undefeated across the five games they played. As this marked their final tournament, it was a bittersweet moment. They truly dominated, scoring an impressive 43 goals while conceding only 14. It has been an absolute honour to watch these girls grow both in skill, camaraderie and height (!) over the past five years. Through every challenge, rain or shine, they've shown up to training together week after week since Year 7, and their dedication has truly paid off. Well done girls.

Results;

vs Magna Carta 7-5

vs Jubilee High 13-1

vs St Pauls 6-1

vs Bishop Wand 7-3

vs Matthew Arnold 10-4



Year 11 Rounders-District Tournament

Our year 11 Rounders Team attended their last ever tournament tonight and gave a great account of themselves. Runners up to Magna Carta. A great achievement by our girls, to win three out of the five years in their time at secondary school- excellent role models for our younger students.

