

THAMESMEAD TALK – Autumn 2 2025

Nature Club - 'bleaching' ink with autumn leaves

Last week at Nature Club we were kindly helped by the art department to make some art on a wet day by 'bleaching' ink with autumn leaves. They made some beautiful creations!

Miss Brackenbury



House Tournament- Glow Up

The results were as follows:

Glam Make up

1st place = Aria R

2nd place = Grace L

Honourable mention = Miss Harris
made up by Kajus B and Harry W

Face Paint

1st place = River S, made up by Varesh R

2nd place = Daniel F made up by Ethan O

Honourable mention = Emily A
made up by Jess W and Evie W



Rotary Youth Speaks Debating Competition



The Thamesmead School Intermediate Debating Team represented the school exceptionally well at the Rotary Youth Speaks competition at the Spelthorne Borough Council Chambers yesterday evening. Although we did not win a trophy, the team of Mia S, Ishika P, and Julius S in Year 8 were fantastically well-behaved, and gave an excellent account of themselves up against some very stiff competition. Mr Macdonald

The Youth Speaks Debating Competition was a wonderful experience! The Spelthorne Borough Council Chambers were a very nice place, and all of the people there were helpful and kind to us. It was an amazing learning opportunity, and definitely helped all of us who attended to get a feel of how debating competitions are run. Mia S 8RMA

Ishika, Mia and I enjoyed the experience of debating in the Youth Speaks Rotary Competition. It took place in November at the grand Spelthorne Council Chambers. It was fun to see other teams' debating techniques. We debated about the significance of the Elizabeth Line (a new mix of rail and tube in London). We got to try a new debating style where our topics and rebuttal were planned, which was exciting! – Julius S 8HLO

SCIENCE – Heart dissection & food testing

Year 10 Science

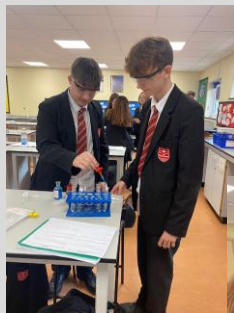
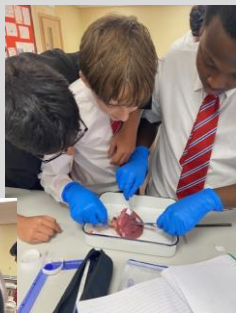
Year 10 students have been exploring a range of hands-on activities to deepen their understanding of human biology.

As part of their study of the respiratory system, students have been learning about the structure and function of the lungs through a hands-on practical session. During this activity, they were able to feel the firm cartilage rings of the trachea, observe the spongy texture of the lung tissue containing millions of alveoli (air sacs), and watch the lungs inflate to demonstrate how air moves in and out during breathing. This engaging experience helped students connect their classroom learning to real biological structures and processes.

Students also dissected a heart to examine its different chambers and the vessels contained within it, gaining insight into how the heart's structure enables it to pump blood around the body.

In addition, Year 10 have been performing food tests on a range of samples to identify which nutrients they contain. Through these experiments, students tested for the presence of starch, sugar, protein, and fats.

Mrs Sharief



Royal Navy Y10 & Mighty Muscles

Food and Nutrition Workshop

Our students took part in a lively “Ready, Steady, Cook” style challenge, creating burgers, chips, and a pavlova topped with cream and fresh fruit.

The kitchen was full of energy and laughter as students worked together, learned new skills, and even discovered a few surprises -like how cream can turn into butter if whisked too long! Not everything went perfectly (and that was part of the fun!). Some meringues were a little overcooked—a great reminder of how important oven temperature is. These moments sparked great discussions and learning opportunities.

Beyond cooking, students explored career paths in the Royal Navy, from catering to hairdressing, and even learned that every recruit is trained in firefighting.

It was an eye-opening experience that combined practical skills with future possibilities.



It's been a brilliant experience - thanks for the free rope-grown mussels @OffshoreShell! It's provided our pupils with new food life skills & it's been a fab learning experience for them all – something we would not normally do!

Thanks to @FoodTCentre @FishmongersCo @dfdsgroup #FishHeroes

Mrs Goddard

HOUSE EVENTS- Dodgeball

Well done for all of the students who participated in the dodgeball event.



Y11 visit to Royal Holloway University London



Our Year 11 students had an incredible experience today at **Royal Holloway University!** They explored the stunning campus architecture, toured state-of-the-art facilities, and engaged in insightful discussions about future pathways and opportunities in higher education. A huge well done to Year 11 for your excellent attention, curiosity, and outstanding behaviour throughout the day - you represented our school brilliantly. Big thanks to Royal Holloway for hosting us and giving our students a glimpse into university life. A special thank you to M. Phillips for organising the trip!

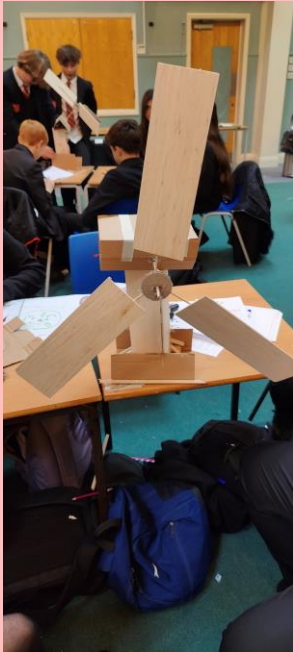
Mr Smith- Head of Year 11



I just wanted to tell you how much I really enjoyed the Royal Holloway trip that we were lucky enough to be a part of. I believed it to be a very informative experience that helped me to gather a further understanding of the university and just general uni life. I thought it was a trip that every student looking into going to university should be able to experience for themselves, as it really helped.

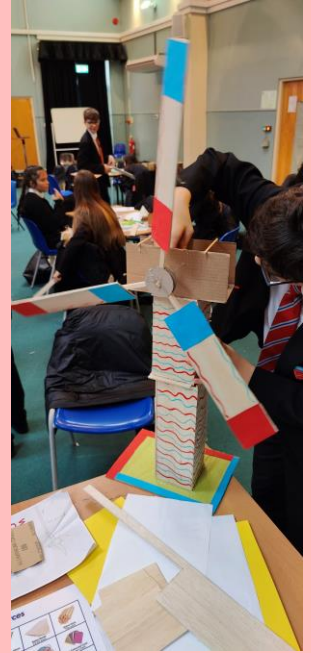
Josh K

Y9 Wind Turbine STEM Event



Y9 Wind Turbine STEM Event
Really good turbines were produced, all turned when wind (a hairdryer) was directed at them and all produced energy.

Good practice in leadership and teamworking skill,



Y10 Triple Science “Science Live” Event



Some of Year 10 Triple Science students got an opportunity to go to a trip to Apollo Victoria for the GCSE Science Live event. This is a chance for Year 10 Triple Science students to be inspired by Britain’s top scientists, receive top tips for GCSE revision from an experienced examiner and learn about science careers beyond the classroom.

Mr Liyanage

Year 7 National Careers Challenge 2025

The National Careers Challenge is a dedicated challenge designed in response to company Air Products real business-critical needs and helped build the skills required for the world of work. It was an all- day careers competition, considering the potential of Air Products gases and develop a concept for sustainable town of the future.



Founded in 1940, Air Products has a proud history of innovation, operational excellence, and an unwavering commitment to safety and environmental stewardship. <https://www.airproducts.co.uk/company>



Comic Club



Mrs Barry & Comic club enjoyed a draw-along session with the author illustrator Jamie Smart after school recently. Rapt attention and enjoyment in the room!

Creative Arts Workshop

A group of year 9 and 10 students have worked alongside KDE Dance Company this half term to learn about the key jobs in running a Creative Arts business. They have learnt how to use the software *Blender* to design a performance space and *Bandlab* to compose their own music to underscore a performance. They were challenged with filming a performance they choreographed, considering angles and light sources for impact. Finally, they enjoyed watching the professional dance company use their motion capture suits in a dance performance. Students saw how technology can enhance movement, and be an effective tool in storytelling. The students embraced the discipline of dance, learning new movement skills and some had the opportunity to wear the Motion Capture suits for themselves. Thamesmead School are thankful to Surrey Arts, for funding this opportunity for our students.

Mrs Holmes



Year 7 Girls Football Champions (joint!)

Our Year 7 Girls Footballers travelled to represent Thamesmead in their first 7-a-side tournament at Matthew Arnold. This tournament was one of many firsts:

All 8 local schools entered a team

The girls played their first tournament as a team together

The final was drawn and asked to be decided on rock paper scissors.

And most significantly:

The final was drawn- 1-1, Thamesmead vs Bishop Wand.

The group game against Bishop Wand- we also drew 1-1 against them.

We were controversially asked to **do 'rock, paper, scissors'** to decide the winner after the draw in the final, as there was no time to do penalties and our goal difference was the same.

The Bishop Wand PE teacher- is also their Head of Year, so we both decided- losing to rock paper scissors, is the unfairest of ways to lose a final

As respective Heads of year to each team- **we decided we'd share the win.**

Therefore, our girls, **are joint-winners** with Bishop Wand of the 2025 District 7-A-Side tournament for Girls Football.



The girls were excellent throughout the tournament- they played some excellent football and were brilliant ambassadors for our school.

Thamesmead 2-0 Matthew Arnold

Thamesmead 1-1 Bishop Wand

Thamesmead 2-0 St Paul's

Semi Final: Thamesmead 3-0 Jubilee High

Final: Thamesmead 1-1 Bishop Wand



Year 10 Runners up District Basketball



Well done to all who participated!

