



# Wembley High Technology College

## Newsletter

Autumn 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our first half term of the year has been purposeful, enriching and calm. Staff and myself have been impressed with students' consistent drive for academic excellence, embodying our school values of Hard-work, Ambition, Resilience, Empowerment, Helping others and Diversity. It has been a pleasure to see this in action in lessons and in the multiple clubs which have now begun. This is our first newsletter which will detail our children's successes so far this year.

Mr T. Best  
Headteacher

### Achievement Points

Achievement Points are linked to our values and students are awarded Achievement Points at level 1, 2, 3 and 4 by class teachers, Subject Leaders and Heads of Year. We are so proud of our students and their achievement this term:

AT1 – Achievement Points						
	Hard-Work	Ambition	Resilience	Empowerment	Diversity	Helping Others
Year 7	4644	82	290	331	46	233
Year 8	4315	58	432	244	19	106
Year 9	5003	123	344	242	1	101
Year 10	2677	51	134	139	9	84
Year 11	2256	102	215	156	2	130

Congratulations to all members of our exemplary learning community who represent the College fantastically well!



Artwork by Year 7 and Year 12  
Photography by Year 11



## Mandarin Club

At WHTC, we are excited to share that we have a dedicated Mandarin teacher, Ms Liu, offering Mandarin lessons to all year groups.

Mandarin is the most spoken language in the world with almost a billion speakers worldwide. British business leaders are calling for Mandarin to be taught in schools and universities as communication barriers are making it increasingly difficult for the UK to do business in China.

We still have some spaces left – please sign your child up for this club that we consider to be something very unique and not offered by other schools:

- ◆ Monday after school until 4pm – Y7 Mandarin: [here](#)
- ◆ Tuesday after school until 4pm – Y8/9 Mandarin: [here](#)
- ◆ Wednesday after school until 4pm – Y10/11 Mandarin: [here](#)
- ◆ Thursday after school until 4pm – Intermediate Mandarin for those who have studied it last year: [here](#)
- ◆ Mandarin for 6th Form students period 5 once a week: please speak to Ms Balgobin who will sign you up.

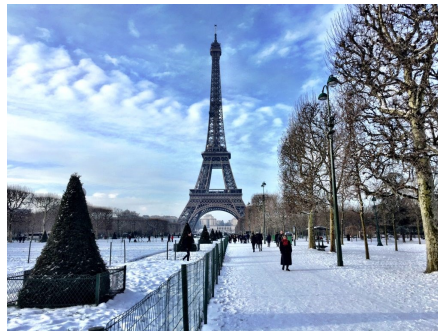
## Student Council

We are proud to have an active Student Council here at WHTC, with two representatives per Tutor Group. We are working with our Student Council to shape the future of our College as well as to support them to deliver a series of charity projects throughout the year.

Our Student Council elections took place in the final week of half term and we look forward to working together to ensure our students' voices are heard in key decisions, as well as supporting students to develop their leadership and communication skills so that they become the leaders of tomorrow.

4 Sixth Form students have also been appointed as Equality Ambassadors. They will run important projects at the College this year, reviewing our curricula, designing assemblies and leading assemblies and devising a programme of cultural events.

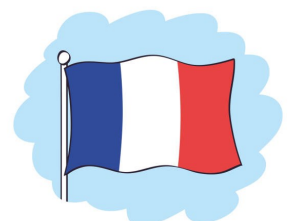
## Trip to Paris



We are excited to be taking a large group of Year 11 students to Paris **from 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> December.**

We are going on a walking tour of Paris, to see the artists in Montmartre and visit the Sacré Coeur as well as seeing a film in a traditional French cinema.

We can't wait to visit the catacombs, as well as practise our French.





## Art Extracurricular Club

Our Art extracurricular club as ever is oversubscribed – students have been creating pop art portraits and practising their painting skills. A huge thank you to Mr Waddington for his efforts with our students, and well done to students for their fantastic creations. Students should speak to their Art teacher regarding this activity if they would like to sign up.



## Cross country

Every Monday, we have an increasing number of students attending cross country club delivered by our PE teacher Mr Moreland as well as Ms Blum and Ms Robinson – this activity caters for all runners including those who are less experienced and those who are already strong runners. We are aiming for a ‘Couch to 5K’ for lots of our students running regularly with this group. Well done to all students who are improving their fitness and pushing themselves to be their best possible selves. If your child would still like to sign up for this club, they should contact Ms Robinson directly.

## Geography Department



Last week, we had the opportunity to visit the Smith and Nephew centre in Croyley, one of the UK's top 50 most valuable companies. They specialize in manufacturing medical equipment, focusing on Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine, and Advanced Wound Management. The highlight of our visit was the Research and Development wing, where we observed the entire process of how equipment is developed, tested, and implemented. It was an interactive experience, allowing us to engage hands-on with the technology. We also met friendly staff members who shared insights about career opportunities in medical engineering. A big thank you to our College and Smith&Nephew for organizing this invaluable experience! ”



The Geography Department are excited to provide a range of field trip opportunities for our pupils to deepen and develop their geographical knowledge learnt in class.

Our Year 12 Geographers have been working hard this term learning about coastal systems and processes as part of their AS level. At the beginning of November, these pupils will spend three days in Porthcawl in Wales to observe these physical processes and conduct their own coastal fieldwork investigation.

Many of our Year 9 and 10 pupils are looking forward to their trip to Iceland over the Easter break. Pupils will spend three days exploring the country with a national guide to be able to observe geographical phenomena such as glacial landscapes, volcanic craters, geysers and waterfalls.

**Year 12 trip review**  
*by Yajur Gupta*

## Visiting orchestra

On 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November a professional orchestra will visit the college to perform a series of concerts for our students. The opportunity to engage with live music in this way will be transformative for our students and we are so excited for this to take place.



The full-size orchestra will be performing the following classical pieces:

1. Wild Bears Overture – Elgar
2. Mock Morris - Grainger
3. Juba Dance – Florece Price
4. Danse Macabre – Saint-Saens
5. Night on a Bare Mountain - Mussorgsky
6. Mars -Holst
7. En Bateau - Debussy
8. Star Wars Medley
9. Radetzky - Strauss



## Y7 Cuffley Active Learning Centre Trip

### Stand-up for Education

We are very pleased to announce that 'Stand up! Education' are scheduled to visit the school in January to work with students from Year 7 – 10.

This organisation delivers workshops around anti-discrimination which we know will support our students in broadening their understanding of the world and learning how to contribute positively to society.

To find out more, please visit the [website](#).

Staff and students alike had a fantastic time during Week 5 when all Year 7 students challenged themselves at Cuffley Active Learning Centre. Despite the rain and the mud, Year 7 students showed real grit and determination whilst tackling the climbing wall and the vertical obstacle course.

It was lovely to see new friendships forming as students worked in teams to solve problems and complete tasks. We all know how formative these experiences can be and I know that this day will be a lasting memory for our Year 7 students, so a huge thank you to everyone involved in making it happen!



## First Story

This week, students have begun First Story, a 16-week creative writing workshops with our writer-in-Residence: Mr Gee. Mr Gee has been a veteran on the UK's Live poetry scene for over two decades. Perhaps best known as the "Poet Laureate" on Russell Brand's SONY award-winning Radio show, he has delivered two TEDx talks and his work has featured in the Times, The Guardian, and the New Statesman. Students will take part in weekly First Story group workshops where young people can creatively explore identity and experience - supporting participants' social and emotional learning.

Over 16 weeks, structured sessions cover writing in different forms, observing objects, and examining characters, places and social ideas.

Through working with Mr Gee, students will be equipped with the confidence and skills to tell their own stories and publish these in a printed anthology.

## Accelerated Reader

Reading is so vital for our students' academic development and their wellbeing. We are a reading school and encourage students to read every day for at least fifteen minutes. In doing so, students will develop the skills necessary to flourish in all their subjects at WHTC.

In order to support our students, we have invested in an exemplary software package that will identify students reading ages and as a result ensure that any students who need further support can be identified. Families of the students who require extra support will be contacted regarding reading interventions and how to support at home. This also gives students access to an online library with more than 25000 titles! We kindly ask parents to continue to promote the value of reading at home.

## Home Learning Platforms

At Wembley High Technology we like to invest in the most up to date technology to aid our students in their academic journey. We are proud to inform you that students have three fantastic online platform that will improve their knowledge in the English, Mathematics and Science.

English are providing students with access to Digital Theatre class. This provides unlimited access to thousands of engaging resources for English and the Performing Arts. Students can use this as a revision tool to support GCSE and A-Level texts.

[Digital Theatre](#)

Sparx Maths provides personalised homework to each child with questions that are challenging yet achievable and tailored to their learning needs. It supports students aged 11-16 with personalised, challenging and attainable homework/revision. Sparx Maths is proven by The University of Cambridge to significantly boost grades by building maths confidence through personalised homework. [Sparx Maths](#)

In Year 10 and 11 Science, students will use Century to aid their revision. Century allows intelligent personalisation that improves student engagement and understanding. It combines learning science, AI and neuroscience. This is currently for Year 10 and Year 11 students, please encourage them to use as much as possible. [Century Learning](#)

Sign in to your  
Digital Theatre+

Sign in

**Sparx Maths**  
Student Login

 **CENTURY**



## WHTC Safeguarding Team

Our safeguarding team plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our students. Our team is comprised of a dedicated Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) for each year group, and a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Arthur. Our primary duty as members of the safeguarding team is to identify, assess, and mitigate potential risks that students may face within and outside the school environment.

The team collaborates with teachers, parents, and external agencies to provide support and guidance to students and their families. Any safeguarding concerns can be reported by emailing [safeguarding@whtc.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@whtc.co.uk). Please visit our school Safeguarding page where you can also find our Safeguarding Policy.



## SAFEGUARDING TEAM



**Mr Arthur**  
DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Mr Liu**  
YEAR 13  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Mr Tuen-Matthews**  
YEAR 12  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Mr O'Sullivan**  
YEAR 11  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Ms Woods**  
YEAR 10  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



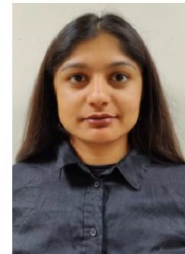
**Ms Brooker (WMAT)**  
DEPUTY  
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD



**Ms H. Patel**  
YEARS 8 & 9  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Ms Donovan**  
YEAR 7  
DEPUTY DESIGNATED  
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



**Ms D. Patel**  
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING  
OFFICER

**Report safeguarding concerns by CPOMS or via email:**  
[safeguarding@whtc.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@whtc.co.uk)

**For any urgent matters, please report in-person to a member of the safeguarding team**

## Place2Be

Place2Be provides children's mental health services in primary and secondary schools, helping young people to cope with wide-ranging and often complex social and emotional issues.

Supporting schools: Place2Be's highly skilled practitioners deliver services in schools across the UK.

School resources: They have developed resources to help schools understand, raise awareness of and support children and young people's mental health.

Parent/Carer resources: Place2Be resources can help parents and carers to support the emotional wellbeing and mental health of their children and young people.

## Smoothwall – Monitoring and Filtering

Smoothwall is the leading digital safeguarding solutions provider in UK education. Smoothwall provides the most comprehensive suite of digital safety and wellbeing solutions in the world and works practically with schools to help them address their biggest student digital wellbeing concerns. Smoothwall Monitor can identify urgent risks quickly. For example, if a student types into a browser, digital document, or social media platform anything that suggests they may be at risk, Smoothwall Monitor will see it, evaluate it and, if the risk is serious, alert the school's safeguarding team. This could be by actioned by an email or a phone call, within minutes, for the most serious risks.

## Sixth Form Update

It has been an excellent start to the Autumn term with over 40 students enrolled as a part of our Early Entry Cohort. These students receive tailored and specific intervention to maximise their chances of success in their applications to the most competitive and prestigious universities and courses in the world. This includes students who will apply to Oxbridge and to read Medicine.

Students have also had a fantastic opportunity to attend a taster day at Cambridge University where they were taken on a guided tour of Jesus College.



### Library opening times

Please be reminded that the library is open **between 8:00am and 4:00pm every day.**

Students have access to borrow a range of texts from the library to share in our endeavour to be a reading school.

## Punctuality



As we start the new half term, I would like to remind students and parents of the expectation regarding punctuality. Every student is expected to be on the school site **by 8.30am.**

The East Lane gate closes at 8.35am each day and if a student arrives after this time then they must go to the Oldborough Road gate.

A student will be logged as late and receive a sanction if they are not sat down in their form room or assembly at 8.35am.

On 6<sup>th</sup> September, students engaged in their first Cultural Friday trip to the Wellcome Collection which explores the past, present and future of human health. After half term, sixth form students will have a chance to visit the historic Clink Prison Museum on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Student leadership elections took place throughout the final week of this half term to elect Student Council representatives and Head Students through a democratic vote that took place in each Tutor Group. We are pleased to announce our Sixth form head students for 2024-2025 are Mohamed and Saanvi. The deputy head students are Arave, Pia and Siddharth.

## Attendance

Attendance thus far has been above the national average but as a school we always strive for excellence and would like to see each year group achieving at least 98% attendance next half term. It is imperative that your child is in school every day; high attendance results in high achievement. Research shows that attendance has a direct impact on academic achievement, social development and wellbeing, so please ensure that you are sending your child to school each day.

In the event of an emergency that means your child cannot attend school, please ensure that the school is informed by 9.00am. If your child is absent for more than one day, it is necessary to call the school on every day of absence. Please aim to arrange any appointments outside of school time.

Attendance %						
Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
97	96	96	96	95	97	96

## Uniform

As a school we want every child to take pride in themselves and to wear their uniform with pride, this is an integral part of our home-school agreement. You can find the home-school agreement and further information about uniform expectations in the student planner (Pages 8-15). Some key reminders:

1. Students must wear black, formal school shoes. All black trainers are not permitted.
2. Students must wear all three WHTC branded items every day; blazer, jumper and bag.
3. If wearing a coat/jacket, this should be navy or black. Coats/jackets should be formal rather than leisurewear. Any item resembling leisurewear will be confiscated.
4. If wearing a jacket, hat, scarf or gloves, students must ensure that these are plain navy or black. Branded items with logos are not permitted and will be confiscated.
5. All students should have now received a new tie – these ties are colour coded by year group and replace the old ties. Old ties which have the school logo on must not be worn. If a student breaks or loses their tie, parents must replace this.
6. The Trust will not purchase bags and blazers for students next year. With this in mind, students must take good care of these branded uniform items, if students damage or lose these items then parents are responsible for replacing them.
7. The only jewellery allowed is a wristwatch, nose stud and one plain gold or silver stud in each ear. Any other jewellery will be confiscated.

## 18<sup>th</sup> November - Assessment Week 2

Our next Assessment Week will take place on the week commencing 18th November. This will be a fantastic opportunity for all pupils to demonstrate what they have learnt so far this term.

Ahead of this, all pupils will be given specific revision resources and homework to revise by their class teacher for each subject.

Pupils also have access to a range of online learning platforms such as Seneca, GCSE Pod, Century, Sparx Maths and Uplearn (KS5) to support their revision.

Teachers will mark your child's assessments and give specific feedback in lessons on how they can improve and progress.

## November in London

There are lots of exciting things happening in London this season, so if you have a little time for culture, why not visit a museum or exhibition with the family:

### Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum in London is a museum that exhibits a vast range of specimens from various segments of natural history. It is one of three major museums on Exhibition Road in South Kensington, the others being the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. This is one of the most visited museums in the world!



### Tate Modern

Tate Modern is an art gallery in London, housing the United Kingdom's national collection of international modern and contemporary art.



### The British Museum

The British Museum is a public museum dedicated to human history, art and culture located in the Bloomsbury area of London. Its permanent collection of eight million works is the largest in the world. It documents the story of human culture from its beginnings to the present.



### Imperial War Museum

Imperial War Museums explores conflict from WW1 to the present day. This includes recreations WW1 trenches, the Blitz and many more.

