

# APHS *news*

Summer 2025



  
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## Goodbye Mr Tawana You made the difference!

L E A R N I N G   T O   M A K E   T H E   D I F F E R E N C E

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AldermanPeelHigh



@AldermanHigh

# Principal's Letter



As we reach the conclusion of another remarkable academic year at Alderman Peel High School, I find myself reflecting on the extraordinary journey we have shared together.

Our Year 7 students have successfully navigated their first year at APHS, demonstrating resilience and adaptability as they transitioned into secondary education. Meanwhile, our Year 11 students have completed their examinations with exceptional conduct, displaying the Ambition that exemplifies the values we hold dear at our school.

This summer newsletter captures the essence of what has been an extraordinarily busy and fulfilling term. The breadth of experiences and opportunities provided to our students extends far beyond the traditional classroom setting, beginning with our Easter ski trip that saw nearly 100 students and staff participating in this memorable adventure. Such experiences not only build character but also foster the strong relationships that form the cornerstone of our school community.

The diversity of activities this term has been remarkable with our residential overseas visits to France and Spain broadening horizons and enhanced cultural understanding. Particularly noteworthy is our inaugural APHS Music Tour to Germany, which represents a significant milestone in our commitment to providing exceptional opportunities in the expressive arts. As a Gold Artsmark School, this only adds to our superb offer.

We've had English debates and competitions, Maths Challenges, Science fairs and visits, Art exhibitions, History on ITV News and work experiences galore. Our sea-bound adventures have proven equally successful, with our continued partnership with the Sea Cadets as well as Excelsior Sailing Trips engaging Year 8 and 9 students in challenging and rewarding experiences on the water. The Tall Ships experience for our former Year 11 students provided a fitting conclusion to their time at APHS, offering them adventure and personal growth as they prepare for the next chapter of their educational journey.

It has been an exceptional year for STEM. Our school was named STEM school of the Year, and Mrs Moffat has received a National Award for Outstanding Industry Engagement. The cherry on the top comes as Mrs Moffat has recently been approached to become the 'D&T Association Regional Leader for D&T' and therefore APHS become the first of 16 regional hubs for D&T across the country.

The academic excellence of our students was celebrated at the Holkham Celebration of Academic Success Evening, where we recognised excellence and endeavour across the curriculum, with former student Fee Robinson giving one of the most inspiring speeches I've ever seen. This celebration was complemented by our Olympeel Games Sports Day, which showcased not only athletic prowess but also the spirit of Pride, Happiness and Success that characterise our school community.

# Principal's Letter



Mr Tawana concludes his service to APHS after 22 years of dedicated commitment, representing part of a remarkable 37-year career in education. His impact on countless students and colleagues cannot be overstated, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for his well-deserved retirement.

Change brings opportunity, and we have embraced this with the introduction of three non-teaching Heads of Year. Mrs Jagger will assume responsibility for Years 6 and 7, ensuring our youngest students receive the focused support they need during their transition. Mrs Somerton will oversee Years 8 and 9, guiding students through these crucial developmental years. Mrs Boyd-Stevenson will lead Years 10 and 11, providing essential support during the most academically demanding phase of their secondary education.

These pastoral improvements are complemented by additional strategic changes. Mrs Thompson's promotion to Attendance Officer reflects our commitment to ensuring every student maximises their educational opportunities through consistent attendance. Mrs Sperry's shift to Safeguarding Manager demonstrates our unwavering dedication to student welfare and protection.

While we bid a sad farewell to Mr Wilding as he embarks on a new teaching position, we celebrate the exciting appointments within our PE and Expressive Arts faculty. Miss Beech assumes the role of Head of Faculty for PE and Expressive Arts, bringing fresh perspectives and leadership to these vital areas of our curriculum. Miss Steward's appointment as Lead Teacher of PE ensures continuity of excellence in physical education, while Mr Warden's permanent contract provides stability and consistency for our students.

As this academic year draws to a close, I extend my sincere gratitude to all staff members whose hard work, passion, and energy have made this year's successes possible. Their dedication to our students and commitment to educational excellence continues to elevate APHS as the institution we are all so proud of.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and safe summer break. School will reopen to welcome our new Year 7 and Year 11 students on Wednesday 3rd September, with all other year groups joining them on Thursday 4th September. We look forward to beginning another chapter in the continuing story of Alderman Peel High School after a well-earned break.

Matt Hardman  
Principal



## Readathon

Students from years 7 - 10 completed the Readathon, a sponsored read that raises money to fund books for children who are in hospital.

A massive £500 was raised by the students, testament to their hard work, love of reading and our whole community's generous attitude to supporting worthy causes.

Pictured are the Year 7 students who, using Track My Read, recorded the most reading during the Readathon.

The two students who tracked the most reading also received a £5 book voucher from Readathon.

Finally, the school has received a £100 Scholastic book voucher following our Readathon success, a much needed boost for our book provision in school.

## National Storytelling Week

Four of our students became published authors after their stories were chosen to be a part of a national publication. Each student received their own copy of the book and the school also received a copy. Well done to Lexie P, Archie R, Lola B and Mckenzie P!

## Wells Festival of Literature and Landscape

Students in KS3 have been working on their poems for the annual local Schools Poetry Competition. This year's theme is 'Life by the Sea' and we are looking forward to reading the students' entries!

## Scholastic Book Fair at APHS.

On the 9th and 10th July our school Learning Resource Centre was buzzing with excitement during the Scholastic Book Fair.

It was wonderful to see so many students eagerly browsing through the wide selection of books on sale, discovering new stories and genres.

Thanks to the enthusiastic participation of our students, we sold books worth almost £350! This fantastic achievement not only brought joy to many young readers but also enabled the school to earn free books for our Learning Resource Centre. These new additions will enrich our library, providing even more opportunities for students to explore and enjoy reading. It was fantastic to witness the students' genuine love for reading throughout the event. The book fair was a great success, reminding us all of the power books and the importance of reading for pleasure.





## SCHOOLS' POETRY COMPETITION!



Judged by  
Sir Alan  
Hollinghurst

### “LIFE BY THE SEA”

- ▶ Write a poem of between 7 and 30 lines
- ▶ Prizes in each three categories - key stages 2, 3, & 4-5
- ▶ School teachers to collect and submit entries by 15 September 2025
- ▶ For further inspiration and ideas please visit our poetry competition pages at
- ▶ [www.literatureandlandscape.org/schools-poetry-2025](http://www.literatureandlandscape.org/schools-poetry-2025)

#### IDEAS TO THINK ABOUT ...

- How does the sea move and change?
- What is the North Sea like to approach, dive into, travel over? What can you hear, smell, taste, feel?
- How do people connect with and depend on the sea for a living or fun?
- Which creatures live under, in or around the waves and what stories could they tell?
- What might the sea know?

For competition rules, for last year's winning poems and for further information about our schools' programme in October please see the schools' pages of our website:

[www.literatureandlandscape.org](http://www.literatureandlandscape.org)

## End of Year Highlights – History Department Round-Up

As the academic year draws to a close, we're proud to reflect on a dynamic and engaging year of historical exploration and creativity across all year groups. Students have truly brought the past to life through a range of enriching experiences and hands-on projects that have deepened their understanding of history in unforgettable ways.

Year 10 enjoyed a fascinating visit to the Castle Museum in Norwich, where they stepped back through time to encounter medieval monks, Renaissance plague doctors, Victorian surgeons, and even a modern-day GP, seeing first-hand how medical practice has evolved through the ages. This immersive experience complemented their unit of study perfectly.

Year 8 were captivated by a live performance of the Terrible Tudors at the Norwich Theatre Royal, where history was delivered with humour, drama, and a few (terrible) surprises – a memorable way to learn about the Tudor era!

Our talented Year 9 students impressed us with their creativity and research in two exciting projects. Their World War I trench models showcased incredible attention to detail, while their World War II rationing cooking lessons gave them a taste – quite literally – of life on the Home Front.

Year 7 demonstrated brilliant craftsmanship and historical understanding through their Norman castle models, building impressive fortresses that reflected the architecture and defensive features of the time.

This year has been a celebration of historical inquiry, imagination, and engagement. We thank our students for their enthusiasm and our parents for their continued support. Here's to more historical adventures next year!

## He made the difference

### Goodbye Mr Tawana

Mr Tawana, you taught me how to be confident in myself – and that's something I'll never forget.

When I first came to this school, you were the one who welcomed me and showed me around. You made it feel like home from day one.

And I know I'm not the only one – you've done this for so many students.

You weren't just a teacher, you were a role model, and a real leader here.

After more than 20 years, your impact on this school is unforgettable.

I wish you a peaceful retirement, full of happiness, good health, and amazing travels.

Thank you for everything. We'll miss you so much.  
Kyrylo N Y9





## SEND News

This academic year commenced with Shane Brett becoming our new Senco. The roles and responsibilities within the department have greatly increased along with the number of students requiring additional support within school.

We have still managed to provide extra curricular activities for our students to put the skills they have learnt into real life situations. These have included shopping trips to Norwich, work experience in our local Coastal hub, visit to Royal Norfolk Show and sporting activities.

Our allotment is rapidly becoming a wildlife haven with newts, frogs and fish residing in the pond and an occasional sighting from our friendly hedgehog. Students enjoy spending time gardening, pond dipping and chilling in this area.

Our major success this year was organised by Mrs Yarham and involved the majority of students in the combined Tutor groups completing a sponsored beach clean to raise funds for the East Anglia children's hospices (EACH) who support some of students past and present. A staggering £1030 was raised! A huge thank you to everyone who donated to such an important charity.





# Work Experience

## WHY IS WORK EXPERIENCE IMPORTANT FOR OUR YEAR 10 STUDENTS AT ALDERMAN PEEL HIGH SCHOOL?

Work experience is an opportunity for young people to experience working life while they are still in school. It provides your child a chance to practice vital employability skills that will stand them in good stead for any working professional life. These include;

- Work with adults as part of a team
- Practice their skills and develop new skills
- Learn the importance of transferable skills
- Gain confidence in their abilities
- Apply their school-work to the workplace
- Think more clearly about their future working life

It was great to see our Year 10 students return back to school after their week of Work Experience. The school has been inundated with positive praise for our amazing students and below is one example of this praise:

### Year 10 Work Experience Feedback from a local employer for Olivia M

Hi Olivia,  
Now that your work experience with us has come to an end, I wanted to take a moment to share some proper feedback — especially on your fantastic presentation yesterday.

First of all, thank you. You've been an absolute pleasure to have in the office this week — curious, thoughtful, personable, and full of positive energy. You came in with a clear interest in politics and leadership, and you've absolutely made the most of every opportunity to learn and contribute.

Your presentation on leadership styles was one of the highlights of the week for all of us. The way you structured it — clear explanations, interactive questions, real-world examples — showed a real ability to communicate complex ideas in a way that's both engaging and understandable. You not only demonstrated a strong grasp of the theory, but you also brought in humour, warmth, and a self-awareness that many adults would struggle to achieve in a professional setting.

You handled team questions with real poise and honesty. I particularly appreciated the way you reflected on your own natural leadership tendencies — your comfort with transformational and charismatic styles, and your thoughtful take on why servant leadership might feel more of a stretch for you. That kind of reflection takes courage and maturity, and it shows you're already well on your way to becoming an authentic leader who understands themselves and others.

Your closing reflections — especially your vision for how the Student Leadership Team can act as a bridge between pupils and staff — were inspiring. You spoke with empathy and clarity about how you want to support other students, and it was evident you care deeply about your school community. That mindset will make a real difference to the people around you.

Beyond the presentation, you brought a consistently positive attitude to everything you took part in, from learning about casework to chatting with team members and asking brilliant questions. You showed professionalism, a great sense of humour, and a real enthusiasm for public service.

From our whole team: thank you for your time, your energy, and your insight this week. You've made a real impression, and I hope you're proud of what you've achieved.

I have no doubt you've got an incredibly bright future ahead — whether in politics, leadership, or wherever your path takes you. Please do stay in touch — and keep believing in your potential.

Best wishes,

Tom

**Tom Garrod**  
Office Manager  
Office of Steff Aquarone MP  
Member of Parliament for North Norfolk

# Easter Rewards Week

During the last week of the Spring term, we introduced a Rewards week to lead up to our normal end of term whole school rewards assembly. On Monday we celebrated Y7 success, Tuesday Y8, Wednesday Y9, Thursday Y10 finishing off with Y11's on Friday.

Students were rewarded across all subjects for endeavour and excellence, received postcards, certificates, prizes, and of course badges! At the end of the assembly students were then asked to check under their chair, if they found an egg, they received a handful of sweets, but if they found the carrot, they got a whole bag of goodies!

Year 11's final reward was for any student who had an average Attitude to Learning score of 1.0 and above were surprised with a free lunch, an ice pop and an Easter Egg hunt on the school field, where 100's of eggs were hidden. They loved it!

Mrs Hardman, Assistant Principal







# THE APHS CELEBRATION OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS 2025

EVERYONE  
DESERVES  
A  
CHANCE  
TO FLY

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE,  
ACHIEVEMENT, COMMITMENT  
& ENDEAVOUR IN SCHOOL

GUEST OF HONOUR  
**Fee Robinson**

FORMER STUDENT OF ALDERMAN PEEL HIGH SCHOOL

HOLKHAM

WENSUM TRUST

# With special thanks to:

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ETS Lighting & Sound  
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I do photography  
School Merit Stickers  
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The Crown Hotel, The Flying Kiwi Inns

## Our Prize Sponsors

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**WENSUM TRUST**





# Celebration of Academic Success Evening 2025

WOW what a night!!! Academic Awards evening 2025 was the best yet! Our Head Boy and Head Girl speeches were incredible, you can see a copy of what Ava and Alex said in this newsletter. Jemima's dance was sensational, Iryna's piano performance was perfection and of course Ted and Bryce's singing was sublime. Well done to all the winners.

It is a privilege to be part of such an incredible team of staff and students. This night really is the highlight of my year. Thank you.

Mrs Hardman, Assistant Principal





# Celebration of Academic Success Evening 2025





# Celebration of Academic Success Evening 2025

## WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

Holkham Estate, for their generosity in giving us this beautiful venue to host our awards.  
Niamh Walter, Weddings and Events Manager Holkham.

Mrs Mel Jagger, Receptionist, Mrs Kim Gibson, Receptionist, Miss Danni Steward, Teacher of PE, Mr Charlie Warden, Teacher of PE, Miss Chloe Beech, Head of Expressive Arts, Mrs Kelly Cawston, PA to the Principal, Mr Ben Arrowsmith, Teacher of Travel & Tourism, Health & Social Care and RS, Mr Joe Wilding, Director of Learning PE & Arts, Miss Lucie Cowell, Teacher of English & Drama, Mrs Justine Tuck, Finance Officer, Miss Nina Raisbury, Cover Manager for all their organisational support.

The School musicians and performers for helping make this evening extra special.

APHS House Band:

Conductor/Keyboard 1 - Mr Howell, Keyboard 2 - Mr Preston, Guitar 1 - Mr Lott, Guitar 2 - Max Maplethorpe (Student), Drum Kit - Mr Lascelles

Mr Marco Barison, Teacher of Food Technology, and the students who have prepared and served the canapés and refreshments.

Mrs Light, Teacher of Art, Daisy Balderstone, Technician for the beautiful Art displays.  
APHS Site Team; Mr Tom Sutton, Mr Barry Shaw and honouree member (for the day)

Mr Matt Hardman, Principal

James Wayland, Saint Designs - Legend

A special thanks to APHS Alumni students for supporting the event.

All the teachers and support staff at APHS.

Our School Governors for their continued support.

We couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you

Mrs Kirsty Hardman,  
Assistant Principal and Organiser of the  
Celebration of Academic Success Evening



# Student Leadership



Ava H  
Head Girl



Alex P  
Head Boy



Olivia M  
Deputy Head Girl



Ted L  
Deputy Head Boy



Polina K  
Senior Prefect



Archie W  
Senior Prefect



Evie D  
Senior Prefect



Harry B  
Senior Prefect



Lily N  
Senior Prefect



Evie M  
Prefect



Iryna P  
Prefect



Daisy W  
Prefect



Taya-Star E  
Prefect



Oliver B  
Prefect

Congratulations to our New Student Leadership Team 2025

And Luke Bould, Senior Prefect, who was in Spain on work experience when these photos were taken.

These students were successful following a rigorous selection process including; a video application, staff speed interview rounds, student voice, interview panel and presentation. Mrs Hardman & Miss Beech



## Alex Pattison Head Boy Opening Speech

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, I am Alex Pattison and I am overjoyed to be able to call myself head boy for the coming academic year. Some of you younger ones may be looking up at me and wondering how I made it to this position, and the simple answer is: the school gave me the opportunity to fly.

Back in year seven, I knew a handful of people and came from a small primary school with fourteen students in my year 6 class. Needless to say, it was quite a change coming to APHS. However, I threw myself into school life, filled lunchtimes and after schools with a variety of clubs and in the process learnt a multitude of different skills. I had never properly acted before - the most I had done was play Captain Hook in the primary school play of Peter Pan - yet I applied myself in lessons, joined drama club, and picked up a love for drama in the process, which has resulted in me winning the Excellence Award here at Holkham in years seven and eight, being only the third person ever to be awarded the PE and performance badge at the end of year seven, not mention the youngest, and finally I have recently taken my Grade 6 exam in Acting, and I am working towards my Grade 6 piano.

In year eight, I was lucky enough to go on the Excelsior trip, an incredible experience where me and a group of fellow students sailed the Excelsior - a hundred year old fishing boat - to Belgium and back over the course of a week. This is very possibly one of the most incredible experiences of my life, and has made me want to do more with my sailing, which is why I am currently training to become an assistant instructor at my local sailing club.

APHS has shown me that working hard earns all manner of rewards, and while this obviously applies to school, I choose to implement this rule in everything I do. I have been a member of my local swimming club for about seven years now, and I really struggled when I first joined. However, I loved it, so I didn't give up. I went from not being able to complete a training session without having to get out with a stitch, to my first full training session without getting out, to my first gala, where I was disqualified in every event! But I didn't let it get me down. Eventually, I qualified to compete in the Norfolk County Championships and the year after I made East of England regionals. That is the level that I have stayed at until this year, where - as Norfolk County Champion - I swam the 200 metres Butterfly in the regional final, and earned myself the title of the 4th fastest swimmer in that event across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. And I built on that, to become one of the fastest in the country, and I've been invited to compete at the English summer nationals in a few weeks time! And it means all the more, as the Club's Junior Captain.

But it doesn't matter if you've never swum before, have never tried an instrument or aren't the most academically gifted. The staff at APHS are incredibly supportive, no matter your level, and are equally happy to help someone find a love for something as they are to help someone excel.

Thinking back to Year 7, and the post-COVID parents' evening run on Zoom, I sat with my mum and had 5 digital minutes with Mr Arrowsmith. He told me I was a triple threat, and Head Boy material. I'd looked up to Aiden Aikers - Head Boy when I was that little Year 7 - and I set myself a goal to achieve that for myself. But it was a teacher that gave me the external validation I needed to believe that - if I really applied myself, and opened myself up to every opportunity that came my way at Alderman Peel - it could be a reality.

So my message is this. Go for it! Fail, learn, and go for it again. Fall down, pick yourself up, and fly. Thank you.

# Celebration of Academic Success Evening 2025

## Ava Hearle Head Girl Opening Speech

Good evening everyone my name is Ava Hearle your appointed head girl for 2025. Today I am talking to you about my journey. The sacrifices, the tears and the smiles.

My school Journey began at Ingoldisthorpe Primary along with Alex.

Throughout my time at Ingoldisthorpe I can honestly say I struggled with the majority of my subjects. I had multiple tutors, multiple extra lessons, I can truly say to you all today I was not naturally gifted, I found learning with certain subjects difficult.

Coming to Alderman peel school was my fresh start. None of my close friends were coming with me, I decided I wanted to change.

I remember in year 7 I was in the bottom set, this absolutely crushed me, however looking back it was the best thing that could of happened to me.

I attended my first Holkham Awards in year 7 like some of you this evening. I was shocked, me getting an award for my academics. This was the moment I realised I make my changes. I can become the Ava I wanted to be.

I remember sitting down at the Holkhams and listening to the then head girls speech, that was the moment I knew I wanted to be head girl. She inspired me to change and make a difference in my life. So I hope now I can do the same and inspire you too, I hope by listening to my journey you realise that hard work and dedication does pay off, to remember that some people want it to happen. Others wish for it to happen. But you can make it happen.

Fast forward to now.

After continuously being in bottom set.

I became dedicated to improving and pushing myself to be a better me.

Now I am in top set maths and further maths, and I am head girl which I would of never dreamed of.

This shows that success is not guaranteed to the most talented or intelligent but to those who refuse to give up. Keep pushing, and you will achieve greatness.

Your time here at APHS is limited even though it doesn't seem it. My advice would be to take every opportunity given, push yourself beyond your limits and spread your wings and fly.

Thank you for listening.



# APHS Highlights 2024 - 2025

## ENGLISH

- Year 8 took a trip to Wells Maltings for a Creative Writing workshop by local author Richard Lambert in October. KS3 Students participated in the 'Voices Of The River' Poetry Competition judged by British writer Robert Macfarlane.
- Many Students entered the Norfolk Young Writers Competition, with several Year 7 Students published in the National Storytelling Anthology.
- Year 9 and 10 Debate Teams presented formally to the Leadership Team.
- KS3 Students took part in a sponsored Readathon, raising over £400 for children in hospitals.

## MATHS

- A group of Year 10 Students volunteered to help Year 7 Students in maths intervention sessions.
- KS4 Students undertook Further GCSE Maths with Mr Coe, twice a week after school in partnership with the Sir Isaac Newton Sixth Form outreach programme.
- Twelve Students from Years 7 and 8 received certificates in the United Kingdom School's Mathematical Challenge coordinated by Mr Hewson.
- The 100 Club and Pi Day Challenges, organised by Mr Whitaker, were successful events showcasing Students' mathematical skills.

## SCIENCE

- The Astronomy Club held stargazing sessions and hosted a visit from the WonderDome Planetarium.
- The annual Science Fair showcased creative projects reflecting Students' curiosity.
- Students logged over 2,500 hours on Seneca homework.
- The department celebrated the hard work and enthusiasm of Students and Teachers throughout the year.

## FRENCH

- The largest intake for Year 10 French GCSE was recorded for the third year in a row.
- Gifted and Talented KS4 linguists practised with authentic reading and listening materials.
- The MFL department completed a trip to Carcassonne and Barcelona, receiving compliments for Students' politeness and language use.
- The department registered for the Pearson Edexcel 2025 More than Words: Languages for the Future Student Event and awaited confirmation of their place.

## SPANISH

- The MFL department's trip to Carcassonne and Barcelona received praise for Students' respectful behaviour.
- Thirty Year 10 Students chose to continue Spanish GCSE studies.
- Gifted and Talented Year 9 Students tackled Grade 8 GCSE grammar material.
- Year 7 and 8 Students learned catchy songs to support vocabulary and grammar.

## HISTORY

- Year 10 visited Norwich Castle Museum for a Medicine Through Time workshop with artefact handling.
- Year 9 explored World Wars through model building, baking, and rationing recipe activities.
- Year 8 attended Norwich Theatre Royal to see Horrible Histories: Terrible Tudors and studied the Wild West with tipi model building.
- Year 7 created recycled Roman villas and castles models and studied the Black Death's impact.

# APHS Highlights 2024 - 2025

## TRAVEL & TOURISM

- Students showed hard work in Pearson Set Assignments throughout the year.
- Plans were made for the Disneyland Paris Trip in April 2026.
- Guest Sophie Barnett visited Year 10 Students to support coursework preparation.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

- GCSE Computer Science classes grew with two Year 10 groups.
- CS Club was well attended during lunchtimes and revision sessions on Mondays.
- Ms Holmes and Mr Tawana joined the Key Stage 3 teaching team. KS3 Students contributed significantly to the primary STEM robotics project, acting as ambassadors.
- Additional robotics funding enabled purchase of advanced "Buddy" robots.

## SEND

- Beckett's building fully reopened with an expanded kitchen, chill-out zones, and formal work areas creating a supportive environment.
- Tutor groups participated in a Wells beach clean fundraiser for EACH.
- The allotment thrived with increased pond life and new fruit trees planted by Holkham.
- Additional TA support was recruited following Mrs Yarham's reduction in hours- Thank you for 23 years so far!
- Year 11 Student Josh Amm, visually impaired and with cerebral palsy, was scouted by the GB Para Development Academy and trained for the 2026 Paralympics with community fundraising support.

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

- Year 8 Students visited the Tide & Time Museum for the Automata exhibition supporting their mechanisms unit.
- Year 9 Students visited the Northampton Shoe Museum and exhibited textile shoe designs at Wells Maltings for the Holocaust 80th Anniversary.
- Year 9 and 10 Students participated in the 'Operation Portaloo!' design challenge with Equinor.
- Year 10 Students completed an Enterprise Challenge raising £56 for the British Heart Foundation and visited Holkham Estate's workshops.
- Wells Men's Shedders provided live demonstrations to support Students' knowledge of timbers and textiles.

## STEM

- The STEM Kit Car Club qualified for the Greenpower International Final at Goodwood and won 'Best Team Portfolio'.
- Ten KS3 girls attended the 'Girls on Track' Enrichment Day with Motorsport UK and Lotus.
- Year 7 Students took part in a 'Big Bang STEM Day' with industry-led workshops.
- Year 8 Students competed in the RAF Marham Construction Challenge and the Faraday Challenge, with one team winning.
- Year 9 and 10 Students participated in Drone Coding Workshops by Code4Drones.

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

- Year 11 Students achieved the best ever practical exam results, with half gaining Distinction 2 grades.
- Year 9 Students showed creativity and skill in the Great Alderman Peel Cooking Competition.
- Plans were made for a vocational trip to Italy for Hospitality, Catering, Travel and Tourism, and Design Technology in 2026-27.



# APHS Highlights 2024 - 2025

## PE

- The 14th Celebration of Sport Awards Evening honoured Student commitment and excellence, with David James MBE as Guest of Honour.
- APHS Sports Leaders organised Primary Cluster competitions across multiple sports.
- The Under 14 Term 1 Rugby team qualified for the National Final at Twickenham and toured the England Rugby changing rooms.
- The Under 15 Cricket team won the State School County Cricket Championship.
- The Under 16 Boys Rugby Union team became State School County Champions.

## EXPRESSIVE ARTS - ART

- The Art Department contributed to the Wells Maltings Holocaust Memorial Exhibition with shoe designs and clay sculptures.
- Year 11 Students attended a gallery trip to Kings Lynn including workshops and artist talks.
- Erin Hudson Brown was selected for the Royal Academy Youth Summer Show online exhibition.
- Year 7 Students worked with a professional photographer for a Portrait project supported by NWNAS funding.
- Arts clubs were busy with creative projects and social opportunities across all year groups.

## EXPRESSIVE ARTS - DRAMA

- Theatre trips included Blood Brothers at Peterborough and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe at Norwich Theatre Royal.
- Year 9 and 10 Drama Students attended the Theatre RE production of Moments and participated in workshops.
- Year 9 Students saw Romeo and Juliet at the Royal Ballet and Opera in London, meeting principal dancer Ryoichi Hirano.
- Year 8 and 9 Holocaust Students performed poetry as part of the Holocaust Memorial Exhibition.
- The 'big show' was Shrek Jr! The Musical with over 200 Students performing in three shows including an inclusive matinee.

## EXPRESSIVE ARTS - MUSIC

- The Musicals by Candlelight event showcased solos and duos from Years 7 to 11 to an audience of nearly 150, raising funds for the department.
- Individual bands developed significantly, with increased Student uptake and strong commitment shown through regular rehearsals and performances.

## HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

- A successful group of students completed the Health and Social Care course. The department anticipated student grades in August.
- Guest Simone Nuccoll supported Year 11 and Year 10 students with component 2 coursework. Her contribution was greatly appreciated by students and staff.
- The course continued to prepare students well for future careers in health and social care.

# Excelsior Trip

## Sailing the spirit of Excelsior

What a week! Selected from countless applications, ten lucky students were given the opportunity to set sail aboard the Excelsior along with two amazing teachers, Mr. Tomlinson and Miss. Carter de Bois. Our adventure started with the bus journey to Lowestoft which was filled with a nervous excitement. The forecast for the week ahead was warm and sunny, with very little wind, so we were hopeful the sea would be calm and kind as we travelled to the Netherlands and back. Upon arrival at The Excelsior Trust in Lowestoft, Ex APHS student Louis, gave us an informative tour of the boat yard where we saw boats in need of some tender loving care.

Finally, the time had come to board the Excelsior and with great eagerness we explored the boat which was to be our home for the next week. We were excited to meet the members of the crew and the volunteers who would be our family. Just before setting off, we had the opportunity to board a Dutch Navy vessel and have a tour and a chat. Feeling fortunate we left Lowestoft exhilarated and began our voyage to Hellevoetsluis.

As we set sail our learning began immediately, practical skills like making fast, sweating and tailing ropes and tying various knots. We had a chance to steer the helm and log our progress hour by hour in the navigation room. In two watches we learnt to value the need for good teamwork, utilising our strengths and championing each other while celebrating our successes along the way.

The sea was kind however, a few battled sea sickness but our spirits remained high. Everyone had the same aim: to be the best crew that we could be, we even invented our own chant to keep our rope pulling coordinated. It was hard work, tiring but fun. Surrounded by the sounds of the sea, we felt exuberant. On our travels we were blessed to catch a glimpse of bioluminescent partials in the water and a radiant orange blood moon which reflected its beauty in the shimmering waters.

Our cooking skills were put to the test, as each watch was tasked with making one meal a day that would feed seventeen hungry crew members. We cooked a variety of food, from pancakes and pastas to curries and chillies. Considering all meals were prepared in a cosy galley kitchen, our culinary skills shone and the food exceeded our expectations. In addition, every morning, it was all hands-on deck as we cleaned the Excelsior vessel, the crew called this 'Happy Hour'. consisting of deck scrubbing, kitchen cleaning and the not so popular task of cleaning the heads!

Our first destination was Hellevoetsluis port in Holland, a chance to set foot on dry land albeit we were a little wobbly at first and needed to adjust our sea legs. We had the opportunity to explore the town with its charming architecture. As we headed back to port, next on the agenda was swimming and playing in the warm waters by the lighthouse. It was a great way to unwind and relax before heading back onboard refreshed and ready.





# Excelsior Trip

We left Hellevoetsluis in the early hour to ensure we would make good time as we headed to our next destination. Just six hours later we arrived in stunning Rotterdam. Our home for a whole day and night. Rotterdam was beautiful and we enjoyed exploring this vibrant town.

The food hall was also a hit and gave us all an opportunity to buy souvenirs and gifts for loved ones as well as replenish our snacks! As the day drew to an end it was bitter sweet, we were excited to be sailing again but also sad that our trip was drawing to a close as we were to embark on our homeward journey.

However, the homeward voyage did not disappoint, it was every bit as beautiful as our outward one and as it was summer solstice we relished the fact that time was on our side with a breathtaking solstice sunrise. Our spirits were higher than ever and now in the swing of crew life we were settled and living our best lives.

Land ahoy! Lowestoft was on the horizon. We had accomplished what we had set out to achieve, we had successfully sailed all the way to the Netherlands and back. Our time on board fostered great team ethics not only within our own watches but as one big crew. Taking pride in our learning, our achievements and in representing our school. Being part of the student Excelsior crew taught us so much about ourselves, how we rise to personal challenges, and have ambition to overcome our fears. It allowed us to utilise our strengths while giving us the chance to recognise where we can develop and grow.

To conclude, our time on Excelsior was filled with special moments. The kind generosity of our sponsors has given us this unforgettable experience of self-discovery and valuable skills which we will take with us as we navigate our future journeys. It's been a voyage of lifetime and one we feel extremely privileged to have had. Heartfelt thanks to all who made this possible.

Erin H-B 9W



Excelsior was a once in a lifetime experience which has really benefited me as a person. From a personal perspective I feel I have grown in confidence and in just a week I have learnt so much about the maritime industry and sailing.

When I started the trip I knew nothing about sailing, but now I feel I have gained important knowledge which I'm sure will come in handy in later life. Excelsior has encouraged to try new things and with guidance from all of the crew on the boat we took part in many jobs like hoisting the sails, navigating and helming, using a tiller to keep the boat on its course.

It has also encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone, for instance we all took turns cooking for everyone in our watch groups, and cleaning the boat by scrubbing the deck. This was truly an experience I will never forget.

Jake J Y9

# Year 11 Prom

'Mr David Hunter, Co-Head of Science at Alderman Peel High School and a passionate car enthusiast, recently helped create an unforgettable prom experience for a group of students. After overhearing a conversation in which one student mentioned that a local car owner was charging £400 for a lift to prom, Mr Hunter felt compelled to act.

Drawing on his connections within the car community, Mr Hunter reached out to a group in which he is a member 'Norfolk Performance Cars'. In an incredible show of generosity, several members volunteered their time — and their stunning cars — to offer free rides for students in need.

Thanks to their kindness, ten lucky students enjoyed the trip of a lifetime, heading in a convoy from the school, arriving at their prom at Fakenham Racecourse in true VIP style. The gesture made a huge impact, allowing these students to celebrate their special evening in a way they will never forget.

The school and the students extend their heartfelt thanks to the car owners who gave up their time and covered their own fuel costs to make this happen. Their kindness and community spirit have left lasting memories — and the sight of such impressive cars will be talked about for years to come'





# Computer Science

## Key stage 3 Computer Science Ambassadors and Primary Pupils Shine at APHS Robotics Competition

On Monday 23rd June, the Gym at Alderman Peel High School was buzzing with excitement, innovation, and the noise made by Lego Spike robots and excited children as primary school students from across the area gathered for a thrilling robotics competition. The event is collaboration between, Alderman Peel High School, our Computer Science Ambassadors and local primary school teachers and students.

Over the past year, our key stage 3 Computer Science Ambassadors have been working and developing their expertise in Lego Spike robotics. This has been mirrored in many of our local primary, where lead by their teachers (with some help from our ambassadors) students have been busy building robots and learning code. Skills that are vital for their future and the future of industry in Norfolk.

The competition was a celebration of all that hard work they put in over the last year and a showcase of the students' creativity and problem-solving abilities.

The competition featured three distinct challenges, each designed to test different aspects of the students' robotic creations:

### **Line Following Challenge:**

Robots had to follow a marked line around a circuit. Precision and speed were key, with the fastest robot taking the win.

### **Maze Navigation:**

This challenge required robots to autonomously navigate a maze. With out going out of the maze. A test of precision and programming.

### **Moon Mission:**

Perhaps the most challenging event, this challenge saw robots use colour sensors and, in some cases, sensors to detect and then avoid obstacles locate and travel to a printed mat representing the moon. Throughout the day, our Computer Science Ambassadors were on hand to support the primary students, offering guidance, encouragement, and the occasional troubleshooting tip. Their presence not only helped the event run smoothly but also reinforced the spirit of collaboration and learning that has defined this project from the start.





# Computer Science

Congratulations to all the participants, and a huge thank you to our Computer Science Ambassadors for their mentorship and enthusiasm. The future of robotics—and teamwork—looks bright!

Our Stem robotics work with primary schools continues, we have successfully achieved further funding and this will allow the opening up the opportunity to participate to more North Norfolk Primaries next year (If any staff from local primaries, reading this want to get involved please contact Mr Corby at APHS).

This competition was also the first outing of our two new “Buddy” robots called Marvin and Holly. Buddy is designed to support education, inclusion, and emotional development in schools. Students can interact with Buddy, learn a range of activities with buddy and learn to program. Buddy offers a much more advanced robot experience than Lego spike and so much more.

It will mainly be used to develop students coding and STEM schools. Next year both Marvin and Holly (our two Buddy robots) will be going into primary schools that are working with us on this exciting STEM project. Watch this space!





# Computer Science

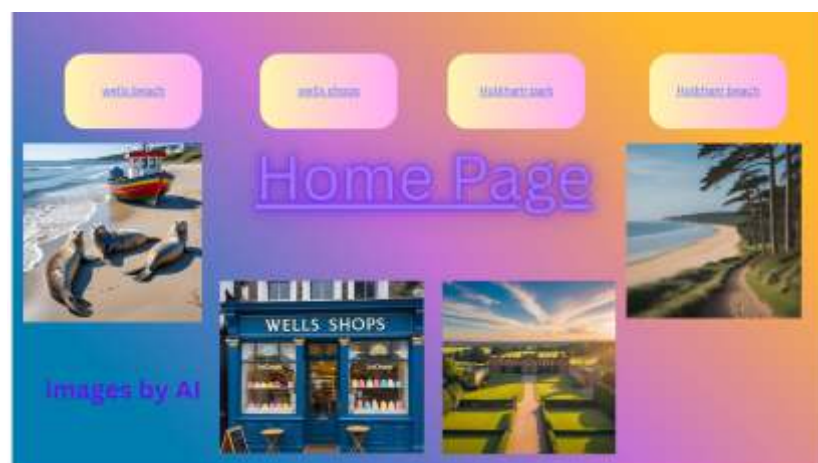
## Computer Science GCSE

Year 10 have now completed their first year of computer science and now have one more year to go before their final examinations in the subject. It might seem early to mention it but in a subject like Computer Science, where the grade is made up from exams only. Good revision over a long period of time is vital for success. To help with this we have a set of three revision guides available on Scopay for £7.50.

As we go into year 11, we will start to focus more on algorithm design and coding (paper2 topics). All students have access to Python on Pieces online and this is an excellent way to start and develop those coding skills. Working on Python in Pieces will be your summer holiday task and it is a good and fun activity for those rainy days, when you are stuck indoors (reminder if you get stuck, you can always move on to the next task).

## Key stage 3

Some absolutely amazing work has been done by year 8 to produce websites about tourist attractions around North and Northwest Norfolk. The quality and professionalism of the websites is superb.



# Expressive Arts - Drama

## The RSC Norfolk School's project

APHS dancers taking part in a collaborative performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream at Norwich Playhouse on the 8th of July





# Expressive Arts - Drama

## The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe

Y7 to Y9 green drama badge holders went to see the magical The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe at Norwich Theatre Royal on the 11th of July. An amazingly creative staging of this classic had everyone in awe!



## Year 9 Arts Award performances



# Expressive Arts - Music

## APHS Music Lessons for 2025-2026

We are delighted that 106 APHS students have received music lessons this year through our outstanding Peripatetic Music Team. Congratulations to all students for their hard work, effort, and musical attainment throughout the academic year.

For students wishing to continue or start their musical journey at APHS from September 2025, please kindly complete the application using the link or QR code below.

Important: All students – including those currently receiving music lessons – must complete this form for the new academic year.

A huge thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support of your child's musical learning throughout 2024-2025.

Best wishes,  
Mr Lott and Mr Howell

## Music Lesson Applications

Congratulations to the following students on their recent music exam achievements:

- Leo D – Grade 2, Piano, Rockschoool – Merit
- Riley W – Grade 3, Piano, Rockschoool – Merit
- Iryna O – Grade 8, Classical Piano, Rockschoool – Distinction
- Melody B – Grade 4, Piano, ABRSM – Results pending
- Mimi H – Grade 2, Piano, ABRSM – Merit

Well done to all students for their commitment, preparation, and musical growth!

# Start your musical journey at Alderman Peel High School

**Want to learn how to sing  
or play an instrument?**

To express an interest or to  
make an enquiry, please scan  
the QR code or contact:

Mr Benjamin Howell  
email: [bhowell5hrp@nsix.org.uk](mailto:bhowell5hrp@nsix.org.uk)





## YOUNG PIANIST OF THE MONTH

**IRYNA O**

**EPTA PIANO TEACHER STUDENT**

Congratulations to one of our John Bigg Bursary recipients, Iryna O. Iryna recently achieved a distinction in her Grade 8 piano exam. Well done!

The John Bigg Scholarship Fund is awarded to pupils of EPTA UK members who show true commitment to the piano as their first and preferred instrument. The fund helps recipients who may be having difficulty in paying for their piano lessons.

**JUNE 2025**



# Expressive Arts - Music

## Performances

### 8th June – Garden Party for Baroness Rawlins

Thank you to Max, Isabella, and Iryna for providing beautiful background music for this special Garden Party event in aid of Homes for Wells.

### 25th June – Royal Norfolk Show

A fantastic showcase of our talented pianists, singers, guitarists, and choir members who performed at the Royal Norfolk Show.

Well done to all participating students.



### 29th June – EPTA UK CPD Webinar

A live performance by Iryna (Year 10) was featured as part of a CPD webinar for piano teachers, exclusively for EPTA UK members.

Thank you to Iryna for representing APHS with such musical maturity and professionalism.

## APHS Music Tour - 21st to 24th July

Preparations are underway for our inaugural APHS Music Tour, which will take place in the Rhine region, Germany. Students will be performing in a range of exciting venues and enjoying musical and cultural experiences throughout the week.

The APHS Music Tour Booklet is now available both:

- In hard copy (sent home with students)
- Digitally via the QR code below

### Important Travel Information:

- Student drop-off at APHS: Sunday 20th July, from 11:30am and no later than 11:45am, as we prepare to load the coach.
- Luggage reminder: Students are permitted to bring one cabin-sized bag only, as we must ensure enough room for all musical equipment.

Thank you in advance for your support in helping make this a safe, memorable, and inspiring musical experience for all involved.





# Expressive Arts - Music



| Performer/s...              | Year Group | Discipline | Musical Song                                        |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Aaliyah Rose M           | 7          | Vocal      | <i>I Can Hear the Bells</i> from Hairspray          |
| 2. Melody B                 | 8          | Piano      | <i>Voyage of the Sampan</i> from Miss Saigon        |
| 3. Lexi Peters              | 7          | Vocal      | <i>A Heart of Stone</i> from Six                    |
| 4. Zofia R                  | 7          | Vocal      | <i>Tomorrow</i> from Annie                          |
| 5. Makayla M, Harry B & Ray | 10         | Vocal      | <i>Say My Name</i> from Beetlejuice                 |
| 6. Jemima S                 | 9          | Vocal      | <i>On My Own</i> from Les Misérables                |
| 7. Eloise O                 | 9          | Piano      | <i>Always with Me</i> from Spirited Away            |
| 8. Izzy D, Sylvie O, Max M  | 9          | Band       | <i>Mamma Mia</i> from Mamma Mia                     |
| 9. Felicia S                | 7          | Vocal      | <i>A Million Dreams</i> from The Greatest Showman   |
| 10. Charlotte M             | 8          | Vocal      | <i>No Way</i> from Six the Musical                  |
| 11. Sylvie O                | 9          | Vocal      | <i>Burn</i> from Hamilton!                          |
| 12. Felicia S / Lexie P     | 7          | Vocal      | <i>Whole New World</i> from Aladdin                 |
| 13. Eliza WB and Scarlett F | 9          | Dance      | <i>Nowadays</i> from Chicago                        |
| 14. Archie W                | 10         | Piano      | <i>Don't Stop me Now!</i> From We Will Rock You     |
| 15. Ted L                   | 10         | Vocal      | <i>Music of the Night</i> from Phantom of the Opera |

## Short Intermission

| Performer/s             | Year Group | Discipline | Musical Song                                              |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. APHS Ballet Group    | Mixed      | Dance      | Swan Lake                                                 |
| 2. Erin HB              | 9          | Vocal      | <i>Castle on a Cloud</i> from Les Misérables              |
| 3. Rosie SW             | 8          | Vocal      | <i>How does a Moment last Forever</i> from Beauty and the |
| 4. Maddy R              | 11         | Vocal      | <i>I Dreamed a Dream</i> from Les Misérables              |
| 5. Holly H              | 11         | Piano      | <i>The Night we Met</i> from Hometown                     |
| 6. Olivia M             | 10         | Vocal      | <i>I'm not that Girl</i> from Wicked                      |
| 7. Max M                | 9          | Guitar     | <i>The Bug Collector</i> by Hailey Heynderickx            |
| 8. Lily R               | 11         | Vocal      | <i>She Used to be Mine</i> from Waitress                  |
| 9. Mollie S and Holly H | 11         | Piano      | <i>A Whole New World</i> from Aladdin                     |
| 10. Alma P              | 7          | Clarinet   | <i>City of Stars</i> from La La Land                      |
| 11. Bryce W             | 7          | Vocal      | <i>Electricity</i> from Billy Elliott                     |
| 12. Alex P              | 10         | Piano      | <i>Evening on the River Nile</i> from the King and I      |
| 13. Ted L and Finley M  | 10         | Vocal      | <i>That Guy</i> from Blood Brothers                       |
| 14. Iryna O             | 10         | Piano      | <i>Memory</i> from Cats                                   |
| 15. Grace T and Maddy R | 10         | Vocal      | <i>Defying Gravity</i> from Wicked                        |
| 16. Choir               | Mixed      | Vocal      | Les Misérables medley                                     |

# Expressive Arts - Art

## Art Funds Donation from NWNAS

A huge thank you to the North West Norfolk Arts Society for sponsoring our talented art students with some high quality, new art equipment ! There was much excitement as we unpacked the new watercolour sets, brushes and drawing materials and put them into practise . (Mrs Light )





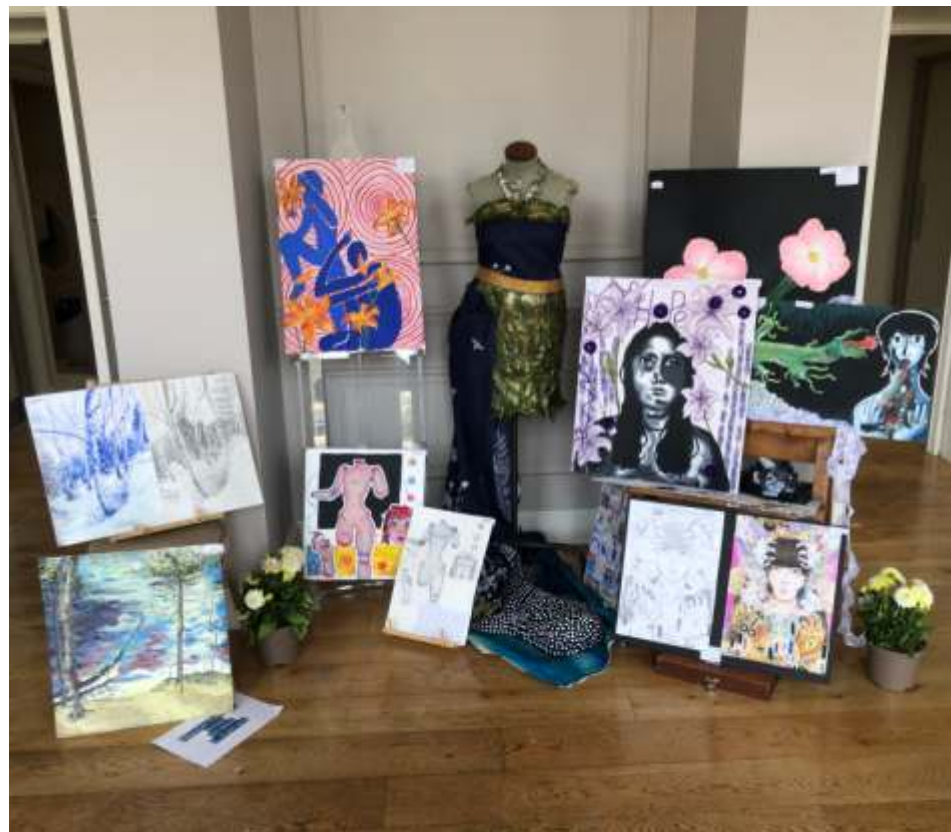
# Expressive Arts - Art

Congratulations to our exhibiting Year 11 GCSE Art students! Holkham Hall became the backdrop for our talented Year 11 to celebrate their creative success in GCSE Art and Design . We were very lucky to have our own reception at Holkham Hall, prior to the Academic Awards. Year 11 and their families came to celebrate their achievements . Many will go on to study A level or equivalent in Art and Design next year. We wish them so much luck and happiness at 6 th form .





# Expressive Arts - Art

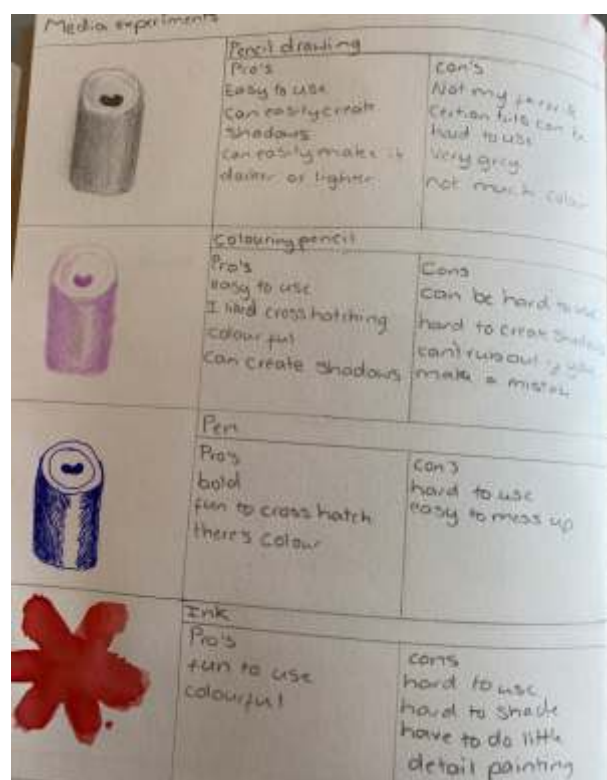




# Expressive Arts - Art

## Year 9 Arts Award

Our super talented year 9 students have been making art and researching artists are part of the Arts Award, Bronze. They have also been working with a real GCSE Art and Design exam paper. The topic was 'Edible', they created mindmaps on the topic, research artists who were also exploring the same topic. Together we learnt about the American painter Wayne Thiebaud and improved our painting skills. We are very impressed by all their artwork.

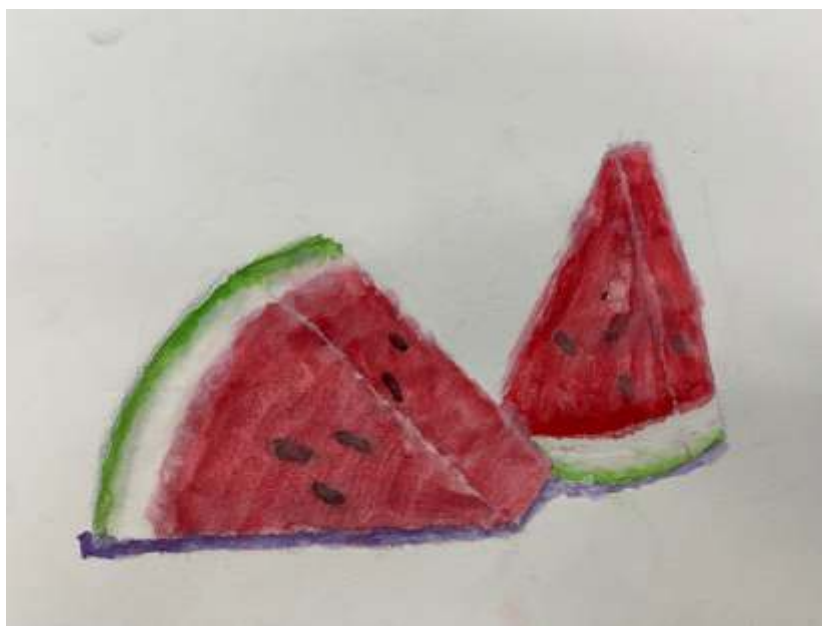


# Expressive Arts - Art





# Expressive Arts - Art





# Expressive Arts - Art

## Royal Academy of Art Exhibition Student Artist Accepted

We are so pleased that our talented Erin HB was accepted on the Royal Academy of Art Young Artists competition online exhibition. There are roughly 20,000 student entries every year so well done to Erin for her success. We had lots of entries from the school with so many talented students. The Royal Academy online exhibition goes live on the 15th July 2025 so please click on this link to sharing in Erin's success. [Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy](#)



## VE Day Flag Designs

All our artists in years 7, 8 and 9 create their own personal flags to remember VE day for the 80th anniversary celebrations on the 8th May. They applied their understanding of design, radiating lines, motifs and symbols to represent their remembrance of the sacrifice so many people made.

Many students created sophisticated designs using a limited palette, just a few colours. The flags were then displayed around the school for the in-school celebrations.





# Design & Technology / STEM

## Year 7 Timber 'Block Bots'

This term, Year 7 students have been learning about timbers and how to safely use a range of hand and machine tools to manufacture wooden 'Block Bots'. Working to close tolerances, they practiced measuring and marking out accurately using an orthographic technical drawing as their guide. Here are some fantastic photos of the students in action - plus some brilliant examples of their timber homework!

