

ARNEWOOD

WORKING TOGETHER - SHAPING TOMORROW

NEWS
AUTUMN
2023



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As I write this introduction to the Christmas newsletter, another season of mock examinations draws to a close. The last few weeks have seen Year 11 and Year 13 students enjoy (if that is the right word) a mix of emotions as they face a trial run of the examinations that they will face in the summer. It strikes me how lucky we are to have a role in nurturing young people from Year 7 all the way through to Year 13. Newsletters like this one provide a reminder of all the different phases of that journey; from school trips to wonderful opportunities like taking part in the 'Our House' production.

At the end of term, we say goodbye to a few

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



members of staff who embark on the next phase of their journey. Ms Briscoe joined us in September 2022 and in her short time here has shown what a bright future she has ahead of her. She has been an ever-present member of the performing arts team on the various trips that have been arranged, and a

wonderful support to Ms Watson in leading the choreography for both 'Annie' and 'Our House' productions. Her kind nature coupled with high expectations have led to success in the classroom, both as a teacher and a tutor. I know she will be missed. Our loss is Poole High's gain, and we wish her the very best for her future.

Mr Stonhill joined us in September 2011, left in 2015 and then returned to us in September 2022. He has led the development of our Early Career Teachers brilliantly and is often praised for the support that he offers. He has started Arnewood's Youth Theatre which recently completed a successful tour of local primary schools and boasts a regular turnout of 20 or more pupils. Mr Stonhill will also be missed for his calm presence in supporting extracurricular activities and his skills in teaching the A-Level devising pieces.

I would like to thank Mrs Dyer and Mrs Hough who have stepped in admirably and helped us to cover absent colleagues. I hope that they will be part of Team Arnewood again in the future.

A special mention in this newsletter must go to Joey Dewhirst who played the Last Post and Reveille so beautifully during our Remembrance parade. This represents the final time that Joey will perform this duty and I would like to thank him for doing such a sterling job over the years.

Have a wonderful break and I look forward to the community coming together again in the New Year.

Best wishes

Mr Anderson

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COMING UP

THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY

BACK TO SCHOOL

4TH - 12TH JANUARY

EXTERNAL BTEC EXAMS

8TH - 12TH JANUARY

Y12 FORMAL EXAMS

WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY

**STUDENT COUNCIL
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY

**Y11 GEOGRAPHY URBAN
FIELDTRIP**

THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY

Y11 PROGRESS EVENING

FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY

**ARNEWOOD SIXTH
APPLICATION DEADLINE**

TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY

Y12 & 13-14 LIFESKILLS

TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY

Y13 PROGRESS EVENING

THURSDAY 18TH JANUARY

PARENT FORUM

FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY

PRODUCTION SET BUILD

MONDAY 22ND JANUARY

PRODUCTION REHERSALS

TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY

PRODUCTION REHERSALS

TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY

Y7 ART GALLERY TRIP

WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY

**OUR HOUSE PRODUCTION
OPENING NIGHT**

THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY

OUR HOUSE PRODUCTION

FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER

OUR HOUSE PRODUCTION

31ST JANUARY - 8TH FEBRUARY

Y10 FORMAL EXAMS

THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

**Y12 LIFELAB SOTON
HOSPITAL**

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

Y9 PHSE WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

**STUDENT COUNCIL
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

DRAMA WORKSHOP

THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

**Y8 PROGRESS
EVENING**

THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

**GCSE SCIENCE LIVE
OXFORD**

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

Y10 PSHE WORKSHOP

12TH - 16TH FEBRUARY

HALF TERM

TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Y8 SHREK THE

MUSICAL TRIP

THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Y8 OPTIONS EVENING

TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

Y12 PROGRESS EVENING

WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

**STUDENT COUNCIL
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

GCSE POETRY LIVE

28TH FEBRUARY - 6TH MARCH

Y9 FORMAL EXAMS



On Thursday 16th November a group of year 9 textile students got to walk in the footsteps of Harry Potter and explore the wonders of the Wizarding World on a school trip to Warner Bros, Harry Potter Studios in London. It turned out to be a great time of year to visit as the studio tour is currently dressed for the festive season in a blanket of filmmaking snow. Students learned how a never melting snow was created by set decorators for the film series using three various materials each serving a different purpose onscreen.

Teachers described this trip as close to perfect as a school trip gets, "there was no traffic, no one was sick on the coach, students were immaculately behaved all day and the workshop was incredible."

The studio tour allows visitors to step onto the iconic sets like the Great Hall and Diagon Alley, see spellbinding props and costumes up close and in intricate detail and discover how special effects bring magical creatures to life and allow witches and wizards to fly. Students were given complementary Activity Passports including a Golden Snitch hunt, puzzles, and trivia to enhance the tour.

As well as the studio tour students took part in a costume distressing workshop. The Warner Bros cross-curricular education programme is structured to meet learning objectives from the national curriculum and exam board specifications. It was easy to be inspired by the extraordinary artistry, technology and talent that went into creating the Harry Potter film series. Students learned how costumes are created and broken down, they were treated to an exclusive viewing of a hand painted



ARNEWOOD GOES TO HOGWARTS

Voldemort costume that is insured for more than £30, 000.

After the workshop students got to try their luck at broomstick flying with the green screen broomstick experience with hilarious consequences.





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CAREERS FAIR



This year's careers fair saw over 50 vendors fill the school hall and gym to meet students from all year groups over 5 sessions throughout the day.

On Thursday 9th November students had the opportunity to meet a large variety of employers, recruiters, universities, colleges, and course providers to learn what the organisations do, what careers are on offer and which training programmes they can apply for. Years 7 and 8 were invited to attend with their parents and carers.

In the week leading up to the fair tutors took students through a pre-event booklet so they were aware of who would be exhibiting and could plan questions for those that they found to be of particular interest. As well as giving employers and tertiary education representatives a chance to talk to students about what they offer the event encourage students to develop important networking skills.

Head of Arnewood Sixth, Mr Colman said "The careers fair is an integral aspect of an individual's learning journey, and we really encourage students to fully participate in gaining as much from the experience as possible. Mrs Bishop-Maddock did a tremendous job in the organisation this year and we have a full house of vendors. Students appeared to have a great time engaging with the stall holders as the chat, freebies and treats were flowing."



Students and staff at the Gryphon Trust's two schools in New Milton held their annual Remembrance ceremonies on Friday 10th November. At Eaglewood School, Acting Headteacher Mr Paul Barrett led a special assembly to mark the event, encouraging students to remember the brave men and women

with a number of students wearing their cadet uniforms. Mr Jamie Anderson, Headteacher, spoke of the need for us to remember that war remains very real for men, women and children around the world, with refugees from the ongoing conflict in Ukraine coming to our community with students

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

who have fought for the country. Eaglewood School was delighted to welcome Bill Anderson Ward President of the Lymington branch of the Royal British Legion to take part in the assembly and to speak to a class of students about his experiences serving in the Scots Guards. A special wreath was laid at the school's new monument to the fallen whilst a poem was read by a student before a two minutes' silence was held.

Arnewood School held their annual remembrance ceremony together on the school's AstroTurf

also encouraged to think about the current conflict erupting in Israel and Gaza.

Mr Barrett said, "we are proud that both of our schools are committed to commemorating this important national event every year. Our students are very respectful and Remembrance Day is a key part of teaching about British values such as respect, tolerance and democracy. This year we also had students from both schools performing the Last Post which also added to the poignancy of the day,"



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ARNEWOOD SIXTH

ICE ICE BABY

At the end of term sixth form went ice-skating for their rewards day out. The outing looked incredibly festive and although the temperature might have been chilly the smiles were heart warming.

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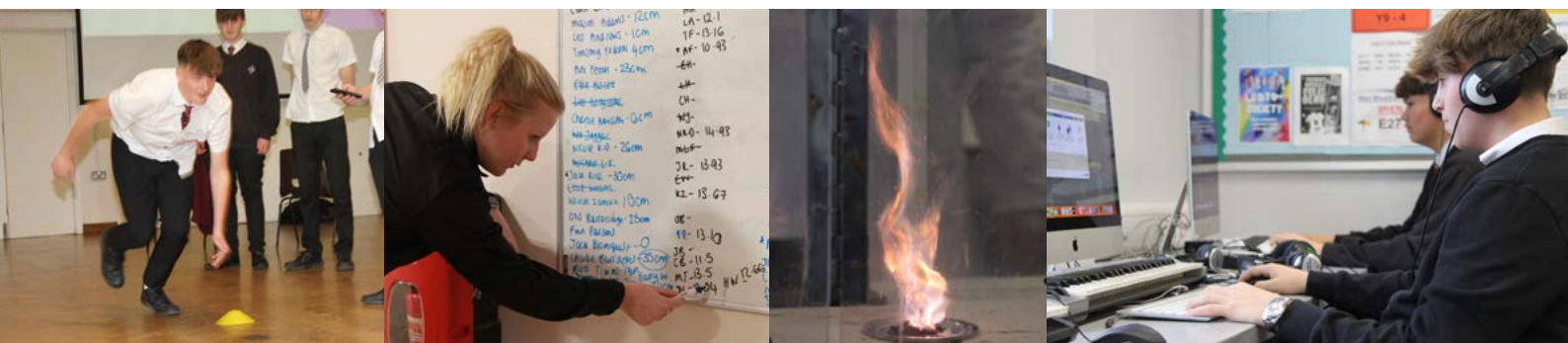
On Wednesday 29th November Year 11 students had the opportunity to experience life at Arnewood Sixth for the day. Kicking off with doughnuts in the common rooms students then had the chance to try out a variety of A-level subjects ahead of starting sixth form next academic year.

Taster day is a great way to explore the various options that interest you and develop a career planning attitude. Among some great lessons happening that day was composing in music, experiments in chemistry and an epic fitness challenge in PE.

Arnewood Sixth Student, Elliot Lowe has kindly written an account of what to expect from the first few weeks of sixth form.



TASTER DAY



It is the end of my first term at Arnewood Sixth and it has been a great experience. On one of the first few days in sixth form, we had a tutor competition, each tutor group had to take six different staged photos in specific parts of the school grounds and then the photos were judged. The competition was a great icebreaker, we all found it hilarious, running around trying to take the pictures as quickly as possible.

A few weeks into term, we had an activities day where we went paddle boarding and kayaking. I finally stood

up on the paddle board, but it was only for a few seconds because I was so scared of falling off.

Another highlight was the day we learnt first aid. I learnt how to bandage a wound, how to deal with someone in anaphylactic shock and how to stop someone from choking. We also had the chance to experience the "Grid for Good Program" which explained what the national grid was, focused our efforts on how to work in a team and taught us how to respond to interview questions.

Initially the workload seemed a lot, but I am gradually getting used to it. I chose essay-based subjects and at first, I was overwhelmed by the workload. After asking my teachers for help they guided me to better balance my schoolwork and my free time at home. Overall, I have found my first term challenging at times, who doesn't love overcoming challenges, but also super rewarding with all the fun activities.

By Elliot Lowe

SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to the students who have recently been added to the Sports Hall of Fame for their outstanding achievements in the respective sporting arenas.



Nicole Kingston Davies
Southern Region for Great Britain
Taekwondo



Elliot Bennet Hampshire West
District Cricket



Ollie Peck England Rugby Player
Development Pathway



NETBALL CLUB

Netball club has been brilliant this term with the girls showing plenty of commitment to practice through all weathers. They have had rain, sunshine and rainbows and have managed



to remain festive despite the chilly weather this past week! Thank you to Miss Vincent for always being so inspiring.

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YOUTH THEATRE

Arnewood Youth Theatre took to the road on Thursday 7th December and performed a special piece they have been working on for Ashley Junior School, Tiptoe Primary School, Bransgore Primary School and The Arnewood School.

The Arnewood Youth Theatre is comprised of 23 students that range across all year groups and attend an after-school club run by Drama teacher Mr Stonhill on Wednesday afternoons.

The 20-minute performance is the result of the students' ideas and collaborations over these sessions. The drama piece explores the theme of storytelling as a universal and moralistic paradigm. Storytelling is as ancient as humankind. Children often get their first true sense of their surrounding world through traditional stories as they subtly teach the importance of respecting different attitudes, cultures and religions among many other things which was important to the students in the youth theatre.

At least three different stories overlap and intertwine in the performance to emphasize

the link between storytelling and real life, from the traditional tale of Hansel and Gretel to representing a family at the local beach. The various scenes touch on issues of humanism, refugees, resource depletion and a post-apocalyptic world.





NEW FOREST BASICS BANK NON UNIFORM DAY

On Friday 15th December the Student Council with the help of Miss Tristram organised a non-uniform day in aid of The New Forest Basics Bank. Donations of all the basic items that are needed by the charity as well as some more special seasonal treats were brought into school by students and families the week leading up to the 15th. Miss Tristram said, "We are completely blown away with the response this year and the sheer generosity of the community at this time of year. I don't think any of us have ever seen a car so full!"

Thank you to all our students for their generous donations and a huge well done to the Student Council for organising this great event.



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At the end of term, our year 7s and 8s participated in a combined Christmas Assembly at St Mary Magdalene Church, New Milton. Students joined together to read prayers, recite a Christmas poem, and sing carols in celebration of the season. Year 7 student, Leo Tao impressed and delighted with an incredible piano recital and Miss Briscoe bid us Merry Christmas and farewell with a special rendition of 'Santa Baby'.

WISHING YOU ALL A
MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MERRY ARNEWOOD CHRISTMAS



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On Friday 17th November, the Finance Department pulled out all the stops and baked up a storm to raise funds for Children in Need. Miss King and Mrs Quibell baked approximately 400 delicious cakes, tray bakes and goodies between them with a few other members of staff contributing some homemade goodies to the cause. The cakes sold out to staff and students over break time raising over £150 and putting smiles on the faces of all their happy customers.



CAKE SALE

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Ms Hitchens' textiles club embraced the spirit of the season this term as they tried their hand at making Christmas tree decorations. Students have spent their Wednesday lunch breaks hand-sewing mini fabric Christmas trees. The trees are then stuffed and decorated with haberdashery. This fun project has produced some festively charming results.

TEXTILES CLUB



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SILK PAINTING

Year 10 GCSE Textiles students have been doing silk painting and have made some incredibly beautiful creations in the last week of term.



On Thursday 9th November our Year 7s participated in an inter-tutor cross county competition. The course proved extremely challenging but students impressed teachers with their steely determination despite a tough course and adverse conditions. 07MSL took home the most points in the cross county event.

On Wednesday 29th November our Year 7s participated in the 2nd inter-tutor event of the term. Students elected to play either Basketball in the sports hall or Football on the Astro to represent their tutor group. The competition took place in the first two periods of the day and all the teams were mixed gender and included both A and B teams.



YEAR 7 WINTER INTER-TUTOR COMPETITION

In each match, points were awarded for player of the match, for the number of goals or baskets scored in the match and for the outcome of the match. Participants got to work on their teambuilding skills and had a ton of fun while doing so.

07MSL dominated in the football competition and 07AGR came out tops in the basketball. It was Miss Samuels own 07MSL who reigned supreme at the end of all three disciplines with a total of 15 points. Well done to all of our year 7s for demonstrating great effort, commitment and integrity.



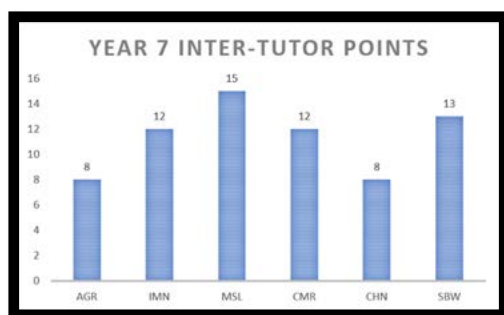
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Year 07 Inter-tutor competitions

		Events			
Position	Points	X-Country	Football	Basketball	
1	6 points	MSL	MSL	AGR	
2	5 points	SBW	IMN	IMN	
3	4 points	CMR	CHN	SBW	
4	3 points	CHN	SBW	MSL	
5	2 points	IMN	CMR	CMR	
6	1 points	AGR	AGR	CHN	



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GOING FOR GOLD **YEAR 7 AWARDS**

Two students from Miss Gardiner's tutor group, 07AGR were the first of their year group to achieve a Gold Certificate for Ads points this year. A huge well done to Meya and Liz for the dedication and consistency that you have demonstrated already, please keep up the excellent work and attitudes!

Mr Peter Windebank, a longstanding member of the Arnewood School Facilities Team and The Gryphon Trust has retired today after 33 years and 3 months of unwavering service to the school and local community. The school site has gone through some drastic changes on over 3 decades all of them witnessed by Mr Windebank. In this time, Peter has seen many students, staff and even headteachers pass through the school, including all of his own children.



The Arnewood School's deputy head, Craig Price said"

Over the years,

Peter has been proven himself to be an invaluable member of staff with an incredible depth of knowledge about the site. He has always prided himself on trying to make the environment of the school as pleasant as possible for the students; and has worked long hours in all weathers to achieve this."

Headteacher, Mr Jamie Anderson said "The Gryphon Trust and both Arnewood and Eaglewood schools are poorer for the retirement of Mr Windebank. He has been a much-loved member of our school community. I am sure everyone would join me in wishing him every happiness in his well-deserved retirement."

As he hangs up his litter picker for the last time, he will be sorely missed by staff and students alike.

33 YEARS & 3 MONTHS **OF STERLING SERVICE**



THE PHOENIX GROUP

The Phoenix Group is an initiative that provides opportunities to boost positive experiences in and outside of school. Students have been developing skills while participating in forest walks, cooking classes and fishing expeditions. There have been some record-breaking Carp caught, and some amazing mince pies made! A big thank you to Mr Smailes and Mrs Watson who have led this initiative.

THE PHOENIX GROUP PROJECT by Mr Smailes

The Phoenix Group have responded amazingly to our project and have impressed us with their skills. Our group are particularly at their best when 'Learning Outside of the Classroom.'

We have seen students develop patience and respect when fishing at Orchard Lakes. I'm proud of the way care and attention was given when handling fish.

There was a real sense of teamwork emerging when planting the hedges at our community garden at Fawcetts Field and the group have thoroughly enjoyed being out 'n about in our Forest nature walks. We have been fortunate enough to see a herd of Fallow deer (including the White Buck) and New Forest pigs roaming free.

We have also seen the group absorbed in their cooking and baking lessons which culminated in the group sitting down together to a really tasty Spaghetti Bolognese! This was an amazing shared experience!

Our students have made a fantastic start to the project and we have received such positive feedback from staff, students and parents.

We look forward to picking up where we left off in the New Year!

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YEAR 10 BOWLING

Mr Vibert organised a rewards trip for Year 10 on Wednesday 13th December. Nearly 100 Year 10s went bowling and for dinner as a treat.



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YEAR 10 FOOTBALL

For the first time we have entered two teams into the new forest league. This resulted in Year 10 getting involved in 9 different fixtures. There were some excellent games played by both teams. Particular highlights for each team were the A team beat Testwood 3-2, and the B team took part in a 4-4 draw with New Forest Acadamy.



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YEAR 11 NEWS

from Head of Year 11
Paul Emecz

MOCK EXAMINATIONS

The Year 11 Mock Examinations are drawing to a close with a 2-day Art Exam. This follows a week after the 2-day 3D Design Exam, which directly followed two weeks of intensive examinations. Marks are been given out to students as and when they are ready, but a mock examination certificate will be produced for every student, and teachers are busy preparing reports for parents. These will be sent out after Christmas, and you will be able to discuss your child's performance with their teachers at the Year 11 Progress Evening on 11th January.

POST-EXAM ANALYSIS

In tutor time, Year 11s have been given a post-exam analysis sheet. They are using this to record their grades, the topics and skills they need to work on, TIPS from teachers and their own SMART targets.

They have also completed a post-exam survey, giving feedback to teachers to ensure we support them in the best way possible.

Name: _____

Year 11 Post-Mock Analysis

Subject	Target	Mock grade	What I did in revision that worked	Topics/skills that I need to improve	TIPS from teachers	SMART targets	Review (March 2024)
Maths							
English Language							
English Literature							
Biology							
Chemistry							
Physics							
A:							
B:							
C:							
D:							

YouTube, practice papers, Firefly, revision clocks, Spark, mind-maps, summaries, blurts, flash cards, post-its, Carousel, highlighting, revision guides, colour-coding, active recall, Seneca, Bitesize etc.

- Ask to get your exam paper back
- Find out where you lost marks
- Write down specific topic areas
- Note particular types of question e.g. "Evaluation questions" "Essay-style answers" "Knowledge/recall of information"

- Some teachers will write TIPS onto your exam paper – note these here
- If you haven't been given specific TIPS, ask your teachers

Specific
Measurable
Achievable
Relevant
Timed

Come back to this in March and make a note of any successes you have had in acting on TIPS and SMART targets.

SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY

The taster day was a huge success, with students signing up to a range of lessons over 8 sessions. Each session was 30 minutes long, allowing students to sample VI Form learning in unfamiliar subjects like Psychology, Business Studies and Law, as well as finding out how their current option subjects differ post 16. Feedback from students and teachers was positive.

Students found the lessons engaging and varied, with some confirming the subjects they loved while others were impressed with new options available at A level. Teachers commented on the positive engagement of students, noting that they rose to the occasion and came across as informed, confident and enthusiastic.

YEAR 11 AT THE CAREERS FAIR

Year 11 students made an enthusiastic entrance to the Careers Fair last month. While some were keen to acquire as many free pens, sweets and tote-bags as they could get their hands on, the majority focussed on the specific opportunities they were interested in and had meaningful conversations with a range of post-16 providers and employers.

There was something for every type of learner, and it was a good opportunity for Year 11s to find out more about the range of

opportunities available after GCSEs. There were 14 different apprenticeship providers and employers including the NHS, Hampshire Fire and Police, NFDC, the New Forest National Park, the Army, the Navy and a host of local businesses.

Every student was given a booklet which included activities intended to help them reflect on their experiences whether they're a 'thinker', 'active', 'creative' or whatever. There's also the 'Wheel of Industry' with a dozen different sectors, each with a number of job areas.

I overheard some searching conversations, with students quizzing our guests on entry requirements, career development prospects, starting salaries and perks. There were also questions about plan Bs, and other options open to those who didn't make the grade. It was a good opportunity for networking, and lots of students found out information that isn't available on the internet, which they can use when they log back on to Unifrog to find out more.

YELLOW DOOR

Miss Gain, Head of PSHE, invited Yellow Door to run sessions with groups of Year 11 students. Yellow Door engage with children and young people on issues around relationships. They use creative and interactive sessions to get young people thinking about consent, bullying, self-esteem, peer-pressure and exploitation, and ultimately aim to prevent the incidents and impacts of domestic and sexual abuse. I was very impressed with the mature attitude shown by all students, who attended in tutor groups. Each session lasted an hour, but the time flew by. Students responded thoughtfully to the activities and questions, and were focussed and inquisitive throughout. Feedback was very positive, with students overwhelmingly recommending future sessions for next year's Year 11.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hopefully Year 11s have had a well deserved rest and a chance to recharge their batteries. We're going to hit the ground running in January, returning to revision sessions Tuesday-Friday with students "leaving school early" at 3pm on Mondays. As well as a 6-period day for most students, teachers will be setting homework on Sparx, Seneca and Carousel, and there will be plenty of opportunities to attempt practice questions, past papers and 'walking-talking mocks'. More about that next year...

Paul Emecz
Head of Year 11