

SELLY PARK

GIRLS' SCHOOL

SPRING 2022
NEWSLETTER

SPRING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

Selly Park Girls' School

Platinum Award Safeguarding

**Selly Park Girls' School have been awarded
Platinum award for Safeguarding in March 2022**

Incyte International



**Excellence in Safeguarding
Award**

World Book Day 2022

This year's World Book Day on 3rd March marked 25 years, with the message for all children and young people of 'you are a reader.' Staff and students dressed up as their favourite book character. There was a fantastic creative turnout and the most imaginative three costumes also won prizes for their effort! We celebrated the day in many other different ways including:

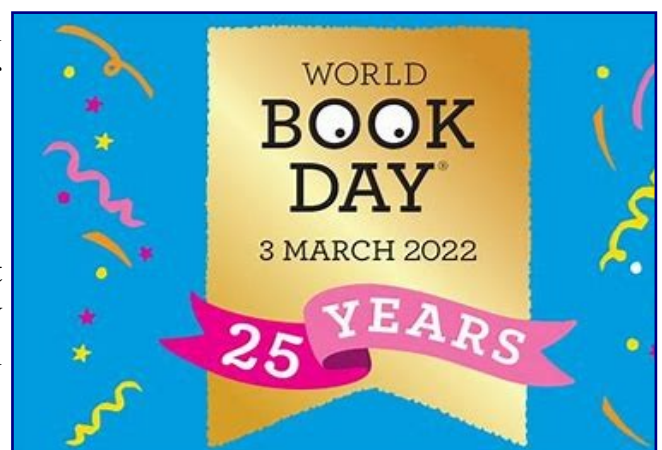
Drop Everything and Read in every lesson sharing a 10 minute story extract.

All students were given a £1 World Book Day token to spend on a free book.

Our Read for Good Readathon launched encouraging students to get sponsored to read and raise money for our school library and books for hospitals.

Well done to everyone who took part in events!

Please keep encouraging reading for pleasure at home. It goes a long way to supporting not only academic achievement, but also wellbeing and social benefits such as increased empathy.



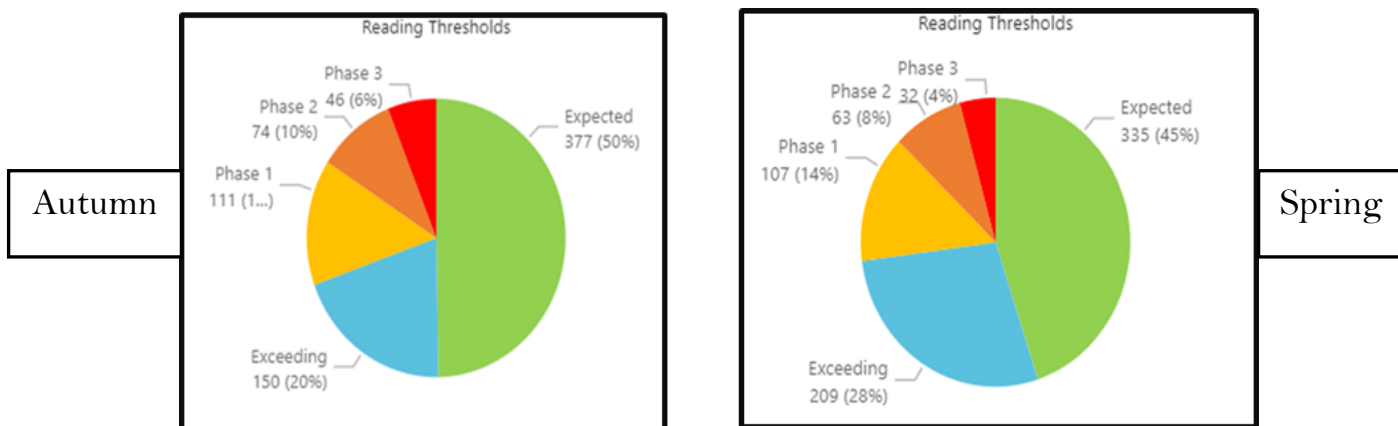
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Reading at Selly Park

This year Selly Park has invested in an exciting reading strategy for your daughters. We all know how important reading is with helping pupils to achieve their potential. Put simply, pupils that read well tend to do much better in their studies.

So far, your daughters have had 2 reading tests and the results of these tests show that the average reading age for pupils has gone up in every year group. There will be one more reading test in the summer term.



In addition, many of the pupils are really enjoying the challenge and activities from our on-line reading and intervention platform called Bedrock Learning.

Many of the girls are spending several hours a week using this to help their reading and we are rewarding their efforts on a regular basis. We have displays around the school celebrating their achievements and some of the girls have been rewarded by winning amazon vouchers in the National Bedrock competitions.

This term, we have also been concentrating on reinvigorating the library and making it a welcoming space for the pupils to visit at break and lunch.

This has meant investment in a television so pupils are able to watch current affairs and news. We have new furnishings so the girls can sit and read comfortably. We have decorated the space to make it feel welcoming and to advertise reading and reading competitions and activities to the pupils. New books are arriving on a regular basis and it is fantastic to see the pupils becoming so enthusiastic about reading for pleasure. The library has become quite a hub of activity. We also now have some very hard-working student librarians.



Reading at Selly Park (continued...)

Next term, the reading garden will be back open so the pupils can sit and relax with their favourite books in the sun (hopefully!) We will also have some exciting rewards for the pupils in our brand-new book vending machines!



World Maths Day

World Maths Day was celebrated on Wednesday 23rd of March. During their maths lessons, pupils in KS3 participated in World Maths Day, hosted on the Mathletics platform. This was a global mathematics challenge focused on using Live Mathletics. Students took part in 60-second races that test the speed and accuracy of their mathematics fluency skills. They competed against students across the globe in a worldwide celebration of mathematics. They earned 1 point for each correct answer and this went towards their World Maths Day score. Prizes will be awarded for top performing students and schools.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the World Maths Day celebrations.

A huge well done to the following pupils who were the top three in their year group.

Year 7

Nadheerah – Score: 144

Faiza - Score: 137

Fiza - Score- 133

Year 8

Nagarathna - Score: 203

Malika - Score:177

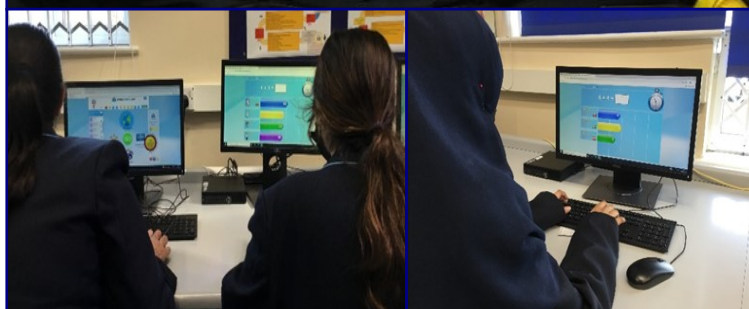
Laiba -Score:176

Year 9

Cleo - Score:138

Aaminah - Score:135

Samia - Score:127





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NSPCC Number Day



NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty To Children) number day was celebrated on Tuesday 29th March.

Everything the NSPCC does protects children today and prevents abuse tomorrow. The NSPCC needs our support more than ever. By raising money, we can

help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

During NSPCC day, a variety of activities took place. A presentation was shared during form time to explain what NSPCC Number day is and why we celebrate it. Pupils completed an online safety quiz during form time, to raise the awareness of staying safe online.

Pupils participated in a competition to “guess the number of sweets” in a jar. Furthermore, many pupils completed a number hunt around school.

Pupils were encouraged to donate to the charity and donations were collected during form time.

During maths lessons, pupils participated in fun games such as ‘Who wants to be a mathematician?’ and some mathematical puzzles. This day was enjoyed by all.

Intermediate Maths Challenge

On Thursday 3rd February, some year 10 pupils participated in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

The Intermediate Mathematical Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice Challenge. It encourages **mathematical reasoning, precision of thought**, and **fluency** in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**

The problems on the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge are **designed to make students think**. They are **accessible**, yet still challenge those with more experience.

Well done to all the pupils who participated in this challenge. Congratulations to the following pupils who achieved silver and bronze certificates.

Silver/ Best in school

Mireb

Bronze

Aiman, Alana , Alisha , Aribah, Myra, Courtney, Gawaher, Hafsa, Sarah, Mariam, Zahra



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Pi Day

When is Pi day?

March 14th or 3/14 is celebrated as Pi Day because 3.14 are the first digits of pi. Math-lovers around the world love celebrating this infinitely long, never-ending number.

The first Pi Day was held in 1988 in San Francisco to draw greater attention to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Since then, Pi Day has been celebrated by millions of students and math-lovers each year.

What is Pi?

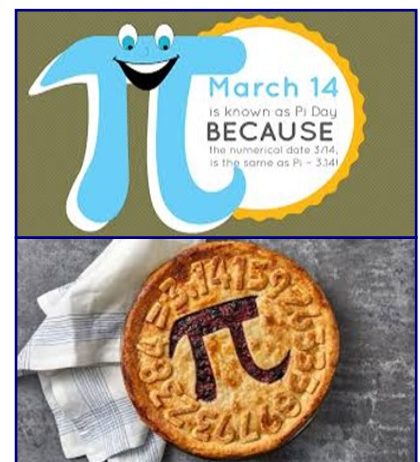
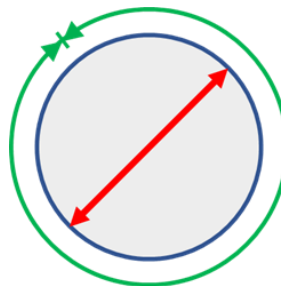
Take any circle.

Measure the circumference.

Measure the diameter.

Divide the circumference by the diameter.

The answer is always π .



How is Pi day celebrated?

Pi day is celebrated in some of the following ways:

- Baking/Eating pies.
- Eating round inspired food such as pizza.
- Get physical with pi – Walk, run, jog or cycle 3.14 miles (5.05 km), which is just a tiny bit longer than 5Km.
- Reciting the digits of pi from memory.
- Playing pi games- There are plenty of traditional games that are appropriate on Pi Day, like a piñata, a pie-eating contest, or a pie-in-the-face fundraiser.
- Words beginning with Pi- Writing down as many words as you can think of beginning with Pi e.g. piercing, pictorial and so on.
- Watching a math inspired movie.

At Selly Park Girls' School, pupils celebrated Pi Day by participating in a competition to see how many digits of Pi they could recite from memory. They recited these to their Maths teacher.

Well done to the following pupils for memorising some digits of Pi:

Selena Ansari 15 digits

Halima Bibi 17 digits

Manel Dahmani 18 digits

Hawa Hussain 45 digits

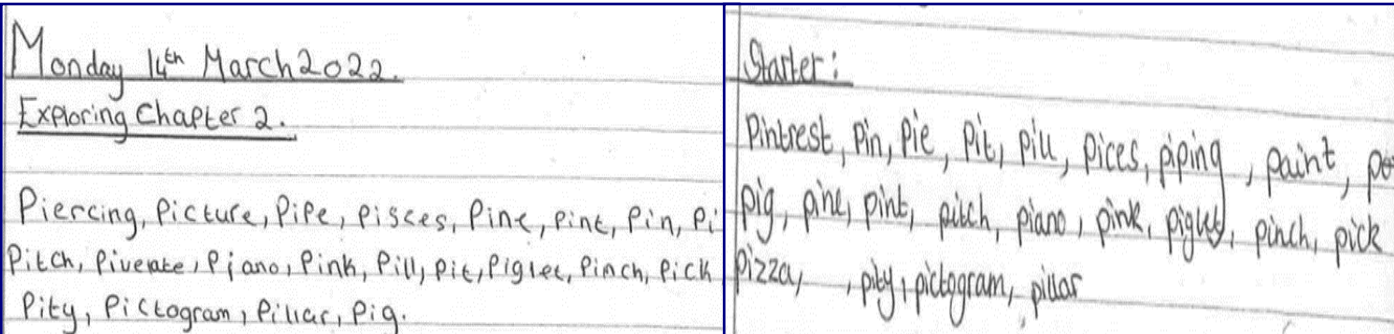


Pi Day (continued...)

During their food technology lesson, Year 7 pupils baked some scrumptious vegetarian pies.



Following our Pi day celebration, the maths team teamed up with the English department who asked pupils to write as many words as they could beginning with "Pi". The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this activity.



- 1 Pie ✓
- 2 Pipe ✓
- 3 Pick ✓
- 4 Picked ✓
- 5 Pinned ✓
- 6 Pin ✓
- 7 Pineapple ✓
- 8 Pinecone ✓
- 9 Pink ✓
- 10 Pill ✓
- 11 Pile ✓
- 12 Picture ✓
- 13 Pickle ✓
- 14 Pig ✓
- 15 Ping ✓
- 16 Picking ✓
- 17 Pins ✓

To continue the celebration of Pi day further, pupils recited the digits of Pi from memory.

An example of a puzzle is below, feel free to have a go!

Hard: Complete the grid so each row and column has the digits 31415 (Pi)?

1				1
		4		
	3		1	
				5
1			4	3

Pi Day Baking

Well done to Mr Beadle and Mrs Bi for making some amazing pies over the weekend.
Mr Beadle's vegan pie is mouth-watering and
Mrs Bi's cherry pie would be great with some ice cream!



Elevate Education News

On the 11th March 2021, Year 10 had their second session

Time Management

This session included:

- Developing routines to balance study and lifestyle
- Working smart by completing high value work
- Utilising study groups to leverage time
- Techniques for overcoming procrastination





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Elevate Education News (continued...)

Pupil comments

10/10 I learned a lot of tips that will help me when it comes to exams- Yamila
It was a good programme and she explained in detail making it fun-Aliya
10/10 It was very helpful and lots of energy made it even better- Amaani
It was great as it was very helpful 10/10- Laiba
10/10 Because she gave good advice and I will do this when I get home-Mufedah
Good it was upbeat which made me listen to what the presenter was saying- Rachael
I really liked it, very interactive and fun-Saia
I think it was very useful about how to manage time and also find time-very good!
I loved having a young presenter because of the ability to relate-Maryam

On the 17th March 2021, Year 11 had their third session

Memory Mnemonics

This session included:

How to overcome reliance upon rote learning

The role of attention in memory and managing distractions

Semantic learning techniques for higher level memorisation

Pupil comments

I learned different techniques to remember my notes-Amyma
It was very good and beneficial-Hannah
I learned different ways to revise and tactics to use in the exams-Susie-Jo
10/10 excellent, really useful-Ammara
I would rate it 10/10-Umaymah
Great and motivational-Sabha
Amazing, 10/10, very interactive-Amani



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History Department News

We have been really pleased with the hard work, resilience and efforts displayed by our student this term.

Year 11 are just finishing their studies of Elizabethan England. They have been looking at topics like Elizabethan Exploration and the Spanish Armada. They have also been studying the lives of the rich and poor in Elizabethan England including the role of the Elizabethan theatre. They are about to start their final topic which is a site study of Burghley Alms Houses. In addition, they have completed their final mock examination and it was pleasing to see so many students gain good results. Intervention classes are still available for students every two weeks and they also have still have free access to all their History textbooks through using an online platform called Kerboodle.

Year 10 have continued to embrace their GCSE History course and have produced some excellent work so far. They are just about to complete their study of Germany 1890-1945. Their final topics have included Nazi propaganda and Terror, the Holocaust and resistance to the Nazis. We are hoping to get a relative of a Holocaust survivor to visit them in the summer term to Year, to give the pupils an even deeper understanding of this subject. Year 10 have also completed their first Mock exams. There were some very good grades but for those that did not perform as they should have, there is now the opportunity to put that right. When year 11 leave, year 10 will have access to intervention classes and they should use the summer term and the holidays to ensure they really know their year 9 and 10 work ready for year 11. Next term, we are having a real change in topics and will be studying Britain, Health and the people. We are looking forward to teaching this again as it has not been taught since 2020 because of the pandemic!



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History Department News (continued...)

Year 9 have displayed commendable effort this year and have completed work on the failure of the League of Nations. Currently, they are just finishing the Causes of the Second World War and will have their final assessment in this topic soon. We will be moving on to a completely new topic after this- Germany 1890-1945. We are delighted to see so many students have chosen to take History next year- currently the numbers are well over 100 students!



Year 8 are just completing their work on the role of Women. They have had an assessment on improvements in women's rights in the Victorian period and are now just finishing with how and why women won the vote in 1918. Finally, year 7 have been studying the Norman Conquest and its significance. This was followed up with more Medieval topics such as the origins of Parliament and the Black Death. Some of the year 7 classes are now looking at the reign of the Tudors.

An Inspector Calls Performance

K.2.2 Productions came into school on 3rd March to deliver a fabulous performance of the play 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B Priestley for our Year 10 pupils. This is one of the set texts they have studied so far, as part of their English Literature GCSE curriculum.

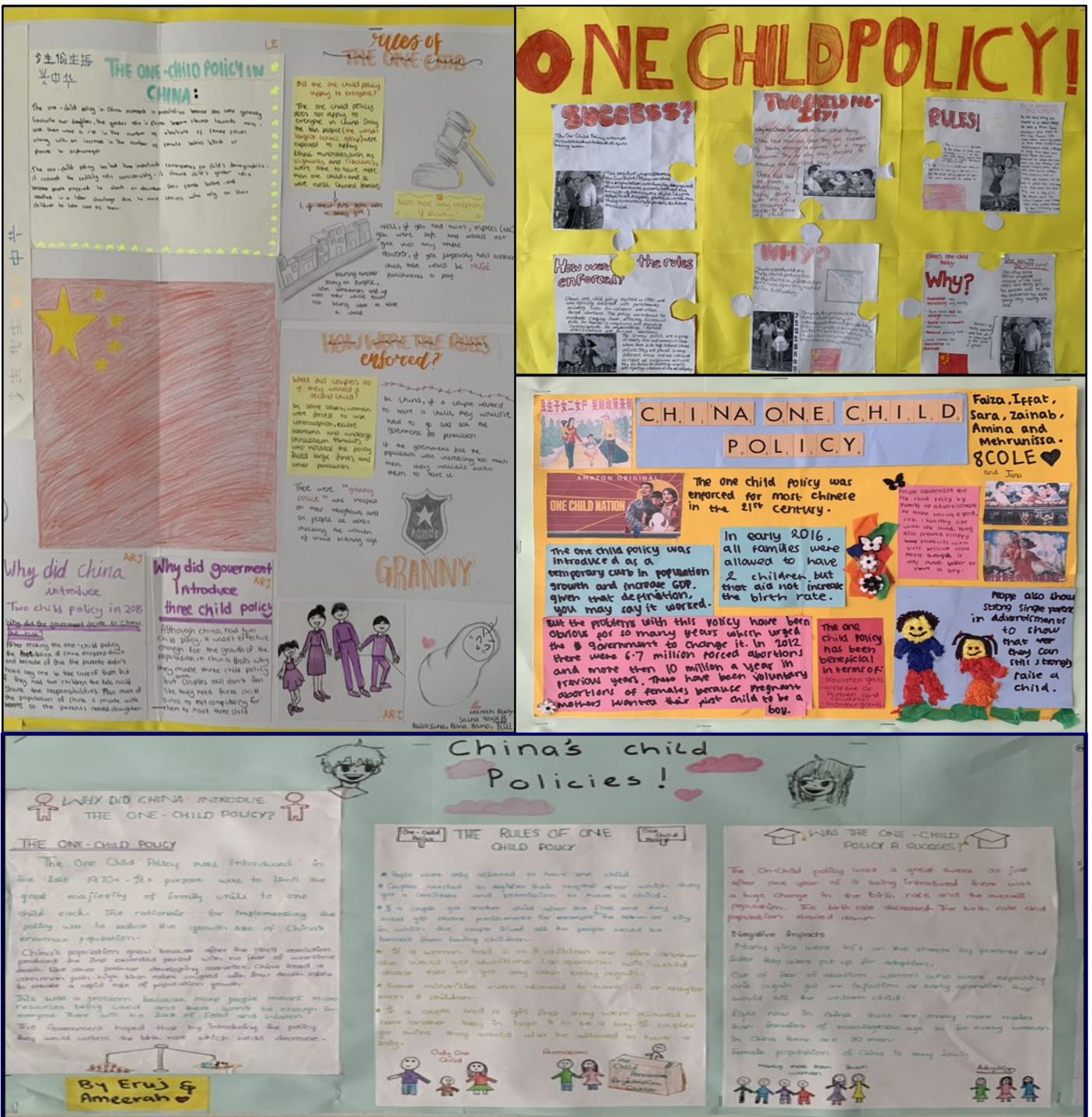
After the play pupils also participated in Q&A session with the actors whereby they could ask questions about the performance and the play itself to help with their revision.



Geography Department News

This term in Y8 pupils have been studying Population including the reasons why populations grow, the problems of over-population and the analysis of data in population pyramids.

They have also worked in groups to study the reasons why China introduced different Child Policies and the effects that these have had on the country – some of the best display work from 8CO and 8DE are shown below.



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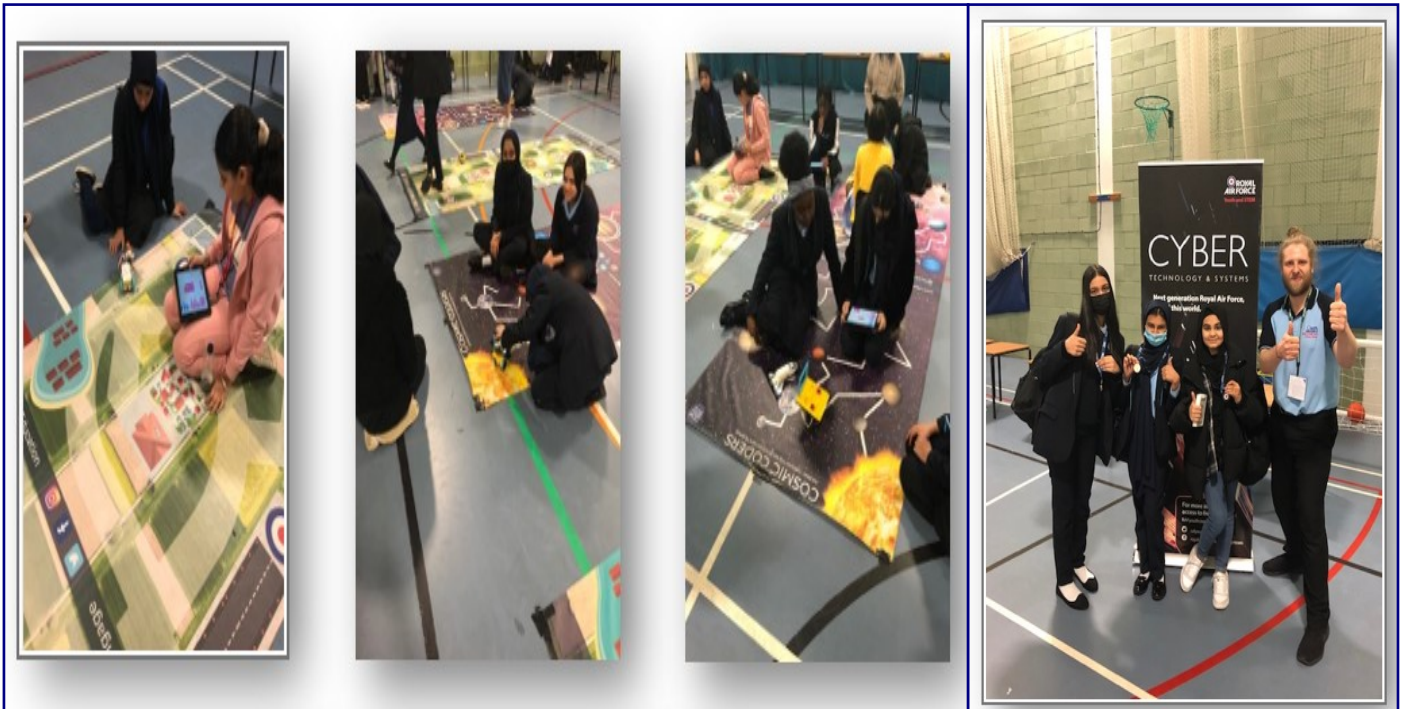
D&T Department News

The DT department has really enjoyed getting back to doing what we do best, giving pupils the knowledge, skills and confidence to produce great practical outcomes. Well done to all the pupils this term who have worked so hard to develop their cooking, textiles and manufacturing skills. It has also been great to collaborate with the Maths and Languages departments this term to show pupils the connections between our subjects while growing their understanding of both subject.



D&T STEM Activity

80 lucky Year 8 students were fortunate enough to take part in a workshop with RAF Mighty Minds this term. They were looking specifically at coding and how to build a robot to withstand RAF challenges. Well done to all the students who took part in the day and a special well done to the winners photographed below.

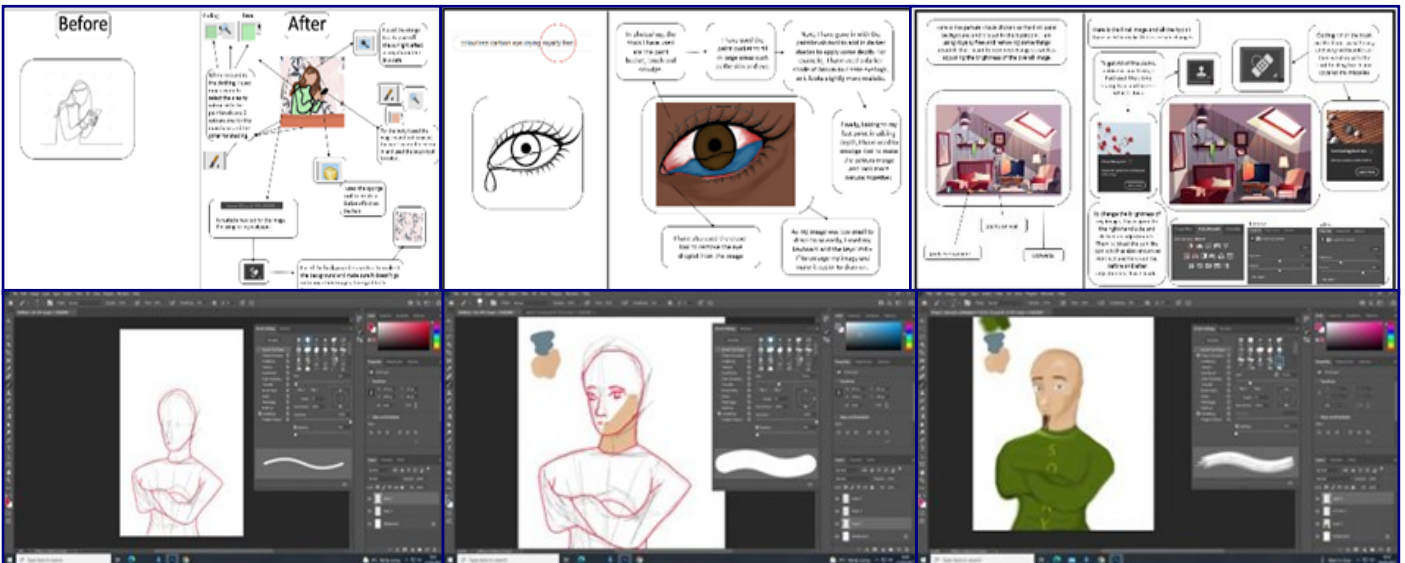


Computing and Business Studies News

Year 11 I media – This term Yr11 pupils have been working hard on their I Media coursework, they have captured existing images from a range of royalty free websites as well as their own images taken using a range of devices. They then demonstrated using a range of tools and skills to create, manipulate and edit images for a given purpose and target audience.



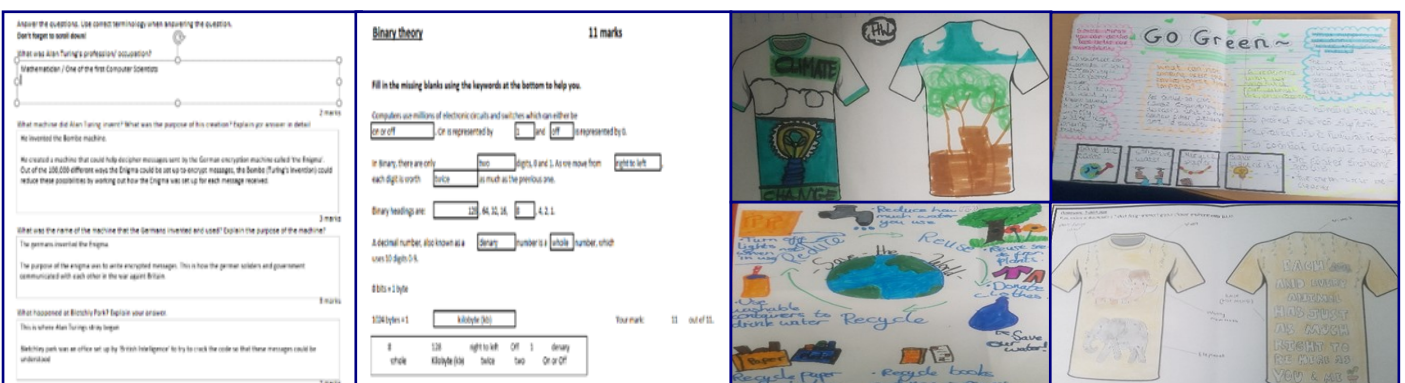
Computing and Business Studies News (continued...)



In year 9, pupils have just finished their Python projects, solving computational problems and develop modular programs. The Knowledge and Skills they have developed are using c code, creation of simple programs with output of multiple lines of code, use of loops and strings to perform more advanced tasks.



This term yr8 have explored computational thinking, Alan Turing and his work at Bletchley Park. Pupils have also completed a range of activities linking with Maths using Binary addition and conversion binary and decimal. Finally, year 7 have been studying about how Environmental issues are harmful effects of human activity on the biophysical environment. Pupils have been working on their GO Green project using a range of software applications to create a number of different documents to bring awareness to the next generation.



Year 11 Visit to St. Edward's Church

During recent RE lessons, year 11 GCSE students had an opportunity to visit St. Edward's Church. Here, year 11s had an interesting time learning about Christianity and the Church which is a part of the RE GCSE course. At the Church, the RE students learned about the main features inside a Catholic Church such as the Altar, the Lectern, the Font, the Paschal Candle, the Cross and the Crucifix, the Pews, the Tabernacle, the significance of the Stained Glass Windows, the Chalice, the Sanctuary, and the Fourteen Stations of the Cross.

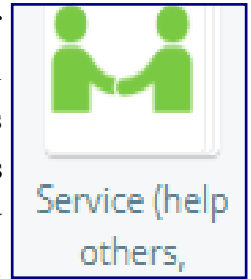
Also, as St. Edward's Church is a Catholic Church, the students learned about the incredible Statues which were placed around the Church and got a chance to see the inside of the Confession box. Learning about all of these was extremely rewarding and very appreciative as it helped the students to enhance their knowledge about Christianity and the Church and helped to answer any questions they had and experiencing the Church helped with this. This visit also helped with understanding the diverse ways the Church is used by the community and this knowledge is needed for the RE course. The RE students agree that this was an incredibly fun visit and we learned a lot about Christianity and the importance of the Trinity and helped to understand the role of Jesus and what Christians believe happened to Jesus and what he went through. Overall, it was very appreciated and cherishing to experience! Thank you to Mr Leak and Mrs Nasir for organizing such a valuable experience.

Aisha, Year 11



Volunteering and Community House

At Selly Park we aim to provide opportunities for our pupils to volunteer their time to positively impact their community locally, nationally and globally, making a positive contribution and building lasting connections with the communities connected to the school and our pupils. During this term pupils have celebrated positive news locally, nationally and globally each week in form time as part of the Selly Park Positive News campaign.



What's been happening:

Each fortnight form groups work through a form activity celebrating positive local, national and global news – pupils have enjoyed discussing exciting and happy stories!

Crisis at Christmas collection – as a school we have collected clothes, books, toiletries and food to donate to our local Crisis Homeless shelter this Christmas!

International Women's Day - whole school #BreakTheBias speech or poem competition. Red Nose Day/Comic Relief - each Year 8 forms created and delivered a fundraising



Selly Park positive community news slides!

“The need for gender equality is not a new idea. It’s time that we the next generation take charge to create the change. It’s time that we decide how we want our futures to pan out. As Melinda

International Women's Day - extract from Inspira-



121 people were supported through the donations made by Selly Park staff and pupils.



Red Nose Day/Comic Relief
 Each Year 8 forms created and delivered a fundraising event for the whole school to take part in!

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Cultural Capital Opportunities from the Art Department

This term has been a wonderful opportunity for pupils to meet practising artists and learn about others journeys to the wonderful city of Birmingham. Working in partnership with Sampad Arts we were very fortunate to be the launch school for the City of Empire, City of Birmingham touring exhibition.



All pupils visited the exhibition in the Ann Rea and produced work in response to the Dyche Photography collection, GCSE pupils were given the option to produce portfolio work inspired by the photos and many jumped at the chance! Some of the work produced has even been exhibited in The Central Library.

Following the success of the launch exhibition the relationship with Sampad Arts continued as we were invited to meet the wonderful Maryam Wahid at The Midlands Art Centre. She shared her journey to Pakistan that inspired her exhibition and gave a very inspirational talk on her journey as a photographer and the challenges and rewards that come from pursuing a career in the arts and in something you love. Many of the year 10 pupils will use this experience to inspire their mock exam portraits later this term.



Choir trip to Morrisons



Our school choir performed in Morrisons, Stichley and raised £130 for charity. Members of the public enjoyed a performance of a range of pop and musical theatre songs. Morrison's kindly provided snacks in their café too. Choir have been invited back and also to take part in some other community events with Morrisons, and look forward to performing again.

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Music Technology Workshop

Gifted and talented year 8 students worked alongside musicians from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in a music technology workshop. They are learning to create their own music using sound trap technology. They will be collaborating with schools in England and Sweden later in the year, and their work will be heard at the conservatoire.

Exam success

Well done to Nagarathna in year 8 who passed her grade 5 violin with merit this term. A very impressive achievement.

Year 11 Performance Exam



Well done to our year 11 musicians who performed fantastically for their final RSL music performance. All of them got over their nerves to give really convincing performances and conducted themselves brilliantly throughout the day. It was great to have a performance on our Selly Park stage and we look forward to some larger performances next term.

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Inclusive Bowling Trip

A number of pupils went on a bowling trip as part of our Inclusion Programme. A great day was had with lots of friendly competitiveness with Anabiyah being crowned the overall winner.



On April 1st Selly Park is hosting its first ever event for Hearing Impaired pupils. The event is for Selly Park Girls' pupils together with other nearby schools across all secondary year groups. This area-wide event is taking place as a result of a Selly Park Girls' (Hearing Impaired) HI pupils-only group session in November.

The feedback we gleaned was unanimous on how useful it was for HI pupils to meet other HI pupils and share their experiences, knowledge and skills to navigate their way through daily life!

The aim of this event is for pupils to also share their different ranges of hearing loss which creates challenges and uncertainties in school and day to day life but also how they overcome them in order to take part in the fullest school life that is available to them.

There will also be two Birmingham University students present throughout the event to talk to the pupils about how they have experienced their educational journey with its challenges but more importantly how they have persevered and not let the hidden disability be a barrier to their future. If anything it's made them more determined to succeed in the next stage of their academic life.

Birmingham City Council Hearing Support Team's Teacher of the Deaf, Davina Vincent will also be updating all pupils on the most up to date technology and services available during the event.

The event is an exciting opportunity for the attending youngsters to see they're not alone and hopefully find inspiration to take their own hearing journey head on, but moreover to succeed and be happy in all educational walks of life and much more beyond.

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 Project Welcome



Our Peer Tutors have been busy putting together a presentation to welcome new students to our school. This is called Project: Welcome and the group involves a number of SEND tutors and tutees. They have prepared information on our six most valued virtues, Courage, Respect, Aspiration, Service, Resilience and Motivation. The aim will be to show the importance of these virtues in every day life at Selly Park and life in general. The pupils will begin to record the video presentation after the Easter holidays with a view to it being ready for Year 7 Induction Day this summer.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week
 28th March- 1st April

What Is Neurodiversity?

There are a number of neurological conditions that come under the umbrella term of 'neurodiverse' - you may have heard of the following ones:

- Autism
- dyslexia
- dyspraxia
- ADHD

Autism - What Is It?

Autism is a spectrum condition, which means that every autistic person is different. Some autistic children and adults may also have additional learning needs, although this is not always the case. The amount of support an autistic person needs is unique to each individual.

Dyslexia - What Is It?

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty where a person has difficulties with processing information. People with dyslexia process information in a different way compared to those without (don't think, plan and solve problems in an orderly and sequenced manner). This can then affect a person with dyslexia's literacy skills in reading, writing and spelling. As such, it may take them longer to learn to read, name letters, spell words and begin to write.

Their different way of thinking means that people with dyslexia are more creative and can come up with very different solutions to problems.

Some people with dyslexia also have strengths in other areas, such as design, problem-solving, creative skills, interactive skills and oral skills.

Some people with dyslexia can experience difficulty with their memory. They may find it difficult to remember information, sequence ideas and some people with dyslexia may have difficulty following instructions or listening in the classroom. They may need extra time to complete activities and they may need extra thinking time.

Executive Function

Some autistic people have excellent memories. They can remember facts, be very precise with detail and can follow schedules and routines. However, this is not the same for everyone on the Autism Spectrum. Some autistic people and adults have conditions that affect their executive function.

Dyspraxia - What Is It?

Dyspraxia is also known as Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD).

- People with dyspraxia may find it hard to remember things or understand what they are being asked to do.
- They may have difficulties moving around and can often be mistaken for being clumsy.
- People with dyspraxia may have trouble planning and organising themselves or difficulty following a list of instructions.
- They may also have difficulty with their speech; sometimes they can get the order of the sounds in words mixed up. Longer, complex words may also cause some difficulties so people with dyspraxia may prefer to use shorter or simpler words to express themselves.
- People with dyspraxia can be very creative and good at drama or musical activities.

ADHD - What Is It?

- People with ADHD may find it harder to control their activity level and their reactions to what is going on around them. Sometimes they can be impulsive and a friend with ADHD may do things unexpectedly - this may take you by surprise.
- Some children with ADHD may have difficulty following instructions or listening in the classroom. They may also move excessively or fidget and may find it hard to self-regulate.
- There are lots of positives to having ADHD, such as being creative, imaginative and quick-thinking, as well as being good at problem-solving. People with ADHD can also be laser-focused and complete tasks quickly.

Important Things to Remember

- Everyone is unique and this should be accepted.
- We must appreciate each other's diversities.

We are all different

Brains are all different

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PE Department News

Chance to Shine – After school Cricket

Girls enjoyed an fantastic cricket session after school, led by Chance to Shine. If you are interested, you can get involved in cricket sessions Monday evening at Mosely School.



Naseem Akhtar BME – Commonwealth Homegrown Hero Birmingham 2022

We had a special visitor in PE (Naseem Akhtar) who spoke to Year 10 and 11 pupils about the Saheli hub. The group was organised to help tackle inequality by providing activities to improve the mental and physical health within the community. If you are interested in finding out more information, please get a leaflet from the PE department.



Fixtures

- Basketball
- 8&10 Aston Manor
- Year 10 Bishop Challoner tournament
- Year 9 Four Dwellings
- Year 9 STAKS
- Year 9 St Georges
- Netball
- Year 7 & 11 Turves Green
- Year 8&10 University of Birmingham



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National Schools Football Week 7th-12th February

Penalty Shootout Winners: KS3 Jumana Y7 and KS4 Soumaya Y10.
Activities: Football Cricket, Football Basketball, Penalty Shootout, Interhouse Competition, Form Quiz and Quest Speaker from the University Campus of Football Business.

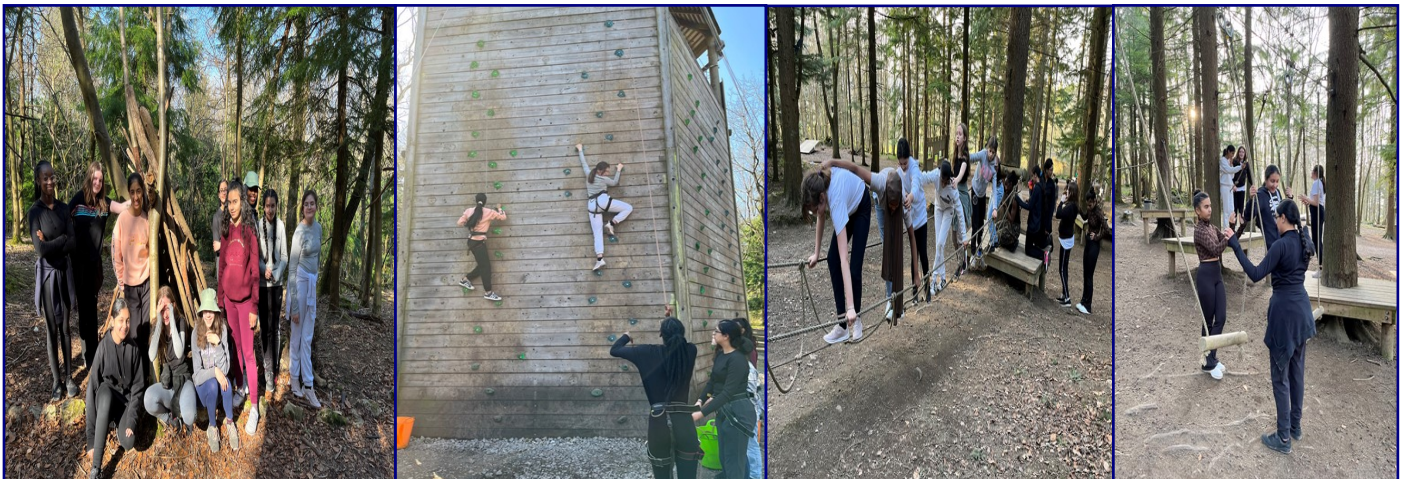


Careers in Sport and Football—University Campus of Football Business



PE Residential Trip

48 pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 attended the three day residential at Kingswood, Co-



Character Virtues Week – March 2022

Resilience - Keep trying even if you are unsuccessful on your first attempt.

Motivation - Having an end goal to motivate yourself to achieve something.

Respect – Respecting each others personal space and health and safety rules.



Yonex Badminton Championship 17th Match

PE Rewards Trip – The top 14 top pupils who have attended the most extra-curricular clubs this year, attended the Badminton World Championships at the Utilita Arena in Birmingham.

Well done all, it was well deserved for all of your hard work this year, keep it up!



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Bikeability

Bikeability began on Monday 31st January 2022

130 pupils across year 7 and 8 completed at least the Learn to Ride and Level 1 Award



Children's Mental Health Week

An assembly for form time activity was led by Place2Be and a festival was planned and took place on Friday 11th February. Stations Included Managing Emotions, Sleep, Periods, Dangers of Smoking, Vaping, Exercise, Health/ Diet/ Lifestyle and Hygiene.





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Parent Workshop

'SUPPORTING My Teen'
Parent Programme



Dear Selly Park Parent...

Ever wondered what is going on in your teenager's mind?

Ever felt confused about your teenager's behaviour?

Ever felt it would be good to know how other people cope
with the teenage years?

Ever felt you want to help your teenager through school but
don't quite know how?

OUR Parent Workshop took place on Wednesday 9th February & Tuesday 15th February 2022.

Parent Feedback

It was fantastic to be part of this course as it really helped me as a parent to understand and support my daughter further. Mrs Bowker did an amazing job interacting with the parents.

I have really enjoyed the workshop, very interesting. Especially the first part as I have a daughter with a lot of anxiety issues. The workshop was delivered excellently and I was made to feel really welcome and relaxed.

I much appreciate the efforts by the organisers and the school.

The workshops have brought back some reminders and helped me to open issues that may be happening and how to resolve them or who to ask for help. I learned of things I didn't know about.

FAB!!! Just what parents needed. Have similar workshops for GCSE pupils.

Thank you so much for your time and effort. I hope we will have some more workshops in the near future.

Selly Park Girls' School
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Y11 Newsletter

Selly Park Girls' Newsletter
Year 11



Coming to the end of the Spring term, we'd like to congratulate all our Year 11 students for making it this far into the term and with the Summer exams approaching, we understand how nervous this may feel and therefore hope to reflect on all the achievements and positives.

End of Year Plans

After a year of hardworking and dedication, we would like to reward our Year 11's by placing exciting end of year plans that can be enjoyed by all. Firstly, the introduction of the Leavers hoodies has been extremely popular and we encourage students to place their orders before the deadline (colour samples can be found in H6). Also, an end of year prom is set to be held in school and will feature fun and memorable activities. The opportunity to spend a day at Alton Towers is being offered to all pupils and this is a great chance to spend time with classmates before embarking on a new journey after Selly Park. More information about all of these can be found on Parentmail.



Saturday School and Interventions

A huge well done to those students who regularly attend Saturday School and Interventions as with exams approaching, time is limited. Staff are dedicating lots of their time to ensure students perform to their highest ability so we encourage all students to make the most of these opportunities because they are extremely beneficial. Intervention timetables are given out each term so students are aware of interventions they should be attending although are invited to all subject appropriate sessions. Saturday school is available each week, allowing students to learn with tutors, independently or with subject teachers. Consistent attendance in these sessions has earned students a reward trip on the 7th of May.

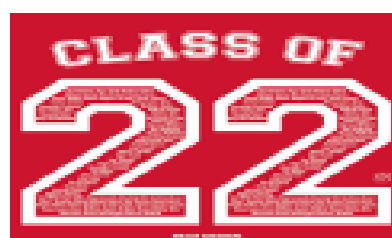
Dedications

As a year, the students in Year 11 are very grateful for all our teachers and would like to show them how appreciative we are of them.

- Mrs Nasir (Head of Year) – a wonderful, supportive teacher who has the whole years interests at heart
- Saturday School Staff – all the staff that attend Saturday School and take the time out to help students learn more. Especially Mr Pritchard for organising each session and the trips.
- Subject teachers – extremely hardworking and it is evident how much they care and want us to do well
- Form teachers - for making sure that we are okay in subjects and providing a nice environment for the mornings.

Countdown to Exams

With just over a month left until the first GCSE written exam will take place in school, we hope students are working hard and doing adequate revision at home as well in lessons. Each student should have received a Countdown to Exams booklet and should aim to follow these on the course leading up to exams. Despite this, we do want students to equally relax and not overwork themselves and this is why finding a balance is important.



Dates for your Diary

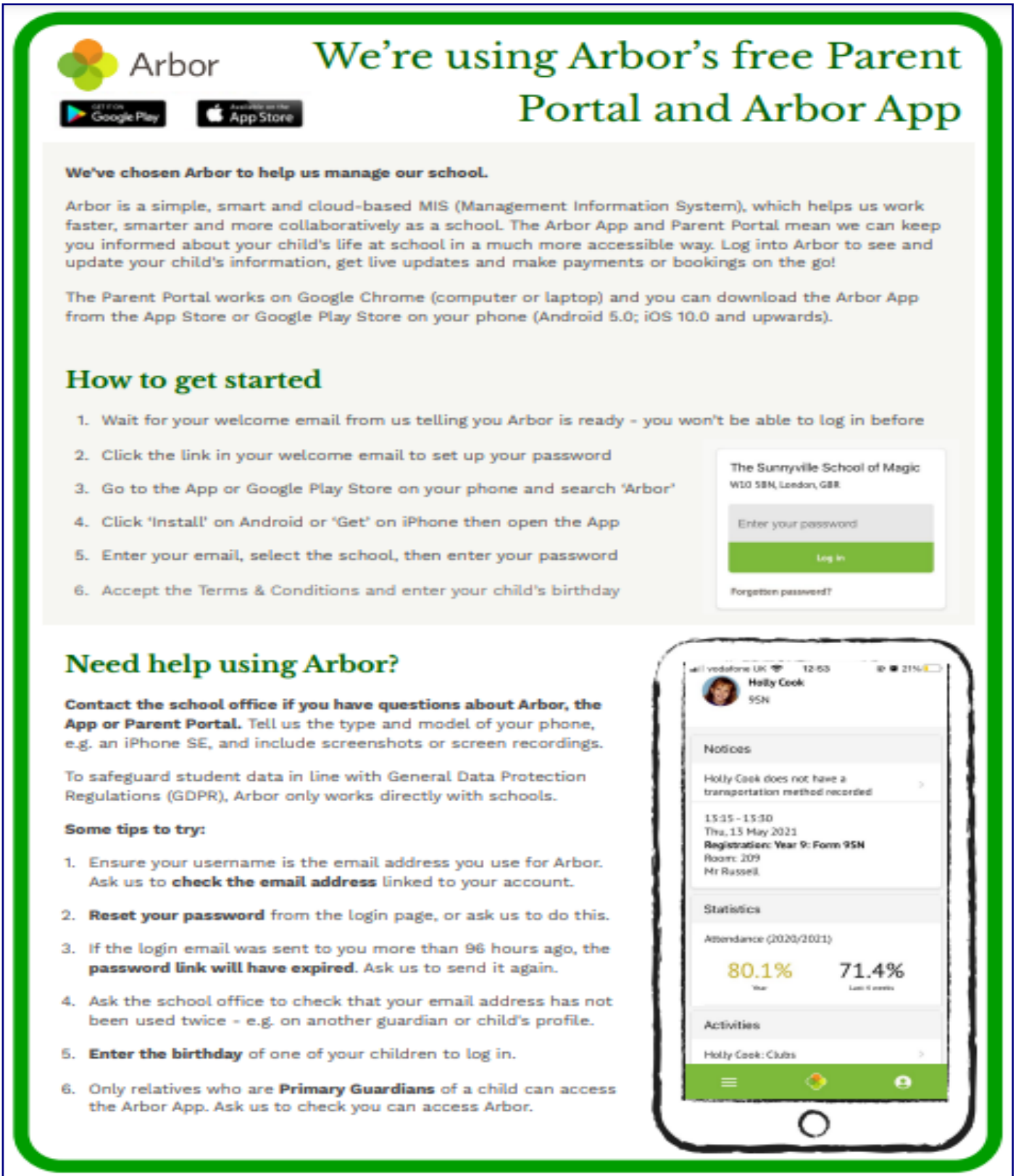
- Easter Holidays – 11th April to 24th April
- 9th May – Leavers Hoodie deadline
- 16th May – 1st GCSE exam
- 6th July – Alton Towers Trip

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ARBOR PARENT PORTAL

We are moving to a new Management Information System (MIS) - 'Arbor' after Easter holidays. Information regarding Parent Portal and Arbor App can be found below.



The graphic features the Arbor logo (three overlapping circles in green, yellow, and orange) and the text 'Arbor' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo are icons for 'GET IT ON Google Play' and 'Available on the App Store'. The main heading reads 'We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App' in a green, serif font. The content is framed by a thick green border.

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyside School of Magic
W10 5BN, London, GB

Enter your password

Log In

Forgotten password?

Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



The smartphone screenshot shows the user profile for 'Holly Cook' (95N) with a profile picture. Below the profile is a 'Notices' section with a message: 'Holly Cook does not have a transportation method recorded'. Underneath is a registration notice for 'Year 9: Form 95N' in room 209, dated 13 May 2021, by Mr Russell. The 'Statistics' section shows attendance for 2020/2021: 80.1% for the year and 71.4% for the last 6 weeks. The 'Activities' section lists 'Holly Cook: Clubs'. The bottom navigation bar has three icons: a menu, a home icon, and a user profile icon.

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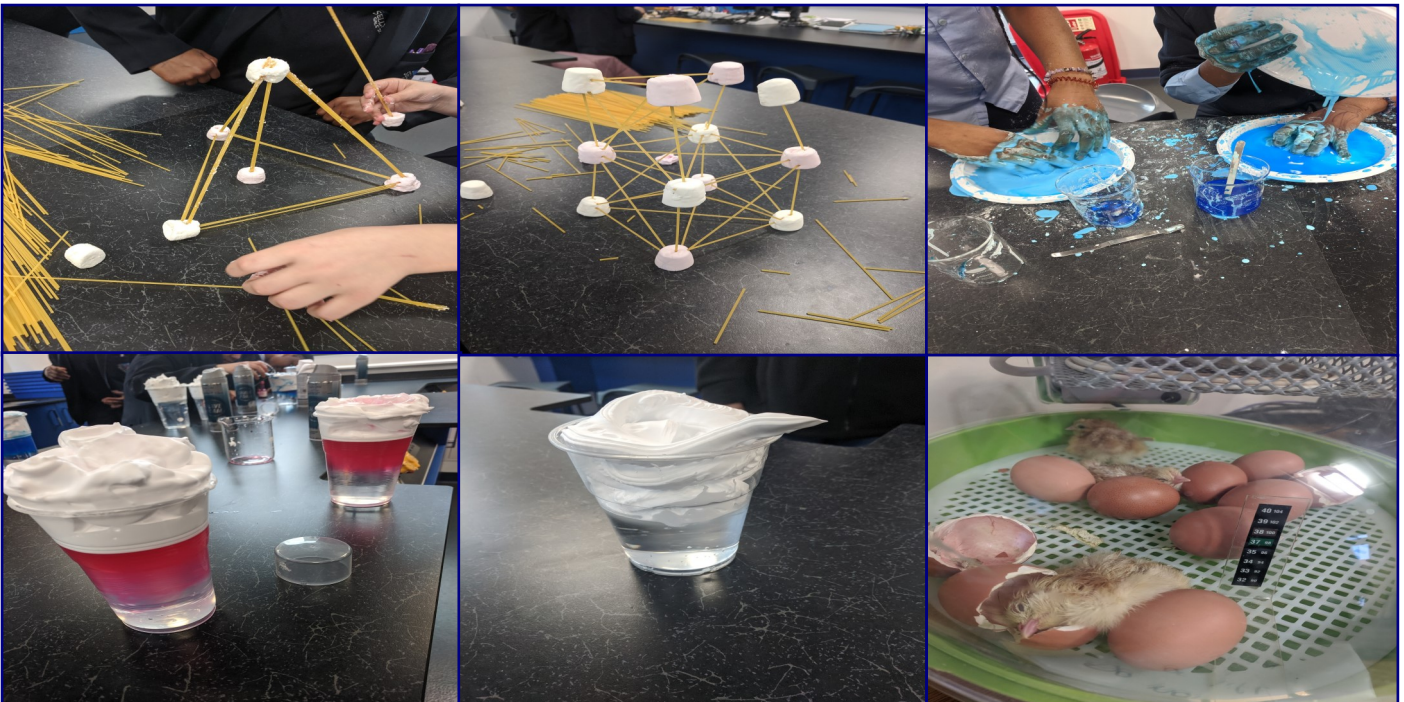
Science Department News

Some photos of the after school science club where pupils have been involved in activities.

Picture 1 & 2 : Making Spaghetti Towers

Pictures 3 & 4 : Making Slime

Picture 5 & 6 : Storm in a Glass & Picture 6: Chicks in school that hatching !



MFL Department News

Spanish

Pupils in Year 8 got to make Mexican food during their Spanish lesson on 11th March as they have been learning about food in Spanish-speaking countries. Fajitas are a famous Mexican dish made of a tortilla wrap with a filling of bell peppers and onions combined with a spicy seasoning. As well as learning all of the Spanish words for these ingredients, students got to taste the dish for themselves.

Miss Foster, Teacher of Spanish said “Since arriving at Selly Park Girls’ school in December, I have been enormously impressed with the enthusiasm of our girls for learning Spanish. We all had so much fun preparing and cooking this Mexican dish. It is invaluable for our girls to learn about the wider Spanish-speaking world as it is such an important global language.”

Mr Starkie, Head of MFL said “It is great to work with other departments to enhance our pupils’ cross-curricular experience. Miss Foster’s class have worked really hard and it is great to reward pupils with these fun life experiences in our lessons. We are so grateful to Miss Stott and Miss Bartle for enabling this lesson to happen. We look forward to working more with other departments promoting languages in the future.”



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MFL News (continued...)

French Careers Focus

Year 9 pupils in French have been finding out why languages are so important in today's job market. In an online seminar organised by Business Language Champions, Selly Park Girls joined together with more than a dozen schools from across the country to meet language graduates who have made successful careers using languages. They met someone from Italy who came to England at the age of 18 to study politics at an English University. They also met someone from England who learnt German at school and University, but now lives and works in Japan because she learnt Japanese after University.

According to Mr Starkie, Head of Modern Foreign Languages, "It was fascinating to hear these people's stories. It has further highlighted why gaining language qualifications is so important and how well it prepares you for life and work in the 21st century. We are so fortunate that at Selly Park, all our learners get the opportunity to do a language GCSE."

French Food Focus

Pupils in Year 8 got a real taste of French culture in February when they made crêpes in the food room during their French lesson. This traditional French dish comes from Brittany in the North-West of France and can be eaten with sweet or savoury ingredients.

Whilst making their crêpes, pupils got to learn some of the French words for the ingredients and used teamwork skills to help each other produce some really tasty French specialities. Many pupils even gave up part of their lunch break to help get the batter mixed. Special thanks go to Nadwah and Reemass who helped Mr Starkie deliver the first food practical lesson of his long career!

According to Mr Starkie, "When we learn a language, it's so important that we also learn about the things in that culture which are different from our own. For example, French pancake day, when everyone in France eats crêpes, is called "La Chandeleur" and happens on 2nd February every year, whereas Pancake Tuesday this year is happening on 1st March in the UK. In France, Tuesday 1st March is called "Mardi Gras" and involves a big carnival and parades - but no pancakes!"

Mr Pritchard, Head of DT and Assistant Head Teacher said, "It's so good to create these links across the different subject areas. It helps pupils to realise that what they are learning in French is relevant to the skills they are developing in Design Technology. The girls clearly loved making the crêpes and they will go into their next food lesson more confident and more skilled as a result of what they did today in French".



HAPPY HOLIDAYS.....

FROM ALL STAFF AT SELLY PARK