

Spring Term 2022

## Core Purpose

### Vision

Our vision is to work together to achieve educational excellence and fulfil personal potential.

### Mission

Our mission is to unlock a thirst for learning for all so that students can successfully access a range of opportunities in an ever-changing world. To overcome barriers and embrace challenges to enrich themselves and our community.

### Values

Scholarship  
Character  
Community

### Intellectual Virtues

Reflection  
Critical Thinking

### Moral Virtues

Tolerance  
Respect  
Gratitude

### Civic Virtues

Social Justice  
Volunteering

### Performance Virtues

Resilience  
Ambition  
Confidence

## Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and well.

I would like to thank both the staff and students for their hard work this term. The staff have shown their dedication and commitment towards the education and well-being of our students. The students have consistently shown a positive attitude towards their learning with high levels of engagement.

I would also like to thank you for your continued support and hope you enjoy reading about HWGA's Spring Term.

Wishing you all the best.

Thank you.

Mr Riaz  
Headteacher

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance is arguably one of the most important indicators of school success as the **Grade Breaker** below indicates. Your child cannot learn when she is absent. Students who attend school regularly improve their chances of being academically successful.

**King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy target is 97% attendance!**

We look forward to starting the next term positively – *'Every student in school, on time, every day!'*

### Attendance

If attendance matched a GCSE grade what would yours be?



**KING EDWARD VI  
HANDSWORTH WOOD  
GIRLS' ACADEMY**

Attendance %	Attendance as a grade	Description
100%	8-9	<b>Well done</b> , your attendance is excellent. You are <b>maximising your chances to make excellent progress.</b>
98-99%	7-8	
97%	6	
96%	5	You are at the point where your attendance is <b>starting to have a negative impact on your progress.</b> You need to attend King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' every day from now on. You are just below the Academy attendance target. <b>Academy attendance target is 97%</b>
93-96%	4	Your attendance is <b>below King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy target of 97%</b> . You are missing a large number of lessons and reducing your chance of making progress considerably. <b>Your Parents/Carers is liable for a fine of up to £2,000.</b>
91-92%	3	
90%	2	You are now a <b>'Persistent Absentee'</b> from King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls'. <b>You are absent at least one day every two weeks. Your progress will be minimal and you will not realise your true potential.</b>
88-89%	1	
88% or less	U	

# STANDARDS AND ATTITUDES

We are continuing to implement our ready, respectful, calm rewards policy encouraging our students to be positive and successful. By visiting our Standards and Attitudes page on our website, you will be able to access updated policies.

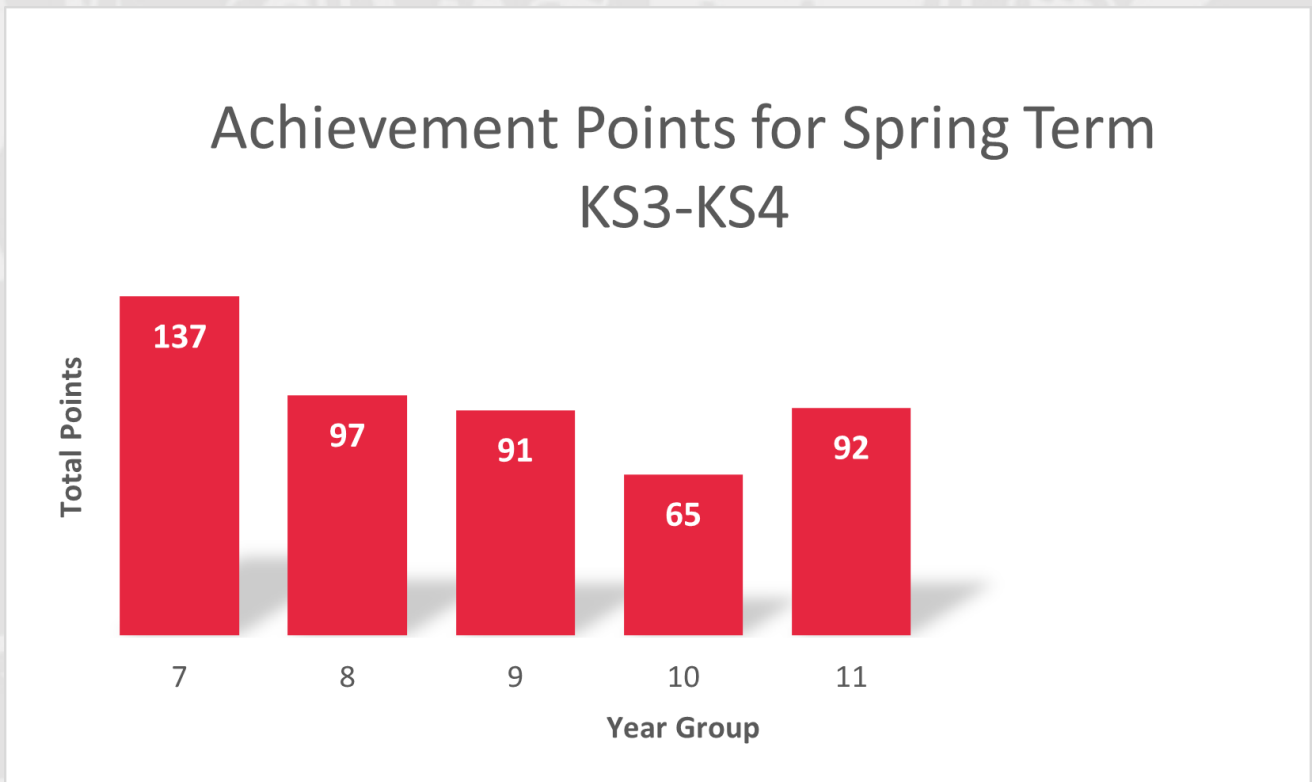
Below you will find an outline of the rewards system:



The poster is titled 'REWARDS' and is for King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy. It lists four reward levels: Bronze (75 points), Silver (120 points), Gold (160 points), and Platinum (185 points). Each level includes a badge icon and a list of rewards such as certificates, phone calls home, and vouchers.

Points	Level	Rewards
75	BRONZE	Bronze badge, certificate and phone call home from your form tutor
120	SILVER	Silver badge, certificate, phone call home from your Head of Year/Pastoral Manager and a percentage off end of year trip
160	GOLD	Gold badge, certificate, phone call home from Mrs. Dingwall/Miss Takhar and a £10 voucher
185	PLATINUM	Platinum badge, certificate, phone call home from Mr. Riaz and a £20 voucher.

From the graph below, you will be able to see that the vast majority of our students are reaping these rewards:



## TAKE 5 WITH ...

Every term we will be introducing key staff who work in the background to support our students daily.  
This term we are meeting Miss Alisha Gordon.

### WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AT THE ACADEMY?

I am the Finance Officer & Educational Visits Co-ordinator.

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED AT THE ACADEMY?

Since September 2019, so coming up to 3 years!

### HOW DO YOU SUPPORT THE KEVI HWGA COMMUNITY?

I support by managing all finances for HWGA, as well as coordinating all events and trips. My job is varied and you may see me in the canteen area ensuring lunches are running smoothly. Every day is different and never boring!

### WHAT ARE THE BEST BITS ABOUT YOUR JOB?

- Meeting a range of different people; Working with different suppliers
- Working with the students organising events such as prom
- VARIETY! No day is the same.

### WHAT IS YOUR MESSAGE TO THE KEVI HWGA COMMUNITY?

Don't hold yourself back and always know that you are capable of anything you set your mind to.  
Dream Big!



# DEVELOPING OUR CORE VALUES

## SCHOLARSHIP

On 1st April 2022 Handsworth Wood Girls Academy had their second personal development day of the Academic year. During personal Development days we collapse the normal lessons in order to allow students to access a wide variety of activities which enhances their curriculum.

**Year 7** focused on Healthy relationships and were visited by Loudmouth Education and Training Theatre where students learned about different types of bullying, including cyberbullying and the impact of bullying. They identified harmful behaviours such as online bullying, abuse and harassment and how to report, or find support.

The rest of the day developed on these themes further, through bespoke lessons on 'bullying or banter?' violence and harassment and on-line grooming.

**Year 8** focused on Character Education where they focused on developing confident oracy skills for life. We were visited by Talk the Talk who are a company that aims to develop these confident oracy skills for life. Talk the Talk enabled students' to find their voice and use it confidently to become leaders of the future. Through these workshops, students developed the skills needed to communicate with confidence through a variety of oracy tasks. They addressed employability challenges, how to improve self-esteem and enabled students to engage with others confidently and persuasively.

The workshops provided opportunity for students to prepare for essay writing, exams, presentations, debating, negotiating and listening skills. It also developed their interview techniques, and boosted self-confidence in their ability to connect with potential employers and demonstrate their employability skills.

**Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11** took part in careers workshops throughout the day.

**Year 12** also Focused on Health Relationships, and they were also visited by Loudmouth who provided a drama production called 'Calling it out' which tackles issues surrounding harmful sexual behaviours, harassment, assault, misogyny, and consent. Narconon Drugs Prevention and Awareness also visited year 12. Their inspiring presentation discussed the harmful effects of drugs on relationships, aspiration and career goals. They then had bespoke lessons on forced marriages, Honour based violence, radicalisation and extremism.

**Year 13** took part in a session with an emotional fitness guide who worked on them building confidence and resilience.

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## CHARACTER AND COMMUNITY

The Creative Design department have donated a number of boxes of books to Africa.



# SCHOLARSHIP - CHARACTER - COMMUNITY

# CULTURE DAY

Culture Day was a huge success. The students really entered into the spirit of celebrating the diversity of our school community and dressing to impress. The fashion show was met with enthusiasm and a range of other activities took place during the day.

## Culture Day



Friday 25th March



### Non-uniform

DRESS TO IMPRESS - show off your traditional/cultural outfits and wear your identity proudly!



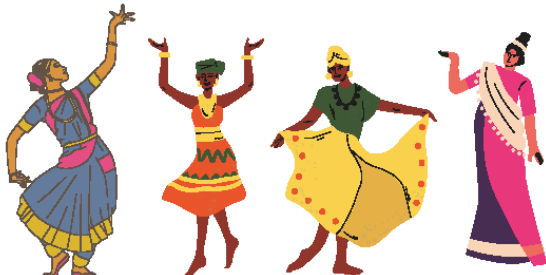
### EXTENDED FORM TIME:

- Cultural fashion show
- Form time competitions

Cultural food on sale in Sixth Form at lunchtime



Henna in Sixth form



Stands and displays to celebrate cultural heritage - music, dance, food tasting and more!

If you would like to be involved and help run a stall, please speak to your form tutor! All ideas welcome!

## STEAM WORKSHOPS

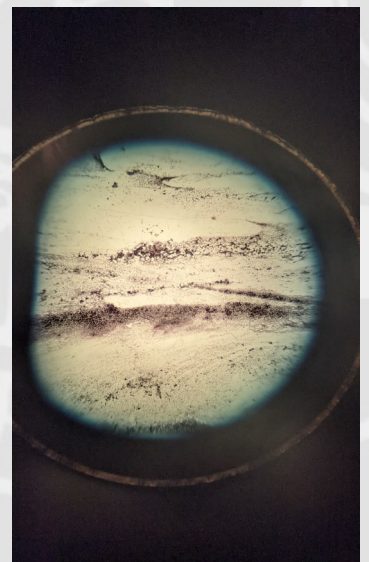
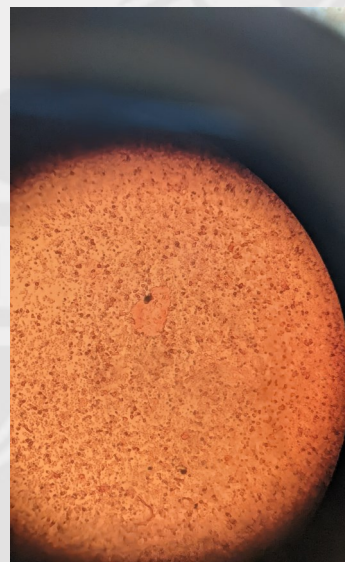
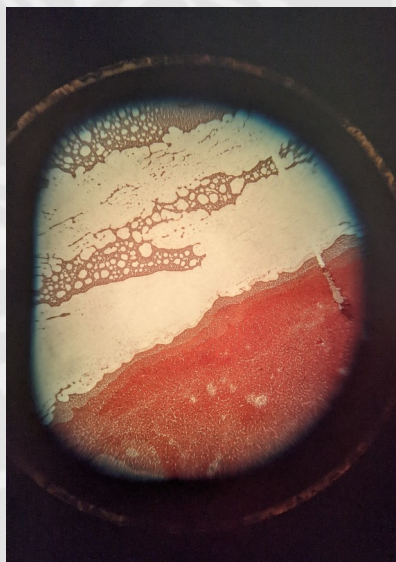
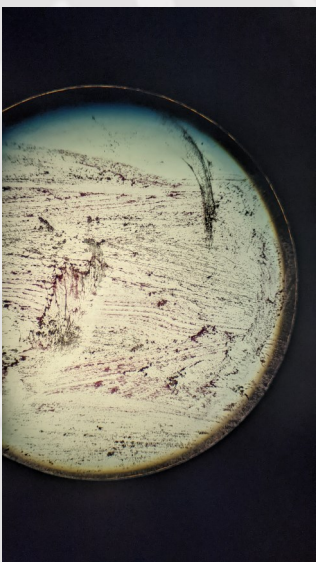
A number of our students have taken part in the Beyond Blue Skies Biology programme of workshops exploring astrobiology— the search for life in space. Over three sessions the students followed the different methods and equipment scientists use to identify life found in extreme environments. Attending the programme has helped our students and given opportunities in enhancing their future skills needed in space related career pathways. BOM (Birmingham Open Media) is a centre for art, technology and science, dedicated to creative innovation with purpose.

**The students responded really positively to the workshops, see some of their responses below:**

BOM science has been such an amazing experience as it has help expand my knowledge in bacteria. By learning about how bacteria can be found anywhere and everywhere, and how to collect bacteria on petri dishes as well as learning how to produce a homemade petri dish - using household products. We have, also, learnt how to micro-pipet and about bento labs : Bento labs can stretch and grow the colonies and DNA to create a comparison and categorise them. In addition, we gram stained our then grown bacteria in the petri dishes to observe them under a microscope - gram staining allows the molecules to be seen easier. Within the last session, we used proper microscopes to further expand the images so that we can view the separate molecules, but we have also combined the arts and craft side of BOM science, by making resin bacteria in petri dishes and leaflets with the images of our findings in the different bacteria and fungi. BOM have made science more creative and artsy to allow a further understanding for students and pupils, making learning easier and fun. - **Evelyn Tran 10G**

Over the course of the past few weeks, I have learnt a lot about Biochemistry. We took part in many activities involving growing and inspecting our bacteria, etc. My favourite activity during the workshop by far is the activities: growing & collecting our bacteria where we found out that bacteria is everywhere, gram staining our bacteria on slides so we can inspect our bacteria easily by splitting into two different groups and inspecting our bacteria underneath a microscope. What I found underneath my slide was incredible. The microorganisms were quite beautiful, and it was hard to believe something this intricate and detailed is in something that resembles a splash of Ribena. I had a great time and look forward to similar future events. - **Lily Ho Phuong 10S**

The BOM workshop was an extremely fun and informative experience that I definitely want to experience again. I enjoyed the many different aspects such as the ats and craft and learning about biochemistry, we had the opportunity to experience so many different things such as: making agar jelly, creating tetrahedron kite, gram staining and so much more. We also got to see advanced scientific equipment's such as the bento lab and it was an experience of a lifetime. The collaboration between BOM and the school was by far an amazing idea and as I said before I would love to do it again! - **Fardowsa B 10S**



# SCIENCE FACULTY DELIVERS A WORLD CLASS TRIP TO CERN, GENEVA 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2022 WITH YEAR 13 STEM STUDENTS.



A collaboration between KEVI HWGA and KEVI Aston allowed our students to experience the most expensive and prestigious nuclear research centre (CERN) in the world. They learned about the world's largest particle collider that has given rise to explanations regarding anti-matter and new particles that existed immediately after the Big Bang. Students were attentive to the lectures on medical physics application which inflamed curiosity and triggered an array of questions (even ones the professor could not answer from Nimra!).

A day of experiments included: cloud chamber experiments and superconducting magnets making levitating magnets were one of the many highlights of this trip. Students worked together and formed new friendships with students from the other King Edward Foundation School. Vast amounts of information were digested including fun facts such as Tim-Berner-Lee, a British scientist at CERN, who invented the World Wide Web. We explored Geneva where they did very well to use their language skills and meet the locals, rode the transport independently, indulged in ice-cream and took pleasure in exploring the city and sight-seeing on a glorious sunny day.

The following day was a tour of the United Nations building - listening in and watching a live conference taking place! Students

were in awe of the grandeur of the interiors of the conference rooms and the donation exhibits from the countries that contribute towards it. A trip to the capital city of Switzerland, Bern Einstein Museum was the start of the next itinerary, where students found out about Albert Einstein's life, relationships, and theories as well as



a history of inventions by others; displayed in a timeline snaked

route. On the same day they travelled to Interlaken where they explored the holiday village between the tranquil turquoise lakes against the mountains. Here they admired the breath-taking scenery which they recognised in some famous Bollywood movies and visited the honorary statue of the director - Yash Chopra. The final day was sub-zero temperatures and snow which was ideal for the destination: Mont Blanc - the highest mountain in the Alps. Here the students travelled to the peak, via cable cars and experienced amazing views and took their memories of a life-time photographs. After their descent they explored Chamonix a world-class ski resort and warmed up with some delicious hot food before returning to the apartment hotel in France to pack. The student reviews were overwhelmingly positive, many saying it was a once in a lifetime trip. The social skills, cultural experience and independence has opened their eyes up to a wider perspective of the world around them and the opportunities beyond.



It was also pleasing to see that they had embraced their embedded HPL skills: collaboration, big picture thinking, originality, seeing alternative perspectives and intellectual confidence in their behaviours and communication during their trip experiences. They are now independently planning their next trip!

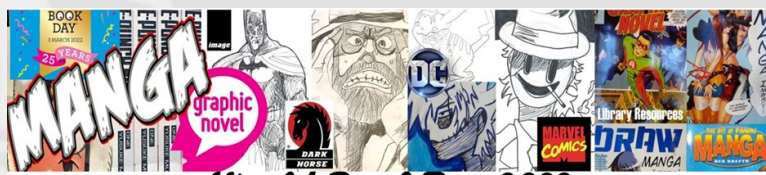
Read Arooj's review on the following link: <https://bit.ly/KEA1stAprilNewsletter>





# LIBRARY NEWS

Lots of exciting things have been taking place in the library this term including competitions, a readathon, the masked reader, external visitors and LGBT History month.



## World Book Day 2022 Manga & Graphic Novel Drawing Competition

**Draw your favourite characters from Manga & Graphic novels  
& win Manga/Anime merchandise!**

**Closing Date:  
07/03/2022**

Entries can be emailed to [competitions@hwga.org.uk](mailto:competitions@hwga.org.uk) or the original drawings can also be brought into school for scanning. Be as creative as you can, draw your favourite characters or create something original. Pencil, colour & collage images are allowed.

There were some amazing entries in the Manga competition, making it very difficult for Miss Orton to pick the winners! Well done everyone involved!

### Winners:

- Aksaja - 10S
- Pooja - 10P
- Lily - 10S

WINNERS



Inspired by the masked singer HWGA staff took part in the masked reader, staff read excerpts from books and the students had to guess who the members of staff were.

Well done to every student who took part in the sponsored read. A grand total of **£275.70** was raised!

**SCHOLARSHIP - CHARACTER - COMMUNITY**

## LIBRARY NEWS

We had a fantastic author visit from Sandra Carter, we cant wait to welcome her back in the near future.

# Fantasy and Sci-fi Author Sandra Carter invites you to a special talk on Afrofuturism



We are delighted to announce we have a special guest who will be delivering a live talk on Teams on World Book Day 2022.

Influenced by anime, comics, illustration, film & the arts. Sandra will take you on her journey of writing her book, Kettorah



We pride ourselves on being inclusive at HWGA and had great fun celebrating our LGBT community during February.



## LGBT History Month



February is LGBT+ History Month so this week we will be celebrating a rainbow of YA books in the library!

For anyone interested there is also a free online event about LGBTQ+ history month and looking at LGBTQ+ representation and experiences both on-screen and behind the scenes, including the progress made over the years as well as where more work still needs to be done. Please [click here](#) for more information. Included in the panel is Russell. T. Davies who screen-wrote for 'Dr Who' and created the hit TV drama 'It's A Sin'.

We also have a wide range of stories in the library with LGBTQ+ characters right at the very heart of the book.

Some examples of how you can celebrate LGBTQI+ History Month:

- Discover LGBTQI+ artists
- Read LGBTQI+ authors
- Listen to LGBTQI+ musicians
- Learn LGBTQI+ history



# SCHOLARSHIP - CHARACTER - COMMUNITY

## Year 10 Chef Visit

The Year 10 Food and Nutrition class took part in a Fish Masterclass courtesy of Chartwells. Chef Cale Flynn spent the afternoon with the students demonstrating how to prepare a number of fish dishes. The class were then able to work independently and recreate the dishes. The masterclass was a huge success and we are hoping that more collaborations with Chartwells can take place.





HAPPY  
PASSOVER



RAMADAN  
MUBARAK



**KING EDWARD VI  
HANDSWORTH WOOD  
GIRLS' ACADEMY**

*Educational excellence for our City*