



WASELEY NEWS

Building our future



It has been an excellent year at Waseley Hills High School with an abundance of positivity and a collective movement towards the exceptional school we strive to be.

This summer term has been action packed with many Waseley and CRST inter-school successes. This has happened alongside the term where all year groups face assessments, mocks and, of course, GCSEs, BTECs and A-levels. It has all gone incredibly smoothly and we are immensely proud of our students and community for what has been achieved this term.

Building on our successes, we have continued to strengthen the links with our community through the launch of our community hub event on 19th September and the Kids Holiday camp that will take place over the 6-week break in our sports facilities. These point towards the future, but we also paid homage to the rich history at Waseley this term with our Open Event in which the community relit



memories of the past and hopes for the future. It was a fitting evening for the community and included seeing the new build progress. ▶

Meet the new houses.....

Dragons come to Waseley!

Launch of Careers Fair

Celebrating Pride Month

Focus on wellbeing

Big sports round-up



It's been a colourful term!

Waseley Hills is part of Central Region Schools Trust



This term also marked the groundbreaking ceremony which brought together our feeder primary schools, the DFE, local councillors, Rubery champions and recognised the incredible impact the new build will have on the local area. The build will see big changes over the next few weeks with the concrete foundations in for new block 1. The steels will be in place over the next month which



will truly bring the building alive. Thank you for your understanding with the slight disruption to the junction at the school gate. This will allow crucial works to take place during our lightest time for traffic. Please use the secondary entrance which will be fully accessible all summer holidays.

In summary I would like to extend my gratitude to you as a community who have worked so hard alongside the school to make it a truly superb year. It is an absolute privilege to have met so many of you, strengthened those links and begun the work of working with you to build the future that the students, parents and carers deserve. Thank you for your time in reading the incredible successes of our fabulous young people.



Have a wonderful, safe summer break and I look forward to what next year brings at Waseley.

Tom Preston

Head of School



Free
pizza
and pop!

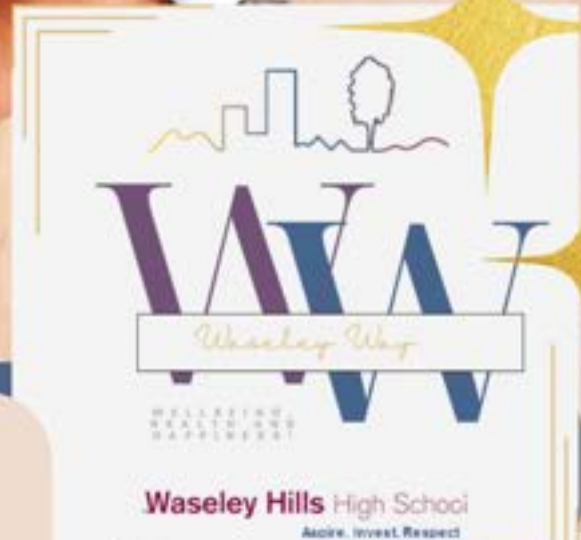
Waseley Way Community Hub!

Waseley Hills High School
School Road
Rubery
B45 9EL

4:00 pm - 6:00pm

Please contact Mrs McLeod
for further information

0121 453 5211



Already confirmed...

Safeguarding Snug
The Waseley Way to Wellbeing
Starting Well Team
WEST - Emotional Support Team
Student Welfare Officers
Duke of Edinburgh Award
SENDIASS SEND Support
Internet Safety Specialist
Papyrus
St Chads
Rubery RAF Cadets
Rubery Community Builder
Art SEN Crafts

Let our community thrive together!

Waseley Hills High School is bringing together services, support, activities, and information from our amazing local community.

Please come along and see what there is on offer.

All children and families from the community welcome!

Thursday 19th September 2024

Meet the New Houses!



Our student council and Sixth Form Leadership Team have been working with the Senior Leadership Team to re-launch the four houses that sit at the heart of the school.

The houses allow our students to come together across year groups, support one another and develop a great sense of pride in a variety of achievements including academic, sporting, and extra-curricular.



Our four new houses are Air, Earth, Fire and Water and students in these houses are known as our 'Air Eagles', 'Earth Bears', 'Fire Dragons' and 'Water Sharks'. Each house is led by one of our Sixth Form House Captains and a member of our Senior Leadership Team.

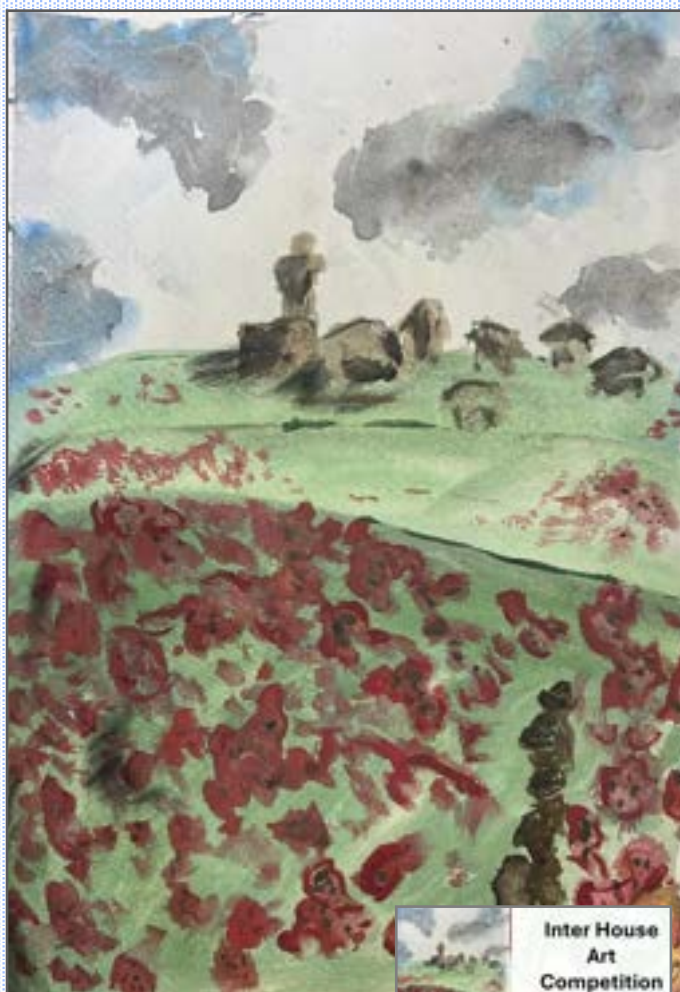
Students have been participating in a range of interhouse competitions over the last term to earn house points for their house. These competitions have included Chess, Art, PE, Short Story, Baking and an academic challenge in lessons. It has been fantastic to see so many students entering and competing in these challenges and coming together in their house communities.

The interhouse competitions will come to a head in our Sports Fest event at the end of the year where the winning house will be crowned and presented with the coveted house cup! In addition, students with the most house points in each year group and each house will win additional prizes including Amazon vouchers, medals and certificates.



Interhouse Art Competition

The theme of our first interhouse art competition was 'New Beginnings' to recognise the journey of our school and new build project. Well done to all those who entered and congratulations to our winners, Ava, Keira and Freddie, who won valuable points for their houses!



Year 10 Work Experience Week

Our Year 10 students really made us proud during work experience week. They were exemplary and many employers told us they would be happy to give our young people jobs.

Our students worked in a variety of places from schools and nurseries to estate agents, supermarkets and even at a veterinary surgery.



A huge thank you to all of our work experience partners who supported our young people and well done to all those students who made the most of these excellent opportunities.



Music Academy Midlands “.....is crushing it. Has been helping with the band programme and 1:1 lessons, settled in well and is doing brilliantly.”

Dunedin Estate Agents “She is lovely. She has been very professional throughout her placement.”

Next Generation Academy “.....is working very hard, managing teams and supporting in coaching.”



Waseley Eats

Students are still being rewarded every half term for earning Ethics points. Here we see Mr. Preston with Year 7 staff preparing to hand out chocolate during Culture time in the morning.





On Thursday 20th June, students from choir went to London to see the Tony Award winning musical, *Six the Musical*. Having performed songs from the show last year, it was fantastic to see the students enjoying the show from the front row.

After the show, the cast also answered questions in a Q & A event. One student from Waseley Hills got to ask the cast a question about the elaborate costumes they wear when performing.

Although it was a long day out, it was a truly inspiring trip and it was lovely to see everyone enjoying and getting involved with performing arts.

Child Development

As part of their course, Child Development students have to compare the progress of children to their expected milestone developments.



This term, they were treated to a visit from our very own Mr. Blatherwick-Hindmarsh and his adorable son Zac.

Ex-teacher and exam invigilator Mrs Dervish-Lang also brought her granddaughter Nelly so the class could do some great comparisons between the children and get themselves off to a good start with GCSE assessments.





The Morgan Stanley Sustainable Energy Challenge is a cross-Trust project to engage and enthuse our students about the world of business and finance.

Our Year 7s really demonstrated their ability to think as strong, powerful businesswomen and businessmen this term. Their challenge was to identify a successful, sustainable business idea. They had to create a brand image, promotional documents and profit/loss data sheets to demonstrate the income and expenses for their business and their overall profit for Morgan Stanley's investors.

Our Year 7s have really amazed the judges with their team-building skills and their confidence when answering some very challenging questions from the audience.

Morgan Stanley and the COO of the Trust Schools were extremely pleased to see how well their brands were presented and said how happy they were to see such investment in the project.





RSA8 Social Action Team

It has been a busy time for our Social Action Team Year 8 these last few months. From the launch events back in March, through the planning phases and up to the exciting sharing days, the Student Leaders have been working hard to develop their ideas around their social action projects in order to evoke thought and create change. The passion of our students about the things that matter to them has been at the heart of this project which is why the anti-bullying theme was explored and the project begun. This project will have a legacy and will continue into the future, which is fantastic.



As a Trust and school, we have enjoyed working in partnership with Birmingham Newman University. They welcomed some of the RSA8 Student Leaders onto campus on Thursday 20th June for the pitch presentations to be shared. The students enjoyed refreshments and networking with other schools, a tour of the campus and finally presenting their ideas to the panel. The staff and students

were fortunate to be hosted by Dreadlock Alien, a performance poet who led fun activities based around the spoken word. Their experience and stories were captivating, and staff and students were impressed with the skills they picked up along the way. All the students received a certificate of commitment and a commemorative pin badge for them to wear with pride and remind them of their pledge for change.

The team that hosted us at Birmingham Newman University were so impressed, not only with the passion of our students and the content of the social action projects, but with the way our pupils conducted themselves and represented our individual schools and our Trust. They should be very proud of themselves and so grateful to our staff for their commitment to our young people to ensure we are upholding our enrichment guarantee and offering such important experiences.

One member of staff commented:

It was brilliant. A number of my pupils now want to go to university which is superb! Some of them were also out their comfort zone when presenting in front of an audience but they overcame this fear on the day. Many skills for life were gained from the RSA8 events.



Trust Support for Local Hospital

CRST raises £10,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital



Our Central Sixth Form student leadership team and charity committees, made up of Year 13 and 12 students from across our Central Sixth Form schools, came together to lead and plan a week of exciting activities to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital. These student leaders challenged and supported student councils and leadership teams from all 13 schools, ranging from Early Years to Sixth Form within the trust across the West Midlands, to work together to plan imaginative activities to raise money for our chosen charity.

Together, we have now raised over £10,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital. All schools hosted an array of events to raise this money including charity wristband and homemade bracelet sales, discos, whole school carnivals and fairs, cake sales, guess the number of sweets in a jar and even gunge the teacher!

The Sixth Form charity committee leaders were invited to present the donation cheque to the hospital and tour the areas that will benefit from the amazing donation. The monies raised will be used to fund a project to update the play and distraction offerings within the Surgical Day Unit.

Trust CEO Guy Shears said:

"We are unbelievably proud of all of our students across all 13 of our schools within the trust who dedicated their time, energy and passions to this very worthy cause. The support of staff, families and the wider community has meant that we are able to support young people and families who use the services at the hospital."

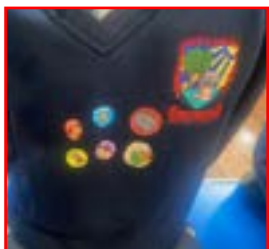
Bienvenidos a los alumnos de Holywell



Welcome to Holywell Year 5 Students

Students enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of Spanish language and cultural activities, translating book titles, tasting Spanish food and giving opinions in Spanish on the Tripadvisor stall. Students also learned clothing vocabulary in order to dress teddies for the 'Cinco de Mayo' festival.

Holywell Year 5 were supported by Year 10 GCSE students who did a great job teaching vocabulary via fun-filled tasks, rewarding Year 5s with stickers for their participation. Also assisting the event were Year 7 phonics ambassadors who skilfully shared their newfound knowledge of Spanish phonics with our Year 5 guests.



Welcome to our New Students



We have been delighted to welcome Year 6 over the past couple of weeks to many of our bespoke and whole-school transitions.

Year 6 were welcomed by our amazing staff and students. We did tours around the school, explored our canteen's fabulous food and learnt all about our lesson processes. Our school band, led by Mr White, played a fabulous performance to welcome Year 6 to Waseley.



Students were introduced to our Year 7 Team - Mr Burton, Mrs Jones, Miss Davies, Miss Harley and Mrs Bridgeman. They also met Mrs Stanford, Student Welfare Officer, Mrs Joshi, Head of Year and Assistant SENDCo and Mr Baker, Assistant Principal. Our Achievement Assistants were on hand to offer extra support to children with SEND.

Year 6 really enjoyed the sports sessions - a lot of football skills were demonstrated! They enjoyed creative and ICT activities, as showing off their skill at making tasty spring rolls. Our students have already started their first House Competitions, which we are really excited to carry on with in September.

It has been good to see our Year 6 starting to collect ETHIC points on the reward cards they were given on the first day. We will certainly be adding these to their points scores in September.



We had many important assemblies, starting with Mr Preston outlining our expectations to be a positive community, both in and out of school. Mrs Meredith, our Vice Principal, explained her role as the Senior DSL and how the school ensures there is a 'Team Around the Child' to ensure the safety of all. Miss Johnson, Head of English, talked about the importance of literacy and reading in supporting the curriculum, and Miss Loveridge, Trust Vice Principal, explained the importance of attendance to success at school.

The week ended with every child receiving a personalised certificate, cookie and treats, along with a best-selling reading book. We look forward to seeing our students Aspiring, Investing and Respecting one another to receive more treats which Mrs Joshi and the team have already started to plan!

We look forward to welcoming our transition students to the Waseley community in September.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

1 MAKE IT FUN

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. 'Revision walks' with podcasts and flashcards can benefit older learners.

3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and about.

4 PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

5 VARIETY IS KEY

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom, from swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

7 SET REALISTIC GOALS

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Gentle walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Teach them the importance of perseverance and the value of effort in achieving their goals.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Barnsley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Youth Engagement Project

Some students from Year 9 were lucky enough to be invited to take part in a Youth Engagement project at Abbey Stadium, offering them the opportunity to take part in activities and experiences that they may not have access to in their own community. The boys took part in skateboarding, five-a-side football and boot camp style activities, with the extended opportunity for them to continue their involvement in the activity beyond the event. They also attended an Anti-Violence presentation delivered by a parent who had experienced the loss of a child due to knife crime. The students returned to school saying it was the best thing they had ever gone to and would definitely be taking the organisers up on the offer of continuing with some of the activities. One student walked away with a £20 Nike voucher; a good day was had by all!

"The speech was life changing. It changed the way I thought about social media and made me think about the choices in friends and that people can really get killed if knives are in the picture." Nemiah

"I liked the gym work, the bike and the football and I am now looking at getting a gym membership which will make me fit and keep me off social media." Harman

"Listening to the real life story of the boy who was killed, told by his Mom, made me think twice about who I hang about with and what could actually happen. I'll never forget it." Kai



Pride Month at Waseley



Pride is a celebration of people coming together in love and friendship, to show how far LGBTQ+ rights have come, and how in some places there's still work to be done.

This June, Waseley celebrated Pride month with a myriad of activities. We held art, baking and chess competitions amongst others and raised money with a rainbow accessory day.

Staff showed support during those endless rainy June days with glorious rainbow umbrellas. Students turned up at break and lunch on 'Fizzy Fridays' to buy smiley badges, wristbands, sweets and drinks with the proceeds going towards our charity fundraising efforts which have been amazing.



The final of our Pride Bake off competition, and the range of ideas has been exciting.

Congratulations to Tanya J Year 9 and Verity T Year 8 who were our Bake Off Winners.



Farewell Year 11

June 11th marked 'leavers day' for Year 11 class of 2024.

As ever, they arrived early for their exam, stocking up on pain au chocolat and breakfast bars. Preparation is key!

On this day it was different, the end of an era.

After the exam, out came the shirts and the group made the event their own by signing shirts, collecting leavers' hoodies and enjoying time with each other and with staff who have seen them develop into amazing young people over the past 5 years. Thanks also to the café staff who spoil them with treats to go with their keepsakes.

Then came the assembly; a walk down memory lane with the poems and Year 7 pictures of some very sweet children, but also marking the present time with awards and finishing with the 'leavers' rap' where nearly all students got a mention!!

Seeing them then all leave after collecting an ice cream, resulted in a day where staff at Waseley reflected on the success of the year group, and remarked on the amazing students we are lucky to have here.



Year 11 Leavers Poem 11th June 2024

900 days for most people here
Equates to the days at school in 5 years
But of course you had COVID during your time
And you survived all the masks and the 2 little lines!

Some of you when younger in the school
Thought yourself so hard and incredibly cool
Meetings with teachers, where promises you'd make
Then forget and be back in trouble by break!

Remember the trends, the things at school
The bottle flip, loom bands and fidget spinners so cool
The trip to Arete, and days in the sun
And Blinding Lights school video of teachers having fun!

You all make me proud in so many ways
Those who open a door, or who get lots of praise
But also to you giving time to help school
Christmas hampers galore for needy locals.

Your journey has been tough, some may say
Learning the rules of 4 Headteachers' ways
But you did it, survived, came out the other end.
And good luck and best wishes from your teachers we send.

If we stop and think who here will get where
The first to get married or be a millionaire
To play first class sport, to work in the city
What ever your choice, just make sure you're happy.

As you come to this point in your school career
I say well done and lets raise a cheer
The next steps are for you, for taking you see
So grab it all, enjoy, with your positivity.

Let's enjoy a few more pies of you through the years
So many memories of laughter and tears
Some still look the same, just a bit more mature
Some completely different who are hard to ignore!!

The final verse, a massive thanks from me
For being the best year there can be
How could I replace such a group like you here
The memories of your best 5 Waseley years!

Mrs. Williams, Head of Year 11





Year 11 Prom at Grafton Manor was a magical evening. Scan here to see more pictures.





Our First Careers Fair

In April, we hosted our first Careers Fair for all students across the school. Every student was given a 'Passport to the Future' to complete in advance of the event, the idea being that they could consider their possible future career paths and enter the fair with a firm idea of the exhibitors they would like to talk to and the questions they would like to ask. The fair was also open after school for Years 10 and 11 to visit again with their families. The event was a major success and we have to thank all of the exhibitors for their wonderful contribution to what was a long and extremely successful day.



The Army, Aston University, Big Green Coach, Birmingham City University, Cadbury College, Corstophine & Wright, David Bunn & Co., David Paradine, Dudley College, Halesowen College, Heart of Worcestershire College, J.A. Burke Construction



Marlowe PLC, MEP Co. Midlands, NCS, Newman University, NHS Birmingham Community Healthcare, Prosser Knowles, Redditch United, S.J. Walchester Ltd., South & City College, Tilbury Douglas, West Mercia Police, Young Adult Learning Worcestershire

Let's Focus on Food!



This term, students and staff were treated to Hacienda Mexicana Day in the café complete with 'naked burrito bowls'. Café staff dressed to impress and there was a really fun flavour to the day! Other special events have included Cuban Fusion and Root to Stem.



The café has also been really treating the students this term, working in conjunction with the pastoral teams regarding rewards for attendance and efforts.

The café treated Year 11 leavers to cakes on leavers day and then brownies at prom, all decorated to signify the special occasions.



On Wednesday 3rd July, a Head Chef from our catering suppliers, Aspens, joined us to take student feedback on the food on offer in our canteen. Students from Years 7-10 took part in tasting various items from the menu and providing feedback to the suppliers, shaping the future of our Waseley lunchtime menu.

Students enjoyed the event and many stepped out of their comfort zone, trying and enjoying varieties of food such as curries and Chinese dishes! The firm favourite of the day was the lemon drizzle flapjack – look out for this in the café soon!



The food skills have also been amazing in the food department this term. We always see such pride as Year 9 are trialling GCSE skills such as Swiss Roll and marinades for stir fry and Year 10 are exploring foods in season making strawberry tarts and trifle, and spinach and ricotta with home made pasta.

Many thanks to families for supporting this and experiencing the range of flavour combinations.



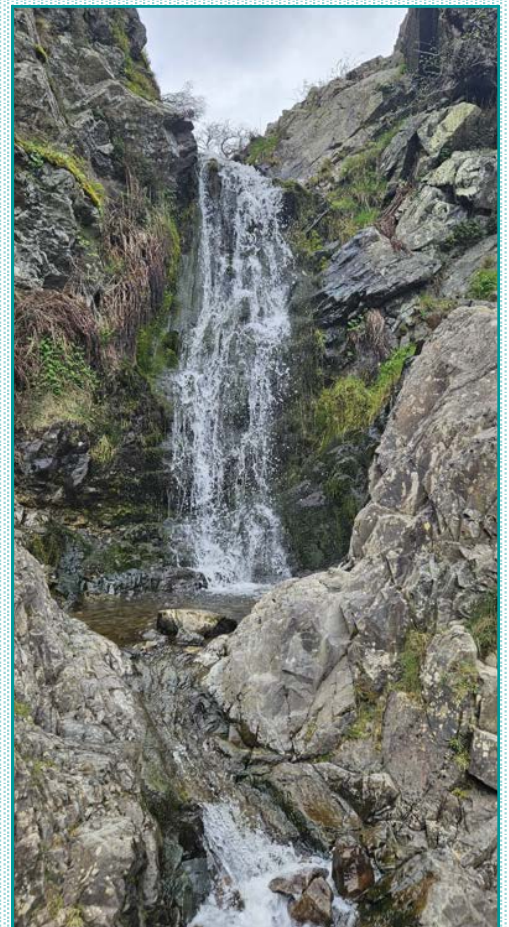
Field Trip to Carding Mill Valley

On a chilly day in April the Geography department set off into the wilderness of the Shropshire Hills to teach Year 10 about how a river changes downstream. Usually it has its own microclimate, and gets much colder as you go higher, so I had warned everyone to bring multiple layers and woolly hats. As it turned out, the sun came out and the weather was glorious; perfect for getting into a river and climbing up a steep V-shaped valley. Luckily, nobody had listened and there were no hats in sight.



All of the students were an absolute credit to the school and used the specialist equipment to measure the width and depth of the channel, velocity and the bedload shape and size at different points of the river. Carding Mill Valley river rarely changes but sometimes disappoints; this was not evident on our trip as the water flowed magnificently, and the waterfall shone gloriously in the spring sunshine.

Thanks to Mr Baker, Mr Ball, Mrs Follis, Mrs Wood and Mrs Ross for supervising and to Mr Blatherwick-Hindmarsh for his staffing skills.



Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme



For the first time since lockdown, students are able to participate in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. We set off from Waseley Hills High School, from where students from Years 9, 10 and Sixth Form had to make their way to Blackwell Court, covering 16km and at least 6 hours of walking.

Students had to use skills such as teamwork, map reading and many more to get to Blackwell. They were very successful and all 48 students made it to Blackwell, even though one student dropped his phone in a lake.

We started the evening with students setting their tents up and cooking meals, with some even having curry, naan and chilli. Students enjoyed an evening of sporting activities from football to volleyball, frisbee and many other games.



The next day the light was beaming through the tents and everybody in camp was up and awake at 4:30am. The early start didn't slow the students and they were making their breakfasts, tents were down, bags were packed and even washing up was done. They were up and ready to be out by 7am to make their way to Webbs on another long 16km trek.

The parents were all waiting for their children at Webbs where students got loud cheers and there were lots of tears and hugs from their parents.

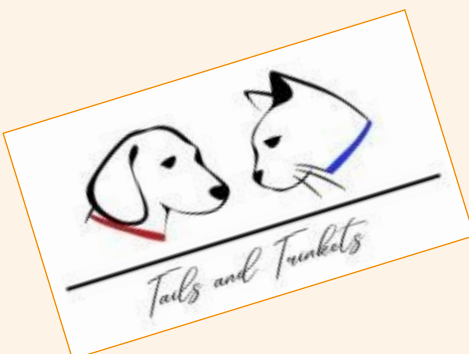
All of our students passed their Bronze award for Duke of Edinburgh and represented the school really well. They were a credit to Waseley Hills High School and we are immensely proud of their achievement. We cannot wait to do this again next year when students will be able to progress on to the Silver award!!!

Sixth Form Young Enterprise



As part of their continued enrichment, Year 12 have set up and run their own business. Tails and Trinkets has been started from scratch and the team have built up their company from holding board meetings, creating a logo, selling shares and fundraising.

Their final product has been launched online via the Young Enterprise trading station <https://www.ye-tradingstation.org.uk/product/mystery-dog-toy-goodie-bag>. Students have gained many skills and coped with real problems, decisions, and meeting deadlines. They have discovered how finance works in business and explored practical employability skills that will help them in their future careers.



Arete Residential 2024



We arrived Sunday afternoon to a beautifully sunny Wales and had a wonderful bonfire and assault course on the first night.

Throughout the week, students were split into groups and completed daily activities led by instructors. These included coasteering, gorge walking, abseiling, paddleboarding, climbing through mines, ziplining, rock climbing and many other challenging activities!



Everyone had a great week, learning lots of new skills, acquiring quite a few bruises and making many happy memories!

It was an amazing trip that was thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff alike.





We bid farewell to our amazing Year 13 cohort. Their journey at Waseley has been eventful, from surviving the challenges of the pandemic, witnessing Waseley joining the Central Region Schools Trust and the start of our fantastic new build. Year 13 have worked incredibly hard and made a considerable contribution to the wider community at Waseley.

We celebrated their departure with a totally tropical themed leavers' assembly including mocktails, games and an ice cream van! We wish them all the very best in their next steps and will miss them.



Year 13 Prom



Year 13 had a wonderful send off at their Prom held at the Holiday Inn, Bromsgrove.

The evening was planned and designed by our Sixth Form social committee. The theme of the evening was 'mirror ball' and the decor in the room reflected this, glittering spectacularly and highlighted with a magic mirror photo booth and a DJ with a foam cannon!

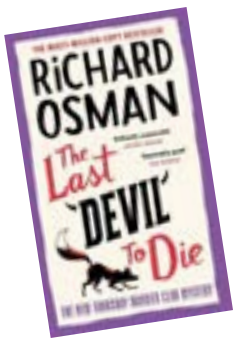


Stuck for something to read over Summer?



Why not join our
Virtual Book Club -
we only meet online

Have a look at some of these. Hope you enjoy our suggestions - happy reading!



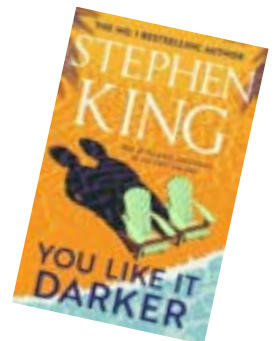
Shocking news reaches the Thursday Murder Club.

An old friend in the antiques business has been killed, and a dangerous package he was protecting has gone missing.

As the gang springs into action they encounter art forgers, online fraudsters and drug dealers, as well as heartache close to home.

With the body count rising, the package still missing and trouble firmly on their tail, has their luck finally run out? And who will be the last devil to die?

'You like it darker? Fine, so do I', writes Stephen King in the afterword to this magnificent new collection of twelve stories that delve into the darker part of life - both metaphorical and literal. King has, for half a century, been a master of the form, and these stories, about fate, mortality, luck, and the folds in reality where anything can happen, are as rich and riveting as his novels, both weighty in theme and a huge pleasure to listen to. King writes to feel 'the exhilaration of leaving ordinary day-to-day life behind', and in You Like it Darker, listeners will feel that exhilaration too, again and again.



Anna has just lost her taste for the Big Apple...

She has a life to envy. An apartment in New York. A well-meaning (too well-meaning?) partner. And a high-flying job in beauty PR. Who wouldn't want all that?

Anna, it turns out.

Trading a minor midlife crisis for a major life event, she switches the skyscrapers of Manhattan for the tiny Irish town of Maumtully (population 1,217), helping old friends Brigit and Colm set up a luxury coastal retreat.

Tougher than it sounds. Newflash: the locals hate the idea. So much so, there have been threats – and violence. Anna, however, worked in the beauty industry. There's no ugliness she hasn't seen. No wrinkle she can't smooth over. There's just one fly in the ointment – old flame Joey Armstrong.

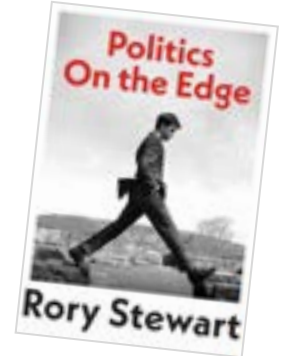


It's time that ice cream claimed its crown as the ruler of desserts... it conjures the most nostalgic of childhood memories, delivers a taste that stops you in your tracks, flooding you with sensory delight, and offers comfort in both our happiest and saddest moments. Ice cream is a true food for the soul.

Whether you want to tuck into a scoop or two all by itself or as a complementary addition to a moreish dessert, Terri is here to show you that ice cream can be so much more than an icy tub of raspberry ripple from the supermarket. Each page is filled with secrets on upping your dessert game to make a full repertoire of delightful treats at home, including ice-cream sandwiches, impressive sundaes, classic puddings, and tantalizing tarts. From timeless recipes that warm your heart, to innovative creations that spark your imagination, there's a scoop of happiness here for everyone.

Over the course of a decade, Rory Stewart went from being a political outsider to standing for prime minister – before being sacked from a Conservative Party that he had come to barely recognise.

Uncompromising, honest and darkly humorous, this is his story of the challenges, absurdities and realities of political life. Instantly praised as a new classic, it is an astonishing portrait of our turbulent times.



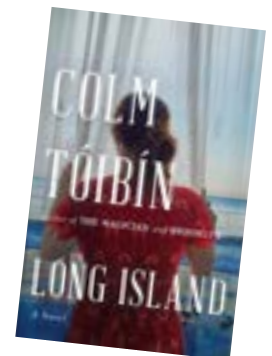
Millions of Amor Towles fans are in for a treat as he shares some of his shorter fiction: six stories based in New York City and a novella set in Golden Age Hollywood.

The New York stories, most of which take place around the year 2000, consider the fateful consequences that can spring from brief encounters and the delicate mechanics of compromise that operate at the heart of modern marriages.

Written with his signature wit, humor, and sophistication, *Table for Two* is another glittering addition to Towles's canon of stylish and transporting fiction.

Eilis Lacey is Irish, married to Tony Fiorello, a plumber and one of four Italian American brothers, all of whom live in neighbouring houses on a cul-de-sac in Lindenhurst, Long Island, with their wives and children and Tony's parents, a huge extended family. It is the spring of 1976 Eilis is now forty with two teenage children. Though her ties to Ireland remain stronger than those that hold her to her new land and home, she has not returned in decades.

One day, when Tony is at work an Irishman comes to the door asking for Eilis by name. He tells her that his wife is pregnant with Tony's child and that when the baby is born, he will not raise it but instead deposit it on Eilis's doorstep. It is what Eilis does—and what she refuses to do—in response to this stunning news that makes Tóibín's novel so riveting and suspenseful.



For nearly 75 years, one BBC programme has been a constant factor in chronicling the way sport is covered, in all its many facets. It has been a window on the sporting world all over the globe - packed tightly into every Saturday evening for the bulk of the year.

First broadcast in 1948, *Sports Report* is the longest-running radio sporting programme in the world and one of the BBC's hardy perennials. Pat Murphy has been a reporter on the programme since 1981 and here he sifts comprehensively through the experiences of his contemporaries and those who made their mark on *Sports Report* in earlier decades.

He hears from commentators, reporters, producers, presenters and the production teams who regularly achieved the broadcasting miracle of getting a live programme on air, without a script, adapting as the hour of news, reaction and comment unfolded.

For further holiday reading inspiration, try out these great websites:

Booktrust.org.uk

toppsta.com

booksfortopics.com

Happy summer reading!

Book Challenge Bingo

Complete a line of 3 in any direction and win a prize. Complete the grid and win a **BIG** prize! Note down the names and authors of the books you have read and show this completed page to Mrs Amato in the library by 13th September to claim your prize!



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Book _____

By _____



Meet the Pastoral Team

Mrs E Meredith - Vice Principal
Miss S Oakes - Assistant Principal

Mr A Blount - Head of Year & Associate Assistant Principal

Mrs N Joshi - Head of Year

Mrs K Bradley - Head of Year

Miss J Burke-Martin - Head of Year

Mrs J Williams - Head of Year



Mrs K Mcleod - Lead Student Welfare Officer

Mr B Williams - Student Welfare Officer

Mr G Shaw - Student Welfare Officer

Mrs T Stanford - Student Welfare Officer

Mrs A Ross - Student Welfare Officer



Miss R Strafford - Student Wellbeing
(First Aid and Safeguarding)

Mrs S Taroni - First Aid Assistant



Mrs M Stokes - SENDCO

Miss J Moore - Education Welfare Officer
Mrs L Whitcombe-Troth - Attendance Officer

WASELEY CARES



Mrs Meredith
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Blount
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Williams
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Trafford
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs McLeod
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Bradley
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Joshi
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Ashley
Deputy
Designated Safeguarding Lead

THERE IS SUPPORT ALL AROUND YOU

AT WASELEY HILLS

All members of staff undergo safeguarding training on a regular basis and understand the importance of protecting the young people in their care.

Students across the school have access to trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who can be identified by their badges.

We work closely with a number of outside agencies to support students and staff - Malachi, Birmingham Children's Trust and Worcestershire Children First are just a few of them.

Students in Year 11 are supported with additional tutoring and specialist GCSE interventions.

The PSHCE programme keeps students healthy and safe and prepares them for life and work.

Behaviour support is available to students who are at risk of suspension and permanent exclusion.

Free period products are available from the PE Department, Reception, Learning Support and Student Services.

Your Form Tutor is your first point of contact followed by Student Welfare Officers then your Head of Year

If you are concerned about your own wellbeing or the wellbeing of others outside of school hours, please contact

CHILDLINE 0800 1111 SAMARITANS 116 123



At the end of June, Year 7s participated in two of the most informative and interactive workshops and assemblies to support in making the correct and responsible decisions, preparing our youngsters for adulthood.

We started the week with a Girls On Board workshop to empower our Year 7 girls in working positively with one another. They learnt strategies to develop during disagreements with peers and how to be inclusive, accepting individuals of different *needs* and *behaviours*.



We ended the week with PC Sharp going through various ways of continuing to have a positive role in the community, both in and out of school, particularly on social media.



We are hoping these workshops will enable our Year 7s to continue to make the correct choices and support one another, most importantly showing RESPECT to everyone.

The Waseley Way To Wellbeing

PLEASE SEE THE LINKS TO OUR WELLBEING NEWSLETTER THAT INCLUDES THE HUGE DEVELOPMENTS WE HAVE MADE IN OUR WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING !



AUTUMN EDITION



SPRING EDITION



SUMMER EDITION



Mental Health Awareness Week 2024

Mental Health Awareness Week took place from Monday 13 – Sunday 19 May 2024. The theme, as set by the [Mental Health Foundation](#), was “Movement: moving for our mental health.”

Why movement matters

Being physically active is great for our bodies and our minds.

Exercise has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression, and it can help us to prevent physical illnesses. Sadly, people living with mental illness die on average [20 years younger](#) than the general population, often from avoidable physical illness. This group is more likely to develop preventable conditions like diabetes, heart disease, bowel cancer and breast cancer.

Research shows that [56% of people found that exercising regularly helped](#) them to alleviate stress and prevent burnout in their lives.



The money raised from the Wear It Green Day events help Mental Health UK challenge mental health stigma and bring about positive change so that people

and communities can thrive. The Mental Health Foundation works to prevent mental health problems, helping people understand, protect and sustain their mental health. They are driving for change towards a mentally healthy society for all, and support communities, families and individuals, with a particular focus on those at greatest risk.



Men's Mental Health

Way to Wellbeing

July 2024

Life can throw us curveballs. Yet even when things seem tough, there's a lot we can do to look after ourselves and others.

Challenges and barriers to Men's Mental Health.

- I can't let my family down
I need to keep it together
- I don't walk to be a burden
- What's going on with me is too complicated to fix
- Talking doesn't work
It means I'm weak
- I don't want to be judged
STGMW

WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOMP OUT THE STIGMA?

Tyson Fury

HONESTLY, YOU MAY NOT SEE MENTAL HEALTH, BUT BELIEVE ME, IT'S REAL. PEOPLE MAY ACT HAPPY, SMILEY, BUT INSIDE THEIR HUNTING GIG BAG, IT TAKES A SECOND TO SEND A TEXT TO A LOVED ONE OR FRIEND TO ASK HOW THEY ARE. YOU ARE HUMAN TO IT, YOU ARE LOVED.

Rio Ferdinand

"Speak up if you're struggling"

REACH OUT WITH ALEC

Ask
Listen
Encourage Action
Check In,

THREE LITTLE WORDS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES: HOW ARE YOU?

Safeguarding Information

Access to our School

Full Access - Unaccompanied



Black Lanyard:
Sixth Form Student

Burgundy Lanyard:
Member of Waseley/
Central Region Trust Staff

Green Lanyard:
Visitor whose credentials
have been checked and
approved

 Waseley Hills High School
Aspire, Invest, Respect

Restricted Access - Accompanied



Visitors on a red lanyard must be accompanied at all times by a member of staff.

If you see anybody with a red lanyard walking around unaccompanied, please report this immediately to the nearest member of staff.

No Lanyard - No Entry to School

Nobody (except students) should ever be seen in school without a lanyard.

If you see anyone walking around without a lanyard, please report this immediately to the nearest member of staff.

 Central Region
Schools Trust
Founded by the RM

Hi-Vis - Know the Colours



Waseley
Hills
Staff



Tilbury
Douglas
Staff



Reminder – For your own safety....

Mobile phones should be switched off and, in your bag,
Not in your pocket
Not out in lessons, break or Lunch.
At the end of the school day, you need to wait until you are
through the gates before you use them
You should not be using them to contact your friends in
other lessons
Do not use the walkie talkie app in school

Thank you

NSPCC

CHILD PROTECTION

HELPLINE

0808 800 5000



West Mercia
POLICE



Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support for children and young people

www.kooth.com

ChildLine
0800 1111

SAMARITANS

Call us free 24/7 on
116 123
samaritans.org



TEAM PE Sporting NEWS

Worcestershire School Games 2024

On Tuesday 2nd July, a group of Year 9 and Year 10 girls performed in a dance festival at the Worcestershire School Games at Bromsgrove School. This was an opportunity for students from selected schools across Worcestershire and Wyre Forest to celebrate and showcase their dancing achievements.

The girls have been working hard over the past few months choreographing and rehearsing their routine, demonstrating great leadership and teamwork skills. Mrs. Bridgeman was a very proud teacher watching them performing on stage in front of so many schools, and cheering and supporting the other children that were participating. They demonstrated the Waseley Way values in abundance.



Year 10 GCSE PE Rock Climbing Trip

On Monday 24th to Thursday 27th June, both Mr Blount and Mrs Bridgeman took their GCSE PE classes to the rock-climbing wall at Wyre Forest Leisure Centre. Both groups attended 2 days of rock-climbing activities which included learning how to put a harness on, tying knots, belaying each other and climbing a range of different routes with the aim of using these skills to go towards part of their GCSE PE practical grade.

All students gave one hundred percent effort over the week demonstrating great resilience, good humour and excellent behaviour with the challenges they faced. There was fierce competition between the 2 classes on the timed wall climb, with Mrs Bridgeman's class coming out as champions thanks to Harvey rocketing up the wall in 6.4 seconds!

A massive well done to the students and a big thank you to Mr Shaw for filming the evidence.





The Central Region Schools Trust Athletics Games 2024 event at Abbey Stadium was a great opportunity for all Year 7s and 10s.

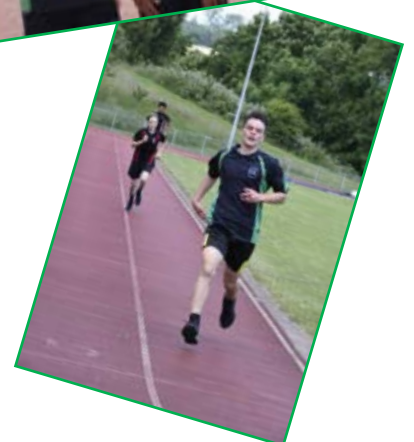
From a Year 10 perspective, we all thought that it was a fun day out of school when we could finally get to chill out after a long week of mock exams, taking part in sporting events that we rarely ever get to do in school.

It was nice to see everyone supporting one another and it was really nice to see how well the Year 7s did and how keen they were to give everything a go. They were really good.

We can all agree that we really enjoyed this event and, as Year 10s, it's a shame that we won't get to participate again next year!

We want to thank the PE department for organising this for us.

TEAM YEAR 10 ATHLETICS 2024





Track Events

100m - Yr 7
2nd - Julian K
4th - Sienna P

100m - Yr 10
1st Jack S
3rd Amaris HE

200m - Yr 7
Isla B - 2nd
2nd - Jo B

200m Yr 10
Ruby T - 3rd
Alfie F - 3rd

300m Yr 7
Rosie M - 4th
Jamie S - 2nd

400m Yr 7
Lila A - 4th
Jo Berry - 4th

400m Yr 10
Harvey G - 2nd
Jess S - 3rd

800m Yr 7
Dexter J - 1st
Jemima W - 2nd

800m Yr 10
Timon B - 1st
Lara G - 4th

1500m Yr 10 Only
Chrissie A - 1st
Toby HS - 2nd

Relay Yr 7
Boys - 2nd
Girls - 4th

Relay Yr 10
Girls - 3rd

Boys photo finish - 2nd!!!

Field Events

Shot Putt Yr 10
George M - 3rd
Priya PS - 4th

Shot Putt Yr 7
Jo G - 3rd
Maddy R - 3rd

High Jump Yr 10
Toby HS - 4th

High Jump Yr 7
Julian K - 1st
Jemima W - 4/5th

Long Jump Yr 10
Dan K-4th
Jess S 2nd

Long Jump Yr 7
Dexter J - 3rd
Amalie C - 3rd

Javelin Yr 7
Charlie H - 1st
Lilah A - 3rd

Javelin Yr 10
Ethan L - 2nd



Year 10	
School	Rank/Score
Holyhead	1st - 64 points
Arrow Vale	2nd - 52 points
Gospel Oak	3rd - 51 points
Waseley Hills	4th - 49 points

Year 7	
School	Rank/Score
Waseley Hills	1st - 72 points
Ipsley	2nd - 67 points
Churchill	3rd - 65 points
Gospel Oak	4th - 64 points
Holyhead	5th - 61 points

TEAM PE Sporting NEWS

On Wednesday 3rd July, PE hosted a Year 9 vs Year 10 boys football match.

Students were led by Mr Mason for the Year 9s and Mr Carriline for the Year 10s. The game was an excellent showcase of footballing talent across both year groups. Year 10 raced away to a 3-0 lead by half time with a strong performance from stand out players Jack S, Ben J and Dylan C who all netted the first half goals.

Year 9 was quick to bounce back at the start of the second half scoring 2 quick goals to put them into contention to seal a remarkable comeback. A wonder goal from Luke started the fight back followed by swift thinking from Kai W to follow up a decent save from Year 10's Matthew W.

As Year 9 began to push on for the equaliser, some excellent counter attacking play by the strong Year 10s saw them nick 2 late goals from Jack and Alfie and sealed a 5-2 victory for the Year 10s although missed opportunities late on for the Year 9's would have made for a very interesting scoreline if they were put away.

Strong turnout from students across both year group who attended to show support for the boys football teams with both Year 9 and 10 boys taking leadership roles as assistant referees to help Mr Wolstencroft in the middle.



KS3 football team plays St. John's Middle

In the first week of May, Miss Brazil took the team to a football fixture at St. John's. The team was on a high having performed well earlier in the season but unfortunately were beaten. They showed excellent sportsmanship throughout and demonstrated brilliantly the 'Respect' aspect of the 'Waseley Way'.

April victories against Arrow Vale

Our Year 9 football and KS3/4 basketball teams competed against Arrow Vale and managed a last-minute 4-3 win in football and a comfortable 29-9 victory in basketball. Well done to everyone involved.

Dan makes County Champion

Amazing news that Dan K in Year 9 is now County Champion at Long Jump thanks to his impressive performance in May. He earned the gold medal with a personal best jump of 4.37m! Congratulations to Dan and we look forward to seeing him continue in his athletics achievements.

Specialised Optional GCSE PE kit with logos and branded GCSE PE

- Core microfleece lined waterproof jacket £36
- Sports polyester hoodie £30
- Cool T-Shirt Loose Fit £16
- Women's Fitted cool T-Shirt £16
- Slim leg training pants £26
- Women's cool athletic pants £26

Branded-4U, 63 Hewell Rd, Barnt Green B45 8NL
sales@branded-4u.co.uk call 0121 445 3262





KIDS HOLIDAY CAMP

Ages: 5 - 13 year olds

@ Waseley Hills High School, Rubery, B45 9EL
Tuesday - Thursday. Every School Holiday.

Early drop in

week

9am - 3pm Per Day (£16 per day / £42 per week)

8am - 9am Early Drop (£3 per day)



HAF funding available: Free for children who receive benefit - related free school meals (the club will inc a free packed lunch).

- **SPORTS**
- **NERF BATTLES**
- **DRAMA**
- **GLOW SPORTS**
- **INFLATABLES**
- **ARTS & CRAFTS**

To book: www.pandesports.com

Email: info@pandesports.com

Term Dates 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024

STAFF TRAINING DAY	Monday 2 nd September 2024
STAFF TRAINING DAY (Trust)	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
TERM STARTS	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
STAFF TRAINING DAY	Friday 25 th October 2024
HALF TERM	Monday 28 th October 2024 – Friday 1 st November 2024
STAFF TRAINING DAY	Friday 22 nd November 2024
TERM ENDS	Friday 20 th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

STAFF TRAINING DAY (Trust)	Monday 6 th January 2025
TERM STARTS	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 17 th February 2025 – Friday 21 st February 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 11 th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

TERM STARTS	Monday 28 th April 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 26 th May 2024 – Friday 30 th May 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 18 th July 2025
STAFF TRAINING DAY	Monday 21 st July 2025

Reception is open 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday during term times - **0121 453 5211**

You can email us at any time on office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk especially if you have any news and pictures you would like to share in our next newsletter.



Follow us on Facebook, X, Instagram and via the school website:

www.waseleyhillsschool.org.uk



T 0121 453 5211 • E office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk • W waseleyhillsschool.org.uk

Waseley Hills, a high school operated by Central Region Schools Trust,
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