



Autumn 2024
Newslink

**Achieving individual excellence
in a caring community**

Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

As I draft my introduction to this final Newslink of 2024 we have our Prize Giving Ceremony this evening. It is a wonderful way to celebrate the successes of our students and it is always a delight seeing so many of our former students back at school to receive their awards. I would like to thank Ms Munns and Ms Cousins for organising the evening and congratulations to all of our prize winners.

As ever, the term has passed very quickly. Year 11 and Year 13 students will be pleased that they have got their practice examinations out of the way and will have an opportunity to have some time off over the Christmas break.

Last Wednesday we staged our Christmas concert which as always was a delightful evening. It is always a lovely way to end the term and certainly makes you feel that Christmas is approaching. I was particularly pleased with the number of students who performed at the concert for the first time. The quality of the pianists performing was truly outstanding! I would like to thank Mr Warak and Ms Hunt for all of the extracurricular opportunities that they give to the musicians at the school.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Robert Jones
Headteacher



On Sunday, November 10th, our student leadership team represented the school at the Remembrance Service in Eastcote. Our Head Boy, Aryan Chanthurutil, and Head Girl, Lily Norbury, laid a wreath on behalf of Haydon School. The student leaders, including Lorin, Connie, Harry, and Owen, along with Aryan and Lily, marched in the parade along with representatives from the armed forces and other community groups. We are immensely proud of our student leadership team.



Every minute counts

See what happens over the course of one year when you are a little late every day



School begins at 8:40 am. Be on time!



Amnesty Visit to Parliament

On Wednesday 4th December a number of Year 12 Haydon students were invited to the Houses of Parliament, as part of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Human Rights reception, hosted by Amnesty International. The students got the chance to listen to speeches from the chair of the APPG Fabian Hamilton, Sarah Champion, Chair of the International Development Select Committee and Anooosheh Ashoori, a British-Iranian businessman formerly detained in Evin jail in Iran.

Afterwards the students had the opportunity to speak

with a range of MPs and Peers from various different political parties. This was a fantastic opportunity for the students to ask questions on a range of topics and potentially think about future careers in Parliament and/or in human rights. There were also a number of stalls where students learnt about the current campaigns that Amnesty International UK are running. For example focusing on Gaza, racial justice and Hong Kong.



Guest speaker from Microsoft

Inspiring Session from Microsoft Product Manager: A Game-Changer for Our A level Computer Science Students

On Monday, 7th October 2024, we had the privilege of hosting Mr. Sourabh Sharma, a highly accomplished Product Manager at Microsoft, for an insightful guest speaker session. The session was a resounding success, sparking curiosity and inspiring our A level computer science students as they prepare to make important decisions about their futures.

Mr. Sharma's extensive

experience, spanning over 17 years in Product Management, IoT, Business Analysis, Data Science, and more, provided our A-Level students with a real-world perspective on the skills they are currently developing. His insights into the tech industry, combined with personal stories of challenges and successes, offered invaluable guidance.

Students were highly engaged, asking a range of thoughtful questions, from career paths in technology to the future of innovation. Mr. Sharma's answers helped clarify uncertainties and will certainly influence their decisions when

choosing the right university courses.

We are confident that this session has not only broadened students' understanding of the industry but also given them the inspiration and direction to pursue their ambitions with confidence.

Haydon Clubs

Over 40 clubs to unlock your potential
haydonschool.com/clubs



English Trips



Twenty Year 9 students hit the West End on the 11th of September to see Matilda: The Musical. Students were chosen because of their exceptional effort in English in Year 8. A mixture of the exciting special effects and catchy musical numbers led to a memorable evening for both students and staff. Miss Gibbons and Miss Edirisuriya would like to thank the students for their exceptional behaviour and all the fun we had on our night out. On Thursday 5th September, a group of 60 Year 11 students travelled by coach to Alexandra Palace to see 'An Inspector Calls'

performed live on stage. The students were mesmerised by the production's spectacular cast, staging and sound design. A particular highlight was the Birling house quite literally collapsing on itself after the bombastic final conflict between the family members. The ominous figure of the Inspector took the students' breath away with his commanding presence

and interrogative tone. A true tour de force! The students behaved wonderfully and many were talking about the highlights of the production as they left the theatre. They will be writing about the play in their GCSE exams in June 2025, so this was a fantastic experience for our students to see the text as it was intended to be witnessed.





Y6 Open Evening

What an extraordinary evening we had during our Open Evening at the school! The event's overwhelming success was a true testament to the dedication and hard work of our incredible volunteers, students, teachers, and staff. We were thrilled to welcome over one thousand visitors to the school, and I received some very positive feedback about the evening. The enthusiasm and energy were palpable, creating an atmosphere of excitement and pride in our school community. Our amazing volunteers went above and beyond to ensure everyone felt welcomed and had a memorable experience. Their commitment to showcasing the best of our school truly shone through. The classrooms were alive with activity as visitors engaged in enriching experiences. From interactive demonstrations to captivating presentations, every corner of the school reflected the spirit of learning and discovery. Witnessing the passion and creativity of our students and teachers was truly inspiring. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and those who shared lovely messages of appreciation afterward. Your kind words affirm the collective effort that went into organizing such a successful event. Thank you for recognizing the quality and impeccable organization our team worked tirelessly to achieve.

This Open Evening was not just an event but a celebration of our school community coming together to showcase the excellence that defines us. We look forward to welcoming the new Year 7 cohort from next September and continuing to build on the success of this wonderful evening.





The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss

Haydon Library

Monday to Friday - 8 am to 4 pm
library@haydonschool.com

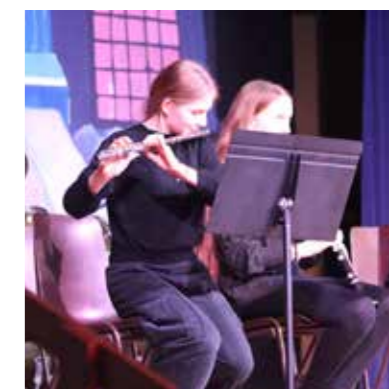
To access the library catalogue go to www.haydonschool.com/library



Christmas Concert



Haydon's annual Christmas Concert was held on the 11th December. The concert included a range of performances from the orchestra, to the choir, to student-led bands. Soloists sang beautifully and pianists

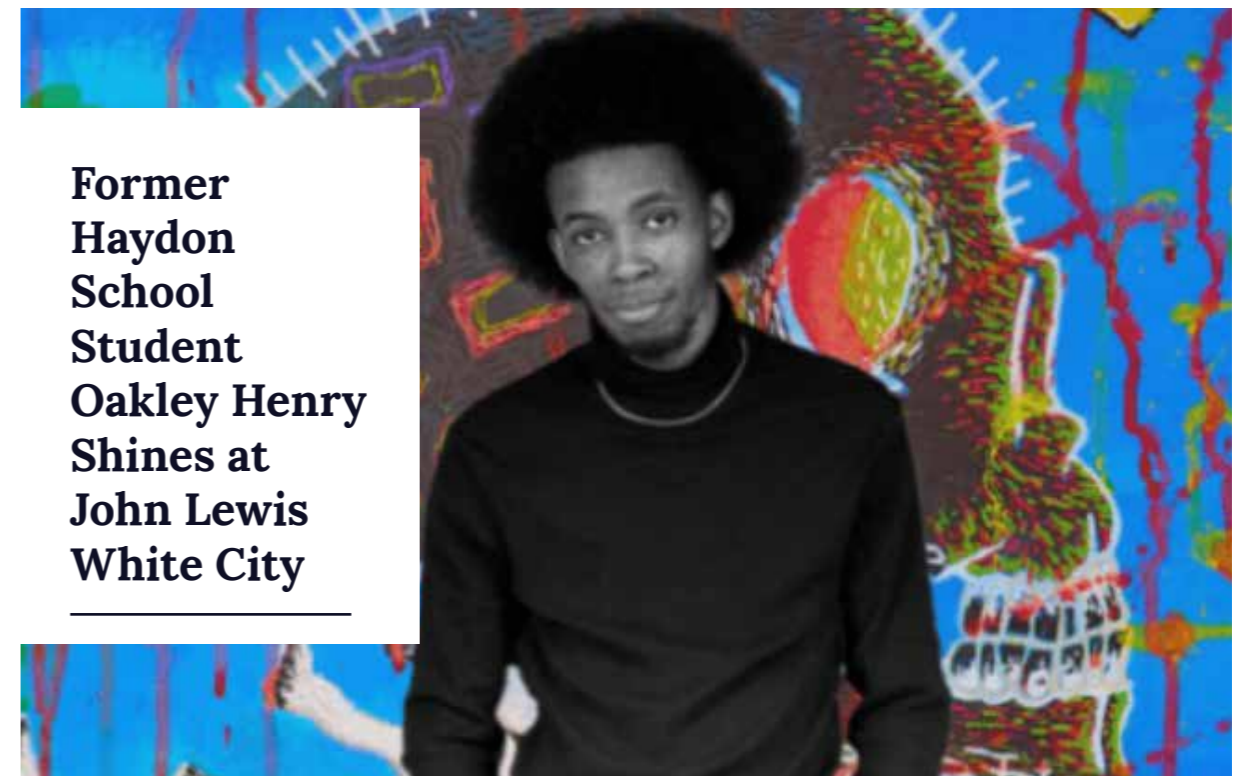




A Level Geography Trip

our A Level Geography students attended an engaging lecture at the Royal Geographical Society, delivered by Professor Oli Mould from Royal Holloway, University of London. The lecture, titled The Changing City – Alternative Uses of Urban Space, provided fascinating insights into how the contemporary city is forever changing, and how people are finding ways to use the city in very different, engaging, fun, political or subversive ways to express their ‘right to the city’. Students had the opportunity to take notes, ask thought-provoking questions, and gain valuable knowledge on the relevance of studying geography at a degree level. It was

a rewarding experience that deepened their understanding of human geography and sparked further interest in the subject.



Former Haydon School Student Oakley Henry Shines at John Lewis White City


We are delighted to celebrate the success of Oakley Henry, a talented former student of Haydon School, who recently showcased his remarkable artwork at John Lewis White City. The event, held on the 5th and 6th of October, was a fantastic opportunity for visitors to explore Oakley’s intricate drawings and creative designs.

Oakley’s showcase drew a diverse audience, including art enthusiasts, supporters from our school community, and curious shoppers. Those who attended had the privilege of meeting Oakley in person, learning about the inspiration behind his work, and gaining insight

into his journey as an artist. We couldn’t be prouder of Oakley’s achievements and A proud moment for both the creative mark he is making in the art world. We hope the event highlighted not only his talent but also the dedication and passion that he has poured into his artistic journey takes him next.



Sixth Form Student Leadership Team

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|---|---|---|---|
|  | Lily Norbury Head Girl |  | Aryan Chanthurutil Head Boy |
| Harry Jiggins Deputy Head Boy |  | Lorin Stringfellow Deputy Head Girl |  |
|  | Delia Turda Deputy Head Girl |  | Owen Saunders Deputy Head Boy |
| Connie Hutchinson Lead Prefect |  | Aaliya Bandali Lead Prefect |  |

Meet Haydon School's Sixth Form Leadership Team. A selection of students committed to contributing to the school community that are taking part in Haydon's Student Leadership programme.

Safeguarding Week

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Haydon's Safeguarding Week 2024 focused on three central themes: Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Online Safety, and Knife Crime. Every lesson started with a safeguarding-related question, discussed during form time at the end of the day. Activities included a "Right to Feel Safe" colouring competition, a safeguarding quiz, and assemblies delivered by the Safeguarding Team with an anti-drugs focus. Year 7 students attended a special assembly by the Safer Schools Officer on Monday, in preparation for the March 2025 Your Life You Choose event. Year 8 participated in workshops on VAWG led by Ascent, a London-wide organisation supporting women affected by domestic abuse or violence, with students showing maturity and respect during discussions. On Tuesday, KISS, a confidential sexual health and well-being service for young people aged 13-19 in Hillingdon, provided advice to Year 8. Assemblies on Safer Internet practices were delivered to Year 8, Child Sexual Exploitation awareness to Years 8 and 9, and Sexual Harassment Awareness to Years 10 and 11. Wednesday featured sessions by Talk Consent, an organisation focused on ending sexual violence. They conducted workshops for Year 9 and assemblies for Years 10-12, creating safe spaces for open discussions about consent. On Thursday, the Safer Schools Officer led assemblies on Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) for Years 8-10 and VAWG for Years 11-12. The week concluded with Online Safety sessions led by Ms Bedi (Head of Computing) and mental health workshops by senior leaders. Students were provided support resources and contact points for concerns. Special thanks to Mr Brinnand (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Miss Sams, and Ms Wyatt for organising this impactful week. For safeguarding concerns, contact Mr Brinnand at sbrinnand1@haydonschool.com.



PE Results

Borough Table Tennis

On Wednesday 4th 16 students participated in the Borough Table Tournament. The Haydon students performed very well, four students received a medal. Rafe in year 7 achieved a bronze medal for KS3, Denys achieved a Silver for KS3, Alex in year 10 achieved a Silver for KS4 and Daniel in Year 9 achieved a gold medal in KS4 winning the whole tournament. **Borough Basketball Tournament** So far we have had three Basketball tournaments for year 9, 11 and 8. The year 8 Boys won the Borough tournament, the year 9 students came second in their tournament, and the year 11 team played well but unfortunately did not

place top 3. **Cross country** On the 26th of June we had the Borough cross country competition for the Boys and girls. All of the students participated well, for the Boys William Palmer came 1st out of 70 students which is fantastic and he has progressed to the Middlesex round. Amelia



Hunter and Chloe Pottle also achieved a medal for the girls and have made it to the Middlesex competition. **Middlesex Cup Football** The year 10 Boys won their first match against JFS 4-1 and progressed to the second round of the Middlesex cup.



British Airways Experience Day

On Monday 4th November, Ms Ali and Ms Maisuria along with a group of 33 students attended a taster day for British Airways. Students were engaged and gained insights into potential career opportunities at the company.

They appreciated the informative tour and hands-on activities, which highlighted various roles within British Airways. Additionally, they received clear information about the pathways to joining BA, including the necessary qualifications and apprenticeship options. Overall, the experience was successful, informative and valuable for the students.





During October half term, a group of 28 students ranging from years 9 – 13 went on an exciting cultural trip to Japan for 10 days. Students were given the opportunity to explore a number of areas in Japan, including Tokyo, Hakone, Hiroshima and Kyoto, deepening their knowledge of its vast history and immersing themselves within its traditional culture and contrasting modern economy.

Tokyo

While in Tokyo, students visited the fascinating Tokyo National Museum, the oldest and largest museum in Japan that houses over 120,000 artefacts including samurai armour and swords; ancient

Buddhist statues; historic tea houses and pieces of art by revered Japanese artists. Students were also taken to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government building to the north observatory where they ascended to the 45th floor and took in views of the entire city and were in awe of its impressive architecture. Students were shown a contrast to the modern and technologically advanced face of Japan and were taken to a number of its religious monuments and shrines, including the Meiji Shrine and the Sensoji temple. These were arguably the peaceful oases in the bustling cities and students really enjoyed learning about Buddhist practices and the auspicious

nature of the omamori. During the evenings, students were taken to the Shibuya crossing and the Harajuku district, an area where pushing the boundaries of fashion norms is praised and such self-expression left our students captivated by the Japanese youth's dedication to the Kawaii culture. On their final day in Tokyo, students were taken on a surprise visit to Tokyo Disneyland, during which they enjoyed going on the various rides, watching the parades and meeting the characters!

Hakone

Students enjoyed spectacular views while onboard the Hakone Komagatake Ropeway



seeing the incredible Mount Fuji on a clear sunny day before then enjoying the panoramic views of the landscape while sailing on Lake Ashinoko and finishing the day exploring the Hakone Shrine and seeing the iconic red gate of peace.

Hiroshima

The group then boarded the Shinkansen and travelled to Hiroshima, where they were given a tour by local guides around the peace park monuments, attended the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and listened to a talk from a legacy bomb successor. It was truly wonderful to see our students share

their thoughts and questions and engage with the guides. Students described the overall experience as solemn yet powerful and many expressed their gratitude with regards to having the opportunity to visit somewhere so poignant in history. After this day of reflection, students then boarded a ferry to Miyajima Island where they explored the Itsukushima shrine while being accompanied by the island's wandering deer. Students particularly enjoyed this experience with the local wildlife.

Kyoto

The group boarded the Shinkansen again and travelled to

Kyoto and hiked Mount Inari to the Fushimi Inari shrine complex before descending to Kyoto's Samurai Museum and enjoyed live demonstrations with a Samurai expert. Students engaged in a calligraphy class with a master and also visited the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest; Monkey Park; Kyoto's Imperial Palace; the Tenryu-Ji Temple; Kiyomizu Dera Temple; Ryoan-ji Temple and gazed upon the Golden Pavilion before then flying home to the U.K. Overall, the students had a fantastic experience in Japan, not only gaining an authentic experience of its diverse culture but also engaging with its history.



Sixth Form Open Evening

I'd like to thank Mr Gosling, the Sixth Form pastoral team, and all the teaching staff involved for making the Open Evening such an informative event. It was a pleasure speaking to so many students about their aspirations and the opportunities available in Sixth Form. We have had lots of positive feedback from both parents and students, highlighting the value of these events in shaping future decisions. Your enthusiasm and engagement truly made the evening a success. We look forward to supporting you as you take the next steps in your educational journey.



haydonschool.com/apply

We develop students study skills, wider social and emotional development and ensure they develop **far beyond just academic achievement.**

As a result **93%** of our students secured their **first choice University**

★★★★★ Outstanding Outcomes
39% A* - B
58% A*-C grades

Highest University placement at Russell Group universities in the borough
 ★ 35 Students last year

★ Every year Haydon students secure multiple places at **Oxbridge & Medical Schools**

Extensive track record in securing Higher Level and Degree Apprenticeships including Tfl, Heathrow, Coca-cola, Skanska, Warner Brothers Studios, Civil Service, Fast Track with Ministry of Justice, British Airways and others in Accounting and Finance.



EAL International Lunch

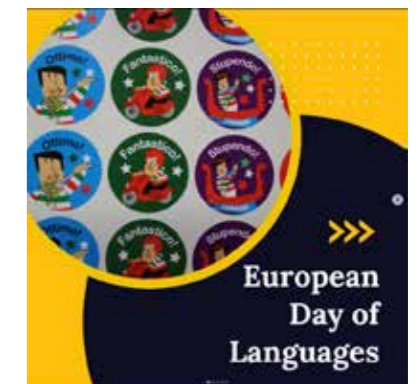
Thank you to our wonderful parents who provided superb home made dishes and regional specialities for Haydon's annual EAL international lunch, along with fresh fruit and treats. This included a mouth watering incredible Brazilian desert with Dulce de leche, fresh grapes, strawberries bedecked with chocolate, Portuguese salted cod (bacalao) with olives, stunning Iraqi rice pilaf (with beef and

carrot), mounds of exquisite Chinese beef dumplings, yummy fresh egg fried rice, and a zingy Nigerian chili relish eaten with an elegant seed-based carb. Food tastes better when you share it!



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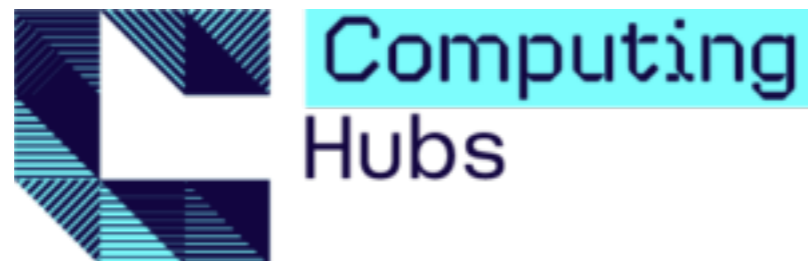
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Online Christmas coding challenge happened on 9th December 2024 (12:00pm to 2:00pm). This event was run in conjunction with Cambridge Maths School and Cambridge and Northamptonshire Computing Hub. 30 KS3 girls joined the Christmas Challenge which offered them an opportunity to enhance their problem-solving skills. The energy and the enthusiasm in the room was absolutely amazing as students worked collaboratively with peers to overcome challenges. The competition was structured as an interactive escape room. Participants solved a series of challenges, each unlocking the next one. We will be engaging students in such sessions throughout the year so those who didn't

get a chance this time will be offered a place in the next one.



The annual Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge was held on December 4th at Vyners School and it was once again a spectacular event which showcased the talents of a number of Hillingdon students. This year, the quality of the speeches were exceptionally high, as students captivated the audience with their views on a range of topics including Racism, Bullying and Honouring the Past. Our very own Jeishal Vijayarajah of Year 10 gave a sterling performance, delivering a speech entitled "More Than Just Words" in which he highlighted the negative effects of verbal bullying. Jeishal's message of the harmful impact of hurtful words was fully made clear

with a visual demonstration where he used a crumpled sheet of paper to represent the damage that can occur as a result of verbal abuse. Jeishal highlighted through his speech, human communication is important, but it needs to be done correctly and the Jack Petchey Foundation definitely equips students to do this. Jeishal received several commendations from members of the audience who expressed that they thoroughly enjoyed his performance and appreciated the message he shared. We are very proud of Jeishal for being brave and bold in publicly sharing his views on an issue that impacts many people throughout their life's journey. Thanks to the Jack Petchey Foundation for their continued dedication in ensuring that students have a voice and given the opportunity to share their views. As



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