



# Holywell News



Issue No: 174  
July 2024

*From Mr Simpson:*

**ALL STUDENTS  
RETURN TO SCHOOL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**



What a wonderful end to the term ... trips to the zoo, a colour run, the long-awaited-and-much-postponed Thrift walk, a mock wedding, Leave-taking church services on the theme of change ... and that was just this last week! We have also recently had Sports Day, Year 8 Leavers' Evening, a Music Concert and the school production of 'Bugsy Malone'.

As ever, our students have excelled and surprised us in equal measures – they have continued to be thoughtful, energetic, responsive to challenge and truly inspiring. This time last year, we had just been through an Ofsted inspection where inspectors concluded: *“Pupils at Holywell School attend a school with values rooted in its Christian ethos. They are welcoming and friendly. They take on responsibilities that make their environment and community richer and more rewarding.”* ... and I am delighted to say that this is still the case ... and even more so. In our SIAMS inspection at the end of January, the inspector noted: *“The Christian vision of Holywell School is a living reality for both pupils and adults. This is due to its effective outworking through values, aspiration and community. The Christian vision inspires a notably cohesive and supportive community based on mutual respect and kindness.”* Whilst we are proud of these observations, what is even more important is when we have feedback from parents and students about the difference our support has meant to them – a recent ‘thank you’ referred to *“a wonderful school with so many opportunities, excellent teachers and leadership who care for them holistically”*; and the parent of a student who joined us part-way through the year said: *“From the very first visit to the school, we felt incredibly welcome. The kindness, helpfulness, and thoroughness in addressing all our concerns were truly appreciated.”* Being thanked by our Year 8 students as they left today, is an even-bigger testament to the hard work and support staff give to ensuring that all students ‘Live life in all its fullness’. Our Year 8 students have been a joy to have in school and, although there have been challenges along the way, they have been responsive, reflective and resilient (especially as they spent the first two years with us mainly in some form of lockdown). We wish them every success for the future as they leave to go to their various upper schools.



We are also excited as to what the future holds for Holywell. We are at the end of our 50<sup>th</sup> year and starting to really plan for our future transition to a secondary school. This next academic year is our last year with students joining us from Wootton Lower School. From September 2025, Wootton Lower will start transitioning to a Primary School and next year's Year 4 students will stay at the school in September 2025 as their first Year 5 cohort. We will continue to work in partnership with Cranfield Academy and will start working more closely with Marston Moreteyne Lower. We have new Admissions criteria in place for the September 2025 intake and hope to welcome more students from the local villages to Holywell moving forward. We are also negotiating hard with Central Bedfordshire to secure the best transformation/expansion plans as

we can for the school – watch out for a revised consultation document early in the Autumn Term.



Our church service today focussed on ‘change’ and we appreciate that for many of us, change is always a challenge. As students end this academic year, they can look forward to an exciting new year ahead of them. This will involve change – new timetables, new routines, new staff, new students, new friendships, new perspectives, new mindsets and new things to do.

Rev Isaac talked about challenges and change for ‘the head, the heart and the hands’ – what would we all change? What change will we make to how we think (our head)? Will we think more positively? Will we think carefully before we speak and act? What change will we make to how we feel (our hearts)? Will we be more understanding, more open, more patient? What change will we make to what we do (our hands)? Will we make things for others? Will we be less physical with each other? Will we be more ‘full of grace’, giving way and accommodating people? It will be interesting to review this time next year, what we have done differently and what changes we have accomplished together.

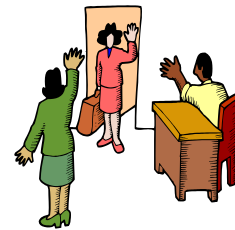
So, as we close the 50<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Holywell history, we look forward to seeing what comes next. Our immediate ‘next’ is to have a rest and to enjoy a peaceful, hopefully sunny, Summer break. Enjoy the Olympics and any opportunity to do something in community with family and friends. Have a safe and restful Summer.

Mr Simpson  
Headteacher



# Staff News

A huge 'Thank You' to all of our wonderful staff team ... and best wishes to staff who are moving on to new and exciting challenges:



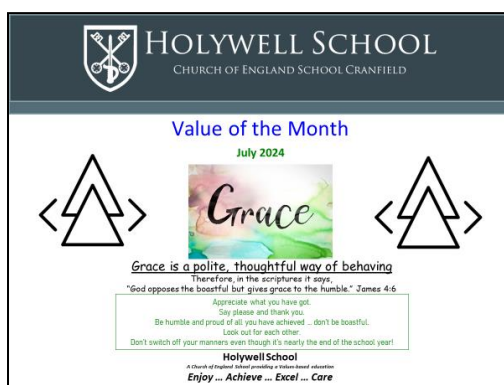
- Mrs Dinner – our Business Manager for over 21 years is retiring – she has been a huge part of the Holywell family and we wish her well.
- Mrs Kelly is moving on to teach in a Primary School (we will miss her passion for all things 'reading' and her great English teaching).
- Miss Stepney is moving to a new SENDCo post (thank you for all the hard work supporting our SEND students for the last two years).
- Miss Lau (Teaching Assistant) is taking some time out to explore new roles (thank you for all the 1-1 support and in-class support).
- Miss Agba, Mr Massiah and Mrs Purves have finished their short term cover contracts with us (and we thank them greatly for their wonderful work).
- Mrs Craffy is moving to a different role in September and will be supporting students as a teaching assistant.
- Mrs McCann is on maternity leave (she was hoping to make it to the end of term, but the latest addition to the family had other ideas and Hallie McCann was born on 18<sup>th</sup> July – they are both well).

New staff joining us in September include:

- Mr Demetrius – Subject lead for ICT
- Miss Hanna – Maths teacher
- Miss Jude – Science teacher
- Miss McKellar – Teaching Assistant
- Miss Tomei – Business Manager

Our Heads of Year next year will be:

- Year 5 – Mr Ulph
- Year 6 – Mr Eames (covering until Mrs McCann returns from maternity leave)
- Year 7 – Mrs Bassett
- Year 8 – Ms Stephens



Therefore, in the scriptures it says, "God opposes the boastful but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6

**Grace is a polite, thoughtful way of behaving**

Appreciate what you have got.

Say please and thank you.

Be humble and proud of all you have achieved ... don't be boastful.

Look out for each other.

Don't switch off your manners even though it's nearly the end of the school year!

Written by Betty, Josiah and Logan

# Uniform

We are very proud of our students at Holywell and, in turn, this pride is shown by our students in the way they wear their uniform. Here is a list of uniform expectations ahead of September – please make sure that students have everything they need ahead of the start of term. Please note, there are the same uniform expectations for all students ... and a reminder that skirts must be pleated and knee-length, trousers (including short trousers) must be tailored ... and shoes must be shoes!



<b>UNIFORM</b>	
Blazer	Black
House Badge*	For blazer
Trousers	Plain grey tailored trousers, not cords or denims
Skirt	Plain grey, pleated, knee-length
Jumper/Cardigan	Plain grey, 'V' necked
Shirt	White
School Tie*	Black and gold clip-on
White Polo Shirt (optional)	Summer term only
Tailored Shorts (optional)	Plain grey
Socks	White, grey or black (No trainer socks)
Shoes	Black; no boots, trainers or heels higher than 4cm
Coat	Any plain style

<b>PE KIT</b>	
Holywell Rugby Shirt	Black/Gold reversible with school logo
Shorts / Joggers	Black
Games Skirt / Skort	Black
Holywell Sports Shirt	With school logo
Socks	Knee length black and short white
Trainers	Appropriate for sport. Not basketball boots
Football Boots	
Zippered Fleece / Mid Layer / Base Layer	Optional – black with school logo
Shin Pads	
Gum Shield	

*Items marked with \* are available from school*

**PLEASE NOTE 'SKINNY' FIT TROUSERS, JOGGING BOTTOMS, JEANS OR TROUSERS WITH STYLISED BUTTONS ON THE FRONT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE**

## SHOES

### Acceptable shoe styles



### Unacceptable shoe styles



*NB> Nike Air-Force Ones are not acceptable footwear*

### Hairstyles

It should be noted that the school does not accept extreme haircuts or colours. **Patterns and track-lines should not be cut into hair.** Hair should not be cut shorter than a no 2. If you are in any doubt about the validity of a hairstyle, please contact the school before getting the hair-cut.

### Jewellery and Make-up

To avoid any dangers or loss or accident to the wearer or other student, expensive items must not be worn. No necklaces or bracelets are permitted unless they are part of your religious faith. One plain ring is allowed. Earrings - plain studs, only one in each earlobe, these must be removed for PE/Games lessons. Make-up is not allowed. Fake or acrylic nails and nail polish are not allowed.

## PE Kit for PE Days

We are continuing with our policy of requiring students to come to school in PE kit on their timetabled PE days. To help try and make sure that everyone has the correct and most appropriate kit for PE lessons in September, please see the list above of kit that is required throughout the school year.

Students might also wish to bring spare kit in with them, in case they get wet/muddy during their lesson.



## “Reach More Parents” by WEDUC Communications from School

Please note that we use “Reach More Parents” by WEDUC to communicate with families. We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** that at least one parent / carer downloads the WEDUC app. We will be further developing our use of this app in the new school year to communicate achievements, attendance and behavior issues.

If parents/carers need an enrolment code, please email Miss Watson on [awatson@holywellschool.co.uk](mailto:awatson@holywellschool.co.uk) who will be able to supply one. Thank you.



## If your child is away from School

A telephone call, email or WEDUC notification  
is required on the  
first day of absence, before 10.00 am

Thank you

## Essential Equipment

We are now stocking essential stationery items in the School Office.

Students may purchase a pencil case which contains the following items: Handwriting pen, pencil, green, red and blue pens, dry-wipe pen and a 15cm ruler for £2.50 (see photo).

Stationery items are also available to buy individually. (Empty pencil case £1, other items 10p – 50p each).



# PE Department News

## Sports Day:

Thank you to all students, staff and parents/carers and family members who came to support our annual sports day...we were delighted that so many of you were able to attend. There were many top-quality performances from students, with **St George** triumphing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. A massive well done to all of those who took part or cheered from the side of the track.

## KS2 Athletics

Both our boys' and girls' teams managed to qualify for the 'A' league finals, held at Biggleswade Athletics club. After a great evening of athletics, we came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. A massive 'well done' to all those who took part!



A special mention to Lois F who was selected to compete at the English Schools Athletics Championships, in the junior girls Pole vault, by the Bedfordshire Schools Athletics Association. Lois jumped 2.70m and nearly cleared 2.85m. She finished 8th overall which was great as she was 1 of only 3 of younger age group girls so looking positive for next year when she will be in the 2nd year of under 15's. She was also presented with The Best Performance award for her 2.80m from the county schools when representing Holywell.

## New School Athletics Records

Joshua M – Year 6 - 150 m – 21.2 seconds

Poppy B – Year 6 – Long Jump – 4.41m

Congratulations to both!

As the school year comes to an end, it is time to reiterate our thanks to all the students who have come to clubs and represented the school throughout the course of the last 10 months. As a department, we really do appreciate the time and effort that the students give to PE and, of course, to all of the parents/carers and supporters who continue to cheer on our teams.....long may it continue!

The PE Dept

## Charity News



Hot off the press ... we raised approximately £2,200 for the charity fayre last week! This is an amazing amount. Thank you for your generosity.

Since September 2023 we have raised £5295.66 for EdUKaid, Msijute Primary School in Tanzania.

# Music End-of-Year Review

It has been a busy and successful year for the Holywell Music Department, culminating with our wonderful summer concert in the marquee. All of our extracurricular ensembles performed and it was wonderful to see the result of the students' dedication and hard work, with such a great variety of ensembles and musical styles. It was also the final performance of the much loved '9 Lives' key stage 3 rock band, who played for the grand finale of 'I'm a Believer' complete with audience participation. We would like to thank all the parents who attended the concert and who support the children with their instrumental lessons. Our concert programme cover this year was designed by Maya O.



Year 7 and 8 students have been using our new YUMU software to create their own House Music tracks. This cloud-based software has the advantage of allowing students to access their work from home. We are looking forward to adding a new Grime unit of music technology into our curriculum for year 8 next year.



As a department we have extended our extra-curricular opportunities and we now have music clubs running every lunchtime and some after school. This includes orchestra, recorder club, string group, key stage 2 choir, key stage 3 choir, keyboard club, ukuleles, key stage 2 rock band and key stage 3 rock band. Auditions will be held in early September for the rock bands.

If your child is interested in starting to learn an instrument, we work with some fantastic peripatetic teachers. Students have the opportunity to learn guitar, drums, strings, brass and woodwind instruments, as well as piano and vocal lessons. For more information, visit [www.inspiringmusic.co.uk](http://www.inspiringmusic.co.uk) or email [inspiring.music@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:inspiring.music@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).

We hope you have a fantastic summer.

**The Holywell Music Department –  
Mrs Gough, Miss Brumsden, Miss Saunders and Mr Tabert**





## Emergency Contact Details



Please remember to inform the school office of any changes to your contact details. This includes change of your home address, telephone numbers (even temporary changes) and doctors' details.

This is very important, as it enables us to reach you in case of emergency. Thank you.

## Attendance and Holidays in Term Time



Parents / Carers should be aware that under current government guidelines we can **NOT** give permission for any holiday in term time. Holidays will be classed as **unauthorised absence** for your child. There may, however, be events that a student takes part in out of school which require him / her to miss a school day – we will continue to consider that sort of request. However, it is clear that the government and external authorities will want a very persuasive argument for us to be allowed to record any absence as a permitted time out of school. **No leave will be authorised during the first two weeks of the school year or during exam periods.**

Parents/carers wishing to apply for leave of absence are required to fill in a **Leave of Absence Application Form** in advance and before making any travel arrangements (available from the school office and to download from the school website). We always take a reasonable, supportive approach to requests (especially with regard to fines) however, taking 'the odd day' here and there can have a HUGE impact on learning.

## Breakfast Club



Breakfast club runs from **8.00am** to **8.45am** in term time, for just **£2.00 per day**.

If your child would like to attend on a regular basis, please ask the office for a letter.

We serve limited food, which can be purchased via your child's ParentPay account.

email: [school@holywellschool.co.uk](mailto:school@holywellschool.co.uk)

We look forward to seeing you there.

**Breakfast Club Team**

# News from the History Department

## History News

Year 5 have had a fun term learning about the Romans. This was brought alive by their visit from a Roman centurion! They had great fun passing round Roman weaponry and artefacts and did a super job of learning how to make a shield wall and march on the enemy!



Year 6 have been learning about the Ancient Maya and have developed their decision-making skills by deciding whether to attack, trade or play Pok-ta-Pok with rival city states!

In Year 7 many of our students brought their learning of Tudor history to life by visiting Stratford Upon Avon. They had great fun finding out more about Tudor crime and punishment, the Globe Theatre and the Great plague of 1666! In the classroom we have been finishing the unit by learning about the English Civil War and considering whether Oliver Cromwell was a hero or a villain!



Our Year 8 students have embraced our final unit on women's suffrage with great passion! It has been interesting to find out their thoughts on the suffrage movement and it has caused considerable divisions between those on the suffragist and those on the suffragette side! We wish our Year 8's all the best as they move on to Upper school in September.

# News from the RE Department

The RE department has been busy this term teaching students in Year 5 about different places of worship in lots of different religions, looking at the similarities and differences between them and how each religion's place of worship represents the holiness of God. Students have also been learning about the features and functions of churches and the roles and jobs of monks and nuns in monasteries.

Students in Year 7 have been learning about Racism & Discrimination, influential people such as Martin Luther King Jr, Gandhi and Nelson Mandela and how they all campaigned to end racism. We have been talking about how racism could be eradicated, how it still exists and who has the power to eradicate it for good. Students have worked exceptionally well writing speeches to present their own ideas to award a 'posthumous' award for the best campaigner for justice.

Students in Year 8 have been learning about ethical issues surrounding Justice & Poverty, collating evidence to suggest who is to blame and why! Students have been researching how the Bible discusses Justice & Poverty and what actions could be implemented to make the world more equal and fairer. Students have been working exceptionally hard, debating, writing speeches and providing solutions to end poverty in the world today.

Students in Year 6 have been completing "The Island", in which we 'crash landed' on a deserted island and people from all different religions and cultures had to live together and learn about different religious ceremonies.

Students have learnt about coming of age ceremonies, birthing and naming ceremonies and the unit culminated with a 'mock wedding', involving the entire year group attending a 'mock wedding' at St Peter & St Paul's Church in Cranfield. Students worked exceptionally well in the build up to the big day, writing speeches for mother and father of the bride, bride, groom, best man and maid of honour. The Island unit has been really well received by all students and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students who were part of the wedding party for doing such a fantastic job this year and all students in the year group who wrote speeches, poems, words of wisdom, this was the BEST year yet!!

**Well Done! - Miss Martin**



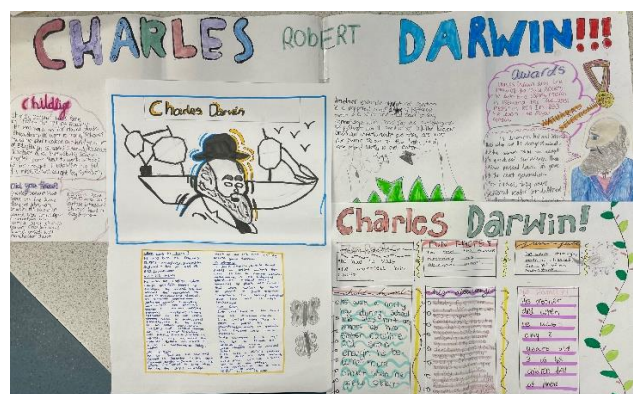
# Science Department News

As we come to the end of the academic year, we reflect and look forward to the future with ambition and a determination to achieve personal success. In September, we look forward to expanding our amazing team of Science teachers and welcome Miss Jude into the department.

In the final term, Year Five students engaged brilliantly with our topic on 'life cycles' learning about the life cycles of plants and animals. The students found out about seed dispersal methods, pollination, germination, fruit formation and produced some wonderful flower dissections. During our recent end of year trip to Whipsnade, our students visited the butterfly house and got to see first-hand the amazing life cycle of butterflies. A great opportunity to see in real life what we have been learning about in lessons.



Year Six continued their work on 'Living things and their habitats' and 'Light and Sight.' They delved into the world of evolution and inheritance. Students looked at the work of



Mary Anning – the great fossil hunter and discovered

how fossils were made. They found out about the story of the Peppered moths during

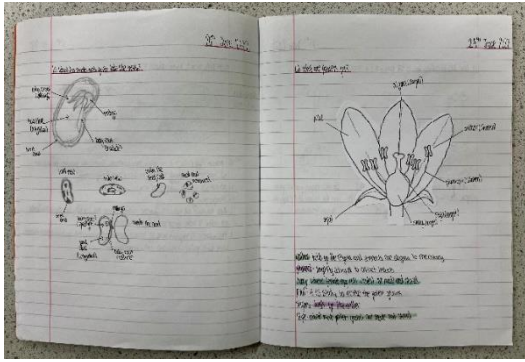


the industrial revolution and how natural selection leads to evolution. The students

researched, collaborated and produced superb presentations about Charles Darwin. Amazing work, Year Six!

In the 'Light' topic, students recreated a famous experiment by Sir Isaac Newton to split light into its spectrum of colours. It really was a 'WOW!' moment when the students put on some special refraction glasses and discovered the world around us is illuminated by a rainbow of colours. They investigated the properties of light, mirrors, shadows, and reflection. We congratulate Year Six for reaching the end of Key Stage Two and give our best wishes to those students moving to a new school. For those who are continuing their education at Holywell, we look forward to developing our scientific knowledge and understanding together in Key Stage Three!

Year Seven students studied 'Reactions'; building on the work they did in Year Five and Six. An intense focus on practical skills enabled the students to develop their approach to working scientifically. Investigations into burning, conservation of mass, exothermic/endothermic reactions, and thermal decomposition helped to reinforce the importance of working collaboratively. The sight and sound of a screaming jelly baby and elephant's toothpaste were certainly well-received!



In their final half term at Holywell, Year Eight students focussed on 'Green plants', and 'Adaptation and inheritance'. In the Green plants' topic, students investigated seed germination, conducted a bean dissection, tested leaves for starch and fruits for glucose, and learned about seed dispersal methods. In their work on adaptation and inheritance, the students looked at variation and how it occurs, how we inherit our characteristics, natural selection and survival of the fittest, and extinction of species.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all Year Eight students the very best for the next stage of their learning journey. As we say goodbye, we are safe in the knowledge that they are well-prepared for the challenges of upper school. We hope that every student aims high, works hard, and seizes every opportunity. Good luck Year Eight...The Class of 2024!

Have a wonderful summer!

**Mr. Colbourne & The Science Department**

## Wild for Life

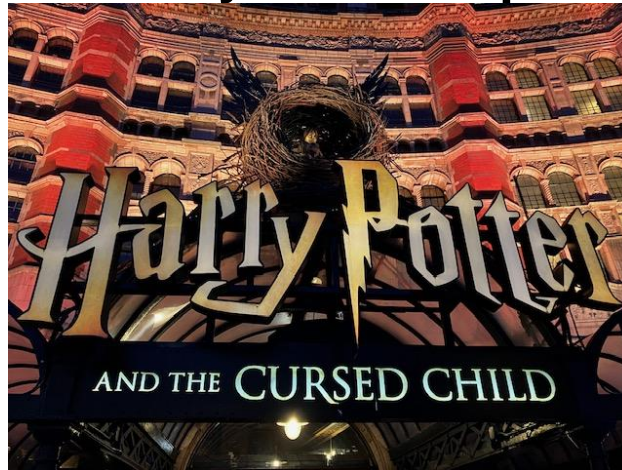
This year we have been lucky enough to be part of the 'Wild for Life' program and Miss Lau has been able to have a new group of 6 children every half term, going through topics such as change, friendship, strength, confidence, hope and respect! For many different reasons, the children who have taken part in this program have taken a huge amount from the sessions as well as created some lovely, sustainable and reusable products. The program is inspired by nature-inspired learning and supports positive mental, social and physical wellbeing and development.

When celebrating their Wild for Life journey last week, some of the children were able to choose their favourite moments from the intervention:

Miss Lau said, "It has been a delight to get to know all 30 children who have taken part in Wild for Life this year. It's been a lot to teach and it's been a pleasure to see all the children grow and thrive throughout!"



# Harry Potter Trip



On Wednesday 12th and 19th June 2024, students from Year 6 visited London to watch 'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child' at the Palace Theatre. From their seats in the Grand Circle, the students were in awe of the theatre and how high up they were! Some were a little worried they'd miss their step and fall down the stairs! During the first show, the students were impressed by how some of the spells were created using special effects, which brought the magic to life. They were immersed into the performance and questioned the adults in the interval as to how the special effects were used on stage! When the first show concluded, they were buzzing with excitement about what would happen next. Some were trying to guess the ending, some were just trying to process what they had watched!

After a walk through Leicester Square (and some through China Town) and some dinner, the students were excited to watch the second part and were keen to return to the Palace Theatre. They also got to see the gift shop, where lots of badges, key rings and Hedwigs were purchased! They were all able to appreciate the acting, lighting, sound effects and it certainly ignited a passion in our students to want to watch more theatre and be a part of it. So many students wanted to bring their parents for another trip to watch it, and some excited for their siblings for when their time comes! For many, this was a unique opportunity and their first theatre visit.

Mrs McCann said, "It was a pleasure to take such wonderful students to the Theatre. Thank you to parents to picking up so late in the night (some in the early morning!!) and getting the children into school the next day. I hope they were buzzing to tell you all about it, and if you haven't watched it, I would highly recommend adding it to your 'to do' list!"

We asked some of Year 6 their favourite parts of the trip:

- "When actors disappeared"
- "The invisible writing"
- "Getting McDonalds for dinner"
- "The train"
- "The clock effects when they went back in time"
- "When Malfoy's ears blew out steam"
- "The sweet lady on the train"
- "The graveyard scene, it made me and all my friends jump out of their skin"
- "The whole thing, it was all just so good"
- "Staying up past my bedtime, I was so tired but it was so worth it"

# Year 5 Whipsnade Trip

Year 5 had a brilliant time at the Zoo. Some groups learning about Giraffes and some learning about Tigers. Some of the best parts consisted of the Wolverine running around, seeing the Chimpanzee close up to the glass and the Meerkats running around. Lots of children enjoyed going to the play area and getting a cheeky ice cream. Some photos attached of their day!



# MFL News

It was a busy half-term in the MFL department filled with a variety of extra-curricular opportunities for all our students to get involved in. Let's start with congratulations and a huge WELL DONE to our July MFL celebrities.



## Euro 2024 Bake Off Competition

To celebrate the start of the UEFA Euro 2024 championships and to raise money for Msijute School in Tanzania students joined in the competition for the best European themed cake. Students created incredible and breath-taking cakes.



A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated and contributed. Your creativity truly shines! Your unique creations not only delighted our tastebuds but also helped raise an incredible £165 for Msijute Primary School in Tanzania. Your support means the world!





## GIMAGINE Award

Students who took part in the Gimagine Award were invited to London's Goethe Institut to celebrate the Summer Festival of the German Embassy.

Etan, Jamie, Chloe, Ruhani, and Elizabeth, despite having little to no prior knowledge of German, successfully completed the Gimagine Award. This innovative self-learning platform is designed for young learners (14-18 years old), providing beginner German skills and current global knowledge across a broad range of topics through 25 hours of independent learning.



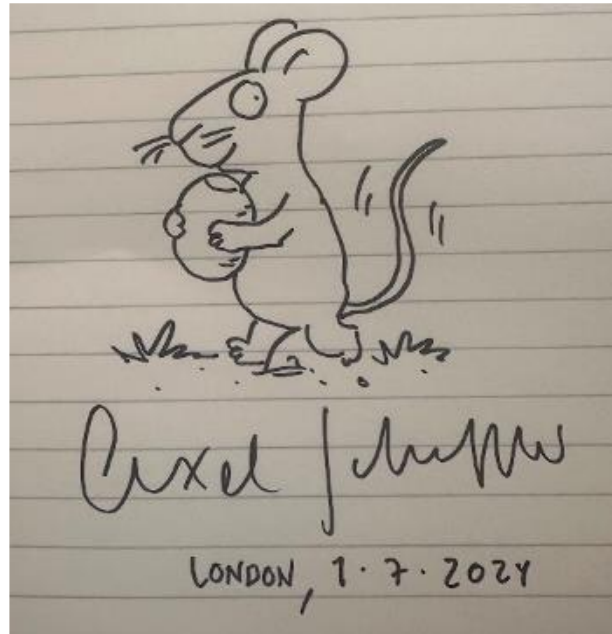
Upon completing the program, the students were invited to London for a special celebration. The day culminated in an official ceremony where they were awarded their certificates. The ceremony featured prominent figures including Miguel Berger, the German Ambassador to the UK, and the Dean of Windsor, Rt Rev Dr Christopher Cocksworth. Additionally, our students were introduced to the audience by Katharina von Ruckteschell-Katte, the Director of the Goethe Institut London, and Andrea Pfeil, the Deputy Director.



For their effort, students received a certificate, lots of goodies and a surprise gift voucher worth hundreds of pounds to take part in a German course of their choice at the Goethe Institut London.

Adding to the excitement, the students had the pleasure of sitting next to and talking to Axel Scheffler, the renowned illustrator of Julia Donaldson's beloved

books, making the day even more memorable. Axel autographed students' notebooks with drawings of his characters.



Etan, Jamie, Chloe, Ruhani, and Elizabeth deserve massive congratulations for their commendable hard work and dedication. They are all a credit to the school.

### Languages Festival

A group of our Year 7 students had the opportunity to take part in a Languages Festival at Luton Sixth Form College. They participated in a variety of language taster sessions, including Latin, Portuguese, Japanese, British Sign Language, and Italian.



Huge congratulations to Sonny for receiving a certificate as the top student in the Latin class and to Ethan for his outstanding performance in the BSL class.

Students had the opportunity to hear from A-Level language students about their

experiences with learning a foreign language and the importance of knowing a foreign language. During the course of the day, Ruhani and Elizabeth were brave enough to participate in Strictly the Voice competition. It was a Reading Aloud Competition where students attempted to memorise a literary text in French.

Here are reasons behind this competition:

- Exposure to authentic age-appropriate language which is a valuable cultural experience.
- Recitation and spoken performance clearly develop heightened awareness of the rules and patterns of pronunciation and intonation in the language.
- Performance in another language is about more than accuracy, it is about conveying emotion, mood, tone, about storytelling skills and non-verbal language.
- Developing memorisation strategies which is a valuable skill across many subjects.
- Cultural skills are important in their own right: pupils appreciate a piece of language for its beauty or cultural relevance.

Well done to Ruhani and Elizabeth for their confidence and superb performance! They stood in front of a large number of students and teachers from other schools and delivered their chosen text in French faultlessly.

## Duolingo



All French and German students have access to Duolingo. Their username and password details are recorded at the front of planners. We encourage students to access the app regularly to further develop their foreign language skills.

Duolingo is an app and website that uses a gamified approach to language learning, with lessons that incorporate translating, interactive exercises, quizzes, and stories

# A Wordsearch by Kayla and Ivy-Mae (Year 5)



## Lots of things for families to enjoy during the summer holidays

The summer holidays are almost upon us, and there's lots for children and families to do across Central Bedfordshire. Read on to find out:

- what's on at our our [libraries](#), [leisure centres](#) and [children's centres](#)
- about [activities taking place at outdoor spaces](#) across Central Bedfordshire
- [what's on for children with SEND](#)
- [how you can make the most of Central Bedfordshire's public transport](#)
- more about the [activities running all summer](#)

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	End of Summer Term
<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	Staff Training Days
<b>4<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	<b>All students return to school</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> October – 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2024	Half Term
29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Staff Training Day
20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Last day of Autumn Term
7 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Students return to school
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	Spring Term half-term
4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Last day of Spring Term for students
23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2025	Students return for summer term NO YEAR 6 HOLIDAY OR OTHER ABSENCE AT THIS STAGE OF THE YEAR
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	May Day Bank Holiday
26 <sup>th</sup> May – 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Half Term
22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025	Last Day of Summer Term

**The Staff and Governors of Holywell School would like to  
wish you a very happy, safe and well-deserved  
summer holiday!**

