



TENBURY HIGH
ORMISTON ACADEMY



In the

Spotlight

25th July 2023

Principal News:

In the SpotLight is a regular newsletter to brief parents, carers and the wider community on key school news and messages.

Celebration *For the last edition of the 22/23 academic year, I wanted to focus on celebratory news and achievements. In this edition I hope to capture some of the highlights of the past year; there have been so many!*

Thank you for your support and consultation this year. I hope you feel you have had a voice. If you wish to have more of a voice, you could join our parent forum which will run termly, face to face, in the next academic year. More details will follow next term. I wish all our families a restful and happy summer holiday. Stay safe. See you in September. Years 7 and 11 start back on Wednesday 6th September and the rest of the school return on Thursday 7th September. A quick reminder that the school day will start at 8.45 (doors open from 8.35

This year we are saying goodbye to four teaching staff. Miss Faulkner, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Hillhouse and Mr Moyley. After many years of combined service we are sad to say goodbye but wish you all the very best in your new adventures. On behalf of the THOA community, we thank you for your dedicated commitment and service to our school and wish you well. You will be missed.

I am pleased to tell you that we are fully staffed for September and will introduce new staff to pupils and parents in the first week back.

The #WeWill website—We are delighted to inform you that a small group of Y9s made all of the resources on the website and it is published for anyone to learn from! They had to learn some of the content themselves in their own time as well as in PSHE lessons (thank you Mrs Taylor-Johnston). They also worked with Tenbury Primary and Burford Primary. We are very proud of what they created. [Home | Thoacybersafety \(hwatts49.wixsite.com\)](https://www.thoacybersafety.com)

Languages—It has been busy year in languages with the launch of year 7 French Spelling Bee; European languages day; languages treasure hunt; French enrichment week with French Boules and Handball games; Year 7 French themed Harry Potter cinema afternoon and residential trips to Berlin and the Cote D'Opale in France!



Severn Arts Project —Back in February a group of our year 7, 8 and 9 students signed up to take part in a series of workshops organised by Severn Arts to work with creative practitioners to explore different creative activities, learn new skills and to find out more about working collaboratively with others.

Up to half-term, the group, which have been meeting outside school every fortnight, have taken part in ice-breaker exercises to get to know each other, explored the different aspects of co-creation and creativity and worked together to create a vision board to help them decide on the creative direction they want the group to take.

Having decided to focus on fashion the group worked with a professional fashion designer and were set the task of creating an outfit out of recycled fabric and safety pins with a follow up workshop taught by a professional photographer about setting up and taking professional shots of models.

They have gone on to work with a professional hair and make-up artist to practice skills required for theatrical hair and make-up in preparation for their showcase fashion show at the end of the project.



The workshop facilitator said: "It has been an absolute pleasure working with the group on their Forge Fashion Show. Each member has shown up and demonstrated commitment, creativity and dedication each workshop. I am pleased with what they have produced so far and they should be very proud of themselves. I look forward to their show on 11 July 2023."

Year 7 Residential to Condover Hall - A group of Year 7s attended their first residential last week. They visited Condover Activity Centre and had amazing time taking part in a variety of outdoor activities such as kayaking and abseiling. Well done Year 7!



Worcestershire Poet Laureate—Earlier this year, Harry Childs (Year 7) entered the Worcestershire Poet Laureate competition; there were over 260 entries to the competition and the judges whittled this down to just 12 finalists: Harry being one of them.

Harry was extremely anxious about attending the final as it involved reading his two poems out to an audience and the panel of judges. With lots of encouragement from teachers at the school, and his family Harry stepped out of his comfort zone and attended the final at The Hive Worcester and read his poems beautifully with confidence.

Whilst Harry didn't win, he was competing against much older students, including University students. He was absolutely fantastic and received lots of positive praise from the judges, other students and the audience.

Taking part in the competition has given Harry a great confidence boost and has shown him that he is a very capable poet and student.

Although Harry wants to be a gaming or Film animator when he's older, poetry will always be his way of expressing his thoughts and feelings, and he hopes his words can bring comfort and support to others who sometimes may struggle to express themselves.



Year 10 Mocks Congratulations to Year 10s for some incredible achievements this year. In particular, the conduct and hard work that went into this summer's Year 10 mocks was impressive. Whilst there is still a lot of work to be done, pupils showed great attitudes to learning and took the whole process very seriously.

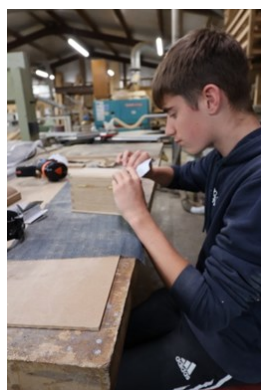
Career Lead & Adviser report – Year 10 Work Experience —During the week of 3rd to 7th July inclusive, Year 10 pupils spent the week in their chosen workplace. Overall, the young people found the experience very worthwhile and certainly employers were impressed with the attitude, aptitude and motivation the young people demonstrated throughout the week. Year 10s completed the week experiencing work in industries such as education, law, medical, marketing, HR & business admin, agriculture and horticulture, construction; even a funeral director!

A few comments from some of the employers:

Burford Primary School: "We were very happy. The Year 10s were helpful and worked hard. They did everything that was asked of them. They were punctual and suitably dressed. They were all based in a classroom all week - supporting the class teacher and TAs and working with the children".

Lucton Nursery: "Our Year 10 has been fantastic. From the initial contact and our induction meeting to the end of the week when she popped by to find me with my group of pre-Schoolers to say thank you for having her, she was professional, polite, friendly, easy going and eager to learn. I have told her she is welcome back any time and if she, in the future, wished to join us as an apprentice we would be delighted to have her. She was a credit to the school, and I hope that she has had a valuable week of work experience with us and found our team welcoming."

Here are some photos of our Year 10s who designed and created their own box at John Beavan, Bespoke Cabinet Maker. This has been a fantastic experience for our young people and we are very grateful to the local and national businesses that support us in this great opportunity.



PE News Update—Mr Alton

Rounders - Earlier this half term, Year 7 took part in a year group rounders competition. There were mixed teams made up from all four tutor groups. The final ended very close with the score being 8 to 8 and a half rounders. The games were played with great spirit and there were some really nice fielding and batting skills on display.

This Girl Can—Also this half term a group of Year 8 and Year 9 girls attended a 'This Girl Can' workshop in Worcester. This is the second session like this that we have attended this year. The day was about engaging and encouraging girls to have more confidence. The day was held in a hotel in Worcester with the idea of the venue being a more low key and relaxed place for the girls. They took part in lots of different workshops. They also got to speak about girls health and barriers to PE, with some Worcester Sixth Form students. The girls took part in a range of activities including, speed stacking, yoga, Zumba and clubbersize. The highlight for them all was, dodgeball in the dark. The girls engaged in the sessions really well, painting their faces and giving everything a go. They also got some great pictures with the props in the photo booth! We had a really great day and Mrs Aldridge and Mrs Palmer were very proud of the girls for the effort they put in. Here you can see Mrs Aldridge and Mrs Palmer having a great time.



Cricket Trip—On the 19th May, the PE department ran a Year 8 trip to watch Worcester County Cricket team at Worcestershire County Cricket Club. Mr Morris, Mrs Aldridge and Mr Brueton took 28 pupils across to the match and as well as watching live cricket, the pupils also got chance to take part in some cricket drills and games run by Worcestershire County Cricket Community Coaches. All pupils were a credit to Tenbury High Ormiston Academy and hopefully it is something we can do again next year. Here is a picture of Mr Morris enjoying the game!

Athletics—With it being the summer, the athletics season has been under way and we have been able to take pupils to both the Year 7 and Year 8 event and the Year 9 and Year 10 county athletics events. It has been brilliant to see so many pupils taking part and representing the school. We had some superb performances across the two afternoons and as a result we had a number of pupils qualify for the next round, where they had the chance to represent Herefordshire against other counties. In the senior event, Jamie Symonds (1500m), Rhys Tipton (200m) and Keeley Borkowski (100m) all qualified for the next round and it was great to see Jamie pull on the Herefordshire vest on Saturday 10th June, where he ran a really solid 1500m in blistering heat. To add to the seniors success, we had Rose Hawkins (Shot Putt), Daisy Palmer (Long Jump), Toby Farnsworth (High Jump), Tom Ansell (100m) and George Henry (300m) all qualify for the Junior Finals (pictured). All pupils put in really strong performances with a couple of them only just missing out on the podium.



I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive THANK YOU to Mrs Palmer who took the pupils across to the Junior Finals at the last minute, which allowed them to take part in the event.

A big well done to all of the pupils who were involved in all rounds of the competitions.

Duke of Edinburgh—This term has also seen us come to the end of the DofE Bronze Award with Year 9 and Year 10 pupils. Well done to all the pupils who have been working hard towards the completion of the award. They have all been busy, giving up their time every week to learn a new skill, volunteering to help others and stay active through physical activity. This term, the pupils have been attending weekly sessions to gain valuable training to support with their preparation for the expedition section. On Friday 16th and Saturday 17th June, the Year 9s successfully completed their 2 day expedition around Stourport and Holt Heath. The year 10s will be completing their expedition at the end of term. In September, the current year 8s will be offered the chance to sign up. It would be brilliant to see all current Year 8 pupils get involved.



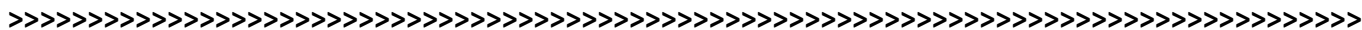
Prefect Team—2023—2024



Term Dates 2023/2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

TED1 Monday 4th September 2023 (school closed to pupils)
TED2 Tuesday 5th September 2023 (school closed to pupils)
Term Starts Wednesday 6th September 2023 (Year 7 and Year 11)
Thursday 7th September 2023 (Year 8, 9, 10)
Half Term Monday 30th October 2023 – 3rd November 2023
OAT Training Day Friday 24th November 2023 (school closed to pupils)
Term Ends Friday 22nd December 2023



SPRING TERM 2024

TED3 Monday 8th January 2024 (school closed to pupils)
Term Starts Tuesday 9th January 2024
Half Term Monday 12th February 2024 – Friday 16th February 2024
Term Ends Friday 22nd March 2024



SUMMER TERM 2024

TED4 Monday 8th April 2024 (school closed to pupils)
Term Starts Tuesday 9th April 2024
May Day Monday 6th May 2024 (school closed to pupils)
Half Term Monday 27th May 2024 – Friday 31st May 2024
End of Term Friday 19th July 2024
TED5 Monday 22nd July 2024 (school closed to pupils)

PHOTO THE WORLD



Take a photograph and win an Amazon voucher, and see your photo published in the “Photo the World” calendar!

“Photo the World” is an opportunity for pupils to take part in a competition to promote curiosity and fascination with the world around us. Winning entries will appear in a “Photo the World” calendar!

Pupils must take **one photograph** relating to the theme of “Photo the World” (whether it’s wildlife, nature, natural landscape or urban landscape); this could be in an area local to them or further afield. All environments are encouraged – rural, urban, farmland or water. No specialist equipment is required (many of the best BBC *Countryfile* calendar photographs are snapped on smartphones)!

Pupils must also write an accompanying description that outlines why the subject of their photograph is “geographical”, and how it could be used to promote curiosity and interest in the world around us. Entries will be assessed by a panel of judges and there will be one winner and two runners-up from each age group (primary, KS3, KS4 and KS5). Each winner will receive a **£20 Amazon voucher** and each runner-up will receive a **£10 Amazon voucher**. Winners and runners-up will also receive a copy of the calendar.

THOA PUPILS—Please send your entries to: office@tenburyhigh.co.uk by 21st September.



Key dates:

Competition launches: 3 July 2023
(portal opens)

Pupil deadline: 25 September 2023

Winners announced: 25 October 2023

Winning photos unveiled at OAT Annual Conference: 23 and 24 November 2023

The OAT ‘Photo the World’ calendar will be created from the 12 winning photographs. A copy will be sent to each of the winning academies, and the photographs will be showcased during the OAT Annual Conference event in November. Every pupil who takes part will be recognised for their efforts.

Submissions can be done through **OATnet**.

Any questions please contact humanities.competitions@ormistonacademies.co.uk



[OAT]
Ormiston Academies Trust

ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

on the App Store;
'Everyone' on Google Play

Developed in Germany, this social networking app is called 'W App' in the Apple Store and Google Play but is also branded as 'Slay' in some territories. Aimed primarily at teens and marketed as a 'zero-negativity' zone, it asks users to connect with others from their school. They are then asked a positive question (such as "Who is the nicest person?") and shown four people from their school to choose from. All users from a school can appear in the poll: not just those a child is friends with. The app is mainly anonymous – but does offer clues to reveal who selected you for each question.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FAKE ACCOUNTS

There is no verification when signing up to W App. Once someone joins, they can see all users at their school and add them if they wish. Users provide their name, gender, school and grade – but are also able to change these (aside from their name) as often as they like. This concerned our expert: predators could potentially keep attempting to build connections with children at different schools.

PROFILE OVERSHARING

Young people tend to have multiple social media accounts, so it's vital their identity is protected online. By default, W App shares someone's school and grade, while users choose whether to share their full name, photo and other social accounts. Most people appear to select this – making it easier for someone to build up a picture of who they are, what they enjoy and where they go to school.

SPAMMING CONTACTS

The app's activity feed notifies a user when they have been put forward for a poll. They're then given the option to reveal the initial of the person who nominated them, by inviting a friend to join the app. The friend doesn't have to sign up, but they will receive a 'get the app now' text, followed by a link. This process could result in texts being continually sent to a child's contacts.

CATFISHING RISKS

As well as invented fake accounts, users could also sign up and pretend to be someone else from their school. By joining under another person's name (possibly with their photo), they can take part in polls while masquerading as that other person. Some polls hint at an attraction or crush, which – if deliberately misused by imposters – could result in misunderstandings and embarrassment for teens.

SUBSCRIPTION COSTS

W App is free to download and use, but there is also a 'gold membership' package (costing £4.99 per week) available. Subscribing allows users to reveal the names of people who selected them in polls (slightly defeating the point of it being an anonymous app), gives unlimited hints and offers exclusive play modes – all of which may tempt a curious young user into spending their money.

REPEATED USE

Like most other social media platforms, W App wants users to log in regularly. Every time someone completes a set of 12 polls, they earn virtual coins. These can be cashed in for perks such as being included in random polls (so that more users will see them) or adding their name to their crush's poll. This may not seem much of an incentive currently, but that may alter as the app evolves.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS FRIEND REQUESTS

Talk to your child about the risk of sharing their other social accounts, especially on anonymous platforms where there is no verification – so a user could be anyone. If someone they don't normally talk to at school approaches your child via W App and suggests connecting on TikTok, Snapchat or Instagram, emphasise that it's safest to confirm it with that person face to face before accepting or replying.

PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

It's crucial that trusted adults regularly remind children about the importance of not sharing too much of their personal information online (and demonstrate it on their own social accounts, where possible). W App automatically displays the user's school on their profile – but if your child does want to use the app, you can advise them to only enter their first name and not to upload an image of their face.

BE MINDFUL OF REJECTION

The polls in W App are designed to be complimentary rather than negative. However, never being nominated or picked by their peers could leave a child – especially a status-conscious teen – feeling ignored and isolated. If you think that W App is having this effect on your child, it might be time for a supportive reminder that social media doesn't reflect someone's true worth or popularity.

DO SOME 'APP ADMIN'

Before letting your child download W App, you may want to (via their device's settings) disable the option to make in-app purchases: £4.99 per week for the subscription can soon mount up. Likewise, if a friend's use of W App is causing your child to be inundated with texts inviting them to sign up too, you could suggest asking that friend to stop selecting your child's name from their contacts list.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/w-app-anonymous-polls/id1645858841> | <https://www.slay.co.uk/> | <https://techcrunch.com/2023/01/18/german-teens-went-crazy-for-this-compliments-app-and-now-we-are-backing-its-next-phase/>

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