



# UPTON VOICE

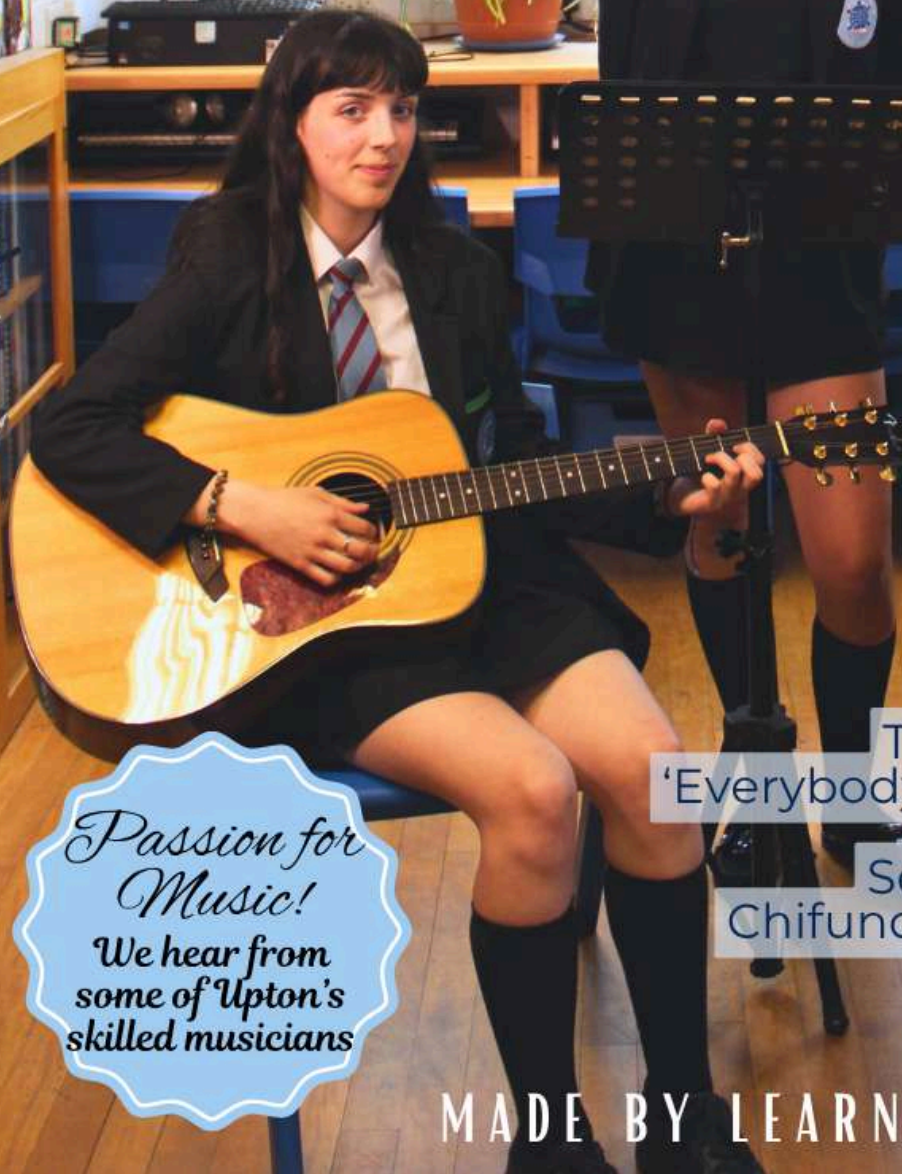
Summer Issue 2025



ENGAGE@UPTON

- Rowing
- Sailing
- Rounders
- Warhammer
- Textiles
- Football
- DEI Action
- Choir
- Fashion

Bronze DofE Expedition &  
Top Tips for the Expedition  
Gold Award at  
Buckingham Palace



*Passion for Music!*  
We hear from some of Upton's skilled musicians

Theatre & TV Studio Trips  
'Everybody is Talking About Jamie'  
Rehearsals for 'Alice'  
Send my Friend to School  
Chifundo UK & Chanasa Malawi

# CONTENTS

## Engage

Explore several different clubs across the school including Rounders, Girls' Football, DEI Action & Warhammer.

## DofE

Some of the year 10 learners completed their Bronze DofE expedition, and some of our lower sixth had their Gold practical expedition.

## Trips

This term, our learners have gone on various trips to a range of exciting destinations including a trip to Toxeth TV studios!

## Productions

Our learners have enjoyed taking part in rehearsals for the exciting new school productions: 'Alice' and 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'.

## Careers

This term, our learners enjoyed a careers breakfast talk from David Bain, a commercial director at Pyranha Mouldings Ltd.

## Sport

More amazing sporting achievements from our learners this term. Well done to the PE department for delivering such an extensive programme of activities.





## Editor's Note

Summer 2025 has been a busy term as ever at Upton-by-Chester High School. This time we have included profiles of some of our top musicians in school. We were invited along to the choir rehearsals to experience some of the talent first hand - thank you to Miss Thompson for welcoming us into the Music Department.

We hope you enjoy our showcase of Engage activities including some amazing close up images of the detailed Warhammer figures from Mr Jones and a profile on the DEI Action Group from Mrs Welch. We have a special report from Queenie and Gracie profiling their involvement with the 'Send My Friend' campaign. As ever, we are blown away by all the activities on offer at Upton and are so grateful for all the staff who volunteer their time - we would have very little to write about without their hard work!

The Performing Arts and Media Departments have been busy with trips to LMA, Toxteth TV Studios and a theatre trip to see Chicago. The two departments worked together to plan and produce a trailer for the KS5 production of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' at a professional TV studio which was an amazing experience. Of course, our intrepid explorers have been hiking around Cheshire and Snowdonia to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award. We also received a Royal invitation from Buckingham Palace to go and celebrate with some of our Gold Award holders.

Enjoy the rest of the summer term and we will catch up on all the excitement after the summer break!



Miss Seery  
& The Editorial Team

# Music at Upton

## What is music?

This is such a broad question with many, many answers. It might be a memory, it might be an emotion, it might be a social thing, it might be job, but for all of us, music is everywhere in our lives.

My musical journey started when I was 8 years old and the music teacher who worked with my Dad, realised that I had a musical ear and started to give me free piano lessons. When I got to secondary school, I started to learn the flute and also took singing lessons. I continued with the piano and soon I was annoying my brother EVERY night by practising over and over, each of my instruments. I LOVED it and would much rather practise than do my homework.

I joined the school choir, school band, wind band and chamber choir. I joined a local musical theatre group and performed in the show "Sweet Charity" at the Glenda Jackson Theatre.

Clearly music was my passion and I decided to share this passion with as many people as possible, hence my path to become a music teacher.

Learners often ask me what my favourite type of music is or my favourite song and I never really know! There is so much to choose from and I am so lucky to have music all around me all day every day. I am still learning and still practising and still loving it!

Why don't you come and join choir or band and see what the fun is all about.

*Miss C. Thompson*





# Choir



# Georgina



Congratulations to Georgina who has gained a place with the "Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Brass Band". She gave an excellent audition on her Baritone Horn and is looking forward to performing in their next concert in July. Well done Georgina!

"I started playing the baritone horn when I was 9 years old with Chester training band, I then moved to Helsby concert band which I have been in for 3 years now. I now play the euphonium which I have taught myself as well as many other instruments such as the flute, cornet, tenor saxophone, piano, and the tuba. I joined Wirral youth brass band last August and have just been accepted into the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth brass band. I enjoy music because being in lots of different bands you meet so many different people and get so many exciting opportunities such as performing in the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, and you form some of the best friendships. Music is also very important to me as it has been with me my whole life and it means a lot to me as I play in Helsby concert band with my Grandad and my brother. I played in a variety of concerts such as on a boat and in churches but I have also performed solos. Music is one of the best things I have in life and it means so much to me, I do not know what I would do without it."

# Isabelle



I've loved music ever since I was young and I still do now. I have always been singing and have always wanted to be a singer but grew a passion for musical theatre when I joined a musical theatre school at 9 years old. Ever since then, I have become obsessed with multiple musicals, performing and have gained amazing opportunities. For example, I performed on the West End when I was 11, have sung for Chester Pride, have gained medals and awards including a scholarship and have been able to perform and share my passions with friends and family. Music and musical theatre have helped build my whole life and I honestly don't know what I'd do without it. I feel so lucky and grateful to have people supporting me with my talent every day and helping me improve further. I am so excited to continue performing, building new friendships and falling even more in love with music. Sometimes performing can get difficult, overwhelming and repetitive however, I am endlessly lucky to have a support system that not only motivates me but also challenges me and want to see me succeed in this industry. I hope that I can continue to improve and learn about the art of theatre and music and pursue a career in the music industry in the future.

I've been in the school's choir since year seven and have done some of the school productions and I've been in Joseph's Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat at Theatre Clwyd, but I've only recently begun to learn guitar since September 2024. In April I saved up enough money from my job to buy my first electric guitar and I have an app which helps me to learn this. I take singing lessons at the school, and this year I will be doing my Grade 4 exam for Solo Musical Theatre Performance and I hope to continue until I leave the school. The thing I enjoy most about music is the sense of community I feel when singing in choir with my friends and during any productions, and because of all the teamwork and hard work it takes to make a good performance. Being around people and performing, learning from each other and having fun. Music is important to me because I believe it's one of the most valuable ways of expressing yourself. Music is so powerful because it can change people's mood and change minds, it can change your perspective and tell stories. I am very grateful to have the opportunity to practice music because of this. It takes creativity and bravery to create and perform music and I really admire anyone who can play and perform music in any way."

# Olivia



# WARHAMMER



*"I love Warhammer club, it is a safe space for me and my friends to be ourselves. I mostly enjoy how everyone comes together as a team!"*  
Daniel Yr 10



GJO  
Mon 3.15 -  
4.30pm  
LAB 4



# Rounders Club

Wednesday  
3.15  
JTW

In rounders club, learners from year 7 to year 10 practice rounders skills and teamwork while having fun in the sun!




*"I love rounders club because everyone is very supportive and we have lots of fun!"*

Grace




# DEI ACTION GROUP

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion



The DEI action group takes place at E16 every Wednesday during plan A, it is lead by Miss Welch and is open for all years to attend. Throughout the month of June the DEI group will be planning Pride events around the school (as seen in the photos), such as a pride event in the octagon.



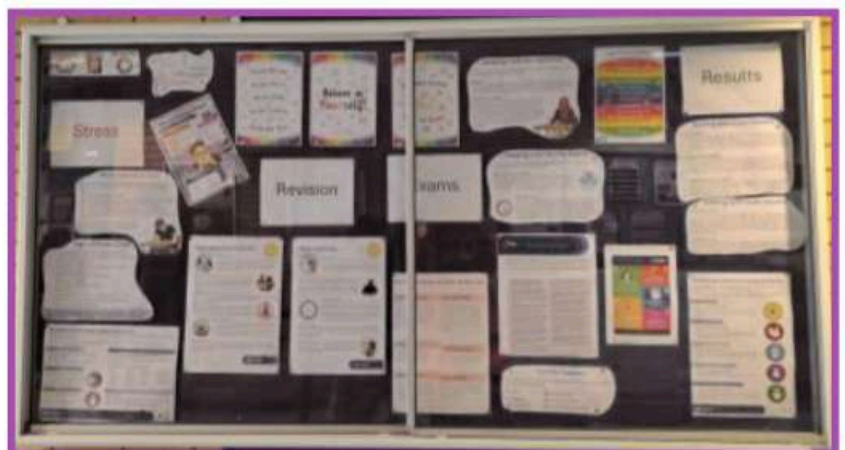
*"We are planning Pride"*

*"June is Pride month"*

The DEI action group advocates for more **diversity, equity and inclusion** within the school, with a focus throughout the month of June on LGBT+ representation .



Come along to E16 on Wednesdays in PLaN A (12:10-12:30pm) to help us decide what to do next!





Since its launch in September, the learner DEI Action group has been busy putting together awareness and celebration activities, to raise the profile of diversity, equity and inclusion in our school. The key message is one that everyone is welcome here at Upton-by-Chester High School.



One of the first jobs for the group was to find out from you what you wanted to see celebrated. All learners were asked to vote for their preferred DEI events and each year group responded. The events with the most votes were the ones that the learner DEI Action group then set to work on organising.

This academic year the events you voted for that the learner DEI Action group raised awareness of and celebrated were:

November - **International Men' day vote**

February/March - **Ramadan**


March - **International Women's day vote**

April - **World Autism Awareness Day & Stress Awareness Month**

May - **Deaf Awareness week**

June - **Pride & Men's Health week**

July - **Thank you week**



Next year, we will be building upon the success of these events and want to hear your ideas, so come along on Wednesday, PLaN A to E16 to get involved. The DEI Action Group organise events to raise awareness of and celebrate all the diversity we have in our school community and we want to hear your ideas!

*inclusion  
Matters*



**EMBRACE  
EQUITY**

# FASHION CLUB



Here are some of the after school fashion club members displaying their textile creations and work-in-progress pieces. We love the choices in fabric!



# GIRLS FOOTBALL



Girls football is run on a Monday after school with Miss Roberts

*"It's great meeting new people and making friends"*



*"I love going to girls football and staying active, its great when we get to play a mini match"*





# Rowing Club



*"I love learning new skills each week!"*

Flora D



Spot the heron!



*"I love rowing because it makes me feel free!"*

Ffion O

*"I enjoy asking questions and giving physical challenges to my team mates each week; the winner receives a custard cream biscuit. Rowing wouldn't be rowing without a custard cream!"*



As part of the Chester Schools Together Initiative - the year 8 rowers have been attending their rowing tuition once every two weeks at The Kings Rowing club on The Dee. They have been developing their skills and confidence on the river.

It is safe to say that they have all taken significant steps in becoming competent rowers and they have all enjoyed their time with the coaches from The Kings School. This year we were able to acquire rowing kit for them all to wear and this can be seen in the photographs.

The participants from this year will be offered the opportunity to now join a local rowing club free of charge as part of the Chester School Together partnership. I hope many of them take up this opportunity as it has been a pleasure to watch them develop and enjoy their rowing all year. Well done team!

We are now looking for a new team from our current year 7 learners - more details will follow shortly.

Mr Wilson

CWL  
WED  
11:00am



# CHIFUNDO UK AND CHANASA MALAWI

*When you think about Malawi, think about the blue, the lake and how welcoming it is. It is who we are, we are gentle. Part of what makes us resilient is going to work in that heat, carrying bags in that heat. That is what makes people resilient"*

## What happened?

On Friday 4th April, individuals from Chifundo UK (Chanasa in Malawi) came to visit learners studying textiles who are interested in fashion and sustainability. They were visited by Susan (founder and chair) and representatives who delivered insightful presentations into aspects of Malawi culture. Currently studying at Newcastle university, a representative gave an excellent presentation focused on her culture and her upbringing, expressing how Malawi is progressing into a brighter future, with better housing, agriculture and improved standards of living. She talked about a wide variety of aspects, from the brightly coloured fish in the sea to Malawian's unique community built on resilience and friendship. Susan spoke on how second hand clothes and materials can be repurposed and sold to support those in financial hardship. They explored the positive impacts and multiple projects that Chanasa Malawi has been involved in over the years.

## What do they do?

Both Chifundo and Chanasa mean 'compassion'. This is demonstrated tirelessly by the individuals who work in urban areas of Malawi. They teach excellent programmes which have a significant impacts on



young girls and women. From teaching tailoring classes (Beehive tailoring school) for young girls and the hugely successful Lotus project to fundraising for students to get into higher education. The foundations of Chifundo Chanasa are built on empathy and a longing to help people. With their website stating that they mix African fabrics with plain materials, "Be flexible with fashion design".

## How can you help?

Chanasachifundomalawi.org  
 Donating good quality denim or cotton clothing with interesting features and panels, getting invitations for speakers at women's groups where products can also be sold, organising a coffee morning or an afternoon tea as a fund raising event when products can be sold, selling products and taking orders in your home area or at work, offering to take products to sell in church or community cafes, informing about events where Chifundo products might be sold, buying Chifundo products, placing an order for a particular product or one that you want customised, joining the monthly Sewing Group.

*Chanasa means compassion. We are not only empowering young women, but we are helping to support the next generation.*

*What happens at the heart of Malawi is our resilience. Malawi is home because of the people.*

## fashion show

In October, learners from Upton-by-Chester High School will be hosting a fashion show made from environmentally friendly and sustainable materials. Learners from textiles will model and present the clothes they have made. There is an opportunity to purchase these after the show. Donations would be greatly appreciated.

The lotus project has helped:

**4670** school girls  
 at **18** schools

to get access to vital  
 menstrual products





The way we shop can  
empower  
and bring  
change



Witnessing the work they do is very inspiring! It is so powerful and very interesting to learn about the ways we can make our fashion more sustainable and environmentally friendly. I love the way Chifundo UK combines creativity with empowerment.

- Learner from Year 12



# FASHION SHOW



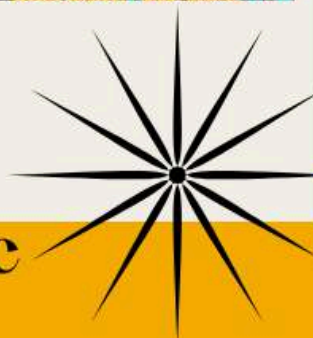
5.30PM

TEXTILES

**1st**

OCTOBER

TICKETS £TBC



SUSTAINABILITY

# SEND MY FRIEND

Queenie and Gracie are our school's representatives this year. They spoke to Upton Voice to tell us more about this campaign.

## What Is It?

Send my friend is a global campaign aiming to achieve quality education for all. It is important because 251 million children around the world are out of education, this will lead to cycles of poverty continuing to further generations in the future. Recently, the budget going towards foreign education has dropped dramatically from 0.5% to 0.3%. It is vital we take action now to stop this going into place, and help more children gain the right to learn.

## What Do We Do?

During training, we were taught by campaign professionals many tools to help us. These include, public speaking, etiquette for talking to Parliamentary members, how to build a Mandate within our community, teamwork, leadership, and many other skills that have assisted us to be as successful as we can in our journey.



# FRIEND TO SCHOOL!



## Why Is This Important?

We have learnt how urgent it is that we fix this crisis. Education is the foundation to our whole lives, it's what enables us to be successful and follow our aspirations to be whatever we want to be. Millions of children are not granted this right, and it's not right and only we can put a stop to it and help our peers in other regions of the world be successful.

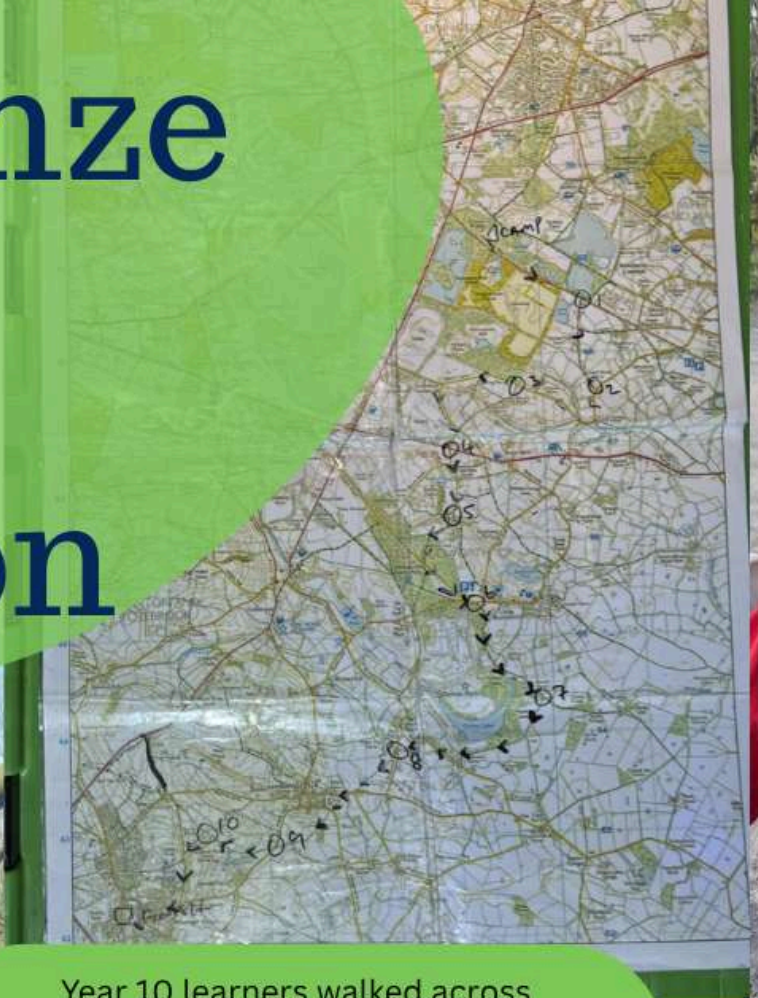


## How Can You Help?

You can get involved by educating family members and loved ones about this, visiting the Send My Friend To School website to learn more, or emailing our MP (Samantha Dixon) to tell her we care. Parliament doesn't realise there are people in the UK who are passionate about this, so let's show them how much we care!



# DofE Bronze Practice Expedition



Year 10 learners walked across Delamere and Tarporley for a total of 30K over two days, practicing map reading, teamwork and communication skills amongst their groups.



They were not only responsible for navigating and planning their routes across the two days, but also preparing and cooking their own meals. They also set up their tents upon arrival to the campsite.



*"We demonstrated our resilience and teamwork when we got lost, but picked ourselves back up and persevered."*

Grace H

# DofE Survival Tips:

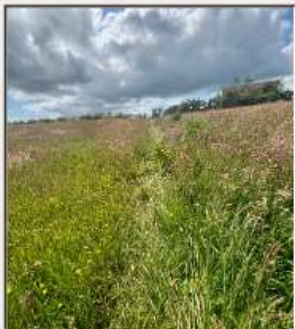
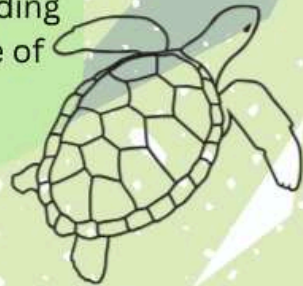
## ① HOT CHOCOLATE



Hot Chocolate is an absolute non-negotiable requirement that will elevate your experience and restore your motivation.

## ② TURTLE POSITION

If you don't know the turtle position before your expedition, get to know it! Stopping for breaks can become tedious as you'll need to remove all of your equipment. So instead hit the turtle position by bending forwards and pushing your bag so it is in the middle of your back and the weight is off your shoulders!



3

## HYDRATION

Help each other by making sure you all stay hydrated, and have access to snacks to stay energised. You will need to carry 2 litres of water each.

4

## STAY TOGETHER



You can fail the course if you stray from your group. Walk together! The group member with the slowest pace could lead the group, so not to get left behind.

## TRAVEL LIGHT

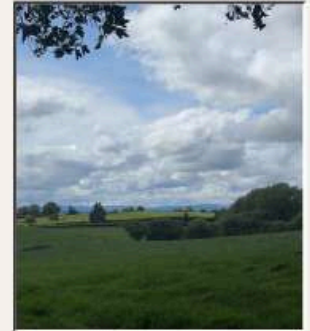
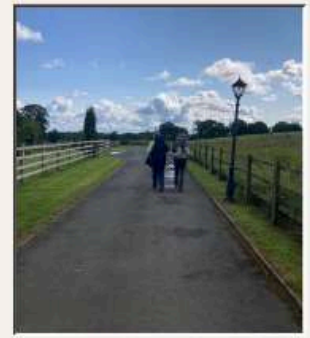
5

Don't pack too much in your bag! Every item will be carried on your back and the weight soon adds up. Pack necessities only.

6

## WATERPROOF EVERYTHING

Avoid a soggy disaster by wrapping everything in your rucksack with plastic bags or binbags. Also make sure your boots are waterproof before arriving for the expedition.



# Duke of Edinburgh

## GOLD



This May, Year 12 went on their practice expedition in Snowdonia. Over 3 days, the Year 12's walked, worked on their map reading skills and walked some more! They started in Pafiliwn Llangollen and walked all the way to Llangollen Horseshoe Falls and are now ready to take on their final expedition.



**“** DofE was a very tiring experience but full of exiting new challenges and adventures. **”**

Joe Yr12



**“** I had so much fun on my practice expedition. I can't wait for the real thing! **”**

Ksenia Yr 12

# DOFE GOLD AWARD PRESENTATIONS *at Buckingham Palace*

We were invited to Buckingham Palace this year to attend one of the celebration days for the Duke Of Edinburgh Gold Award holders. There were a number of our DofE class of 2024 who were there to enjoy some tea and cake in the Palace garden. The Duke of Edinburgh introduced two Gold Award holders who gave inspiring speeches from the steps of Buckingham Palace. We listened to some of the guest speakers including Bill Bailey, enjoyed a walk around the lake and played some garden party games. It was a gorgeous day in the sunshine and it was lovely to congratulate some of our Upton alumni on their hard work with the Gold Award.

*Miss Seery & Mrs Lynch*





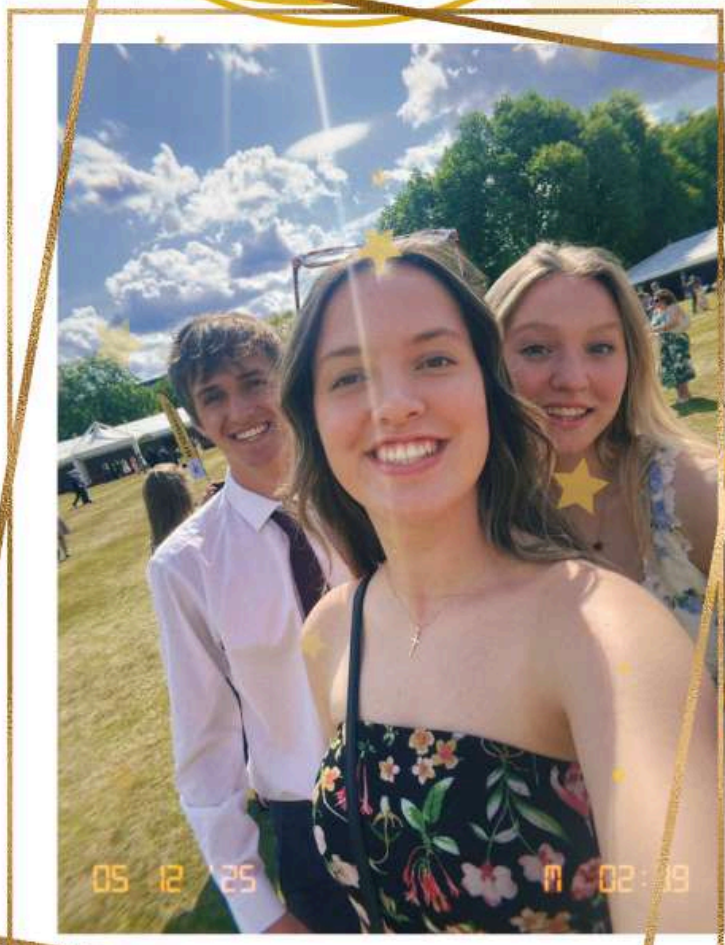
*“It was a once in a lifetime experience to go to the palace. It made all the hard work of DofE feel worth it.*

*Ben Class of 2024*



*“It was a beautiful sunny day at the Palace - it felt special to be there with some of my expedition group to celebrate.*

*Daisy Class of 2024*



# CHICAGO



Chicago is a musical which tells the story of Roxie Hart, a housewife who murders her on-the-side lover, and her struggles with fame and the media as she navigates the legal system. It is set in the 1920s in Chicago during the Jazz Age.

The Chicago musical tour was in Llandudno and the Year 12 learners had a fantastic time watching performances. They gained further knowledge of stage production to help them in their work.



*The tone was bang on and very good! It was filled with incredible dancing and performances!*

Charlie Yr 12





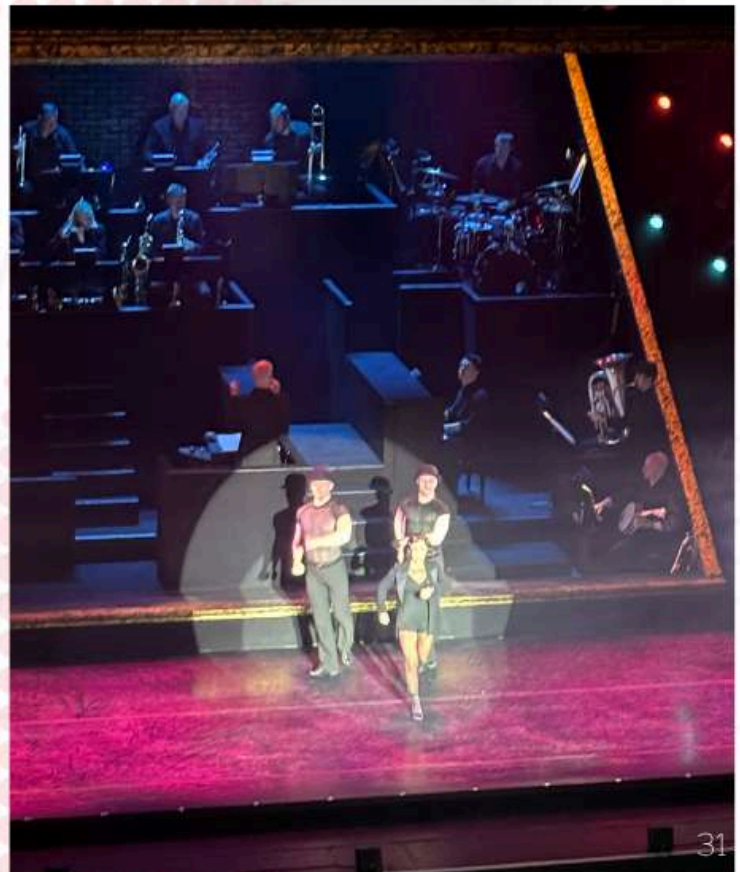
*"Amazing show with so many amazing voices and talent. I recommend anyone who loves theatre to watch!"*

Learner Yr 12



*"It was an exciting experience with an interesting story with a captivating story line that was great to watch!"*

Eden Yr 12



# LMA

**LEVEL 2**  
**RECORDING STUDIOS 1 & 2**  
**STUDENT TOILETS** ♀ ♂ ♿  
**ACTING STUDIOS 3-6**  
**CREATIVE SUITES 5-7**

On 20<sup>th</sup> June, some of our Year 12 media, film and drama learners attended a University open day at Liverpool Media Academy. They had a tour of the Met Quarter facilities and participated in practical workshops in Digital Film and Performing Arts, to get a taste of an undergraduate degree. Everyone had an amazing day!



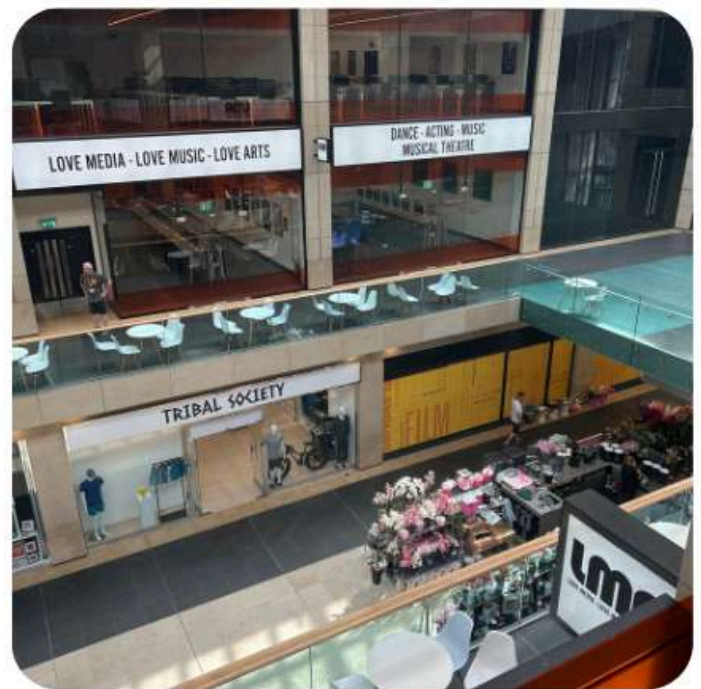
*"LMA have state of the art equipment and a focus on industry links & networking."*

Sade Yr 12



*"I study Media, Film and Drama at Upton so it was the perfect trip for me!"*

Charlie Yr 12

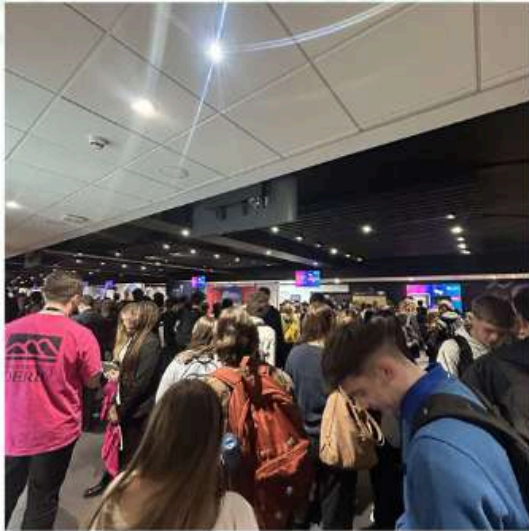


*"It was a good opportunity to experience Uni life at a specialist centre."*

Maisie Yr 12



# SIXTH-FORM UCAS TRIP

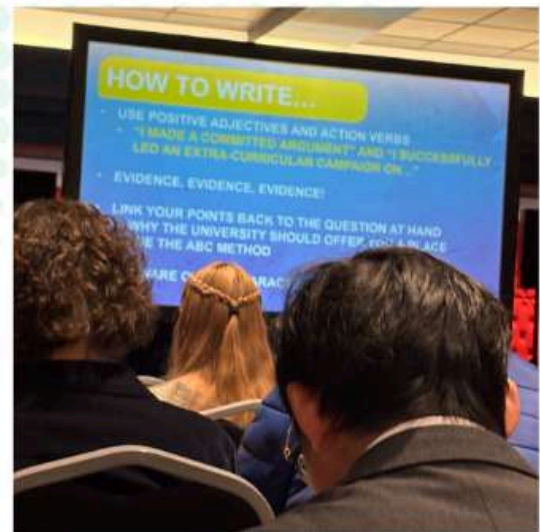


On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, Year 12 Sixth-Form Learners went to Old Trafford to participate in the UCAS Discovery Event.

As outlined by the UCAS website, it provided opportunities to:

- chat to unis and colleges about their courses and uni life
- speak to employers and apprenticeship providers about what an apprenticeship is like and the options available
- speak to qualified careers advisers about your future
- listen to talks from experts in their fields
- hang out with our UCAS experts to get dedicated support about your options

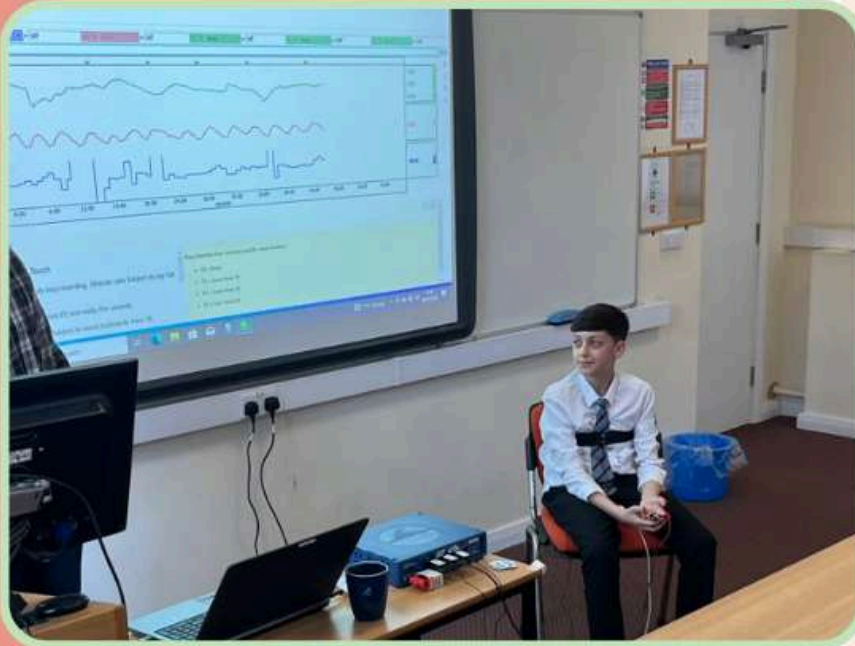
Present were several stalls representing universities including Kings College London, University of Law and University of Edinburgh. Learners had the opportunity to discuss different courses and consider the advantages and disadvantages of a wide range of post - 18 career options, whilst collecting a variety of university prospectuses and tote bags! There were also several panels hosted including one with advice on how to write an effective personal statement, the speaker was from the University of Law Admissions Board providing a detailed analysis of how to successfully write a personal statement.



*The UCAS trip was an excellent opportunity to explore my options for the future. The talks were also really informative and interesting.*  
Amelie Yr 12



# Keele University



Our Service Learners had a lovely visit to Keele University to sample University life. The day began in Life Sciences, then a tour and lunch in the Student Union, followed by the Psychology department, where they looked at the reliability of polygraphs to detect lies.



# Toxteth.TV

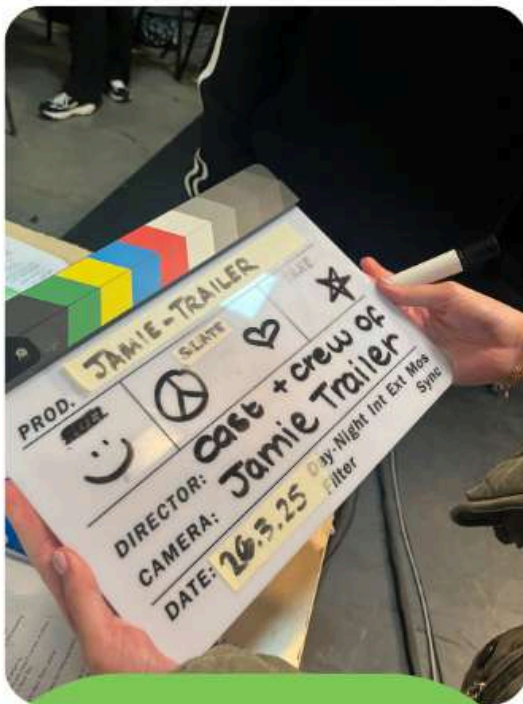
On 26<sup>th</sup> March, some of our year 12 media and drama students travelled to Toxteth TV studio in Liverpool to film some clips to create their trailer for their summer show of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'.

The learners had made a scripted plan of individual scenes to film for the trailer. The day was led by Edward and Andy who work at Toxteth TV and helped guide the day of filming.

The media learners were split into three groups, and they rotated roles throughout the course of the day. While one group used the cameras, another group were in the gallery overseeing the filming process, and a final group acting as an audience.

Before the filming began, the learners were directed how to use the cameras: how to zoom in, focus and adjust the height and positioning. They were also taken up to the gallery and taught how to switch between the different angles of the camera. They were also shown how to change the volume and to stop and start the recording. They were instructed to use the microphone to speak to the cast and crew below to let them know when to start performing.

It was a very successful trip and everyone had a great time!



*"I learnt so much about film production and the trip made me consider working in this field."*

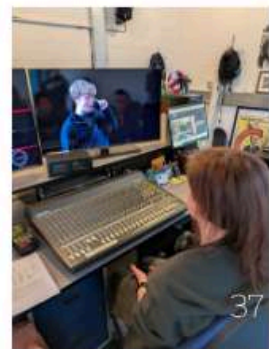
Hannah Year 12

TOXTETH TV






*"It was a fantastic opportunity to see inside of a TV studio. My favourite part was working in the gallery as we got to control the camera angles and speak to the actors on the intercom!"*  
Amelie Year 12




# EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT

# JAMIE



"Everybody's Talking About Jamie" is a vibrant, feel-good musical that tells the true story of Jamie New, a teenager from Sheffield who dreams of becoming a drag queen. Faced with bullying, doubts, and a lack of support from some corners, Jamie finds strength through his supportive mum and close friends. With catchy songs, bold choreography, and a powerful message about self-expression and acceptance, the show has resonated with audiences worldwide. Originally a hit on the West End, it's also been adapted into a feature film, continuing to inspire with its celebration of individuality and courage.



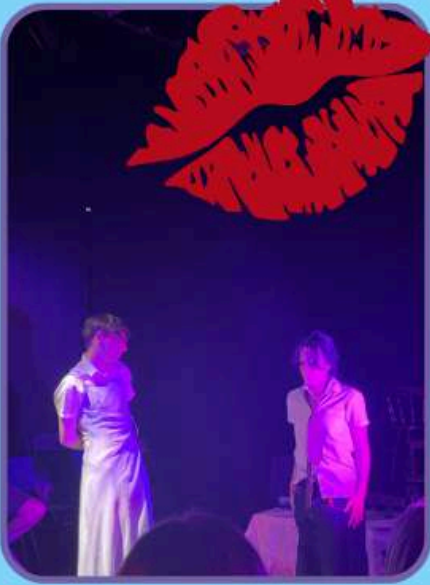
SCRIPT



*"The Year 12 cast delivered a thoughtful and energetic performance of Everybody's Talking About Jamie, Jamie (played by Ben Jones - Yr 12) gave a standout performance with real stage presence, balancing boldness with vulnerability. Pritti's solo (played by Izzy Kelly) was particularly moving, and the year 12 Drama class had strong choreography and energy."*

Saima A, Yr 12

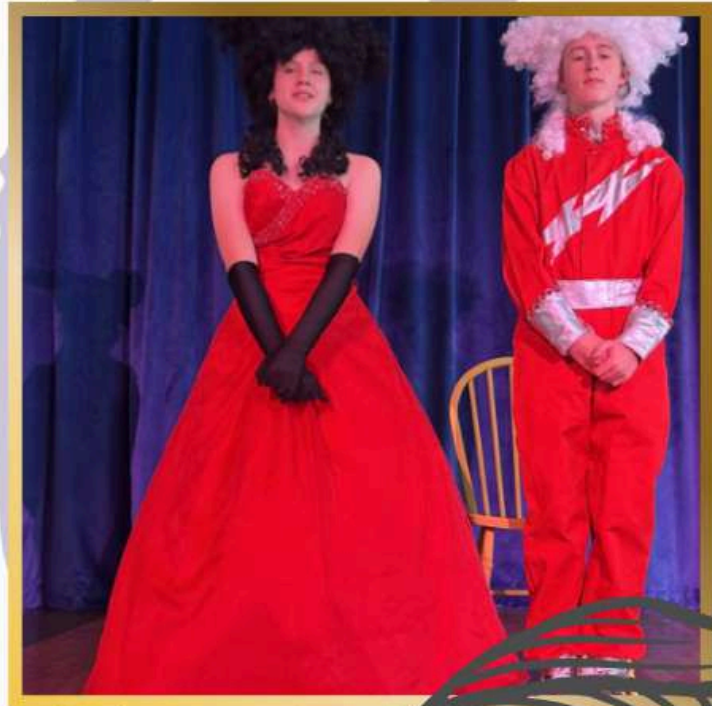




# Alice Rehearsals

'Alice' is a modern day re-telling of the old classic and coincides with the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alice's adventures in Wonderland.

*"It has been really fun being a part of this play. The story has been around for so long I'm sure that everyone in the audience will enjoy it!"*

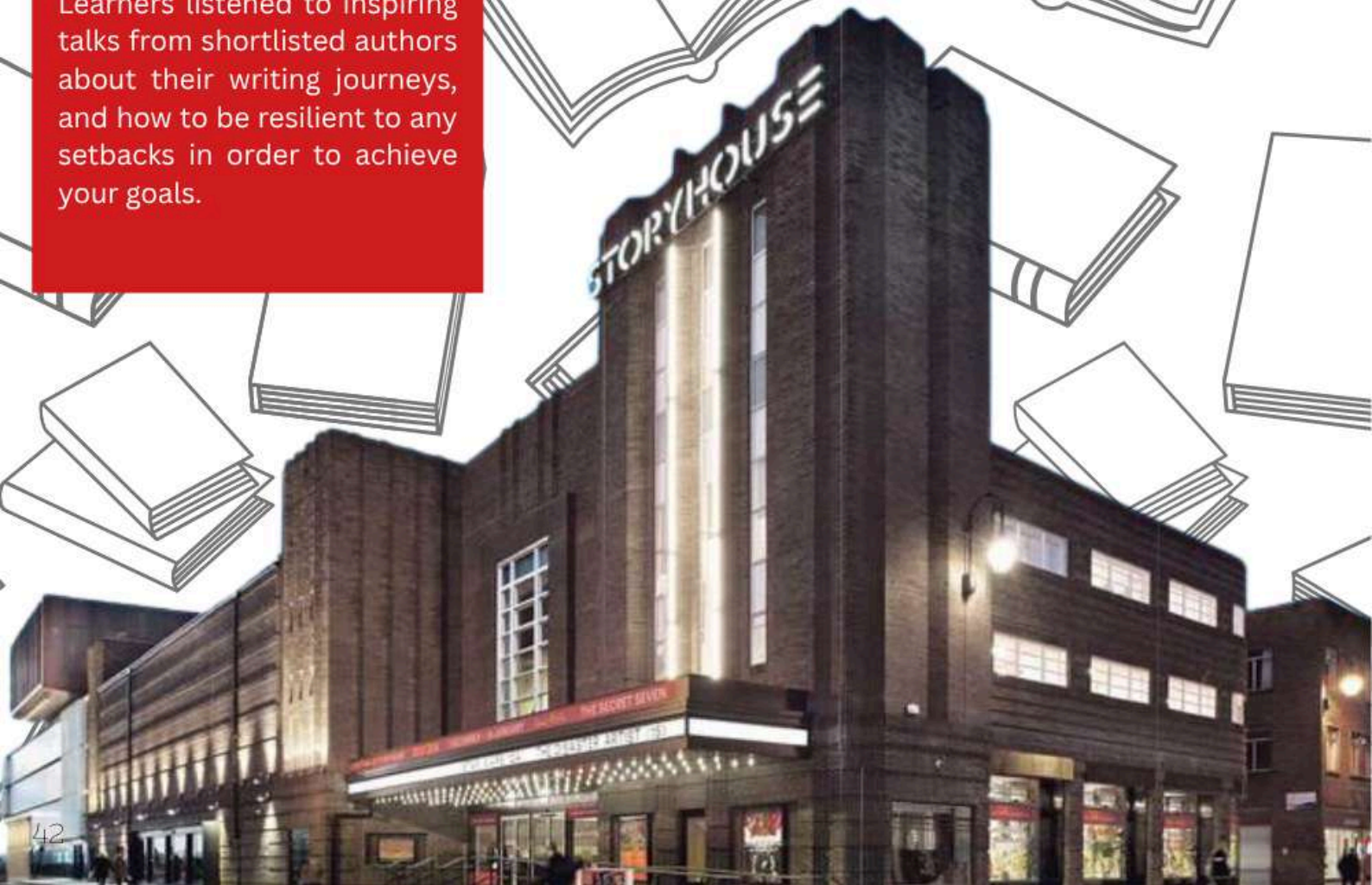




# STORYHOUSE



A group of KS3 readers travelled to the Storyhouse for the Cheshire Schools Book Award celebration day. Learners listened to inspiring talks from shortlisted authors about their writing journeys, and how to be resilient to any setbacks in order to achieve your goals.



*It is great to help out at the marathon. The city is always lively and you are sure to run in to someone you know.*



Another efficient baggage service at the Chester Marathon. Loads of bags looked after and returned. Our learners are amazing! Thanks for all the lovely compliments from the runners and to the runner who always brings the learners some treats as a thank you! #thoughtful



Members of the Eco School group are currently working towards their level 2 environmental leadership qualification. They have been exploring ways to increase biodiversity at school including constructing bird boxes and identifying locations for nectar rich plants for pollinators.



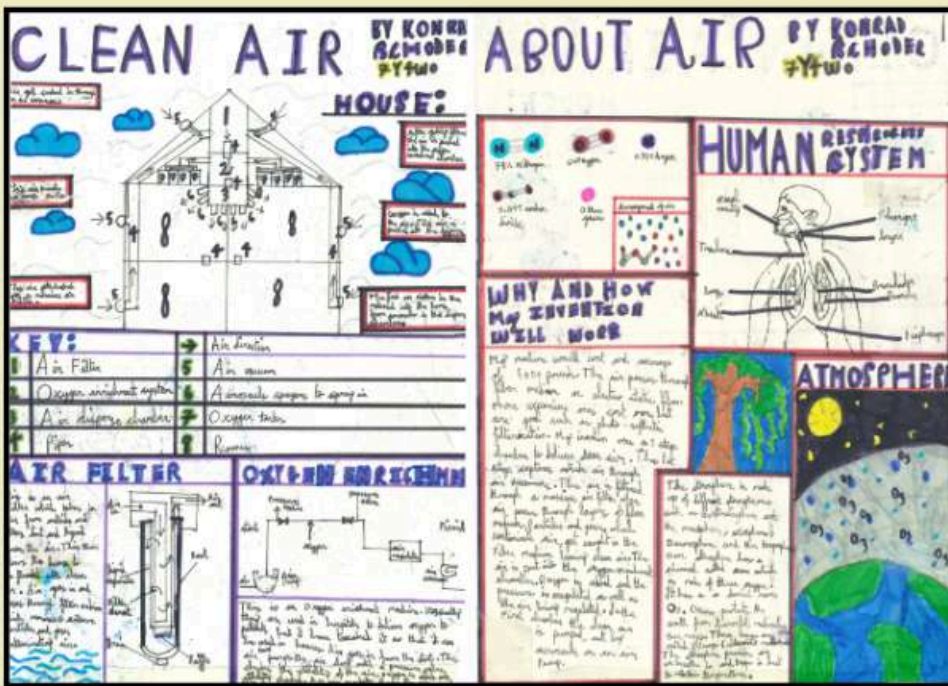
Earlier in the year our learners created coded images to be sent to the International Space Station as part of the European Astro Pi Competition. Today they received their certificates which included where in the world their code was played in space.

*Eco-schools have been working towards positive change at Upton for years and it is special to be a part of it*

# BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK POSTER COMPETITION

Members of our school's KS3 have been busy this term making scientific posters. They were given the prompt to 'come up with a new idea or invention to improve health in the air and in our buildings'.

The learners were told that they would be judged on their projects creativity, scientific content, viability and presentation. The winners were chosen by sixth former Elise, who helps to run the science club. The five winners displayed here have been entered into the national competition, run by UCL and were awarded an Easter egg.

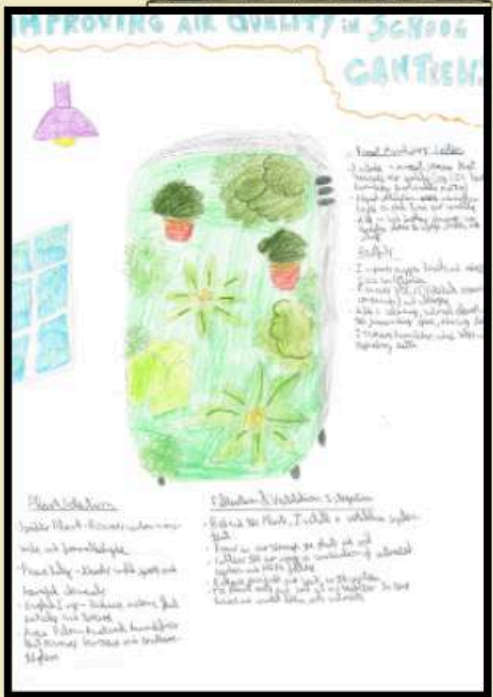


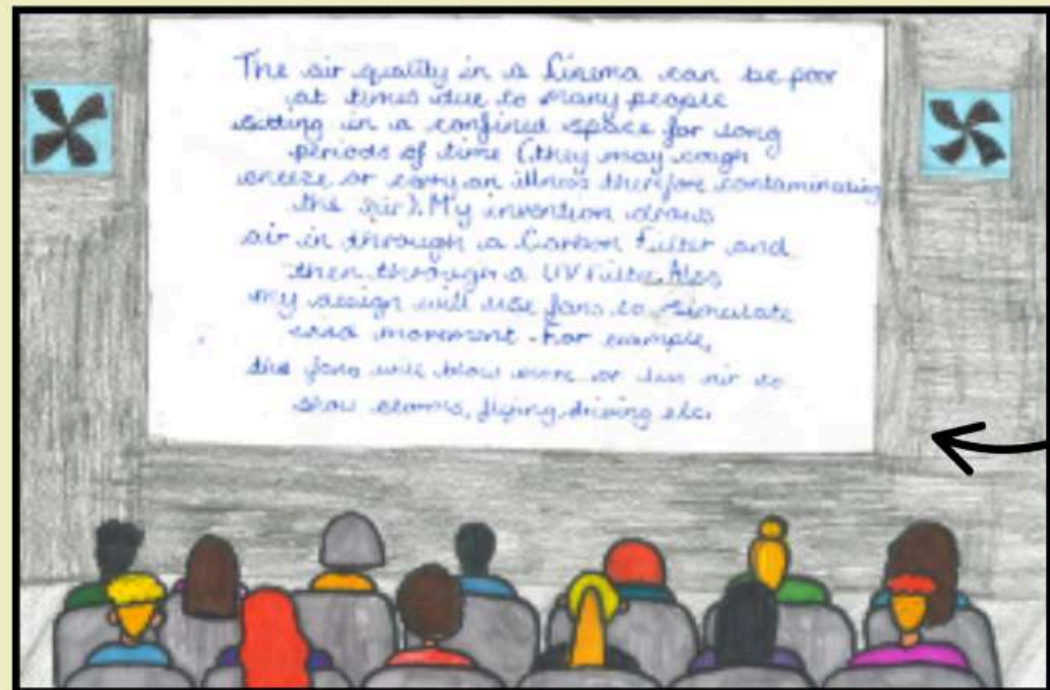
Here is Year 7 winner from class 7x4 Oliver's poster campaigning for clean air in houses. Oliver carried out a lot of research, and carefully considered the benefits of his ideas.



Year 7 winner Emilio from class 7x4 created a fantastic poster about improving the air quality of the school canteens with the use of plants!

“  
I am so proud of how the learners have done. It was tough to choose the winners!  
”  
Elise Year 12 Judge





Year 7 Winner Pippa from 7x4 impressed the judges with her innovative method of keeping air clean within cinemas.



Andrew, a year 8 winner from 8x1a won with his pollen pet that helps people with hay fever.

*I created the pollen pet to aid those with allergies in a fun and interactive way. I am very grateful to all the teachers for their encouragement.*  
Andrew Year 8



Konrad, a year 7 winner from 7y4 made this impressive invention for cleaner air, whilst also explaining the importance of clean air in his poster.



Topper  
Sailboat



“  
*I love sailing. It is so different to other sports and you meet some amazing people. We have been lucky enough to travel across the world and last year even sailed against Olympians.*

”

Isla Yr 8



**Poppy with her trophy from the last event in Cornwall, she did amazingly in very windy conditions and was First Lady!**



# SAILING

Two of our learners, sisters Isla and Poppy, have had great success this year competing in national sailing competitions. The girls have been involved in sailing since they were little thanks to passionate sailor parents who competed in world competitions. Both girls started to compete nationally aged nine.

They sail a Topper sailboat in their current competitions but can also sail fireflies and mirrors.

The sisters are competing later this year in the Nationals at Largs in Scotland as well as at the World Championships at Medenblik in the Netherlands during the summer.

We wish them both the best of luck and look forward to hearing all about their adventures!



**Interested  
in sailing?**

**Isla recommends  
attending open days at  
Budworth & West Kirby  
Sailing Club or look at  
getting involved in Sea  
Cadets**

**Isla competed at a  
Plas Heli national  
sailing competition,  
and came third!**



# Textiles



## Festival Bucket Hats

Amazing **Festival Bucket hat** designs from year 9 learners in Textiles this year. Here are some examples showcasing their finished work.





## STEAM PUNK MASKS





**MECHANICAL  
ROBOT MONSTERS**

# Careers Breakfast Talk

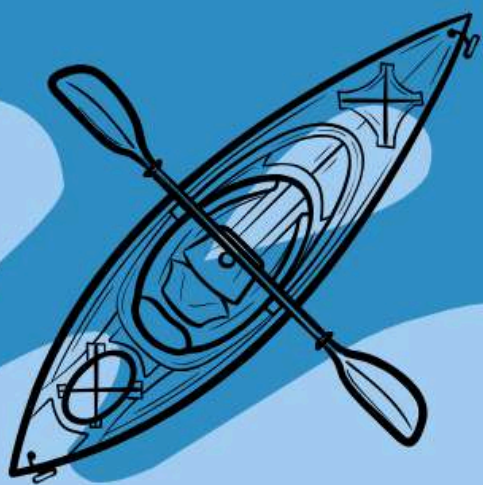
April's **Careers Breakfast** featured David Bain, a commercial Director at Pyranha Mouldings Ltd.



David shared his inspiring career path, after not enjoying school and finishing after one year of A Levels. David claimed the junior 15 National Junior Slalom Kayak Championship, beating competitors in his age group from across the country at the slalom course in Bedford. David then shifted his focus toward whitewater and sea kayaking expeditions worldwide, and gradually transitioned into the business side of Canoeing. His role spans marketing, sales, product development, and working closely with ambassador and NGO-support programs.



*"My journey with Pyranha started at a work experience day at a renowned London-based shop during my school days. There, I was introduced to the Pyranha team, marking the beginning of a significant chapter in my paddlesports career."*



David believes in working to support influential activists and organisations, as well as working to grow the paddlesports community and to defend our rivers, lakes, and oceans.



Year 7s and Year 8s performed exceptionally at the Chester Districts Athletics. Fabulous and resilient performances, well done girls!

Year 9 with another exceptional performance to continue their school run by gaining a victorious 2-1 over Bishops Heber. Great work!



A very successful 6<sup>th</sup> form vs teacher charity match played in good spirits, which resulted in a 4-1 victory for the 6<sup>th</sup> form. Also a great turnout from viewers, Nice job everyone!



A huge congratulations to the U13s Girls football team who became Chester and District CHAMPIONS showing great drive and passion to overcome their tough opponents and attain this amazing achievement. Well done!





Congratulations to the the upper and lower 6th form football team, who won their district cup final 2-0 last month! Goals from Owen, Jack, and a magic man of the match goalkeeping performance from Finn, Well done lads keep up the good work.



Belated congratulations to our wonderful year 7 Netball team at showing great resilience and teamwork skills to get through the weekend, stay committed, and win their opening two games of the tournament! Excellent!

Our fantastic year 9s represented our school impeccably at the Chester & District Rounders tournament at the end of May.



Well done to our netball U16s team who competed in the Sister Sport Netball Shield Cup semi-finals, and despite narrowly losing, showed great determination and hardiness to get through the challenging weekend.

# UPTON-BY-CHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

## Highlights of the Year 24-25



Florida Trip



Croatia Science Expedition



Eco Action Group



Eco Schools Sustainability Network



Careers Talk



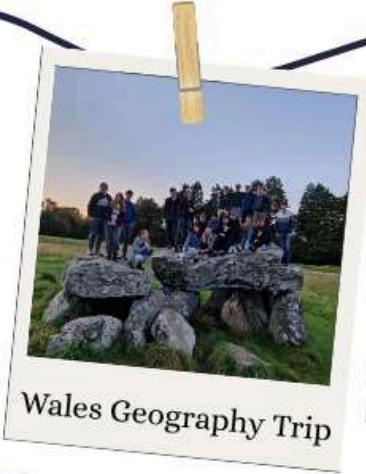
Farm Club



The Debate Team



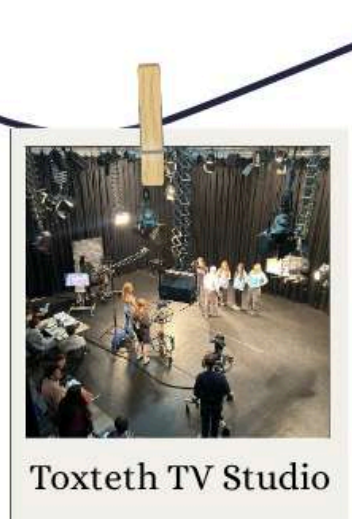
BIFoR Geography Trip



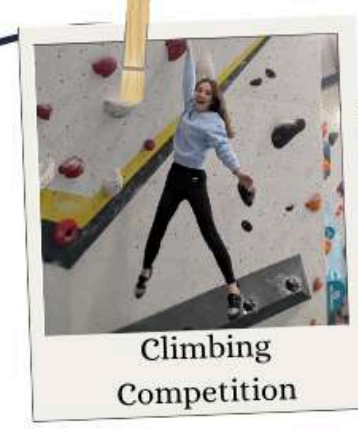
Wales Geography Trip



Drama Club



Toxteth TV Studio



Climbing Competition



Duke Of Edinburgh



Under 18's Football Team



Under 14's Football Team



Under 19's Netball Team