

HEAD'S HERALD

HIGH EXPECTATIONS | HIGH ASPIRATIONS | HIGH STANDARDS | YOU WILL SUCCEED

VOLUME 16 DATE 17TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. At least the weather is better than last week. There have still been a couple of minor heating issues in school so we have let students be inside with coats on, until this has rectified. We will let them know in Form Time if this rule changes. Again, many thanks for all your support in relaying messages to the students.

Just a reminder that it is an INSET Day on Wednesday 22nd January 2025 as per the published calendar dates. By law we have to have 5 INSET days a year. I do my best to ensure that they do not always fall on the same day as that would mean the students would always miss learning with as the same classes would be affected. I just thought I would share the rationale as I appreciate that a random Wednesday may look strange on paper.

The students have been completing their 'Working at 1' (WA1) assessments and we have all been really impressed with how seriously they have been taking them. It has been really lovely having academic conversations with the students about their performance and how they really care about how well they are doing.

We have had lots of activities happening, some of which are referenced in here and also, they are celebrated on our social media pages. It is wonderful to see so many of our young people getting involved in the wider curriculum and having real success too.

Please can I remind you to collect any jewellery that has been confiscated. It is all locked in the safe but I am just conscious that it needs to be picked up please.

I appreciate that this next point does not affect the vast majority of you, but it is important that I am just very clear around our expectations in communication. Arbor is how we communicate and therefore parents/carers do need to have the app and check it regularly. I just also want to be clear that we will not tolerate any (verbal or written) communication that is rude, aggressive or disrespectful. My front-line office team are incredibly supportive and helpful and whilst I appreciate you may have a worry, concern or frustration, inappropriate communication is just not acceptable. We will always help you in any way we can, but please, just be polite.

Many thanks as always for your continued support, it is very much appreciated and please have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher

QUALITY OF EDUCATION **CURRICULUM**

Say it again, say it better

In lessons it goes without saying that we closely monitor the written responses to the questions and tasks that we ask our students. This is closely monitored and relevant, meaningful feedback is provided. However, increasingly, the challenge posed to students on how they verbally respond is also a priority. We have a responsibility as a school to support our students in developing their articulation skills, be that to articulate their learning or articulate their feelings and opinions.

In lessons teachers ask questions which are targeted towards certain students. We adopt a mixture of 'hands up' and 'hands down' responses i.e. the latter being the teacher chooses which student answers. Once a student has responded, if there is any room for improvement whatsoever to their answer i.e. greater detail, a higher tier word, improved pronunciation etc the teacher will challenge them to 'say it again and say it better'. This prompts a quick reflection for the student to consider 'how can I improve this response?' If the student is unable to then the question is posed to another member of the class i.e. 'How can X say it again and say it better'.

This process helps develop a number of skills and characteristics including resilience and confidence in speaking in public. It also challenges students to 'uptier' their language using subject specific terminology. Sometimes this leads to strong academic discussion where students debate and share opinions. This forms key experiences for life both outside of and beyond school.

One of our emerging whole school priorities is 'Oracy'. In future editions of the Head's Herald I will share more information on how this is developing.

QUALITY OF EDUCATION **ASSESSMENT**

Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 Options Evening is on Thursday 23rd January at 18:00. This is a compulsory event as the Options process will determine what subjects your child will study at Key Stage 4 and will influence future career pathways and/or further training.

Heads of Department, our careers advisory service Careers Connect and further education establishments will be available to answer any questions and offer guidance about subject choices and explain details about specific courses. Students attending the evening need to be in full school uniform.

If you have not confirmed your attendance, please do so here asap via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/BmqtwdN0Kr>

KS4 Year 10 WA1 Internal Assessments: 20 – 31 January 2025

Students will be sitting their first Working At (WA) assessment of this year in all of their subjects during assessment fortnight (Monday 20 January – Friday 31 January 2025). This may take the form of a test or an assessed piece of writing/practical piece of work.

Assessment Timetable

Please review the timetable below. Dates and times of the Maths, English and Science tests have already been allocated. Teachers for the other subjects will inform their classes when they are taking place. It is important that students write these on their assessment timetable and highlight when the assessments in their subjects are taking place. Students are responsible for carrying their timetable and updating it when class teachers give out information.

For the EBacc subjects, the percentage your child achieves on the WA1 assessment will be included on the progress report that will be sent out via the Parent Portal on 21 February 2025. To gauge what this percentage means in relation to the progress your child is making, the year group average percentage will be included for comparative purposes

Combined Timetable KS4 YEAR 10 Assessments January 2025

	Date	Period 1	Room	Period 2	Room	Period 3	Room	Period 4	Room	Period 5	Room
WEEK 2	Mon 20 Jan			10En Yellow 10En Orange 10En Red	R22 R21 R20						
	Tues 21 Jan	10En Green 10En Blue 10Ma Orange 10Ma Yellow 10Ma Red	R23 R20 R2 R1 R3			10 Ma Green 10Ma Indigo 10Ma Blue	R6 R7 R2				
	Weds 22 Jan	INSET DAY									
	Thurs 23 Jan			10Sci Orange 10Sci Yellow 10Sci Red 10En Indigo	L4 L2 L1 R24						
	Fri 24 Jan			10Sci Blue 10Sci Green 10Sci Indigo	L5 L1 L3						

	Date	Period 1	Room	Period 2	Room	Period 3	Room	Period 4	Room	Period 5	Room
WEEK 1	Mon 27 Jan										
	Tues 28 Jan					10Ma Green 10Ma Blue 10Ma Indigo 10En Yellow 10En Orange	R10 R7 R2 R22 R21				
	Weds 29 Jan							10En Green 10En Blue	R23 R20		
	Thurs 30 Jan			10Ma Orange 10Ma Yellow 10Ma Red	R13 R1 R3						
	Fri 31 Jan					10En Red	R20				

All subjects will be assessed in lesson time.

Write these on your timetable when your teacher tells you the date and time.

You MUST bring your pencil case containing a black pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, sharpener and scientific calculator.

BEHAVIOURS & ATTITUDES

PASTORAL

Free School Meal vouchers (FSM)

Further to the information in the last edition of the Head's Herald where we advised that there will be a big focus on standards, we would like to remind parents and carers that we continue with our FSM voucher system. All students in receipt of free school meals have a £100 voucher assigned to them, however, many students have yet to spend any of the vouchers. The vouchers can be used to support families with the purchasing of resources, uniform items, supporting trips and other items to remove any barriers to learning.

Please contact your child's Head of Year of who will support with the process.

Rewards and Recognition during Collective Worship

As well as the behaviour and standards 'reset' messages, year groups have been part of the collective worship which has focused on the celebration of the successes of half term 2. Throughout the week we have celebrated:

- Tutor group performance in relation to attendance and punctuality
- Attendance improvements and high levels of attendance for individuals
- Tutor group performance in relation to positive behaviour and conduct
- Student House Points and Attitude to Learning (Did your child achieve 100 House Points in Term 1, therefore receiving the Boteler Centurion certificate?)
- Student performance across subjects and contributions towards extracurricular activities.

Please do talk to your child regarding the above, not forgetting to track your child's conduct on the parent Arbor App.

Year 8 HPV vaccinations

Please click on the following link to view letter from the School Immunisations Team regarding the upcoming HPV vaccinations which are being offered in school on 29th January & 5th February.

<https://bit.ly/4fKBhtu>

If you have any questions, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team on 01925 946808

Attendance at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

You will be aware of our continued drive to ensure all students have high levels of attendance and the communication regarding this is regular.

The half term in the lead up towards Christmas can be testing, with schools often seeing a rise in the number of students absent for illness and unauthorised absence. We will continue to be here to support our students and families and we ask for daily communication when concerns arise.

You can find our school Attendance Policy and Attendance Booklet by visiting the school website or by clicking here: [Attendance – Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School](#)

Our Attendance Booklet (<https://t.ly/5nfKw>) is a recent addition to the website and provides key information regarding:

- Whether to keep your child off school or not
- Advice and guidance for parents/carers
- What to do if your child refuses to attend school
- Reporting absence
- The impact of poor punctuality
- Legal requirements
- Key staff who can support you and your child

We have had some parents/carers question their child's attendance headline figure and we have again had to stress the importance of good punctuality and the Government introduction of the U code – arriving late 30 minutes after the register has closed.

'Please note that a U code is classified for statistical purposes as unauthorised absence, where this may lead to more formal attendance procedures being put in place'.

Students have been reminded about the Christmas rewards and recognition plans and we ask students to reflect on their own performance:

- Do you have a positive aggregate of conduct points? (House Points minus Behaviour Points?)
- Do you have 96% + for half-term 2? (Fresh start for all students. Attendance of 96% = 1 entry, 98% = 3 entries and 100% = 5 entries)

...Then you could win one of the following prizes:

- Amazon Fire HD tablet
- Bluetooth Wireless Earbuds worth £89.99
- Uefa Champions League Football
- A fancy Chrome Trim Parker Pen
- £20 cinema voucher
- £10 ASOS voucher
-and more.

Don't forget to track your child's attendance, punctuality and House Points via the Arbor App.





Food hamper support for families

A reminder about our work with MCKS Charitable Foundation UK (MCKS), who continue to provide schools across the country with support for their most vulnerable students and families, by donating food, toiletries, and much needed sanitary supplies.

Due to their amazing sponsors and donations, we have continued to receive a fortnightly delivery, where we have been supporting a number of families. We recognise that times are tough at the moment, and with the support of MCKS, we have gone a small way to help families at this challenging time.

We know that it can be hard to ask for support at times, however, we really encourage you to reach out for support should you need it. Simply contact your child's Head of Year or Mr Leonard (jleonard@boteler.org.uk) and all requests for support will be treated sensitively.

A big thank you to MCKS.

TCAT are collecting essential items to help families in Dallam affected by the severe flooding at the start of the year.



Many have lost belongings, food due to power outages, and are still struggling to dry out their homes in the freezing and wet weather conditions.

If you can help, please drop off donations at the TCAT Personal Development Centre (8 AM - 4 PM, Mon-Fri) or Warrington Islamic Centre on Lockton Lane.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

SENDIASS DROP IN SESSION

WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY- 09:00- 12:00

Sandy Lane Children's Centre, Sandy Lane, Orford, WA2 9HY

WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY- 09:00- 12:00

Westy Children's Centre, Tinsley Street, Latchford, WA4 1RE

THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY- 09:00- 12:00

Great Sankey Children's Centre, Liverpool Road, WA5 1SB

THURSDAY 6TH MARCH- 09:00- 12:00

Orchards Children's Centre, Hilden Road, WA2 0JP

THURSDAY 13TH MARCH- 09:00- 12:00

**Burtonwood Library, Chapel Lane, WA5 4PS
(Running Order May Differ)**

THURSDAY 20TH MARCH- 09:00- 12:00

The Hub, Capesthorpe Road, Orford, WA2 0JF

TUESDAY 25TH MARCH- 09:00- 12:00

Birchwood Community Room, Admiral Road, Birchwood WA3 6QG



☎ 01925 442978

✉ infosendiass@warrington.gov.uk

www.warrington.gov.uk/warringtonsendiass



ORDER OF SESSION

09:00- 10:00

- **What is an EHCP?**
 - **The EHC Assessment Process**
- **Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment**
- **Completing an EHC Request**
 - **Submitting the Request**
 - **Next Steps**

10:00- 10:30

**EHC Request
Individual Q&A Drop In**

10:45- 12:00

**General Queries Drop
In Sessions**

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

This term we have National Apprenticeship week and National Careers week coming up. Please take a look at the link which has information about apprenticeships and T levels as well as resources for parent/carers to use at home with their child.

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/>

Year 10 and 11 Priestley Open Evening Feb 4th:

This will be great for year 10s and 11s, including existing applicants and those who have already attended an earlier event. This event is a little different with a number of talks scheduled about our specialisms.

[Priestley's Specialisms - Priestley College](#)

Year 10 and 11 Apprenticeships

If your child is thinking about an apprenticeship then you may wish to take them to the following open evening:

[STFC Apprenticeship Open Evening -Daresbury Laboratory Tickets, Tue 4 Feb 2025 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Date and Time: Tuesday, 4 February 2025, from 17:00 to 20:00 GMT.

Location: Daresbury Laboratory, Keckwick Lane, Daresbury, Warrington, WA4 4AD.

Warrington Apprenticeship and Jobs Fair:

Date and Time: Thursday, 13 February 2025, from 17:00 to 20:00 GMT.
Location: The Engine Rooms at Birchwood Park, 101 Faraday Street, Risley, WA3 6YN.

[Registration Link](#) to send out to Learners, Parents/Carers

For more information on apprenticeships please go to:

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>



Open Event

Year 10s & 11s welcome

Tue 4 Feb

**Don't miss out,
book your place today**



Go to priestley.ac.uk or scan the QR code for times - and to book your place



YOUR INVITATION

Year 10s and **Year 11s** are welcome to join this open event to learn more about the **70+ courses** that are on offer at Priestley as well as discover more about the wide range of **Specialisms** available ranging from our **High Achievers' programme** to the **NHS Cadet scheme**, **Sport Academies** and **Journalism**.

Scan the QR to view our digital prospectus



AMBITIOUS FOR YOU



ROAR

Our highest attaining students in Year 10 were visited by Chris Peacock from Priestley to learn about the Russell Group or Alternative Ready (ROAR) programme today. The aim of the programme is to teach our students to have high aspirations for their pathways after school.

As part of the programme, they will undertake a university level project, many students already had ideas for theirs by the end of the session! Chris was very impressed by the students' engagement and the excellent questions they asked him. We hope as many students as possible will seize this great opportunity!

LOST Property

Lost property is located in Mrs Mawby's office. Over the last week over 10 coats have been handed in and no one has collected them.

Please remind your child to check the classrooms they think they may have left their item of lost property in and then see Mrs Mawby.



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Thank you to all Year 11 parents and carers who attended the Parents' Evening last week. Despite the need to reschedule the event due to adverse weather conditions, the evening was a great success. The feedback we have received has been positive, particularly in relation to its timing following the Year 11 mock results. This alignment allowed for clear and actionable feedback to be shared, supporting students as they enter this crucial stage of the academic year.

Please see an update regarding our 3rd Parent Forum: Understanding the Curriculum. Originally scheduled for Thursday 6th February, this event has now been moved to **Thursday 13th February** (18:00 – 19:00). This session will focus on providing parents with a deeper understanding of the curriculum, including what your child is learning and how best to support them.

For parents and carers of Year 9 students, a link has been sent out to confirm attendance at the **Year 9 Options Evening** on Thursday 23rd January.

We also have **Year 9 Parents' Evening** coming up on Monday 27th January, where appointments can be made by clicking on the link below. <https://boteler.schoolcloud.co.uk>

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week as part of Collective Worship, students will be focusing on our Christian value for this term '**Endurance**'. The Worship Ambassadors are leading our Collective Worship this week with examples of endurance in our lives and scripture. Our scripture for this week is from Romans 15:4-5 and it reminds us of the importance of not giving up on each other:

"may the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another."

Spiritual Pause: Think about who or what you might have given up on already this year. Have we been quick to forget our promises for the new year? Reflect this week on what we can work on again to improve ourselves and each other.



Baptism and Confirmation: We have the opportunity to partake in these special events if you haven't already done so. Students who may have missed their confirmation or wish to be baptised are invited to see Mrs Hoey in school next week to register their interest. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hoey (ehoey@boteler.org.uk).

Please keep up to date with our weekly prayer and scripture via social media.

SUBJECT NEWS

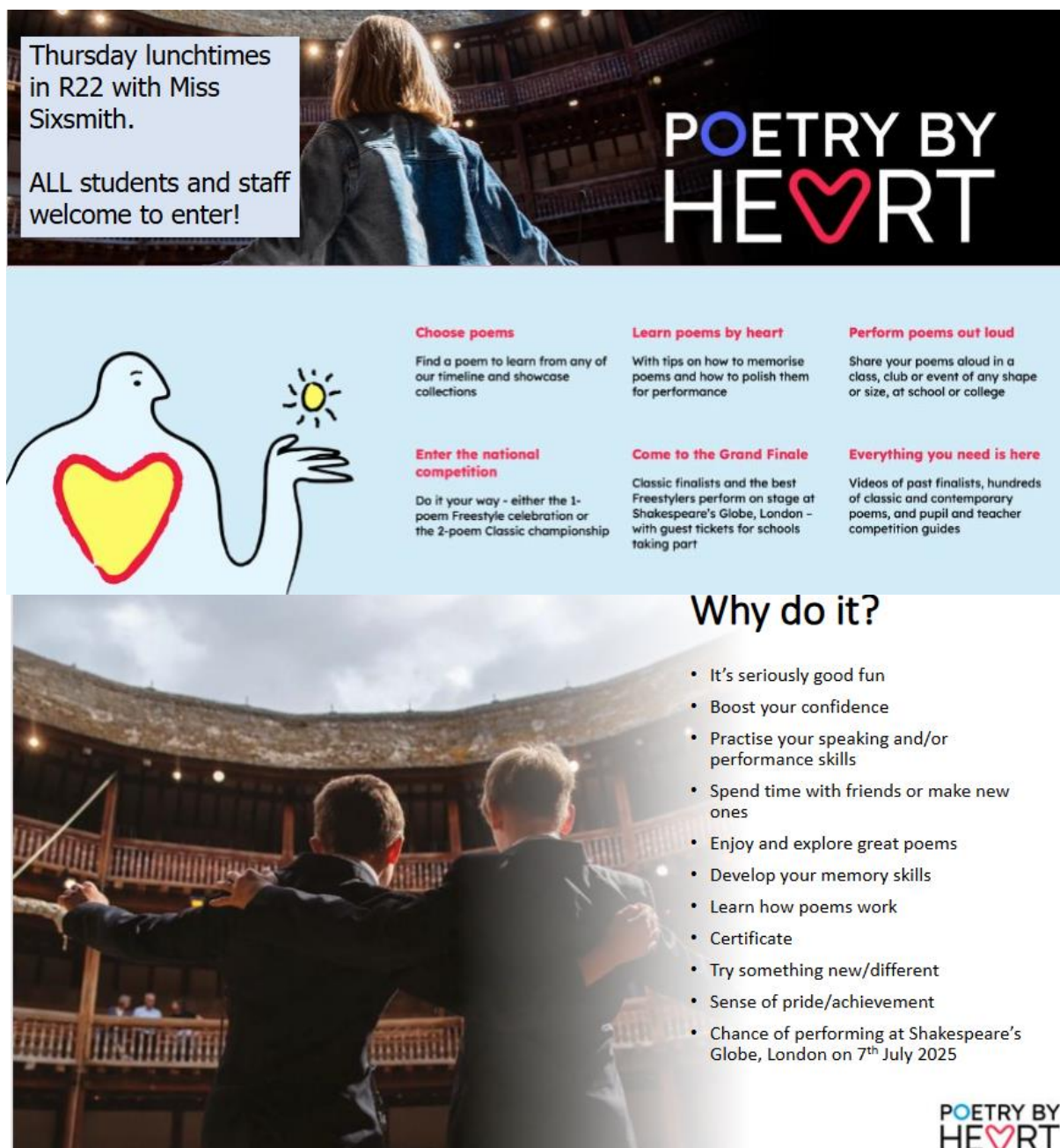
English Department

I am thrilled to announce that Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School will be taking part in the Poetry by Heart Competition 2025.

ALL staff and students are welcome to attend and take part. I can't wait to see what you come up with!

You simply just need to choose a poem already written and published, learn it by heart and record a copy of this to be entered into the competition. I will handle all of the logistics/recording.

Sessions will be held on Thursday lunchtimes in Room 22.



The poster features a background image of a person in a blue jacket looking out over a large, ornate wooden hall. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with a mix of white and pink colors. A central graphic shows a person with a heart on their chest holding a glowing sun. The bottom section includes a list of reasons for participating and the official logo.

Thursday lunchtimes in R22 with Miss Sixsmith.

ALL students and staff welcome to enter!

POETRY BY HEART

Choose poems
Find a poem to learn from any of our timeline and showcase collections

Learn poems by heart
With tips on how to memorise poems and how to polish them for performance

Perform poems out loud
Share your poems aloud in a class, club or event of any shape or size, at school or college

Enter the national competition
Do it your way - either the 1-poem Freestyle celebration or the 2-poem Classic championship

Come to the Grand Finale
Classic finalists and the best Freestylers perform on stage at Shakespeare's Globe, London - with guest tickets for schools taking part

Everything you need is here
Videos of past finalists, hundreds of classic and contemporary poems, and pupil and teacher competition guides

Why do it?

- It's seriously good fun
- Boost your confidence
- Practise your speaking and/or performance skills
- Spend time with friends or make new ones
- Enjoy and explore great poems
- Develop your memory skills
- Learn how poems work
- Certificate
- Try something new/different
- Sense of pride/achievement
- Chance of performing at Shakespeare's Globe, London on 7th July 2025

POETRY BY HEART

Hospitality & Catering

This week we had Claire Baseley Nutritionist come into school to work with Hospitality & Catering students classes focusing on nutrition revision. Claire was able to work with a handful KS3 classes too. Claire is an award winning Nutritionist with an MA in Human Nutrition. She has worked for the Food Standards Agency, with children and adults, and the sport industry. She has worked with companies such as Ella's Kitchen, Pizza Hut to name a couple.

Claire is often in the media and has appeared on shows such as 'Jamie and Jimmy', 'Food Unwrapped' and 'Save Money, Good Food'. Mrs Callaway was able to source Claire for free via our school Catering company Harrisons. She has kindly travelled all the way from Brighton and is staying in a hotel for a few days so she could support us, we are very lucky to have her.







Thank you Claire! We have loved every minute!



Portion sizes

Hand Portion Size Guide

Examples of...

A palm full  Protein	A handful  Carbohydrates, fruit & nuts (small handful)	A fist  Vegetables
Cupped hands  Salad leaves	2 fingers  Cheese	Thumb tip  Unsaturated oils & spreads

THE NUTRITION CONSULTANT

WVR College Young Artist of the Year

Calling all of our Year 10 & 11 artists! The WVR College Young Artist of the Year submissions are now open! There are two categories, Creative and Digital, so whether you create on paper or tablet, you can enter!

If you would like to enter, or would like more information, please see Mrs Guttridge at break or lunch, or email jguttridge@boteler.org.uk



 **Warrington
& Vale Royal
College**

 **Advanced
Creative & Digital
Skills Academy**

Showcase your artwork in our exhibition

YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2025

Enter either the **Creative Artist** or **Digital Artist** category for a chance to win an exclusive prize worth **£65** and be crowned the next Young Artist of the Year!

Open to year 10 and 11 pupils. Entries can be in any form of media so long as you show us your artistic flare!

We would love to see photography, digital art, paintings, arts and crafts, textiles, fine art or fashion.

Your artwork will be displayed at the Young Artist of the Year exhibition and award ceremony on **Thursday 20th March 2025**.

Entry Deadline: Friday 28th February 2025

For more information or to enter your artwork, visit:
wvr.ac.uk/young-artist

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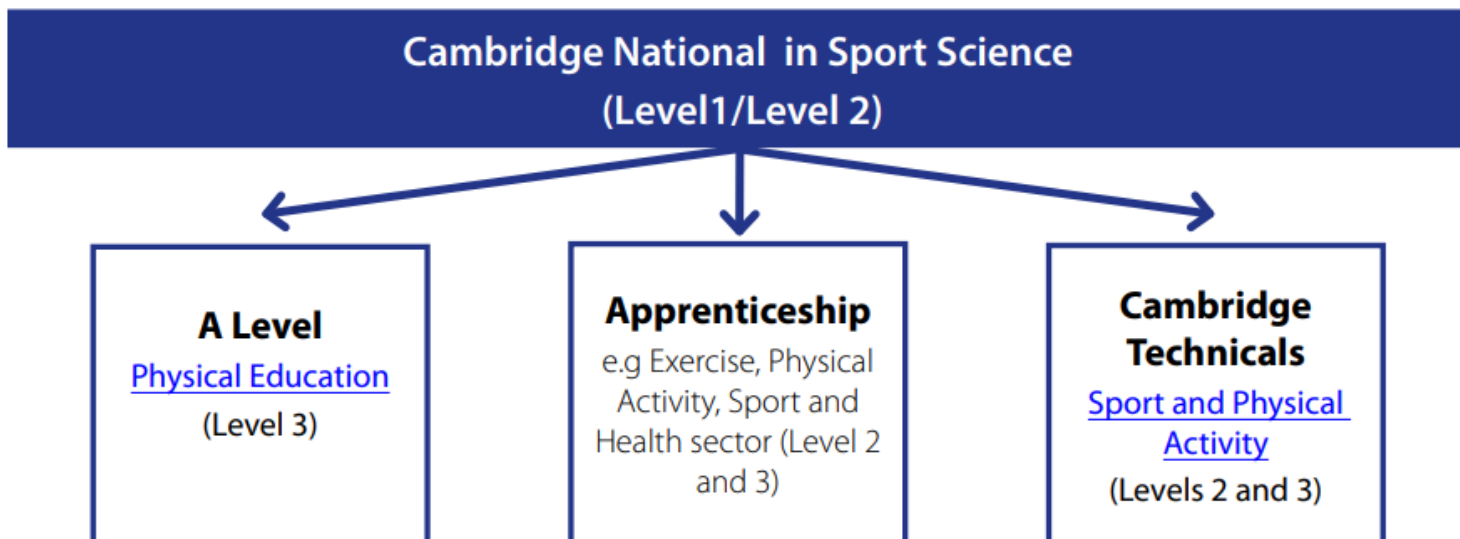
All entries submitted must be your own original artwork. AI-generated art and GCSE work will not be accepted.

Physical Education

CALLING ALL YEAR 9 STUDENTS.... WHY OPT FOR SPORT SCIENCE AT KEY STAGE 4?

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Sport Science
- Develop learning and practical skills that can be applied to real-life contexts and work situations
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Develop independence and confidence in using skills that are relevant to the Exercise, Physical Activity, Sport and Health sector and more widely
- Prepare participants for physical activity in ways which keeps them safe as well as learning how to react should injuries happen
- Learn how to conduct fitness tests, and how to design, implement and evaluate fitness training programmes
- Develop knowledge of the world of sports nutrition to understand how what we eat can impact our performance in sport

WHERE CAN THE COURSE TAKE ME?



Indoor Rowing Competition

We had a fantastic morning at the rowing competition on Thursday this week. Every student tried their hardest and showcased some impressive endurance.

Chloe Herridge in Year 9 won a silver medal for her individual 4 minute rowing piece and she achieved an impressive 915m.

All our Year 8 students smashed their previous personal best scores with Hayden Perrone achieving 718m in 3 minutes!

The relay teams show incredible team work and in true Boteler spirit they cheered each other on passionately!

Our Year 9 relay team won a silver medal!

Superstar Mr Vernon took part in the staff race and rowed an amazing 813m in 3 minutes. The students all cheered him on!

We arrived back to school tired but triumphant!





FREE BOXING FITNESS SESSIONS – IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP!

We are excited to offer the wider school community (Parents, Carers, Relatives, Siblings, Colleagues) an opportunity to be part of a free 12 week Boxing fitness programme 'Fighting Fit'. This programme will be delivered by Warrington Fighting Fit Boxing.

Sign up now! Click on the link the secure your place: [Fighting Fit Boxing Registration Form](#)

When: Wednesday 15th January and every Wednesday (excluding half term) until 2nd April.

16:30 – 17:30

Where: Boteler Studio 23 (Gym).

People who register will then receive a follow up message about entrance and exit to the session plus some simple housekeeping.

There is a maximum capacity so please do sign up using the link below if you are interested:

FREE STUDENT ONLY BOXING SESSIONS

There is also a student only session for 12 weeks every Wednesday 15:15 – 16:15 in Boteler Studio 23. Students need to sign up with Mr Burbidge in the PE office.

These sessions are on every Wednesday. Full PE kit and trainers is required.

BOTELER STUDIO23 AND FIGHTING FIT WARRINGTON PRESENT:

FREE COMMUNITY FITNESS BOXING SESSIONS

ALL AGES AND EXPERIENCES

EVERY WEDNESDAY

STARTING 15TH JANUARY 2025

15.15 – 16.15: BOTELER STUDENTS

16.30 – 17.30: COMMUNITY SESSION

STUDIO23 AT SIR THOMAS BOTELER
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL,
GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD, WA4 1JL



SIGN UP HERE
IT'S FREE!

