



## North Brent School

## Newsletter

Summer 1 - 2025

### Message from Mr E. Martin , Headteacher



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Reflecting on my first half term as Headteacher at North Brent School, it is with great pleasure that we present you with this newsletter.

Our mission at NBS is to ensure 'Achievement For All' and to help our children grow to their fullest potential. For our pupils this means embracing all of the opportunities NBS has to offer, both academically and beyond. It is a delight to hear how our pupils have been pursuing their passions and are being inspired by the trips, clubs and opportunities that they have been part of in the last half term.

A few particular highlights were pupils in Year 8 and 9 involved in the Brilliant Club programme attending Oxford University for a University day experience. Female pupils in Year 10 and 11 completing the Girls Network 6-week mentor programme. KS3 pupils visiting the Guardian newspaper for a media experience day. KS3 pupils representing the school at the Brent Athletics Championships. Over 30 of our Year 7 pupils becoming published poets in a national anthology through their work in the creative writing club. These experiences and opportunities really highlight the commitment we have for our pupils not only to strive for academic excellence but to grow and develop as individuals part of our vibrant and cohesive school community. We are excited to further develop our extra-curricular offer as our school grows.

It has been a point of real privilege to witness our Year 10 and 11 pupils prepare so diligently for their GCSE examinations. The commitment shown by the students, the dedication of staff and the support from families has been truly heart-warming. I want to take this opportunity to wish all of our pupils the best of luck with their remaining examinations.

I look forward to a great Summer Term ahead!

Edward Martin  
Headteacher

### Message from Mrs B. Ragheb , CEO of WMAT



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we come to the end of our first academic year at our new secondary site, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly remarkable and rewarding chapter in our school's journey.

This year has been one of growth, adaptation, and achievement - for students, staff, and our wider community. Opening a new site is a significant undertaking, and I am incredibly proud of how smoothly the transition has gone and how quickly the new site has become a vibrant, thriving centre of learning.

Our students have embraced the new environment with enthusiasm and resilience, making the most of the opportunities it provides. From academic progress to personal development, the foundations laid this year have been strong, and they set the stage for continued success.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you - our parents and carers - for your support, trust, and partnership throughout this inaugural year. Your encouragement and involvement have played a key role in making this year a success.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to delivering an outstanding educational experience and building a school community that continues to grow in strength, spirit, and ambition.

Thank you once again for being part of this journey. We look forward to many more successful years together!

Beth Ragheb  
CEO

## Message from Year 10 Head Pupils

This year, my teachers have been incredibly supportive, patient, and understanding—not just with me, but with everyone in my class as we prepared for our GCSEs. The school has gone above and beyond to help us succeed, even opening on weekends so we could come in and revise. I really appreciated that extra support. Another thing that helped me improve was the after-school intervention sessions, which took place every day. These gave me a chance to go over what we'd learned in class and really make sure I understood it. I would definitely recommend all students take part in these opportunities—not only because they help you improve, but also because they show how much our teachers genuinely care about our success. I'd also encourage everyone to keep revising and pushing themselves—you're more capable than you think. My message to the younger years is this: keep working hard and always look for ways to better yourself. You have the potential to achieve great things!

-Aarushi Singh, Year 10

My name is Imen Turki, and I'm proud to be a Head Pupil at North Brent School. This year has been both busy and exciting—I've completed Paper 1 and Paper 2 of Religious Studies, finished all of my DIT GCSE, and recently sat Paper 1 of Maths. These milestones reflect the hard work and dedication that's encouraged every day at North Brent. I'm grateful to be part of such a supportive and ambitious school community. One of the highlights of the year has been welcoming our new Year 7s. It was a real pleasure to meet them and help them settle into the North Brent community. Watching them grow in confidence and embrace school life has reminded me of how special this environment truly is.

-Imen Turki, Year 10

## THE BRILLIANT CLUB GRADUATION TRIP TO OXFORD – YEAR 8 & 9s

The Brilliant Club is a UK-based educational charity dedicated to increasing access to highly selective universities for pupils from underrepresented backgrounds. Through its flagship Scholars Programme, the charity places doctoral and postdoctoral researchers—known as PhD tutors—into schools to deliver university-style tutorials and enrichment opportunities. These sessions aim to equip students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed in higher education.

As part of this programme, our Year 8 and 9 Brilliant Club student's took part in a truly inspiring and memorable graduation visit to Keble College, Oxford, in May. The day was packed with enriching experiences, beginning with a guided tour of the college grounds led by welcoming and knowledgeable student ambassadors. Pupil's explored the historic architecture, learned about daily student life, and gained a deeper understanding of the academic environment at Oxford.

In addition to the tour, students attended informative sessions that explored the rich history of the University of Oxford and the wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities it offers. These sessions helped pupil's to imagine their own futures in higher education and inspired them to aim high in their academic journeys.

A standout moment of the day was the graduation ceremony, which featured a powerful keynote speech by Bogdan Bosoi, a Year 8 student. Speaking with confidence and passion, Bogdan reflected on his experience as a Brilliant Club scholar and the profound impact the programme has had on his development. He spoke about the key skills he had gained analytical thinking, resilience, and teamwork and how he intends to apply them as he pursues his ambition to study Computer Science at university.

Mr Phiri, Assistant Headteacher



“It was an interesting experience to be the spokesperson at the graduation. It helped me develop my public speaking skills, and I'm grateful for the opportunity.” BB, Year 8

“It was very interesting and the sessions were really interactive.” SP, Year 9

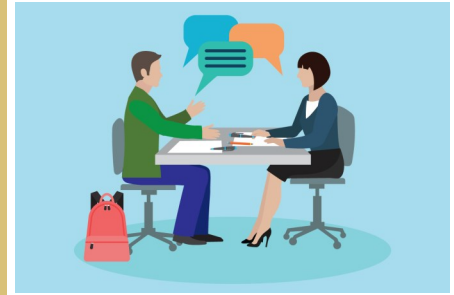
“It was so fun; the university was very big and cool and I am glad I got to experience first hand what the university is like.” IN, Year 9

## YEAR 9 CAREERS INTERVIEWS

To support Year 9 students in making informed decisions about their GCSE options and to help them start thinking about potential career paths, each student took part in a one-to-one session with an independent careers advisor. These personalised meetings were designed to offer guidance tailored to their interests, strengths, and future aspirations.

“We met with a careers advisor and we talked about my future as a diplomat. She asked questions about my GCSEs and my ability to take roles in leadership and teamwork. I found the experience interesting and it helped me to solve questions about my future. Coming out of the session I feel positive about being able to take the steps towards this role.”

-MM, Year 9.1



## GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER EXPERIENCE

On Tuesday 30 April, a group of pupils from NBS, including members of the School Journalism Club, had the exciting opportunity to visit The Guardian's Head Office in Central London.

During the visit, pupils were given a behind-the-scenes look at one of the UK's leading national newspapers. They heard directly from senior editors, journalists, and members of the press team, who shared valuable insights into how the newspaper operates on a day-to-day basis—from news gathering and fact-checking, to editorial decisions and the publishing process.

Pupils learned about the editorial values that shape The Guardian's journalism, including the importance of accuracy, balance, and ethical reporting. They also explored the different career roles within a major news organisation, ranging from investigative journalism to digital content production, design, and media law.

Members of the Journalism Club had the chance to ask questions and engage in discussions about press freedom, the role of the media in a democracy, and how journalism is evolving in the digital age.

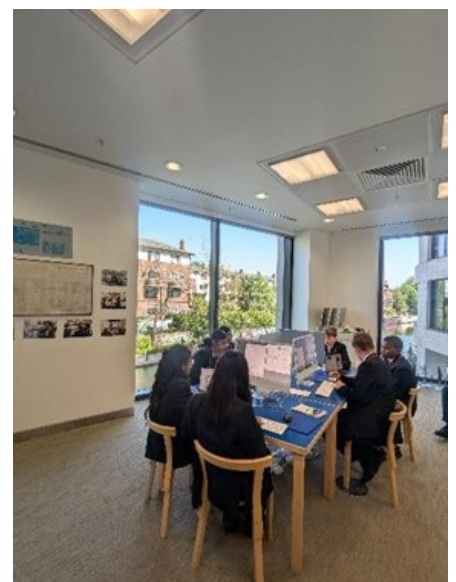
The visit was an inspiring experience for all involved, sparking greater interest in media literacy, storytelling, and future careers in journalism and communications. Pupils returned with a deeper understanding of the power of the press and the responsibility that comes with telling the stories that shape our world.

Ms Asher, RS Teacher

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“The day was really fun and gave us a good insight into the career of journalism from how the papers are made to how the headlines are created. I really enjoyed editing and creating the front page for a ‘North Brent School Edition’ of the Guardian. It helped me understand what goes into a career in journalism and has really opened my eyes to what journalists do.” DH,

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## THE GIRLS' NETWORK PROGRAMME GRADUATION

On Tuesday 29th April, female pupils in Year 10 and 11 completed their 6 week 'Girls' Network' programme. The programme ran from 4.00 – 5.00pm over 6 weeks and the girls worked with mentors from the charity on considering their academic goals for the future. The lead mentors from the Girls' Network remarked on how impressed they were with the girl's ambition and dedication to the programme.

One pupil said of the programme: "Before I started [the girls network programme] I wasn't sure what I wanted to do in the future. From working with the mentors, I know that I want to work as a physio, I know I want to do Science A levels and go to uni. I think I will be good at this because, one of the things the programme taught me is that I am a good communicator."

Another pupil said: "The mentors have been really inspiring for me, I want to become a lawyer and I know how well I need to do in my GCSE's, the programme has given the motivation to really work hard for my GCSEs."



“I enjoyed the Girls Network because it helped me feel more motivated towards achieving my goals.” MDK, Year 10

“The Girls Network helped me develop my CV and it helped me gain more confidence in choosing my career path.” SHP, Year 11

## BRENT ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our **first-ever** NBS Year 8 Athletics team made a strong debut at the Brent Athletics Championships, competing with energy and determination across a range of events, including javelin, long jump, high jump, and various running disciplines. The students demonstrated outstanding resilience and teamwork, making the entire NBS community proud.

A special mention goes to the following athletes for their impressive performances:

- **Leon** – 5th in Javelin
- **Caiden** – 4th in High Jump, 1st in Heat for 200m, 5th in Final for 200m
- **Yaseen** – 5th in 800m Final, 5th in Shot Put
- **Thai** – 3rd in Heat for 100m
- **Taiga** – 5th in Heat for 300m

Congratulations to all our athletes for representing NBS with such determination and skill. We look forward to even greater successes in the future!

Mr Lucas, PE Teacher



“The day was really fun, and it taught me that perseverance is the key to success.” CH, Year 8

“I really enjoyed the event. I took part in the 300m race and relay. It was a lot of fun cheering on my peers.” TLT, Year 8

## Behind the Scenes Heroes – Prop and Set Club & DofE Volunteers

A huge thank you to our talented Prop and Set Club members and the dedicated Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers who have been working tirelessly to bring the magic of Neverland to life for our end-of-year production of *Peter Pan*. Their creativity, teamwork, and craftsmanship are truly impressive, transforming ordinary materials into the stunning sets that will make this show unforgettable.

Ms Church, Art Teacher

“I like how you can get your hands dirty and be really creative.” CR, Year 7.5



“I am one of the pirates in the play. I enjoy the rehearsals and some of my friends are also pirates. I am excited for my parents to see the show.” YA 7.4



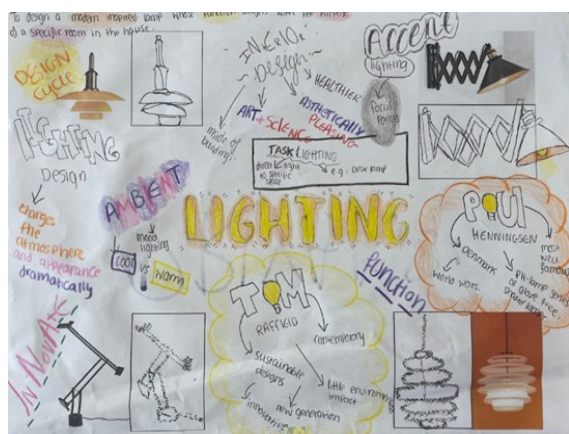
“I really enjoy doing voluntary work around the school. We can ask teachers what tasks they need help with, and it feels rewarding to support the school. I take pride in that.” SD, Year 9.1

## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: ART & DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Year 7s have become illustrators this half term during art lessons, creating work inspired by renowned illustrators such as Quentin Blake. Students have developed their painting and mark making skills creating new book characters.

Year 8s have taken on the role of lighting designers, researching joinery, how circuits work and taking inspiration from existing designers to design their very own lamps. Over the coming weeks students will develop their 3D skills by building the lamps they have designed.

Ms Church, Art Teacher





## CREATIVE WRITING CLUB



Since January, the Creative Writing Club at North Brent has been a hub of imagination, critical thinking, and literary exploration. Meeting every Monday, the club nurtures budding talent and offers students a space to develop their voice and creativity. Under the guidance of staff, students have delved into powerful themes such as empowerment, freedom, and fairy tales, drawing inspiration from literary greats including George Orwell, Maya Angelou, and Alice Walker.

A major highlight of the year has been our involvement in the *Young Writers Poetry Escape* competition. We are incredibly proud to announce that **31 poems** by North Brent students have been selected for publication—an outstanding achievement given the thousands of entries submitted nationwide. These poems, themed around the idea of escape, reflect the depth and originality of our students' work.

The selected poems are now proudly on display in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) and will be featured in the upcoming edition of the *Young Writers* anthology.

Congratulations to all our young writers on this remarkable accomplishment!

Ms Sullivan, Year Leader

“What I really enjoy about creative writing. It does not feel like a normal learning environment. I can express how I feel and talk about what is going on in the world.”  
HH, Year 7

## BASKETBALL CLUB

Our Year 9, 10, and 11 Boys' Basketball Club runs every **Friday**. Students take part in skill-building drills, learn new techniques, and have the opportunity to take part in friendly matches. It's a great way to improve teamwork, fitness, and basketball ability in a fun and supportive environment.

Mr Lucas, PE Teacher



Chess club takes place every Monday after school.

The chess club offers a welcoming space to enjoy the game. Our regular meetings are a mix of learning, practice, and friendly competition. We explore different chess strategies, and most importantly, enjoy chess! This year, we ran two chess tournaments where medals were presented to the top three players. We are excited to continue growing the chess club and welcoming new members.

Mr Mikhail, Science Department

“I like playing chess against new people every week and having fun. I'd encourage others to join too.” AP, Year 7.2

“We play tournaments against different people each week. I've learnt so many new strategies.” EM, Year 7.2

“I'm fond of the chess club as it is a great place to learn and play chess and to make new friends. It is also very exciting and joyful, and the environment is friendly. I really recommend people to continue joining the chess club. I hope that this club will thrive in the future” . VM, Year 7

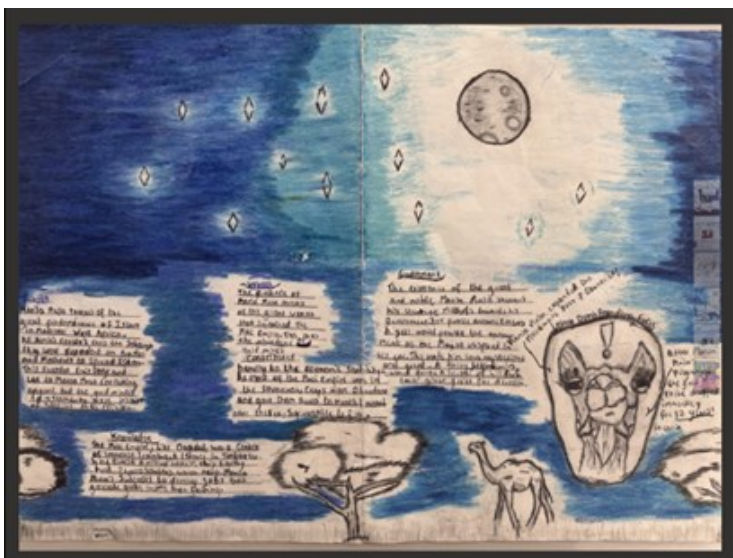
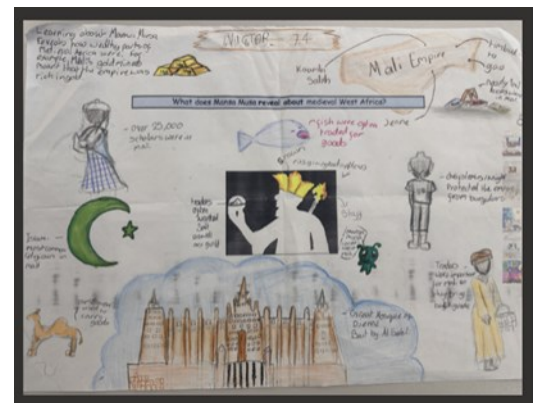
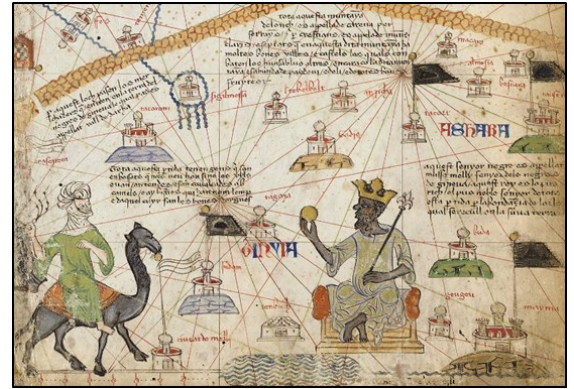
## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: HISTORY

**Year 7 pupils** have recently been exploring the fascinating reign of Mansa Musa, the ruler of the Mali Empire in the 14th century. Through creative projects and activities, students have been showcasing how Mansa Musa's story reflects the wealth, culture, and influence of medieval West Africa. From his legendary pilgrimage to Mecca to the flourishing trade and learning in Timbuktu, pupils have been diving deep into this rich historical period, bringing its significance to life in imaginative ways.

**Year 8 pupils** have recently been studying the expansion of the British Empire, focusing on how colonialism unfolded in three distinct regions: Australia, South Asia, and Ireland. Through comparisons, students have been exploring the varied impacts of British rule, examining differences in governance, cultural influence, and resistance in each territory. This study has helped pupils understand the complexities and lasting legacies of imperialism across the globe.

**Year 9 pupils** have recently concluded their study of 20th-century Germany, gaining insight into what life was like for various groups under Nazi rule. This included an in-depth exploration of the Holocaust, focusing on the systematic persecution of minority groups—most notably the Jewish community—from 1933 onwards. Pupils were introduced to the Holocaust through the powerful story of Frank Bright, a Holocaust survivor who shared his experiences of survival and resilience during one of history's darkest periods. Through this study, pupils have developed a deeper understanding of the impact of Nazi policies on everyday lives and the tragic consequences of intolerance and discrimination.

Ms Albery, Subject leader for History and Assistant Headteacher

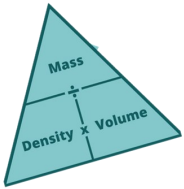




## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: MATHS

### Strong start to Exam Season

The Y10 and Y11 students have completed their first Maths GCSE exam and came out of it feeling very confident! Their positive outlook is a reflection of their hard work and the targeted support they received through the maths interventions with Ms Goradia. It's fantastic to see the students' preparation and the effort and commitment from their teachers paying off!



### This Term's Topics: Real life

This term, our young mathematicians have been busy exploring how maths connects to the world around us. They've tackled exciting topics like distance, speed and time-perfect for understanding how fast things move and how long journeys take! We've also dived into mass, density, and volume, linking these ideas to real-life situations like why objects float or sink. From calculating force and pressure to working out the area of triangles, students discovered how these concepts are used in everything from building structures to understanding everyday materials. It's been a hands-on, practical term full of discovery and real-world connections!

Ms Goradia, Deputy Subject leader for Maths

### Maths this Term: How our Mathematicians feel?

"I feel that the topics we are learning are important and they build your future. Not knowing Maths is okay but not trying isn't okay." GL, Year 8

"Maths in NBS opens up many doors in education, especially in the way it is displayed in lessons. I know I can be comfortable in asking for help in lessons and build resilience from my mistakes." BB, Year 8



## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: RS

The start of summer term in Religious Studies has been packed full of really fantastic learning moments, with many pupils having developed a keen passion for the subject.

**Year 7s** have been chronologically working their way through the Abrahamic religions, and lots of the students have been delighted to reach Islam; it has been brilliant to see the pupils engaged in the history of how the religions have established, discovering the context behind familiar practises, and developing their curiosity for formation and evolution of social ideologies.

**Year 8s** have been thinking like theologians and philosophers this half term – applying classical philosophical debates to big life questions. It was great to see so many pupils engage with the topic outside of class, asking to learn about further classical arguments and thinkers in their free time.

Lastly, a huge well done to the **year 10s** who completed their RS GCSE! Every single student worked incredibly hard, demonstrating resilience, determination and passion. I am extremely proud of them.

Ms Asher. RS Teacher





## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: ENGLISH

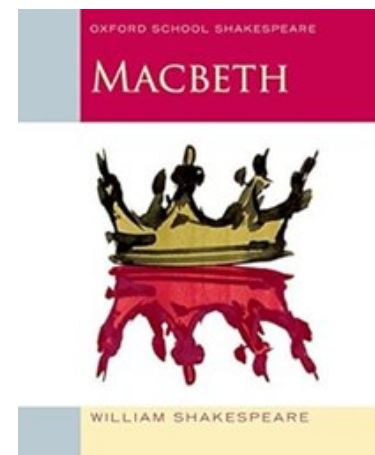
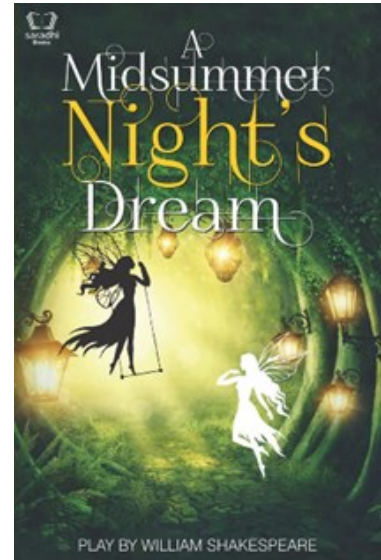
**Year 7** English has been learning about how to write a paragraph response to an essay question about 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Students have been focused on understanding and exploring the themes of the writing and the contextual factors surrounding the writing of Shakespeare's comedy. Students are enjoying learning the confusing plot and trying to recall all of the characters and who they love.

**Year 8** English has been revising how to write an essay response using an extract from Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. Whilst learning this text, students are challenged by the writing of Shakespeare and interpreting meanings from the various themes of this tragicomedy. Students are particularly enjoying their exploration of drama through the text and how to read dramatically in order to bring the text to life.

**Year 9** English has been learning their GCSE English Literature text of 'Macbeth' this half term whilst focusing on identifying key moments and themes in order to write clearly about the text. Students are striving to write clear and concise essays that establish their knowledge of the text and the contextual factors surrounding the Jacobean era in relation to 'Macbeth'.

Ms Murphey, Deputy subject leader for English

“This half term in English we've been studying Shakespeare! I love English because my teacher is fantastic and the lessons are engaging.” SL, Year 8



## JOURNALISM CLUB


Journalism Club has been so much fun this half term! The students have been studying research techniques, journalistic writing, editing and design; they will be applying this knowledge over the half term as they begin writing articles for the next issue of the NBS Express. The students have been enjoying the 'roundtable discussions' each week and we look forward to continuing them after the break.

Ms Asher, RS Teacher





## Student Voices: Celebrating Learning and Creativity

It's been a wonderful term filled with creativity, curiosity, and energy across our school! From exploring artistic styles and unlocking imagination in the art room to discovering new sports in PE and diving deep into global issues in Geography, our students have been busy learning and growing in inspiring ways. Here's what some of them had to say about their favourite subjects this year:





"My favourite subject is Art because it allows me to use expressive feelings into my work with art materials like paint. I'm recently doing my final piece which is inspired by other artists." AU, Year 10

"I enjoy History because I can learn about the past. We have been learning about the Munich Putsch and the Nazi party." SA, Year 9





"Science fascinates me as it allows me to explore the motion of heavenly bodies and the intricate workings of the biological world." AO, Year 10

"My favourite subject is PE, both theory and practical because it allows me to have fun and enjoy myself during the school day and our teacher is really enthusiastic." RC, Year 10





"I adore studying maths as the curriculum is widespread and it is interesting to learn new topics." NP, Year 10

"My favourite subject is science because I enjoy learning photosynthesis. Our teachers are compassionate and dedicate lots of time to making sure we understand the curriculum." AS, Year 10



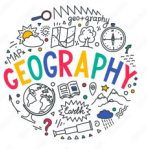
"I enjoy Art because I can have fun and time flies in the lesson. I enjoyed working in the style of realism." NM, Year 7

"I like Art because it gives you ideas on what to make. Creativity is the key to unlocking your true potential. I particularly enjoyed doing illustration." PD, Year 7



"I like PE because I can use my energy. Its calming and I like learning about how to play new sports, like badminton." VJ, Year 7

"My favourite subject this year has been Geography. I enjoy learning about climate change and I like to learn about the ocean." YS, Year 7





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## SPORTS AT NORTH BRENT SCHOOL

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Our Year 7 basketball team put in a fantastic performance during their recent fixtures. They secured two impressive wins with scores of 4–2 and 3–0, and narrowly lost one game 2–1. The team showed great skill, teamwork, and determination throughout.



This term has been exciting and action-packed for sport at North Brent School. With **10 dedicated sports clubs** running throughout the week, students across all year groups have had the opportunity to develop their athletic abilities, try new activities, and build strong teamwork skills in a fun and inclusive environment.

Our weekly clubs include a variety of sports such as football, basketball, netball, table tennis and athletics. These sessions have been well attended, with students showing great enthusiasm and commitment. Whether they are regular members or just trying something new, it's been fantastic to see so many pupils getting involved.

In addition to our internal clubs, students have also represented North Brent in **tournaments and competitions** across the borough. Every year group has taken part in fixtures this year, and our students have consistently demonstrated **sportsmanship, skill, and determination**. From tightly contested football matches to high-energy netball tournaments, their dedication both in training and during competitions has been truly commendable.

It has been especially rewarding to watch students grow in confidence, resilience, and collaboration through sport. Their achievements, both big and small, are a testament to their hard work and the supportive coaching they receive.

We would like to thank all staff and coaches who have supported the delivery of our sports programme this term. Your efforts continue to make a huge impact on our students' physical and personal development.

Mr Lucas, PE Teacher

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **Year 8 Basic Life Support Training**

On Tuesday 10 June, Year 8 pupils will take part in a basic life support training course. The session will introduce essential lifesaving skills, including basic CPR theory, and how to respond in safely and promptly in emergency situations. This practical training aims to build pupils' confidence and awareness, equipping them with the knowledge to act effectively in critical moments.

### **Summer Term Careers Events**

This week, Year 9 and 10 pupils attended a careers talk focused on post-16 options, with a particular emphasis on T Levels and apprenticeships. The session provided an overview of these vocational pathways, highlighting how they combine classroom learning with hands-on experience in the workplace. Pupils gained a clearer understanding of the structure, benefits, and career opportunities offered by T Levels and apprenticeships, helping them make more informed decisions about their future education and career paths.

This half term, pupils in all year groups will also have the valuable opportunity to attend a series of careers talks delivered by a diverse group of professionals. These will include a professor of mathematics, who will share insights into academic and research pathways (Friday 20 June); a representative from Dynamic Training, offering guidance on health and care apprenticeships (Wednesday 18 June); a psychologist working in academia, who will discuss research and teaching careers in psychology (Friday 27 June); and a civil servant, who will explore roles in public service and policy (Friday 27 June). The sessions will provide pupils with a broader understanding of potential career routes and the skills required in each field.

# **SAFEGUARDING**

## **Mental Wellbeing**

As we approach the end of the academic year and the pupils prepare for assessments, please remember pupils may struggle with their mental wellbeing due to:

- Putting pressure on themselves to do well
- Feeling pressure from parents and family members
- Struggling to balance revision and other parts of life like friends and hobbies
- Losing sleep over revision, exams and the idea of failing
- Feeling conflicted between knowing breaks can help with revision and stress, but feeling guilty for taking breaks
- Comparison to friends in how well they're doing in class/mock exams and how much revision they're doing
- Not having motivation to revise because it is hard and being convinced that they will fail regardless
- Feeling hopeless about the future if they don't do well in exams.



## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

At North Brent School, we work in collaboration with Place2Be and Brent Mental Health Support Team to ensure our pupils are being equipped with the strategies to best support their personal development.

## **Useful links and resources**

There are a range of external organisations that help support the safeguarding and mental health of young people:

Check out this [Mental Health Useful Contacts Booklet](#) developed by EWMHS.

[Samaritans](#) – 24 hour helpline for anyone who is distressed or experiencing emotional problems – call 08457 909090 or e-mail [jo@Samaritans.org](mailto:jo@Samaritans.org).

[Childline](#) – a free, private and confidential service – call on 0800 1111. Also available is a [1-2-1 counsellor chat](#).

[Rethink Mental Illness Advice Line](#) – call 0300 5000 927 (Monday to Friday, 10:00 to 14:00)

[Saneline](#) – call 0300 304 7000 (18:00 to 23:00)

[Mind Infoline](#) – call 0300 123 3393 (Monday to Friday, 09:00 to 18:00)

**Wembley Multi-Academy Trust** **SAFEGUARDING TEAM** **NORTH BRENT SCHOOL**

Report safeguarding concerns by CPOMS or via email:  
[safeguarding@northbrentschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@northbrentschool.co.uk)  
For any urgent matters, please report in-person to a member of the safeguarding team

		
<b>Mr Arthur</b>	<b>Ms Albery</b>	<b>Mr Duffett</b>
<b>DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD</b>	<b>DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD</b>	<b>DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD</b>