



THE HAVEN SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2024



Headteacher's message:

As we approach the end of this term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a truly fantastic few months it has been here at school. It has been wonderful to see all of our students, both new and returning, settle in so well. Watching them build new friendships and embrace their enthusiasm for learning has been incredibly rewarding.

This term has been packed with highlights that we can all be proud of. Our **Careers Trip** gave students a valuable opportunity to explore future pathways and career options, broadening their horizons for what lies ahead.

The **Macmillan Coffee Afternoon** was another wonderful success, bringing together students, staff, and families for a worthy cause. Your support helped raise funds for a charity close to many of our hearts, and I want to thank everyone who contributed.

A true standout this term has to be the **Panto Trip** and accompanying **Workshop**. The excitement and joy on the pupils' faces were contagious, and it was fantastic to see them engage so enthusiastically. Not only did they enjoy themselves, but they also represented our school brilliantly, showing respect, positivity, and teamwork throughout.

We have also celebrated **sporting success** this term, with our school team winning the **local schools' hockey competition**. This achievement is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and team spirit of our young athletes, and we couldn't be prouder of them!

Comings and Goings

We would like to take this opportunity to thank **Jane Spensley** and **Natlia**

Spensley for all their hard work and dedication to the school. As you may already be aware, they are no longer involved in the school, and we wish them all the very best in the future.

We are excited to welcome our new proprietor, **Edison Young People** and are looking forward to working closely with them and building on the positive progress we have made as a school community.

As we look ahead to the next term, I am excited to see what more we can accomplish together. Thank you to all parents, carers, and staff for your ongoing support, and to our amazing students for making this such a positive and successful term.

Wishing you all a well-deserved break and a wonderful time with family and friends.

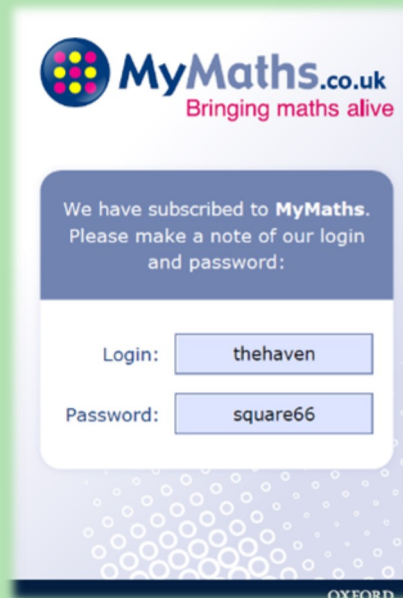


THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Maths:

The school subscribes to the MyMaths website. This is helping to develop students' confidence and fluency in maths. There are also lots of maths games and fun activities to encourage students to engage more in their maths learning. Well done to all those students who are now using MyMaths and getting some fantastic results.



The Corbettmaths website is also an excellent resource for all our students to watch video clips of any maths topics they need to revise. Worksheets linked to these topics and videos are often used in class.

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

Maths Genie is also a useful website to prepare for GCSE grades 1-9. It has useful videos and very clear mark schemes linked to past exam questions.

[Maths Genie • Learn GCSE Maths for Free](#)



THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024

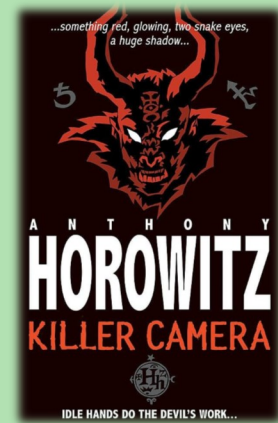


English:

In KS3, students have been reading a range of short stories by the writer Anthony Horowitz. We have been looking at ways that a writer can start a story, develop the plot and end it effectively. The students have written an ending for a story that they have started: 'The killer camera'- Matthew, a young boy, has bought a camera from a strange man at a car boot sale. But every time the camera takes a photo, ghastly things happen...

"Heart pounding in his chest, Mathew throwing the camera around ragged, kicking it, stomping on it, doing everything in his power to get rid of it. It finally smashed, the demon pounces out the camera at his family. Possessing them, it kills them one by one, ripping their throats from the inside out. Then the demon scrams. Mathew was left speechless and petrified. What shall he do next..."

WH (Yr9)



This term, KS4 students have been working on GCSE skills- creative writing, and speaking and listening. For creative writing, students practiced writing from a picture stimulus to produce an effective description. For speaking and listening, students have prepared a 3 minute presentation on either their favorite songs or a topic of their choice.

"Mystery was in the air as the torrent and wind came thrashing their way. I walked past a neglected shop as I trembled on the dicey cobblestones like a cat on an ice rink. I gazed inside and saw a nonoperational, outdated grandfather clock that looked like it had been decaying for decades..."

CB (Y10)



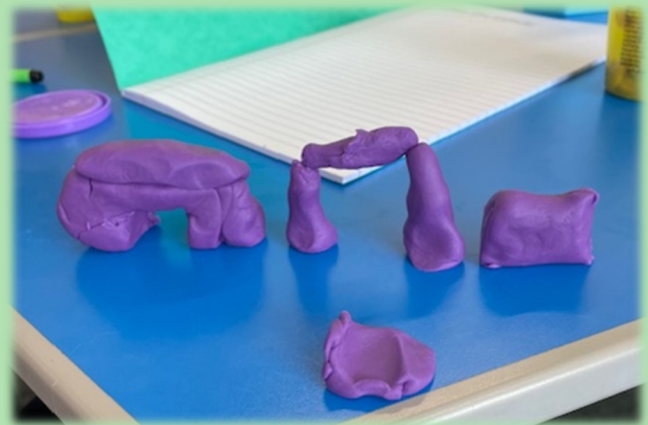
THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Humanities:

Students in key stage 3 and 4 have completed some fantastic work in humanities. They started the year studying coastal environments. Understanding waves, coastal features and processes have been looked at in detail. Students have both modelled and sketched arches and stacks, which can be seen below...

A huge well done to the year 11 students who have completed an AQA Unit Award showing a good understanding of erosion and depositional features along the coastline.



More recently, we have moved onto a study of World War 2. students have completed work on several key points in the war, including Dunkirk, evacuation, The Blitz, Pearl Harbor and the D-Day landings. 13 students have recently completed an AQA Unit Award on the Spitfire.

GCSE Geography:

Our GCSE students have also been studying the physical environment this term by looking at both coasts and rivers. Understanding the processes that cause our coastline and rivers to change over time, including what causes flooding, has been studied.





THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Art:

The students in key stage 3 have learnt about Pop Art and graffiti Art this term. Through the Pop Art unit, the students were introduced to a number of pop artists from the past and they have had the opportunity to complete their own individual pieces of this type of art. They have certainly brightened up the art room with their fantastic, colorful artwork!



The students have also discovered what graffiti and street art is. They have enjoyed designing their own 'tags' and completing pieces of graffiti in the style of famous artists, such as Banksy, Haring and Hayuk. They also demonstrated great listening and speaking skills to debate whether graffiti is a form of vandalism or art.

Through this magical and exciting unit, the students in key stage 4 discovered what optical illusions are, and how artists create them. They had a number of opportunities to create their own pieces of optical illusion art. They have also learnt a number of oil pastel techniques. Sgraffito being the firm favourite with most students! They have used a variety of these oil pastel techniques to complete impressive, larger pieces of work





THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



PSHE:

Operation Christmas Child:

Operation Christmas Child is a hands on way to support children all across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies and fun gifts. We collected new and nearly new items for different age categories for the children's shoe boxes. This included small toys, books, personal care items, socks, and other small clothing items among other things. Once they were filled, we took them to a drop off in Cannock and from there, they will be distributed to six different countries that consisted of Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldova, Ukraine and Ivory Coast.

We had many generous donations from parents, carers, staff members and students. Thank you!

GW (Y12)





THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Careers:

As part of our aspirational careers programme at The Haven School, we took a wonderful group of year 11 and sixth formers to visit the careers fair at the NEC on Wednesday 13th November.

For many students, this was the first time they had visited such a large-scale event with lots of other schools attending. Our students were absolutely amazing and did themselves and the school proud. They interacted with stall holders, asked questions about career opportunities and behaved impeccably throughout the whole visit.

This was such a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn more about which careers may interest them. Students came away from the event armed with information and inspired about the opportunities that were available to them.



"I really enjoyed looking at the BMW and Mercedes Benz stalls at the NEC. They had good apprenticeship opportunities for a mechanic and technician and I enjoyed the day out.."

JB Y11

KS3 fire station visit:

We took our lovely KS3 students to visit the local fire station in Penkrige. Students had a tour around the fire station and the fire engine onsite. They asked some great questions and found out more about becoming a fire fighter and the routes into working in the fire service.

Students really enjoyed their experience, and it was a great opportunity for them to learn more about carers for their future.





THE HAVEN SCHOOL ***NEWSLETTER*** ***AUTUMN 2024***



Vocational Studies:

On Thursday 24th October 2024, our wonderful Sixth Form students hosted their own Macmillan Coffee Event. As part of the Vocational Studies qualification, they had to plan, organise and run the whole event. I was immensely proud of their dedication and attention to detail in the planning stages and how well they worked as a team, giving each person a dedicated role to fulfil on the day. On the morning of the event, they set up the rooms, decorated them and ensured that everyone knew what they were doing. Sixth formers ran the event beautifully and had chance to build upon their communication and team working skills. They interacted well with other students and ensured that everyone got involved. We invited parents and carers in during the afternoon to join in with our charity event and see how hard the students had worked. It was so lovely to see so many of our parents and carers supporting our sixth formers and the school for the first event of the school year. It was also fantastic to see some of our sixth formers push themselves outside of their comfort zones to interact with people that they haven't seen before and develop some key transferable skills. We managed to raise over £150 for Macmillan Cancer Research, which is the most we have raised to date. Thank you to everyone for their support and well done to the students who ran the event on the day!





THE HAVEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Craft sessions:

“Craft has inspired me to produce this tank. I started by finding an image of a WW2 tank, from this I developed a flat image and used a laser cutter to design the pieces to form a tank. It is time consuming but I’m chuffed how it’s developing.”

JD (Y11)



“I support wolves and really enjoyed making the emblem. I used an image I found and this was sent to the laser cutter and then assembled it and matched paints to add colour. I am really pleased with the finished results.”

JJ (Y9)

KS3 Science:

This term in KS3 science has been so much fun! In the first half term, we learned all about waves– like how sound and light travel, and how we use them in real life. Then, after half term, we started to look at the human body. We’ve been looking at how all of the organs and systems work together. It has been really interesting (and a bit gross, sometimes!)



***THE HAVEN SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2024***



Cooking:

In cooking this term, we've been Busy creating some incredible dishes from scratch. These have included lasagne, Philly cheesesteak subs and fajitas. Each week, our kitchen skills have improved, and we've been practicing prepping ingredients and looking at different cooking techniques. We've also mastered the art of cleaning up efficiently (an important part of the cooking process), and it's been great to see everyone growing in confidence in the kitchen, as well as producing such impressive meals.

Extra curricular clubs:

Clubs at lunchtime are in full swing at The Haven. We have a range of different clubs available to our students, mostly ran by our students! This includes film club, chess club, choir club and book club.

"This term, we have been running and managing a film club on a Thursday lunchtime. Each week we suggest films from a different genre (such as musical or historical) for students, parents/carers and staff to watch. We ensure films are available on popular streaming sites, suitable for a wide audience and appropriate for all. We then discuss what we've seen at the following week's meeting. So far we have watched: 'Little Miss Sunshine', 'Hamilton', 'Hocus Pocus', '2012', 'Jumanji' and 'Juno'.

Perhaps you will join us one week? Everyone is welcome!"

ER and SJ
(Y11)

**From all at The Haven, we wish you a restful and safe
Christmas break, and a Happy New Year!**

**We return for our first day of the Spring term on Monday
6th January 2025**