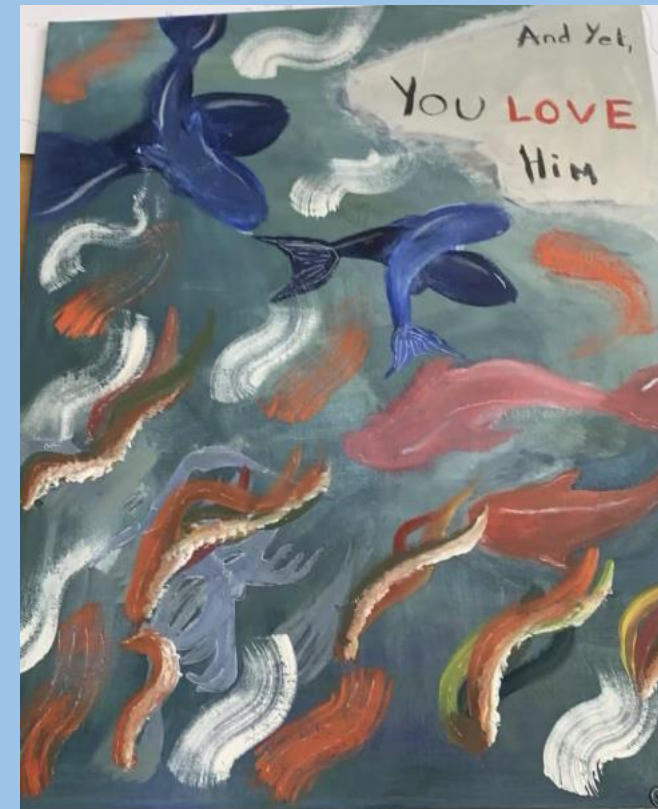




## Art news!

The year 10 art class completed their first 5 hour mock exam and there were some great results.



- Q: Have you heard that Puck, the school cat, has been seen in the Art room?
- A: He's working on a paw-trait.





# PE News!

## Y8 Boys 7 aside Football Champions

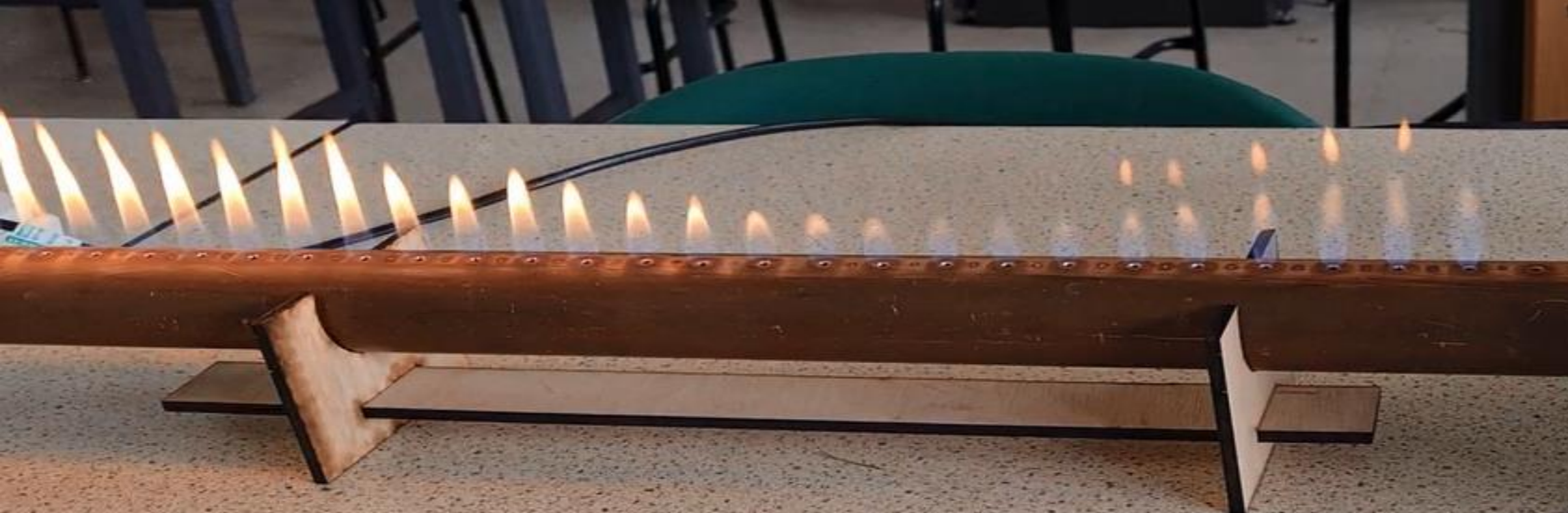
On Wednesday 30th March the Y8 boys went to the Bishop's Invitational Football Tournament. They played against several other schools from around the county at Pegasus football club in atrocious weather conditions with the wind howling and heavy rain. Through great team work, excellent football play and cohesion the boys managed to win three matches and narrowly losing one. Due to the boys winning the most matches and having a significant goal difference over their competitors, they were crowned the overall winners of the tournament. Congratulations to all the boys involved!

# Science News!

We have had an amazing time this term in science with Science week being a big hit. We set off rockets, grew beans, did jelly dissections and found out a criminal using chromatography.

Also in Science, Mrs Perez has been checking out her technology skills and has made a Rubens tube (a tube of fire that reacts to sound). Watching fire dance to “we don’t talk about Bruno” was great fun

In technology, year 7 students have done some outstanding work in making their very own pendants out of pewter.





# Sticky Situation?

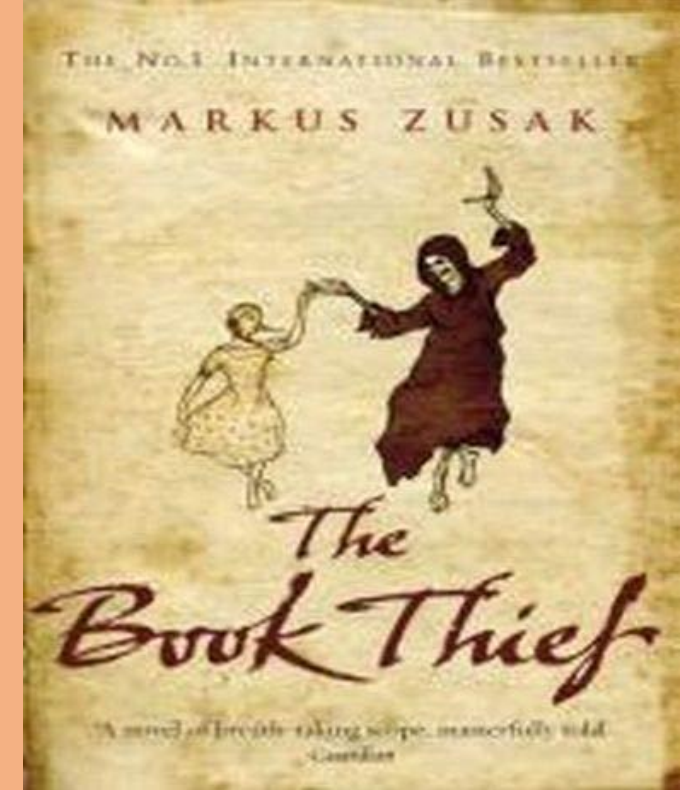
This term, the science department have welcomed some creepy crawlies to aid students' learning. Meet Stick, Sticky, Twig and Twiggy, and we will soon be meeting Leaf and Leafy when they hatch. They are stick insects that will help students see variation between species and within species.



# Book review:

The international bestseller, 'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak, is a beautifully written yet tragic story that is hard to put down. It is narrated by Death as it retrieves souls from those that die from various causes and - being set in 1939 Nazi Germany- Death becomes extremely busy. Death meets one girl frequently when so many close to her die throughout her childhood, beginning with her brother on the way to foster parents that care for her when her parents are taken to a concentration camp. The girl's name is Liesel and when she is nine years old when she comes into her foster family but when tension is rising in Germany at the start of the First World War they struggle for money, leading her to start stealing books from places such as libraries and even bonfires. Her reading grows significantly throughout the story as she collects lots of different books. The story follows Liesel , her family and her neighbours on the street as bombs begin to fall, concentration camps are filling (and emptying) and secrets must be kept.

In my opinion the book is incredibly moving and you understand the hopes and dreams of each character and how, tragically, these dreams are restricted in more ways than one. I finished this book feeling as if Liesel was a friend that I had known for years.





# News from your school council:

Our last Wear Casual Clothes day raised £278 for the Little Princess Trust. Well done, everyone, for your generosity to such a worthy cause. The money was very gratefully received. The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other conditions. Since 2006, they've provided more than 12,000 wigs and have given grants totalling more than £17 million towards research projects focussed on finding more effective treatments for childhood cancers.



## Interview with Puck.

*Are you the school cat?*

Yes, I like to think so.

*Do you have nine lives?*

You need nine lives to get through that fast-closing fire door into the English block.

*Why do you persist in coming into the English block?*

I enjoy the feeling of flight as Mrs Tarring throws me outside again.

*What's the best thing about life on the Aylestone site?*

There's generally a mouse to be found between the Dining Hall foyer and the PE fire doors.

*What's the worst thing about life on the Aylestone site?*

There's a grown-up who puts my mice into a shoe box and releases them where I can't find them.







**Ukraine Crisis** – Over the last weeks, we have seen terrible scenes following the Russian invasion, and Aylestone students feel very strongly that we should do all we can to support the ordinary people of Ukraine. Here are some year 8 students, taking part in a ‘walk the distance from Kyiv to the Polish border’ sponsored walk in their PE lessons. These year 8s are carrying their school bags to remember the Ukrainian children carrying their lives in their school bags





With the fund-raising from the long walk, a raffle and loose change collection, Aylestone students have raised £670.68 for the Ukraine appeal. The Barrels pub also did a collection. They raised £2000, which they have sent to us to combine with our fundraising efforts. As a consequence, we will be donating a massive £2670.68 to the Disaster Emergency Committee.

# EUROPE DAY

Europe Day, 9th May, will be acknowledged in quite a different way this year than previously as the Ukraine war is escalating and we're all hearing of the horrors that have made our future uncertain and shocked us to the core. On Europe Day this year we should all remember the beautiful culture and history engrained across Europe that can never be forgotten.

At Aylestone, we had a visit from Clarinda Calma who works at the Polish embassy in the political section whose role is to build British and Polish relations in the science and education sector. She very kindly visited us to present a wide range of books that explore Poland's past, it's language and the diverse culture it's now home to.

In a conversation with Calma, she told us how she strongly values learning different languages to understand more about the countries and about language as a whole and the opportunities that it can open up in a number of careers. She also emphasised how, not simply learning a language, but nurturing the skill of being open to learning and understanding new cultures and a wide range of beliefs is vital, especially in today's diverse society.

Touching on the unavoidable topic of the situation in Ukraine, she explained how, currently, there are almost 3 million migrants that have entered Poland from Ukraine resulting in a 14% increase in Ukrainian pupils in their schools. "When I speak to friends in Poland, they say that you can hear Ukrainian language every day on the streets, something that you wouldn't have heard in the past" said Calma.

Amidst the current conflict, we can still find hope and she expressed this in saying that her dream for Europe is "unity and unity very much founded on its diversity because Europe is very diverse and I think that every country brings to it something different". This diversity between countries yet still having a force that brings us together is unique and deserves to be celebrated with pride this Europe Day. Each European country has something so beautiful and different to offer in its culture and history which ought to be explored to maintain its memory for generations to come.



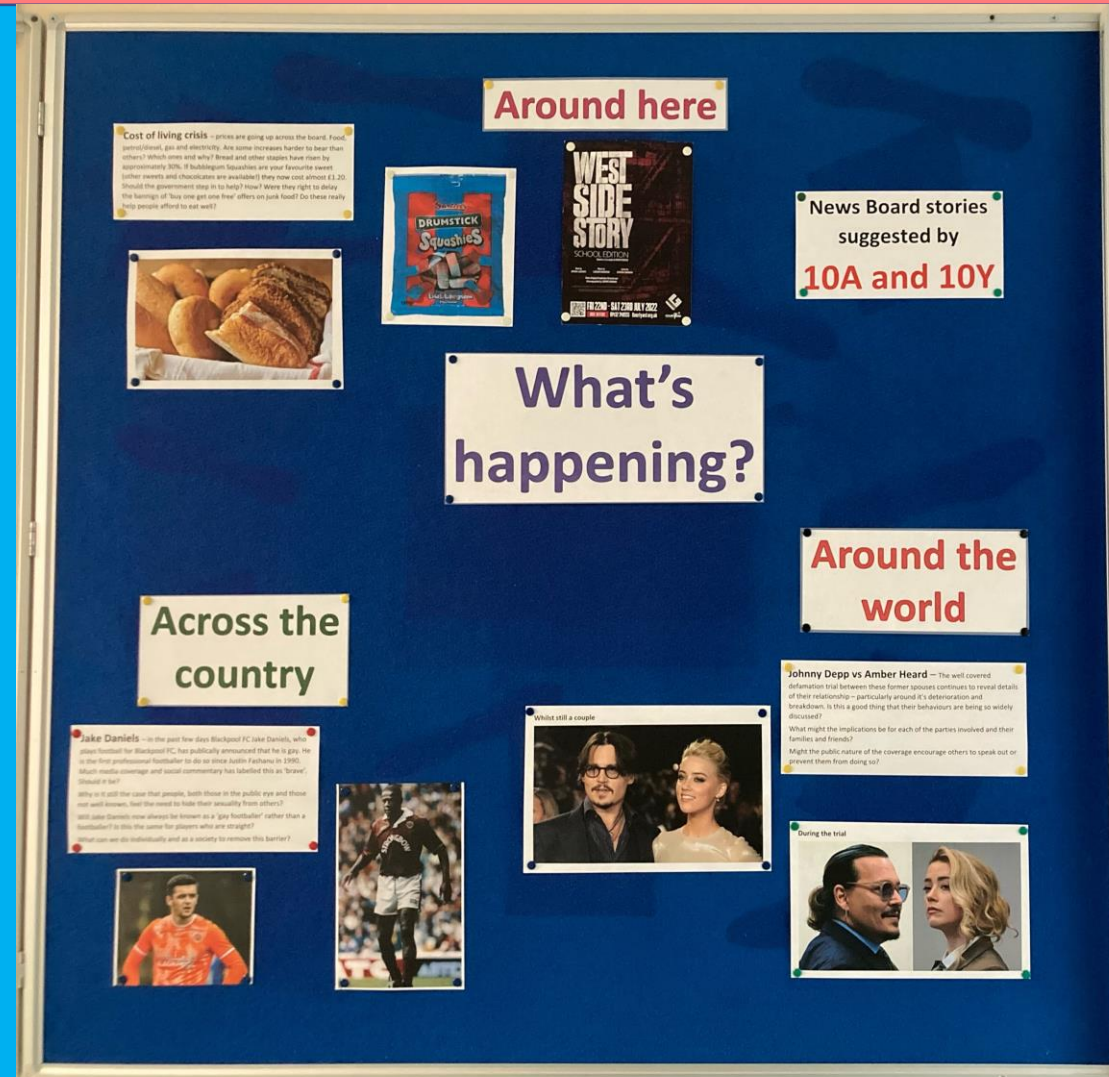
On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, we welcomed the 50 years reunion of staff and students from Hereford High School for Girls (aka Aylestone) 1964-1971. Over 40 ex-students and a handful of their teachers met together at Aylestone with photographs, memorabilia, school uniform memories and mementos. They reminisced, shared lunch, toured the school, told fascinating stories, sung the school song and continued their celebrations into the evening. It was lovely to be able to welcome them back after so long – some visitors had travelled from as far away as Australia and New Zealand!



# The News Board

This year we have introduced a News Board in one of the communal areas of the school. Current stories and pictures concerning local, national and international issues and events are included. Running alongside this our tutor groups have been talking about the stories in form time - giving their views and opinions.

This half-term we have also started giving short presentations in form time on a story chosen by that form. This is a great opportunity for our students to consider things that are happening in the wider world and to discuss them – working out what they think about them. Any budding journalists who would like to be more involved in the News Board next year please talk to Mrs Bowen.





# Year 7 Transition Ambassadors



We are delighted to have recently appointed six Year 7 Transition Ambassadors to help and support the current year 6 students who will be moving up to Aylestone in September.

They are going to be making contact with students in their primary schools and assisting with transition events as well as hopefully helping the new year 7 cohort settle in in September.

25 year 7 students applied for this position and Mrs Erwin and Mr Handley are very proud of all of them – they all did a fantastic job of writing a letter about why they would make a good transition ambassador and what they thought was important.

**Congratulations! We know you'll be amazing!**



# Year 6 Transition Day

We welcomed year 6 students, who will be joining us in September, for a day packed full of activities. The sessions included rounders, forensic science, team building and a chance to get to know their form tutor. A number of the new prefects and transition ambassadors kindly came to help with each session and make students feel more comfortable.

The day began with gathering in the dining hall before being split into their form groups that they would get to know during the day's activities. Puck the cat even joined us momentarily, attempting to join in.

Overall, the day was a great success as students had lots of fun and teachers enjoyed seeing them make new friends already.

**"That was the best day of my life, ever!"**





# 2022 Aylestone Sports Day

The day began with field events that took place during periods 1,2 and 3. This included javelin, shot put, long jump and more.

Then, in the afternoon, the whole school gathered on the field in their houses to cheer each other on during the sprinting events.

The ice cream van proved **extremely** popular on such a hot day

CONGRATULATIONS  
CONNINGSBY!

Ruth Powell was our much loved Head of PE for many years so in her honour we have created the Ruth Powell Sports Day Award for Outstanding Performance. The very first recipient of this award was given to Holly for her achievements in the 800m and 1500m, breaking school records. This was clearly well-deserved.

Many students also received medals for their brilliant performance and participation in the day's events.



# BBC Breakfast comes to Broadlands!

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May, Broadlands was lucky enough to receive a visit from none other than BBC Breakfast, who reported on celebrations that were taking place for the queen's platinum jubilee. As many of the students had fun on different jubilee themed activities, such as a teabag throw, hoopla and story time with the 'queen' (to name just a few), they were broadcast live on national television. It was a huge event in the local community with Your Herefordshire even coming to report on how it went.

Alongside the exciting activities, pupils also demonstrated the learning they had done in class about what life was like in Britain throughout the decades and displayed their jubilee poems. A group of pupils sang beautifully as they appeared on television early that morning.

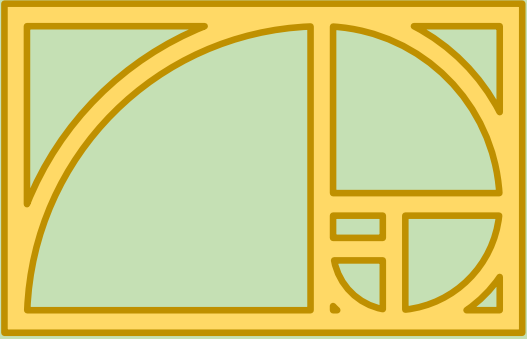
In an interview with the BBC reporter, she told us how she really enjoys being able to go around the country talking to so many different people, for her job. Her advice for anyone aspiring to work in journalism for TV, radio, newspapers etc. should look into doing work experience at somewhere like a local radio station to give you a taste of the skills you'll need.



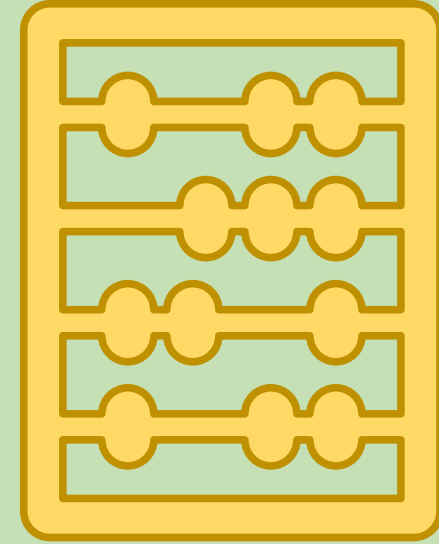
**BBC  
BREAKFAST**







# Maths news!



We've been making the most of the good weather in our Year 7 and 8 maths lessons, with the opportunity to go outside and take part in the maths relay. The challenge is physical and mental, where teams of students race to answer a question before sprinting to collect the next, the team with the most points earning house points!

It was competitive, good-spirited and enjoyed by all!

**Let's see if you can solve one of the relay questions ...**

There are 105 animals living on Farrelly's Farm.  
There are half as many rabbits as guinea pigs.  
There are half as many geese as sheep.  
There are three times as many geese as guinea pigs.  
How many sheep are there?

# UniFest

UniFest gives you the chance to spend time exploring university life, meeting students and staff, making friends and having an action packed, fun experience!

Our very own Chloe Clements was lucky enough to be accepted into an event.

“I did three days at Worcester University where I did taster activities for forensic psychology and law. We spoke with university students and got insights into what university is really like.”





# Jesse Norman

The newsletter team was fortunate to secure an interview with Hereford's MP, Jesse Norman, following his letter to Boris Johnson expressing his lack of support. He was very generous with his time (on a very hot day!) and friendly in a way that was reminiscent of Dickens's Ghost of Christmas Present.

When we asked if he thought his letter acted as a domino because it generated so much attention, he responded that he didn't know the effect it would have or that there would be a vote of no confidence that night, but merely wanted people to understand/agree with where he was coming from. He wanted people to understand that there were many other problems other than partygate.

Secondly, we asked for his opinion on whether Twitter is good or bad for politics. He answered that he believed Twitter was an intrinsically left wing medium - but a bigger problem is the ganging up, bullying and anonymous trolling of public or private figures for voicing an opinion.

Both Johnson and Norman went to Eton and Oxford together so we found out that, in school, Johnson was very distinctive with his white hair and outstanding public speaking that gave him the unique ability to captivate an audience. Early on, Johnson had worked out that (regrettably) entertainment and a level of charm is very powerful in political success.

Jesse Norman said that he thought that the Ukraine crisis was dealt with very well with Britain being out there providing training and supplies, and encouraging other European countries to do the same.

Meanwhile, he believes that there were serious problems with how Covid was dealt with, in terms of PPE and overspending on test and trace systems.

We asked whether, when he wrote the letter, he thought Johnson would remain PM for a number of weeks later, and replied that he didn't think that Johnson would last to the end of his term but, following the vote of no confidence, it became clear that he was on the way out. As Johnson's time is almost up, we asked if he would consider the role of PM in the future which he answered with the conclusion that he could have more value continuing as an MP and potential a minister than standing to be PM. He also commended the diversity in the list of those who are the most likely candidates. Jesse Norman's support for Boris has changed a lot during the past 15 years. Our MP had supported many of his ideas as Mayor of London but was disappointed when the same leadership wasn't present as a PM.

Lastly, we finished by asking him if he would swim in the River Wye to which he told us how he often swims in the river on a hot summer's day but would not recommend it to anyone who was not extremely confident/experienced in the river. He added - DO NOT DRINK IT!





# Library news

The Library has been very busy these last few days with lots of visits from students taking whole armfuls of books out for their summer reading. A delivery of new books from the Schools Library Service was very popular!

The Year 7 summer writing competition was the challenge to write a story in 100 words. There were some excellent entries and the Year 7s used all their powers of imagination to conjure wonderful moods of dark places, menacing events - and happy families! Mrs Tarring generously donated boxes and bags of chocolate as prizes - congratulations to all the winners.

This year we also have a library online!

6000 books for the summer for free.

Books of ALL interest – sports, cars, great fiction, Shakespeare, pets, more sports, natural history, science, animals, more stuff about cars, more sports.

You can read them like a kindle or listen to them.

Visit: <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/index.html>

School name: read on England

Username: Aylestone

Password: Aylestone123

100 wonderful words

WINNERS!!

**Joint first prize:**

Cerys Llewellyn

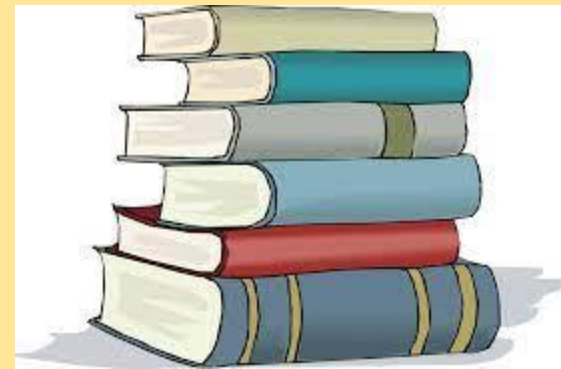
Tia Jones

**Runners up:**

Lily Gilbert

Lily Bonsall

Miley Powell



# Poetry



In year 8, pupils have been reading poetry about issues of identity. One of these poems is “Harlem Hopscotch” by the wonderful Maya Angelou. Pupils were asked to use the extended metaphor of a game to write their own poem exploring issues of identity.

Here is one:

It’s a game of chess –  
White goes first.  
But the thing with chess  
It’s two player.  
I can lose  
And they can win –  
But they will lose  
And I will win.  
They can defeat me  
And I can cower –  
But I will defeat them  
And they will cower.  
The King will stand tall and proud  
As his pawns scurry around.



Pupils in year 8 were given the task of writing a poem based on the opening lines of a novel.  
Here is one:

I taste the street –

It’s filthy,

Gritty and hard,

I feel it under my palms,

Scratching them on the surface,

I thought I’d be standing

Happily walking along.

I was wrong – very wrong.

My happiness drained.

Replaced with sadness

But tears don’t flow

And smiles don’t show.

I’m numb on the street

Both physically and mentally –

People walk by and look,

No one does anything –

Not even an “Are you okay?”

This hurts my feelings –

Turns my thoughts worse.

I don’t know what to do,

Where to start –

People say stay strong and keep trying –

Personally I’ve never heard those words.

Others stare and watch me struggle.

They don’t say those words, but I will.

I will stay strong

And I will keep trying.

# *A big Aylestone goodbye*

We will also be saying good bye to a few staff members:

Mr Handley

Mrs Auret

Miss Weyman

Mr Marret

Mrs Alderton

Mrs Hancocks

We all wish them luck in they new jobs, retirement and travels.



## *We will also like to welcome back...*

We are also welcoming back Mrs Barnicoat after her absence. She will be teaching geography with Miss Williams.



# See you in September

Important dates

**Term Begins** - Wednesday 7th September 2022

**Finish for Half term** – Friday 21st October 2022

**Term Recommences** - Monday 31st October 2022

**Term Ends** – Friday 16th December 2022

**Years 7 & 11 start on the Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Years 8, 9 & 10 start on the Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September**



**Years 7 photos are on Thursday  
15<sup>th</sup> September**