



Finham Park School | Magazine - November 2024



FIFTH EDITION | NOVEMBER 2024

In this edition.....

- Information about recent school events
- Reports on some of our amazing educational visits
- College updates
- Relevant links and support materials
- Sport, Drama, Reading and much, much more...

Message from the Headteacher – Mr Chris Bishop

Welcome to this edition of our school magazine.

Rehearsals are well underway for our Christmas Graduation concert which you are warmly invited to on Wednesday 18 December in Coventry Cathedral (6-8pm), a festive fixture in our school's calendar.

Coventry Cathedral, in the heart of the city, is decorated for Christmas and provides a stunning setting for an evening where students celebrate their success with parents, staff, governors and invited guests from the community. Students and guests arrive in formal dress (jeans, trainers or casual wear are not appropriate).

This time of year is also a time for reflection and planning. Our students have been completing pupil voice questionnaires with 91% saying they enjoy their schooling. Our next Parent Forum is on 12 November at 4:45pm, providing an invaluable opportunity for you to meet with the school and share proposals, answer questions and gather ideas. If you would like to attend this, please use this link <https://forms.office.com/e/e0004W8vDm>.

I hope you enjoy flicking through this edition of our magazine.



Spotlight on the Colleges...

Asiatic

A huge shout out to Asiatic College. We've made a great start to the year, amassing 13692 Reward points... so far. Just for clarity that is almost 5 times the number of Consequences that Asiatic has received. As a college team our focus is on Rewards so this is great to see. There are some exciting reward incentives coming soon so watch this space. Well done to the vast majority of Asiatic who have consistently been in the correct uniform with the correct equipment; keep it up.

We have watched a number of assemblies including conflict and tolerance, highlighting how British Values are integrated into our school through our CORE values.

During mentor time we've been covering topics such as Courageousness and how having the courage to do the right thing and to stand up for the right thing can have a positive impact on not only our own community within the school but the wider community outside of the school as well.

With that in mind, if we can continue to do the right thing, in the right place at the right time then I am sure as a college we can continue to smash those reward points and look to at the very least improve on last year's competitions up to and including sports day.



Barbary

I am very pleased to say that Barbary are continuing on the excellent footing that we ended the year on last year. In 2023-24 Barbary won the inter-college sports and were 2nd in college reward points and Sports Day. Last year B07 – Miss Mansell was the top performing mentor group.

So far this year we have amassed nearly 16,000 reward points and currently B07 – 2146, B06 – 2119 and B09 – 1521 are leading the way in terms of reward points. Huge congratulations to B08 with the least number of negative points as well. 90 Barbary students are a part of the 'C Zero' club this half term and 116 students have 100% attendance.

The top student in each mentor group (for reward points) is B01 – Gurleen M, B02 – Muhammed R, B03 – Ryder B, B04 – Maison L, B05 – Noah S, B06 – Seren M, B07 – Tia L, B08 – Harlow R and B09 – Ellie K. In Year 11, the top 3 students are Shahmal C, Oluwamayokunnumi O and Daanyaal C.

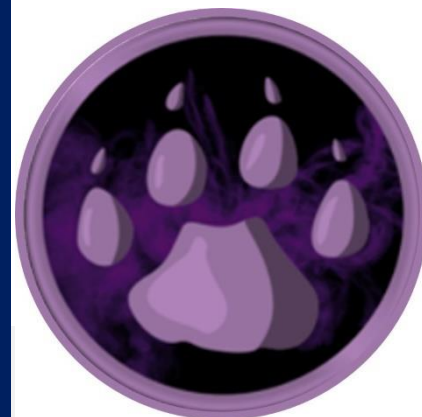


Katanga

It has been a fantastic start to the Academic Year from Katanga College. In a relatively short space of time, we have accumulated a staggering 11000 reward points. I have also been very impressed with the standard of the uniform displayed.

As I visit mentor groups in the mornings, I have been very pleased with the students' contribution to the P1 personal development programme. I firmly believe that the topics and activities covered during this time will be invaluable in the future. Recently, we have been focusing on maintaining positive mental health due to an increase in anxiety levels amongst youngsters over recent years. The theme for this year is "My Voice Matters" and students are encouraged to talk to trusted friends, teachers and family members if they are struggling in this area. In addition to this, pupils have been given a number of tips which should help them maintain positive Mental Health.

I look forward to seeing some great achievements from Katanga students over the coming year.



Spotlight on the Colleges...

Masai

Off the back of Masai's most successful year ever in 2023-24, during which we won both the College Championship and Sports Day, 2024-25 has also started on a really positive note. Numerous Masai students have been sharing their achievements with us during the last few weeks. Eddie M (Yr8) will take his karate black belt to the Taekwondo European Championships in London at half-term. Amelia S (Yr8) recently competed in a national ice-skating competition in Cambridge and finished 4th out of 18 competitors. Amelia spent most of the competition in 2nd place; we hope that she is proud of our outstanding performance. Noah C (Yr8) will represent Beechwood Tennis Club at half-term in a prestigious tournament. And looking beyond the next few weeks Peyton W (Yr8) has secured a key role in this Christmas' Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime at the Bennhall Theatre in Rugby.

There have been a record number of reward points given by staff to Masai students so far this year. In Year 7 Billy C, Layla T, Zac H, Iris C and Texas B lead the way. In Year 8 the top 5 students are Lyra T, Sahib S, Rebeka F, Harry W and Evie P. Millie P, Devna V, Zoe G, Charlie P and Jessica H have the most points in Year 9. And in Year 10 James B-K, Evie M, Sofia M, Eva D and Eva H are currently the most rewarded students.

Well done to the above students for their achievements and all of the other Masai students who have begun the year in a positive manner!



Nubian

Nubian College have started the academic year positively. Uniform has been great and students are carrying themselves around the school with respect. The 5 Finham values of Kindness, Integrity, Humility, Courageousness and Perseverance are being demonstrated both in lessons and during social time.

We have had some strong engagement and participation in assemblies such as the most recent one on 'Black History Month'. Daily sessions in mentor time have also given the opportunity for high student involvement.

Although some students need to cut down on their consequences being received in lessons, I am pleased to say that almost 10000 reward points have been issued to Nubian students so far and we are well on course for eclipsing last year's total.

We look forward to building on this positive start and competing against the other colleges in upcoming schoolwide events.

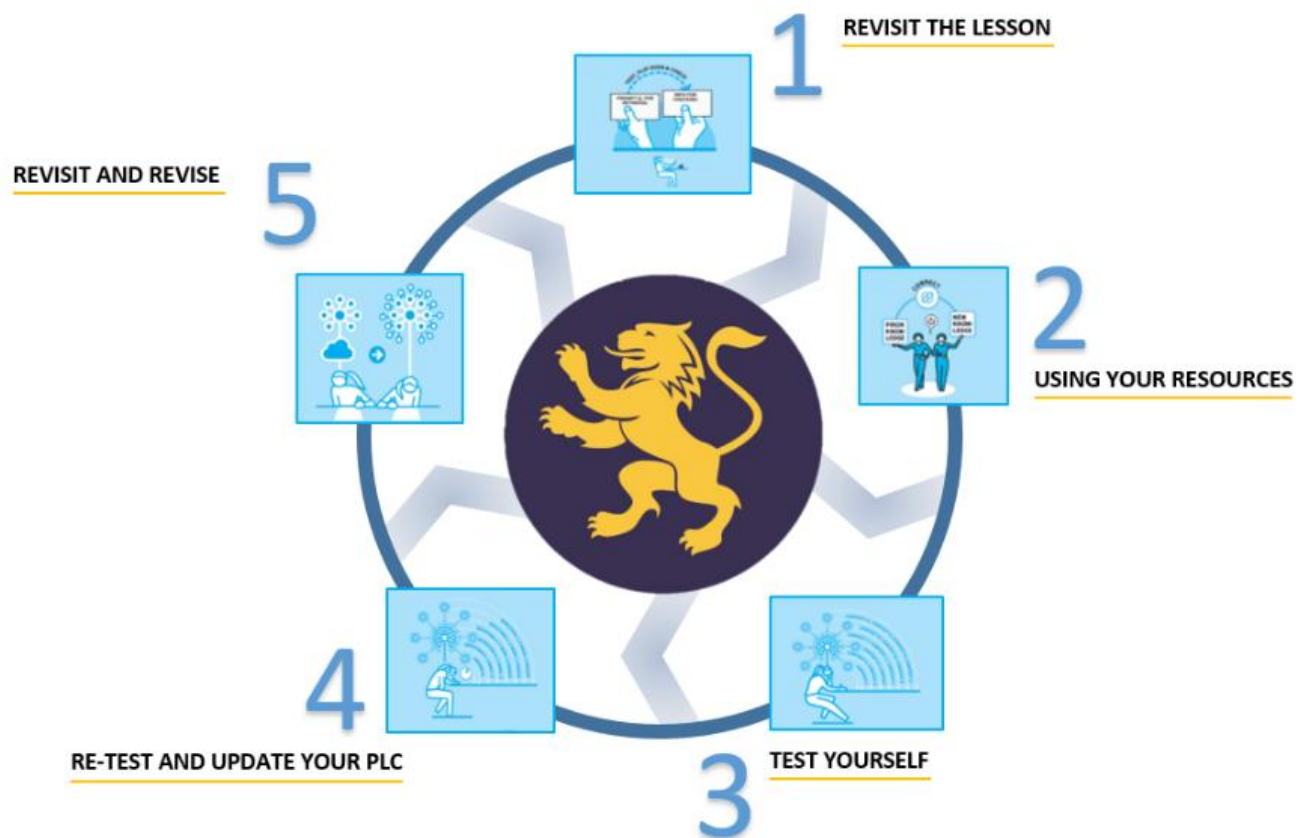


We have been delighted to welcome over 175 students into our Year 12 this September to join the 190 that have moved into Year 13.

These Year 12 students have been settling into life at Finham Park Sixth form and have been getting used to A-Level lessons and how to use their study periods.

In Period 1 sessions they have learned about the "Cycle of independent learning" (pictogram below) which they should be using to support their study away from lessons. They have also had sessions on organisation of folders, how to create a study timetable, how to take notes and how to revise.

The "Cycle of independent learning"



Continuing to support Year 13 on their next steps

Year 13 students are now well underway with their exploration and applications that will take them on the next steps of their post Sixth Form journey. They have had P1 sessions on how to complete UCAS applications, how to choose the right course and how to find apprenticeships.

Before half term we finalised and submitted 15 "Early Entry" University applications for students applying to Oxford University, Cambridge University and courses in Medicine. We are looking forward to keeping up to date with how their applications are progressing!

The remaining Year 13 students are currently spending their P1 sessions updating their applications and putting final touches to their personal statements or covering letters to support their desired Post 18 pathway before the final deadline to submit their UCAS application on the 28th November.

Fund raising and support for charities

Our Sixth Form Students have continued their amazing support for good causes this year with events supporting the "Bhumi" organisation which helps to support access to education for children in India and a breast cancer awareness campaign.

An awareness assembly followed by a bake sale raised over £250 pounds to send to the Bhumi organisation.

A bake sale and "wear it pink" alongside a "just giving" page raised over £2000 that will be sent to support breast cancer research!

A big well done to all involved for organising the support for these causes and our students and staff that stepped up to donate!



Out Of Hours opportunities

As well as timetabled opportunities to take part in recreational sport, learn DIY skills, participate in yoga sessions, play board games and access further study support, students have been accessing extra curricular activities such as the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award, Debating club, Medical Society, Law Society, Crochet club and also sport enrichment including Football, Netball, Basketball and Badminton clubs. These have also been in addition to our "Period 6+" provision that has included lecture style talks on the genocide in Rwanda, careers in Physiotherapy and How to apply for Medicine/Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine.



Proud

The drive, determination and commitment of our students always makes us proud and this has been another extremely positive half term for the students of Finham Park Sixth form and we look forward to another successful half term leading up to the Christmas break.

Key upcoming dates

November 2024

Year 9 In Class Assessments
Year 11 Mock Exams
Year 11 Reports
Sixth Form Open Evening

December 2024

Year 9 Progress checks
Year 13 Parents Evening
Class of 2024 Year 11 and 13 Graduation

Key upcoming dates

January 2025

Year 7/10 In Class Assessments
Year 9 Parents and Options Evening
Year 11 Parents Evening
Year 13 Mock Exams

Our website in focus....

Our new website has a function built within it that enables you to subscribe to our calendar. You will then have live access to key dates and information that can sit within any online calendar you may use (Google calendar, Outlook etc).

This can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

[Finham Park School online calendar](#)

We are keen to ensure contact details for parents/carers are correct

If you have moved house or changed your telephone number or email address, do please let us know. It is important that we are able to make contact with you. This can be completed on the My Child at School app. Thank you.

fpsreception@finhampark.co.uk



Uganda '24 trip – Immersive Learning...

Fifteen Year 13 students spent ten days away travelling to Uganda and spending time with African students and each other on an immersive learning educational visit during October half term.

Since 2018, Finham Park School has been partnered with Viva College School, Jinja, Uganda. This partnership has been forged to include quality assurance CPD for teaching staff, links around the curriculum and teaching schemes and International Conferences between Uganda and UK students. We regularly meet online via Zoom (once per month) with staff to keep the links and relationships alive.



Our most recent visit in October 2024 led to pupils leading assemblies in Viva College School with students discussing topics such as globalisation, concepts of justice, the role of religion in society, the place of social media and equality. Students live with and eat with Ugandan students as well as tour the local area, producing a talent show performance together. They are able to learn vast amounts from their peers in Uganda about their culture with the learning experience being reciprocated.



We want students to understand privilege, to consider global sustainability and to become more culturally aware. We want to increase students' confidence in public speaking, develop their teamwork skills and improve and widen their understanding of other religions and cultural beliefs. The organiser of the activity stated students link the visit to our Finham core values and relate to the global agenda on social justice and character development.'

Students develop a rich appreciation for their own culture. They engage with fundraising opportunities, celebrate cultural awareness through culture days in school and talk with others about the influence and impact sharing experiences with peers from a vastly different culture can have.

Students from both cultures learn how to co-exist, drawing from their own experiences so that they celebrate differences and diversity rather than tolerate it. This underpins the culture within our ethnically and religiously diverse community within the school.

Views from the pupils who went...

- **What did you expect before you arrived in Uganda?**
 - ✓ *'What I didn't expect was how poor most people are and how they live day to day.'*
- **What surprised you?**
 - ✓ *'How friendly the Africans were. Everywhere you go they are pleased to see you. They smile and laugh constantly' Their countryside is just so colourful, not desert like at all.*
 - ✓ *'How much they value their education and just how hard they work in school.*
 - ✓ *'How similar our views are on equality, justice, globalisation. There is more that unites us.*
- **What have you learned from the experience?**
 - ✓ *'It has really put things in perspective for me as I think about my life after school'.*
 - ✓ *'I want to now live every day to the fullest. I have the utmost respect for them.'*





Mental Health and Wellbeing

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online wellbeing service for children and young people. Young people using the site are able to access a range of support services including one-to-one counselling sessions, discussing issues with their peers through online discussion boards that are fully moderated, reading and contributing to self-help content and recording their feelings via journals and goal trackers. The online nature of Kooth means that young people can access help in a way that is most suitable for them, at a time that is convenient for them, 365 days of the year.

If you would like to report an issue regarding sexual harassment, please use the email address below:

dsl@finhampark.co.uk

Someone from the safeguarding team will get in touch with you to discuss your concerns in more detail. Or if you want to report abuse anonymously so we can be made aware of areas you feel uncomfortable around school, please scan this QR code opposite.



The 'Child Friendly Cov' campaign is committed to creating an environment where the needs of children are prioritized, ensuring that they are valued, safe, healthy, and have access to opportunities. If you are looking for information on safe locations and guidelines for traveling around the city with children, please visit www.childfriendlycov.co.uk

The website, www.healthforteens.co.uk, features a variety of interesting and helpful articles with up-to-date advice from school nurses. To protect your privacy, keep your social media settings, including location settings, set to private to prevent strangers from seeing your posts or location

It's OK not to be OK

NEW Coventry Children and Young People Mental Health Services Directory

Scan the QR code to visit the NEW website where you can find services based on presenting need.

The website also has self-help resources and other useful information on the children's mental health system.



SCAN ME



#

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	EXCELLENT
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	SATISFACTORY
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	POOR
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	UNACCEPTABLE
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	UNACCEPTABLE
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	UNACCEPTABLE

Education Welfare Officer - Mr C Thompson

Thank you for supporting us encouraging your child to be in school and on time, this is having a positive impact on student learning.

We're pleased to announce that Finham Park has introduced a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs. If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school or if you need to send us a general message regarding holidays, medical appointments, lateness etc.

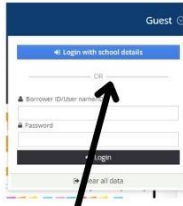
We will also be using Studybugs to keep you updated on your child's attendance and other important information at points throughout the year. Please use the link below to download Studybugs.

<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>



Welcome to our new Library catalogue

How to use



Login using your school login details



Watch demonstration for how to best use the system



Explore the displays for our books of the week



Quick lists provide various reading lists for inspiration

Access to web app

Our new online dashboard allows you to search our catalogue, check out library news, make reading lists and check your account. As guests, parents can explore the catalogue and view library news.

Use your school login details to login on to <https://uk.accessit.online/fnh00> (link can also be found on Frog) or by scanning the below QR code.



Access to phone app

Through the phone app you can explore the catalogue as a guest, and when logged in you can check your account, reserve books and create reading lists.

Go to your **app store** on your phone - search for **Accessit** - download the app - open the app and scan the this **QR code**.

To log in to this you will need your **borrower number** (which can be found when you login to the web app) and your **school login password**.



If you have any questions, or need help with accessing the system, please pop into the Library or email p.bates@finhampark.co.uk or z.hogg@finhampark.co.uk

Year 11 and Year 12 visit to Kiel - July 2024

Finham Park School took a group of 16 students to visit the Ricarda-Huch Schule in Kiel to participate in a joint programme based around sports, language and culture. Our students were matched with a German partner before the visit and were able to get to know them over the course of the week through a variety of social activities, such as watching the Euros final and a barbecue.

During the visit some of our Y12 BTEC PE students and Sports Leaders were able to further develop their coaching skills by introducing sports such as rounders and dodgeball to classes of 11 and 12 year old German children. Our students had to work out strategies to overcome the language barrier to explain the rules of each activity. The rest of the group were able to accompany their partners to experience lessons German style and to support English conversation lessons.

We were welcomed to Kiel by the Mayor and had opportunities to explore the Town Hall and the city centre. We spent a day in the city of Hamburg including a visit to Miniatur Wunderland, one of the most popular tourist attractions in Germany. The highlight of the week for many students was the opportunity to go sailing on the Kieler Förde and to discover beach volleyball with their German partners. We are hoping that students from the Ricarda-Huch Schule will be able to visit Coventry again next summer.

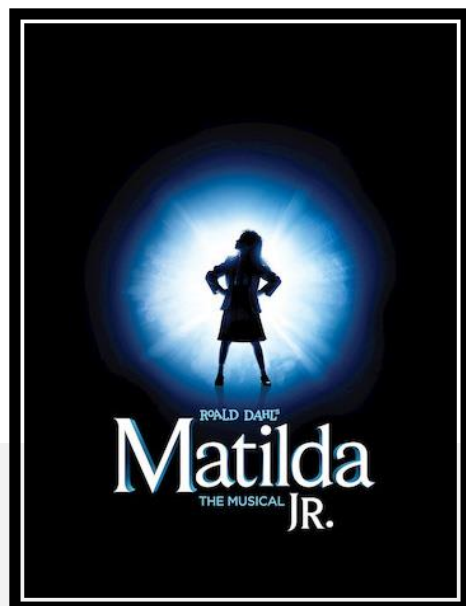


It's been a time for celebrating success in the Finham Park Drama Department this term.

In May and June our GCSE and A level Drama classes sat their C3 Written exams after months of revision and hard work. This clearly paid off as they were ecstatic with their fantastic results, which were amongst the best in the school! Y13 achieved 100% A-C, with 80% A*-B! Our fab Y11s achieved 90% 5-9, with 79% 7-9! Congratulations to all students who received these brilliant results!

Before Summer we held auditions for our new School Production: Matilda Junior! Over 100 students attended and Mrs Spokes and Ms Bartlett were bowled over with their talent and positive attitudes! With the show cast, students then learnt their lines over summer and are now rehearsing each week ready for our performances on 10th and 11th December. Watch this space for how you can get your tickets!

Mrs J Spokes: Head of Drama



Year 7 Geography ...

Our first topic "Wonderful World" allows our Year 7s to gain knowledge of different places and cultures. In our lesson on Pompeii, one of our students volunteered to present their family holiday photos and delivered this clearly and confidently to a very engaged and interested 7C2 class!

It'll be my turn to present when we get on to the sweltering heat of Death Valley (reached **44.7°C** on my visit in 2019!)

Mr Walker (History/ Geography teacher, Finham Park School)



Media ...



Open Evening in September saw the launch of our revitalised Radio FPS show line-up. New equipment, new speakers across the school, new presenters, and lots of returning shows including a weekly quiz, Throwback Thursdays, and The Alphabet Mafia's look at LGBTQ+ issues in the news. We're already thrilled to welcome back the Cambridge Technical A level Media course to our Sixth Form portfolio this year, and will be offering it again to the current Year 11 at our forthcoming Sixth Form Open Evening.



Film Awards

On top of an excellent set of GCSE and A Level results this year, the end of last term gave us a number of reasons to celebrate with many of our students entering national competitions for their film-making efforts, and a number of short-listed nominations. Congratulations to:

- Izzy D – Best Short Film nominee at the Aldridge UTC Film Festival Awards
- Nina C – Short Film bursary for Hertfordshire University Film Production course

To top it all off, we held our biggest ever CovCreative Film Festival at Warwick Arts Centre in July. Guests of honour included Marvel Concept Artist, Bob Cheshire; Star Wars Art Director, Gary Tomkins; Director Stewart Sugg and Head of the Pauline Quirke Academy, Karen Sales. As ever they were blown away by the quality of film-making at Finham Park, especially as this year we got to celebrate the work of former students with our U25 Short Film Award, as well as a raft of technical awards. We really are becoming a national centre for student filmmaking!

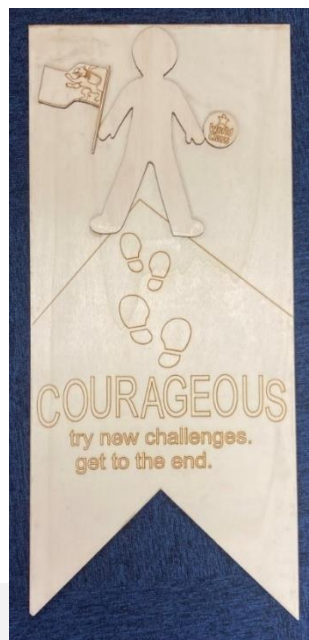
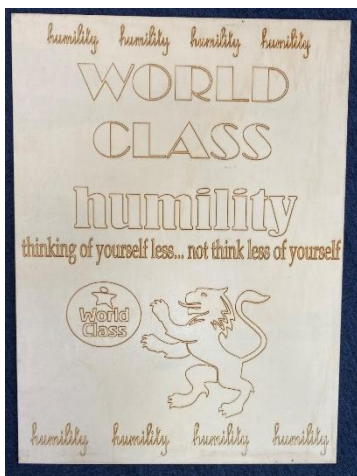
We were fortunate to be able to host ex-student and professional videographer Jack Brazil for a day in October as he taught students in Years 10-13 about the practical skills involved in cinematography and lighting to make their films look much more cinematic. This is the first of a programme of workshops with Film creatives which will culminate in February with visits to Warner Bros and Pinewood Studios for their Pinewood Futures Careers Fair, which will give students the opportunity to explore the whole range of jobs available within the Film and TV industries.



80 students from our 8 Multi academy trust schools came together for the World Class Day events in July 2024 to design, make and promote Finham trust values and to work as a team on creative projects. 4 workshops were delivered across 4 venues in the creative design faculty including technology and art staff and specialist rooms. Two of the workshops were dedicated to promoting trust core values and this included designing and laser cutting wooden banners and creating x2 large canvas/mural paintings. Two further workshops took place where students designed and built bug hotels and painted/painted/decorated two pianos that have all been installed in designated spaces on the school site. A massive thank you to all students who participated and to all staff that supported and help organize and make the day so successful.



Selection of laser cut banner workshop outcomes.



Piano decoration and Mural Painting workshop outcomes.



Spain Trip – June 2024 ...

In June, 45 students from Year 9 and Year 10 had the amazing opportunity to visit Almería, in the south of Spain. They had many chances to practice their speaking and listening skills, while also discovering the culture of the country by visiting monuments, trying local food, and getting to know students from our partner school in Almería. The weather was fantastic, so we, of course, enjoyed the beaches and practiced our Spanish by ordering traditional dishes with stunning views. One of the highlights of our trip was the visit to the impressive Alhambra Palace in Granada, where we learned about the cultural and historical diversity of Spain.



Geography A Level trip - September 2024 ...

In September our Y13 Geographers visited Margam Park in South Wales to engage in a variety of fieldwork activities. They undertook a range of human and physical geography investigations to help prepare them for completing their A level coursework this year.

Students were exceptional on the trip and engaged with the centre staff and general public politely whilst conducting their fieldwork.

The weather was beautiful and the students made the trip a thoroughly enjoyable few days.



Mandarin Excellence Programme - update ...

Congratulations to the current Y11 MEP students who have passed their HSK 3 Mandarin exam with flying colours! Special shoutout to Chuiki L who got 100 and Rebekah D and Holly P who were just a few marks off 100%.

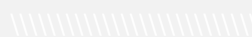
In June, the current Y11 MEP students created some fantastic videos in Mandarin showcasing Coventry. They not only recorded a voiceover in Mandarin, but also interviewed the public in English and Mandarin about their opinions of Coventry. In a competition with all the other MEP schools in the country they were awarded overall best film.

The Y9 China trip took place in July. It was the first trip back to China since Covid. Our students went to Shanghai for 11 days of intensive language and culture learning at East Capital Normal University, bartered in Chinese, visited a Chinese Middle School and did some sightseeing. Miss Mansell and Mr Crawford are so proud of how respectful and enthusiastic our students were. They progressed so much in their Mandarin and made life-long friendships with the students from the middle school they joined them for culture lessons. They were stars in both the Chinese and English media as The British Council filmed the activities in China and interviewed students, teachers and parents.



Inaugural MAT Robotics Summit – November 2024 ...

To support our Finham Park MAT World Class guarantee, each school within the trust was invited to attend the first ever MAT Robotics Summit. The summit was held at Finham Park School and focused on mastering the use of VEX IQ robotic kits through a series of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM) challenges. Students collaborated in teams on driver challenges and programming skills before exploring the rules and regulations of the VEX IQ 2024/25 competition "Rapid Relay", which will be used for the MAT Robotics Competition in the summer term. Each school left the summit with an understanding of the build, drive and program requirements for the competition. Schools now have until the summer term to apply systems thinking and problem solving to improve, adapt and iterate their robots. We look forward to welcoming the teams back in the summer to see who will be crowned the first Finham Park MAT robotics champion of 2025!



Biology Field Trip – June 2024 ...

On 17th June the whole Year 12 cohort of Biology students visited Bishop's Wood Field Study Centre to complete the practical assessments of the course involved with ecological sampling and statistical analysis of populations under the supervision of Mrs Koutsou and Dr Woodward.



In addition: on Wednesday 15th May, A level Biology students enjoyed an outreach session with academics from Warwick University, who introduced students to the physiology of the heart, ECGs and other aspects of circadian rhythm that went beyond the specification of the recent A level topic that they had been learning about.

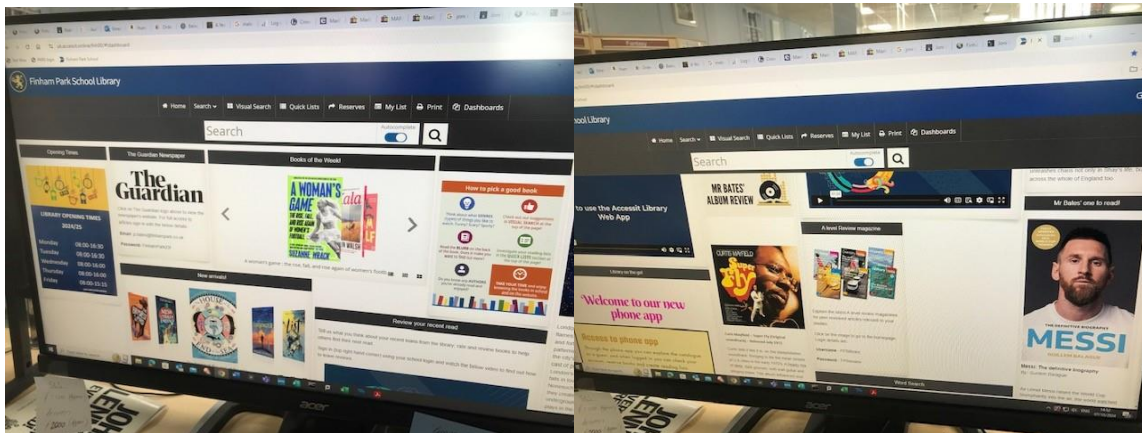


Library news ...



Welcome back!

Be sure to visit the Library this Autumn term.



Log onto our Library portal. Search our catalogue, read book and music reviews, access online newspapers and magazines and so much more!



Residential Trip to Marne la Vallée and Paris – June 2024 ...

The second week of June saw 31 Year 9 students off to France. Students had the opportunity to practise their French language skills in everyday life situations and find out a little bit about the rich history of Paris. We visited Chateau Vaux le Vicomte – a grand stately home to the south-east of Paris famous for featuring in a James Bond film. We spent 2 days in Paris, exploring the city's beautiful sights from a bateau on the River Seine and seeing all the preparations for Les Jeux Olympiques opening ceremony. We had our first experience of Virtual Reality with a 'jet pack' flight across the beautiful scenery of France. There was time to spend shopping on the Champs Elysées, after climbing the 284 steps to the top of the Arc de Triomphe to see the magnificent views across Paris. On our last evening we dined in a French restaurant at Place du Tertre in the shadow of the Sacré Coeur. The trip ended with a day spent at Disneyland Paris where students were able to experience the thrills of the Tower of Terror and Hyperspace Mountain. The teachers joined in with the Disney fun too! It was lovely to hear the positive accounts from our students regarding all their experiences and we look forward to running this trip again in 2025.



Finham is 'active' – Sports update ...

Finham Park is one of the only schools in Coventry to offer a whole school sports day. In the last week of the summer term over 1200 students took part in an amazing day. Students competed in 21 different sports included chess. Well done to Masai winning their first ever sports day. All students took part in various inter-college sports events throughout the last academic year. Well done to Barbary who won their title.



Sports Enrichment Clubs

Since May the department has offered a variety of enrichment clubs in over 16 sports / activities. These include, football, rugby, table tennis, badminton, trampolining, netball, fitness, fencing, basketball, dodgeball, archery, cheerleading, tennis, athletics, cricket and rounders. Over 65% of year 7 students attended clubs in term one. We are always trying to give students many out of lesson opportunities. Attendance at these clubs by KS3 students has been fantastic with 75% (Y7) 60% (Y8); and 74% Y9 coming to enrichment last academic year. **215+** inter school fixtures took place last academic year across a variety of different sports. The PE department aims to increase this further with Derbies (10 fixtures in football and netball in one night), not only against rivals Bishop Ullathorne school, but also against FP2, Meadow Park and North Leamington School.

Sports Games Mark

For the second year in a row Finham Park has been awarded a **GOLD** sports games mark for student engagement in sport. If the PE department can continue this over the next two years, they will be awarded a Diamond award.



Honors Board

In the summer we updated the school's sports honours boards. Congratulations to **E& Milly H** who were named sportsman and sports woman of the year.

Summer Cricket & Rounders Success


Finham has become the area's lead school for cricket, organising the Coventry schools' Cricket competitions. Unfortunately many fixtures were lost due to the poor summer weather. For the first ever time the school had a KS3 girl's team. Every Finham Cricket team got to the Coventry Cup finals where there was victory for Years 8,9 and 10!

Finham's PE department also organised all the summer Coventry schools' rounders competitions this summer and Y7,8,9 & 10 all **WON** their respective tournaments!



Learning initiatives

This academic year the department is rolling out a new Finham park warm-up for KS3. This is based on the GCSE PE syllabus. All students will complete this warm-up at the start of their lessons. All students in year 7 & 8 will have a lesson to focus on RESPECT in sport. Year 11 GCSE PE students had the opportunity to complete a rock-climbing unit at Warwick University. Our first group of year 12 students completed their Junior Sports leadership award.



THE FINHAM PARK WARM-UP

Pulse Raiser: 2 minutes square run

Mobility: 10 walking lunges
10 walking opening the gates
10 closing the gates
10 walking shoulder circles


Stretch: 2 upper body stretches
2 Lower body stretches Hold for 10 seconds

Dynamic movements: 3 x10m sprints, walk back recovery

Skills Led by the teacher

Why do a warm-up:

- increases heart rate
- increases muscle temperature
- increases flexibility of muscles
- increases pliability of the tendons
- increases speed of muscular contraction



Headline Results

- Well done to the following 2 students for setting new school athletics records: Cagan K (Y10) Long jump 5.97m; and Josh C (Y8) 200m 26.6 seconds.
- Well done to the following students who **WON** Coventry School athletics titles: Megan H (Y7) – Hurdles, Long jump & 75m; Lucy B (Y8) 600m & Jayden J (Y8) Hurdles.
- In the summer all students participated in an athletics block. The top 3 performers in each lesson put medals on our international medal board.
- Well done to the 30+ students who took part in the annual duathlon competition (running, cycling and running). Archie W (Y10) and Phillipa W (Y8) took the overall titles.
- For the first time in several years, post 16 entered an U19 netball team in the Coventry schools Tournament.
- Ski trip. In October the department launched its 2026 ski trip to Austria.
- Finham Held the annual Year 7 Finham Rugby 10's competition, where 9 schools around the West Midlands competed. Finham came a fantastic 5th place.
- Well done to the year 11 Netball team. They finished 3rd in the Coventry schools competition, which is their best place for many years.
- 200+ students from both Finham Park and FP2 were involved in the Russell Plester Derby. 10 fixtures were played in Football and Netball out of which Finham Park won 9.
- Finham once again hosted the Coventry School Cross Country Championships. Finham won 3 out of the 4 team titles - Y7/8 Boys & Girls and Y9 to 11 boys.



SPORTS STARS OF THE FUTURE

In all future newsletters we will feature one student to share their amazing sporting talents. I would like to celebrate many more students sporting achievements from outside of school. Please email m.amos@finhampark.co.uk to share student success stories.

Kieret B – Year 9

Kieret has been practicing judo for three years and has accomplished a remarkable amount in that time. Like many martial arts, judo can be pursued simply for belt advancement or competitive success. With judo being an Olympic sport, Kieret has chosen the competitive route, with aspirations of reaching the European Championships and the Olympics in the future.

She has qualified twice in consecutive years for the England Judo squad, a feat that requires athletes to battle it out for a place on the podium at an all English annual event. Her best achievement so far is winning a bronze medal at the 2023 British Judo Nationals in Sheffield, where she triumphed over the number one seed in her category. This event is the pinnacle of judo competition in the UK, featuring competitors from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales competing for national honours.

Despite her demanding schedule, Kieret has managed to stay on top of her studies at Finham Park.

Her judo journey has taken her to various countries, including France, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Canada. Over the summer, rather than having a rest, she participated in several training camps in UK, Canada, and Belgium, where she engaged in intense open-mat training, averaging 20-30 fights per day.

Kieret has also had the incredible honour to spar with renowned athletes such as Chelsie Giles (Tokyo Olympics medalist), Lucy Renshall (former world number one), and the legendary Masashi Ebinuma from Japan (Olympic and world champion).

Further student success:

- Well done to Jessi B who is raising money for her cheerleading team to go to Florida. In a recent competition she finishing 4th out of 1000 people.
- Well done to the following students who qualified to represent England at the European Taekwondo Championships in October -Tzion T - former student; Kobi T - Y10 Connor Footman Y11 Eddie M (Y8).
- Well done to the below 2 students who competed in the British Taekwondo Championship: Eddie M - silver patterns and silver sparring. Kobi T - silver patterns and gold sparring.
- Well done to Ignas F, Y8, who won a gold medal in BJJ All Stars Midlands competition. He also represented England in Worlds Competition and winning a bronze medal.
- Well done to Katie W Y11, whose Dance team has qualified for the All England Dance Finals!
- Well done to Harnek B who is playing for Corley Cricket Club, this is the County Club for Warwickshire
- Well done to Amelia who competed in a National ice-skating competition recently and came 4th Molly A in Year 9 competed in the Great Britain Championships of Irish dancing in London last week

