

CHERWELL COLLEGE GAZETTE

WRITTEN BY ANITA, ELLA, LORRAINE, ALY



DRAWING BY ANITA



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JEKYLL & HYDE MUSICAL

WRITTEN BY ANITA



Oxford house...

What a lovely evening yesterday at hilarious musical Jekyll & Hyde!

As the main character stated "All human beings are commingled out of good and evil".

Let your good side prevail!

Frank wildhorn's book

Jekyll & Hyde is a 1990 musical based on The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson. Created by Frank Wildhorn and Steve Cuden, with music by Wildhorn and a book by Leslie Bricusse, it premiered in Houston before touring the U.S. and debuting on Broadway in 1997. The musical has been staged internationally in over 20 countries, with notable productions including multiple North American and UK tours, a 2013 Broadway revival starring Constantine Maroulis, and a 2019 Australian concert version featuring Anthony Warlow.



ATOM FESTIVAL MARKET

WRITTEN BY LORRAINE



The Atom Festival: A Celebration of Science and Discovery

The Atom Festival was a paradise for science lovers, blending hands-on experiments with interactive fun.

In biology, visitors explored earthworms' role in soil health and observed microbes under microscopes. Physics demos wowed with superconductors, gravity experiments, and a nuclear fission model showing how atoms release energy. Green energy exhibits showcased solar panels, wind turbines, and algae-powered bioelectricity, proving the future is sustainable. Chemistry displays featured glowing reactions and eco-friendly innovations, while the space zone let guests control robotic arms and take virtual spacewalks.



Adding to the fun, festivalgoers played science-themed card games, from “Element Battle”, where players built compounds, to “Energy Wars”, a strategy game on renewable vs. fossil fuels.

More than just a festival, it was a celebration of curiosity, inspiring a new generation of scientists and innovators.

ATOM FESTIVAL TALK

WRITTEN BY ELLA



Macular Degeneration through the Ages

Students recently attended an insightful talk on macular degeneration by Susan M. Downe at Abingdon Football Club. The session was highly informative, covering the causes, symptoms, and treatments for macular degeneration, particularly age-related macular degeneration (AMD), which is a leading cause of vision loss in older adults.

Susan explained how early symptoms like blurred vision and difficulty seeing in low light can go unnoticed, emphasizing the importance of regular eye exams and early detection. She also discussed various treatments, from medical interventions to lifestyle changes.

One of the key takeaways was the role of nutrition in preventing macular degeneration. Students learned about the benefits of antioxidants, vitamins C and E, and omega-3 fatty acids, found in foods like leafy greens, fish, and nuts, in maintaining eye health. The talk also highlighted the negative impact of smoking and excessive alcohol consumption on vision, encouraging healthier lifestyle choices.

Overall, the talk was a valuable opportunity for students to become more aware of macular degeneration and how adopting a healthy diet and lifestyle can help prevent it. The knowledge gained will likely have a lasting impact on their approach to eye health.

OXFORD SCHOOLS' DEBATE COMPETITION

WRITTEN BY ELLA



This consists of 4 rounds of short-prep debates. The top 8 teams after these rounds shall then progress to the Semifinals and then Finals. There shall also be a **Novice Final**, for teams that are in their first year of competitive debating and have never broken before in a competition. We are also offering this year an **ESL Final**, which will run concurrently with the Novice Final, for those speakers for whom English is a second language.

Finals day

A huge congratulations to our wonderful student volunteers who dedicated their time and efforts to assist at the Oxford schools' Debating Competition! Their commitment and enthusiasm played an invaluable role in ensuring the smooth running of this prestigious event, and we are incredibly proud of their contributions.

As an institution, we are honored to be part of this inspiring initiative, which provides young minds with the opportunity to develop their public speaking, critical thinking, and debate skills. By supporting the Oxford Union organisers, we are pleased to offer the necessary venue and facilities to help foster the talents of the next generation of speakers, thinkers, and leaders.

This competition is more than just an event; it is a platform where students gain confidence, refine their argumentation techniques, and engage in meaningful discussions on important global issues. We are delighted to contribute to an environment that nurtures these essential skills, and we look forward to continuing our support for such valuable educational experiences in the future.

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

WRITTEN BY ANITA

Meet our super Team!

Our captain - Yogev
Our future Ballon d'Or, passionate about football, sociology and psychology!
Goalkeeper- Julian
Enjoying astrophysics and philosophy outside of football

Defenders:
James- keen on building successful business venture after University graduation!
Bohdan - serious about Politics and Economics as the driving forces for building successful countries!
Sanad:
Always collected as future Barrister should be

Attackers Harry and Kamal
Harry is looking forward to US University with a degree in Sport Management, managing top talent!
Kamal's aspiration is with engineering, designing a world super future infrastructure!
Two players were injured: Julian and Yogev but Yogev bravely carried on as goalkeeper

And our great Supporters!



STUDENTS PRESENTATION

WRITTEN BY ALY

Silence of the lamp

In my presentation on *The Silence of the Lambs*, I focused on the psychological depth of the film, particularly the complex dynamics between Clarice Starling and Hannibal Lecter. I explored how the characters' psychological profiles shape their interactions, with Lecter manipulating Clarice through his deep understanding of human behavior, while Clarice, in turn, uses her empathy and intelligence to gain his trust. This psychological cat-and-mouse game was the core of my analysis.

I also discussed how the film delves into themes of trauma, identity, and power. Clarice's past and her struggle with self-doubt were key to understanding her character's psychological evolution throughout the film. I highlighted how *The Silence of the Lambs* portrays the ways in which trauma can shape decision-making and self-perception, particularly in high-stakes environments.



Overall, I think I was able to give the audience a deeper understanding of the film through a psychological lens, showing how the characters' minds are as much of a battleground as the physical world they navigate.

ANIMAL FIRM PROJECT

WRITTEN BY LORRAINE



Play in progress...

Being part of our student drama club production of *Animal Farm* reimagined in an office setting was one of the most eye-opening experiences of our time in the club. When we first started rehearsals, we knew that Orwell's story about power, corruption, and manipulation was as relevant today as it was when it was written. But placing it in a modern corporate environment, with leaders modeled after real political figures, made it feel even more urgent.

The setting is *Animal Firm*, a fictional office where employees (formerly under the rule of a tyrannical CEO) stage a workplace revolution, only to see their new leadership fall into the same patterns of control and hypocrisy. Trump, played as the Head of Office, is the towering presence at the beginning: charismatic yet domineering, making grand promises while quietly ensuring he retains all the power. His most loyal enforcer is the office security chief, a dog-like character modeled after Elon Musk: devoted, erratic, and always sniffing out dissenters to keep the power structure intact.

When Trump is ousted, the office is supposed to be a fairer place, but things don't turn out that way. Clover, representing Kamala Harris, took on a leadership role, initially positioning herself as the voice of the employees. At first, she seems to stand for justice, but soon, she too becomes part of the bureaucracy, making compromises that benefited the new elite more than the workers. Keir Starmer's character, heading a key department, embodied a more measured but ineffective leadership: always cautious, always trying to keep order, yet never quite challenging the system itself.



Animal Firm is not just a retelling of Orwell's novel; it is a reflection of the world we are living in. Every character, every decision mirroring real debates about power, loyalty, and who truly benefits from change. It forced us to ask difficult questions: Do revolutions always betray their ideals? Can power ever be wielded without corruption? And most importantly, are we, the students putting on this play, any different from the characters we are portraying?

BOOTCAMP 2025

WRITTEN BY ANITA, ELLA & LORRAINE



Learning about entrepreneurship

An immersive, interactive 5-day boot-camp style entrepreneurship training program from a Silicon Valley perspective for students and entrepreneurs to learn how to start up a technology company.

Highlights include working with aspiring technology entrepreneurs to develop compelling value propositions and research-based startup ideas, extract and communicate their value propositions and then to develop a plan to successfully commercialise their startup ideas.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Students learn to develop and communicate a compelling value proposition, based on their leading edge-technology or research.
1. The aspiring student entrepreneurs learn the building blocks for starting up a company including elements such as culture, leadership, business models, go-to-market plans and more with examples (many from Silicon Valley). Individual start-up companies receive daily mentoring to refine their products/services, value propositions and business plans.
1. Work together to further develop strategy, training programme and future activities to support the technology start-ups

5-Day Start-up Bootcamp Program

3- Prong Approach with Lectures, Interactive Exercises & One-on-One Start-up Mentoring

Target Participants for Boot-camp:

- Students who already have a science-based or technology idea, product and/or research that they want to commercialise by building a start-up company.
- Students who want to explore entrepreneurship.

Diverse teams are ideal.

- Oxbridge College and students from partners who want to learn/ enhance knowledge about entrepreneurship

5- Day Boot-camp Program:

Each day has 2-3 hours of presentations/workshops and interactive exercises: introducing entrepreneurial topics targeted at early-stage start-ups followed by one-on-one mentoring sessions as the startup teams work on their ventures.

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Startup topics to be covered including entrepreneurship culture and mindset, communications and pitching, start-up fundamentals (questions investors want answered), leadership and team, customer-centric products and services, value proposition (communicating a compelling solution, sometimes more difficult for deep science and technology), competition, business models, go-to-market, start-up finances, and how to raise money. Interactive exercises will be used to reinforce and apply the content covered in lectures.

A key element of the programme is the one-on-one mentoring sessions. Since each of the start-up teams will have different areas where they need support: the one-on-one mentoring will provide customised attention where they need the most help, starting with packaging and promoting the value of their technology in a simple and compelling manner. Each team will receive at least 2 one-on-one mentoring sessions with an instructor/mentor.

This will provide the opportunity to iterate on their venture and even to pivot, if necessary. In addition, there will be 2 group pitching sessions, where they will receive additional feedback from mentors and the other participants.

PHSE/RSE

WRITTEN BY LORRAINE



The lessons of life...

Lessons from PHSE and RSE: Understanding Sex, Hygiene, and Abuse

In our PHSE (Personal, Health, Social, and Economic) and RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) lessons, we covered essential topics that help us navigate life safely and confidently, including sex education, personal hygiene, and recognizing abusive situations.

Sex Education: Understanding Our Bodies and Relationships

We learned about sexual health, covering topics such as puberty, reproduction, contraception, and the importance of consent in all relationships. Discussions emphasized that sex should always be based on mutual respect and understanding, and we explored the emotional aspects that come with relationships, not just the physical side. The lessons also highlighted different sexual orientations and gender identities, promoting inclusivity and respect for everyone.

Hygiene: Staying Healthy and Confident

Maintaining good personal hygiene is not just about looking clean—it's about staying healthy and preventing infections. We discussed the importance of daily hygiene habits like washing hands, brushing teeth, using deodorant, and caring for menstrual health. We also learned about the impact of poor hygiene on physical and mental well-being, helping us develop lifelong self-care habits.

Recognizing Abuse and Seeking Help

One of the most important parts of our learning was understanding different forms of abuse—physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, and online abuse. We discussed how controlling relationships, manipulation, or threats can be signs of unhealthy behavior. The lessons helped us recognize red flags in relationships and friendships and taught us where to seek help if we or someone we know is in danger.

These lessons weren't just about knowledge—they empowered us to make informed choices, take care of ourselves, and support others. They reinforced that everyone deserves to be treated with respect, and if something feels wrong, we should speak up and seek help.



PE

WRITTEN BY ELLA



Staying healthy

PE sessions with Adam at Cherwell College Oxford provide an excellent opportunity for students to stay active, healthy, and energized. Engaging in regular physical exercise not only enhances overall fitness but also plays a crucial role in maintaining mental well-being. Exercise has been shown to boost energy levels, improve cardiovascular health, and strengthen muscles, all of which contribute to a healthier lifestyle.

Beyond the physical benefits, these sessions help reduce stress, alleviate anxiety, and enhance mood by promoting the release of endorphins—chemicals in the brain that foster a sense of well-being. By participating in structured physical activities, students develop discipline, resilience, and teamwork skills, which are valuable both inside and outside the classroom.

When combined with rigorous tutorial learning, PE sessions create a well-rounded educational experience, balancing intellectual and physical development. This holistic approach ensures that students remain engaged, focused, and better prepared to excel academically. By integrating physical exercise into their routine, students at Cherwell College Oxford can cultivate a healthy lifestyle while optimizing their academic performance.

"I dream of painting and then I paint my dream"

Every Monday

ART CLUB

WRITTEN BY ANITA



Some artworks...



Creating art

We embarked on a creative journey to craft a painting book inspired by the beauty of the colour wheel. Our goal was to create stunning images that explored the harmony of warm and cool colors, as well as their captivating combinations. With each brushstroke, we brought vibrant contrasts and delicate blends to life. In the end, we gathered all our paintings into a beautifully curated book, celebrating the magic of colour and showcasing our artistic expressions.

The caricatures presented in the image above were created by Anita as part of Animal firm, a project that showcases her artistic talent and unique perspective. Through her skillful craftsmanship, she meticulously designed distinct caricatures of each individual, demonstrating both creativity and a keen ability to capture the essence of their personalities. Each portrayal reflects her attention to detail, expressive style, and deep understanding of character representation. Among the notable figures she depicted is former U.S. President Donald Trump, whose caricature exemplifies her ability to blend artistic exaggeration with recognizable features. Through this work, Anita highlights the power of caricature as a form of artistic expression, using it to explore and convey personality, identity, and social commentary.