



WITHIN RANGE



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CHRISTMAS CARD SHOWCASE



CHALLENGE | SUPPORT | FLOURISH

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

Welcome to a bumper festive edition of our newsletter. Thank you to all the staff and students for their contributions, articles, and pictures.

As you will be aware, it has been a very busy term, particularly over the last few weeks. We have enjoyed a wealth of sporting fixtures, trips, visits, awards assemblies, Arts Star, the carol service, the presentation evening, and the Jolly Christmas Show, to mention but a few. As always, there is plenty of information inside on all of these events; well done to all the staff and students who work so hard to organise and take part in our enrichment activities.

It has been a real pleasure to see so many of our students receiving awards at their end-of-term assemblies. Well done to all the recipients, many of whom received certificates for great effort, high attainment, and strong attendance. In Years 7–11, our new report cards are now well established, and you will find that our awards are closely linked to them. I hope you find the new-style card easier to navigate. You will also see that attendance features prominently; as always, I ask for your full support in ensuring your child is at school every day, on time, and ready to learn as far as is possible. Our attendance figures are scrutinised by the DfE and Ofsted, as it is a national priority to ensure all children are in school learning every day. Please do not be offended if requests for absence are not authorised, as I have limited discretion over this process.

It was also a pleasure to see so many students from last year's Year 11 and Year 13 join us for our presentation evening last Monday. We have trialled our new format for two years now, with no formal speeches, and it seems to be much preferred. It was great to catch up with so many of them, see them collect their certificates, and find out how they are getting on. We wish them every success, whether in the Sixth Form, at university, at college, or in employment.

As you know, we are proud to support a number of local, national, and international charities. Over the years, we have supported the Shyira Trust in association with St Luke's in Formby. Our recent Mufti Day raised over £1,000 for the Trust, so thank you all for your generosity. We will continue to support them this Christmas with the proceeds from our recent carol service. Our Christmas Mufti money will be donated to Claire House in loving memory of Ruby, our wonderful Sixth Form student, who we sadly lost last February. As always, well done and thank you to our fundraisers and to all of you for supporting such worthy causes.

School will be closed throughout the festive period. We close for students at 12:30 pm on Friday, 19th December and re-open for all students as normal on Monday, 5th January 2026. Please remember that our staff INSET day has moved to 20th July; therefore, we do not have one at the start of the Spring Term this year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the staff, the governors, and myself to wish you, your family, and your loved ones a very Merry and Peaceful Christmas, as well as a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

Mike McGarry
Headteacher

KS3 HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGES

Year 7

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, we would like to take this opportunity to say how incredibly proud we are of all our Year 7 pupils and everything they have achieved in their first term of secondary school.

The vast majority of students have settled in with little fuss, showing maturity, resilience and a positive attitude to learning. Starting a new school is a big step, and Year 7 have risen to the challenge brilliantly.

We are especially proud of the 38 pupils who achieved zero negatives for the entire term – a fantastic achievement that truly reflects their effort and excellent behaviour. To celebrate, they enjoyed a well-deserved reward of

Domino's pizza and a screening of Elf, which was a lovely way to end the term together.

Thank you to all pupils and families for your continued support throughout the term. We hope you have a lovely, restful Christmas break, filled with happiness and time to recharge. We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back and are excited to see all that Year 7 can achieve in the next term.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

-Miss Singleton & Mr Critchley

Year 8

We started the term with some of our students representing their local Cadets for this year's November remembrance services. Thomas Coughlin and Adriana Notarantonio, who are part of the Air Cadets, were at Maghull selling poppies before joining in the service on a very wet Sunday morning.

Well done to both for giving up their time. Also, a big thank you to everyone who donated to this year's foodbank appeal. The appeal was started by 3 Blundell House students over 10 years ago, and it is still going strong today.

The collection is distributed throughout Sefton. Many families rely on the foodbank on a daily basis, so no matter how big or small the contribution; every single item is very much appreciated.

A big well done to all the students who have managed not to pick up a single negative point this term. The students spent an afternoon watching a Christmas movie and eating pizza. Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas!

-Mr S Rudd & Mrs L Gallagher



Year 9

As we reach the end of term, it's time to celebrate all your hard work and achievements. Completing this term is no mean feat, and each of you should be proud of what you have accomplished.

You have shown resilience and determination as we have moved into upper school, navigating friendships, keeping up with work, and joining in with extra-curricular activities.

Next term is going to be a very exciting step in your educational journey as you are asked to make choices about your GCSE option subjects. We will be there to support and offer guidance as you embark on this new and exciting phase.

But for now, as the holidays are upon us, take this time to reflect on your successes and set new goals for the new year and new term ahead. Enjoy the holidays, recharge and come back ready to embrace new opportunities.

-Ms N Wilson & Mr J Wilson



KS4/5 HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGES

Year 10

As we near the end of a busy autumn term, I want to express my gratitude to all Year 10 families. The transition to Key Stage 4 has been significant, and I'm impressed by how well our students have adapted to their GCSE and vocational courses. Your support at home has been crucial to this success.

During our final assembly this week, it was a privilege to present many well-deserved rewards. Many students are already building a strong foundation for their future. Seeing so many smiling faces and hearing the applause for peer achievements was the perfect way to head into the New Year.

Year 11 - Your Next Steps: Feedback, Focus, and the Festive Break

Your mock examinations were a significant undertaking, and your behaviour and sustained effort throughout this intense period were truly commendable. You faced this hurdle with maturity and determination—well done!

Staff are now diligently working through the papers, exploring the targets and giving feedback that will help you clearly identify your areas for improvement. This feedback process is the most crucial step in turning this experience into maximum success. Remember the mindset: if you can't do it yet, you will!

Sixth Form

As we approach the end of a busy term, we want to celebrate the incredible dedication shown by our Year 12 and 13 students. Huge congratulations go to Ronnie and Amelie for receiving interviews from Cambridge University—a truly remarkable achievement!

Our Head Team also deserve a round of applause for organising a fantastic Charity Week, raising vital funds for Claire House through their cake sales and raffles, as well as collecting food for the Whitechapel Centre.



While we celebrate our successes, we also look forward. 2026 is going to be a big year for this cohort as they move closer to their final exams. To meet the challenges ahead, students must continue to build their resilience and determination. The hard work doesn't just refer to the hours spent studying, but the mindset of staying focused and bouncing back from challenges."

I wish you and your families a very peaceful, happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year

-Mr C Jump & Ms P McCarthy

The journey isn't over; continued effort from mock exams is crucial for future success. We commend your commitment during work placements and your representation of the school.

To celebrate achievements, we'll hold our annual Christmas rewards event for 30 students with the most merits. Congratulations on a great term! Enjoy a restful break, and return ready to enhance your efforts in the new year.

- Mrs J Plumbley & Mr K Dudridge



It has been a pleasure to see the Sixth Form community come together with such energy and spirit, especially during our Bonkers Bingo event at the end of term!. We hope you all take this well-deserved break to rest and recharge. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a successful, Happy New Year!

-Mr J McKay & Miss H. Ball

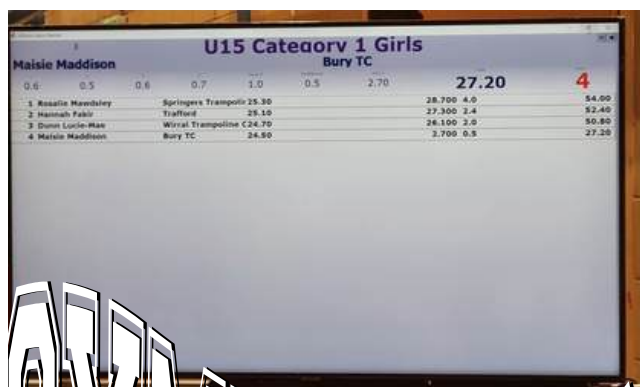
Merry Christmas

RANGE SUPERSTARS

Jumping Into Greatness: Rosalie Mawdsley Crowned North West Under-15 Category 1 Girls Champion

On Sunday, 30th November, Rosalie stepped onto the competition floor for her very first North West Trampolining Championships—an exciting milestone in her athletic journey. Despite the pressures of a debut performance at such a prestigious regional event, she delivered an exceptional routine that showcased her hard work, technical skill, and dedication to the sport.

Her outstanding performance earned her 1st place in the highly competitive Under-15 Category 1 Girls division, securing her the title of North West Under-15 Category 1 Girls Champion. This remarkable achievement not only reflects Rosalie's commitment to excellence but also highlights her potential as a rising talent in trampolining.



U15 Category 1 Girls					
Bury TC					
0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0	2.70
					27.20
1	Rosalie Mawdsley	Springer Trampoline	25.30	28.700	4.0
2	Hannah Fabb	Trampoline	25.10	27.300	2.4
3	Dawn Lucie-Mae	Wired Trampoline	24.70	26.100	2.0
4	Maisie Maddison	Bury TC	24.50	2.700	0.8



Coaches, family, and supporters are immensely proud of her success, noting her composure, determination, and passion throughout the competition. As Rosalie celebrates this impressive victory, she looks ahead with confidence and excitement for future events. This first championship appearance marks the beginning of what promises to be a bright and inspiring trampolining career.

- Mr K Hughes (9KHU)



GYMNASTICS

CHALLENGE | SUPPORT | FLOURISH

RANGE SUPERSTARS



Year 9 Pupil Tia Blundell-Metcalf Shines on International Stage: England vs Wales

Range High School is celebrating the incredible success of Tia Blundell-Metcalf, 9SLB, who recently stepped onto the national stage to represent England Boxing against Wales.

On Saturday, 6th December, Tia competed at the highest competitive level for the England squad, marking a pivotal moment in her promising young career.

At just 13 years old, her selection to the national team is a testament to years of dedicated training, sacrifice, and incredible commitment to her sport.

Tia handled the pressure with remarkable composure and skill. This impressive debut sets an exceptionally high bar and speaks volumes about her potential in amateur boxing.

To represent one's country is the pinnacle of sporting achievement, and for Tia to reach this level so early in her life is a truly amazing accomplishment. Her success showcases the depth of talent within the Range High School community and highlights the positive impact of focused, disciplined effort.



This experience is invaluable, providing Tia with crucial exposure to the intensity of high-level competition. It will undoubtedly serve as a strong foundation as she continues to progress and strive for future international honours. The school community extends its sincere congratulations to Tia for this monumental success. She is a shining example to all her peers of what can be achieved through unwavering dedication and hard work.

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December
Term 2025

CHALLENGE | SUPPORT | FLOURISH

RANGE SUPERSTARS

Range Wave raised money for Teenage Cancer Trust & Mind!

We are absolutely thrilled to celebrate the incredible efforts of three of our students: Brandon, Joel, and Isaac!

These fantastic members of the Range Waves community took on a fundraising challenge for the Teenage Cancer Trust and managed to raise an astonishing **£660** altogether!

This is a phenomenal achievement that will make a real difference to young people battling cancer. A huge, well-deserved congratulations to Brandon, Joel, and Isaac for their hard work and dedication!

Range Waves Charity Raffle Update: Final Total for YoungMind. Our recent charity raffle supporting YoungMind, the mental health charity, has now concluded, and we congratulate Sienna S for winning a labubu; we appreciate her donation.

Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket or contributed to the cause, we managed to raise **£20.00!** Thank you for helping us support this vital organisation.

As for more Range Wave news sadly they have decided to take a hiatus on filming.

- Miss H. Chambers

YOUNGMINDS



Range's little helpers

James, Lily, and Holly have been joyfully occupied in the foyer, pouring their creativity and enthusiasm into decorating our Christmas tree, bringing a sparkle of festive spirit to everyone who walks through the door. Their hard work is beautifully complemented by the delightful assistance of Mrs. Kavanagh and Ms. Donleavy, whose warmth and guidance have made the project even more special.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our pupils for the dedication and effort they've put into crafting a tree that truly looks fit for a Christmas grotto, adorned with twinkling lights and charming ornaments. Thank you all so much for making this season a little brighter!



Christmas Yule Log



The festivities were in motion during our yule log competition. Freya and Isla made a reindeer and a wreath, which marry up nicely together, but unfortunately were unable to come to the yule log final decorating stage due to illness. We are sorry you couldn't attend; however, your fondant decoration was fantastic! We had other fondant decorations such as snowmen, Christmas trees, an ice dragon, and more.



The students overflowed with creativity, producing an incredible variety of decorations for their Christmas logs. Once the decorations were complete, they were carefully stored away and frozen, ready for next week.

On to the chocolate frosting making: students whisked icing sugar, cocoa powder together with butter and water to make their chocolate log frosting, taking a knife to smooth it on, then a fork to create the ridges.



After the logs were finished, that was when it all got tied up in a bow, with icing sugar for snow, and each student added their own decorations on top.

Mrs McGugan, a *chocolate yule log expert*, came to judge the students on their decorating skills. It was a tough decision as each log was different, and every student made a good effort to stand out.

- Mrs H De Belle



Every little help!

In the run up to Christmas, pupils across all year groups, as well as staff, have been donating food and toiletries to Southport Soup Kitchen and Foodbank. Based in central Southport. The Soup Kitchen provides a welcoming place for those in need within Southport and the surrounding areas. Having been established for over 20 years and run entirely by a team of dedicated volunteers, they offer support to the local community by providing hot meals and drinks as well as food parcels and resources, including toiletries and other daily essentials.

So far, a generous amount of donations collected by pupils and staff have been delivered to the Soup Kitchen, with more donations still to be taken. Currently, this charity is in crisis and desperate for donations, which can be made at any time of the year. If people would like to donate, the Soup Kitchen is in desperate need of:

- Tinned food, such as vegetables, meat, stew, soup, potatoes, pies, fruit and puddings
- Dried pasta or rice and sauces
- Cereals, long-life fruit juices, long-life milk, powdered milk, individual juices and small bottles of water
- Teabags, coffee, sugar, salt
- Cakes, biscuits, puddings, fruit pies, and ready-made custard
- Toiletries including toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, hand gel, masks, shaving items, brush, comb, deodorant, feminine products, baby wipes and nappies
- Thermal gloves, scarves, socks

Alternatively, they accept vouchers to any major supermarket chain or you may donate money on their Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/southport-soup-kitchen>



- Mrs C Bridge



take our revision quiz

Study smarter this winter
with InvestIN's Revision Quiz

Gain practical tips to boost
productivity

Identify key revision skills to
improve study habits

Get tailored revision resources to
streamline your studies

*Learn how to create an effective
revision timetable, develop
valuable skills and go into the
school holidays with confidence.*



take the quiz now



Festive Joy: Range High School's Best Ever Carol Service!

The Range High School carol service is always a remarkable event, combining selections of splendid music and readings. Months of preparation go into making the carol service a fitting start to the Christmas festivities. Throughout the evening, the readers retold the story of the birth of Jesus, which was punctuated by performances of beautiful arrangements of well-known traditional Christmas carols, including "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "In the Bleak Midwinter," sung by Vocal Range.



The evening also included exceptional performances of instrumental pieces by the orchestra, including "Angels from the Realms of Glory", "Pie Jesu", and "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" which was performed by Mrs Davies on the clarinet, Joni Falconer on the flute, and accompanied by Mr Povey on the piano.



The performances of "Gaudette", "In Dulci Jubilo", "See Amid the Winter's Snow" and "The Carol of the Bells", by Vocal Range and Harmonix, were nothing short of outstanding.



Cara Banks, Belle McNally, Eleanor Baines, Serena Povey, and Maria Byrne should be especially commended for their magnificent solos, alongside Joni Falconer for her flute solo.

The evening was made even better with the congregation joining in with the hymns, accompanied by Range High's fantastic Orchestra.

Mr Povey, Mrs Davies and Mrs Bridge are exceptionally proud of all the students involved for their hard work and commitment over the past few months.



Special thanks go to Rev. Dr Matt Davis for his prayers and blessings. At the end of the service, a collection was held, with proceeds going to the Shyira Trust, the charity supporting Groupe Scolaire, a school in Rwanda that Range High School have supported for many years now.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our friends at St. Luke's Church for the ongoing support offered to Range High School throughout the year. We are extremely honoured and grateful to feel part of their warm and welcoming community.

- Mr Povey, Mrs Davies & Mrs Bridge

Media Students Explore Future Pathways During Creative Careers Month

This term, our Media students have been actively engaging with their future potential by participating in November Creative Careers Month.

Through the Eric App, students gained exclusive access to a wealth of industry knowledge, joining thousands of young creatives in exploring the vast opportunities within the creative sector.

The initiative provided students with access to over 150 industry speakers through a series of online talks. This diverse range of sessions allowed our students to hear directly from professionals working at some of the world's biggest creative companies.

Highlights of the programme included:

- **Netflix:** Insights into the wide variety of career paths available at the streaming giant, from creative roles to technical teams
- **Sky Studios Elstree:** Expert advice on creating a standout CV for the Film & TV industry
- **Wushu Studios:** A deep dive into landing a first role in the gaming industry
- **SCREENSHOT Media:** Tips on breaking into social media content creation and maintaining a commercial mindset

- **Brixton Finishing School:** Guidance on overcoming barriers to enter marketing, advertising, and tech careers.

From practical advice on portfolios and interview techniques to inspiring stories about turning hobbies into careers, the talks offered invaluable real-world context to the students' coursework.

The sessions are now available to watch on demand, ensuring students can continue to benefit from this expert guidance.

For more information on the programme and the speakers involved, please visit:



– Mrs J Wilson, Curriculum Area Leader, Media Studies



Fire in the Sky: An Unforgettable Journey to the Bay of Naples

Forty-eight excited students set off during the October half term of 2025 for what would become an unforgettable adventure to the Bay of Naples—four days filled with volcanic vistas, sun-soaked coastlines, and moments that will stay with us for years to come. With beautiful weather, breathtaking scenery, and a packed itinerary, the trip delivered everything we hoped for and more



Day 1 – Touchdown in Naples & A Race Across the Waves

Our journey began as we landed in Naples, where the mighty Mount Vesuvius immediately dominated the skyline—a spectacular first sight that set the tone for the days ahead. From there, we wound our way along dramatic cliffside roads toward Sorrento, our base for the trip.

After a quick stop at the hotel, we headed straight to the port for an adrenaline-fuelled boat ride to the island of Capri. Capri offered just enough time for us to admire its rugged beauty, snap a few photos, and grab a well-earned ice cream. The dash back to catch the return ferry was tight, but every student made it aboard—if slightly out of breath!

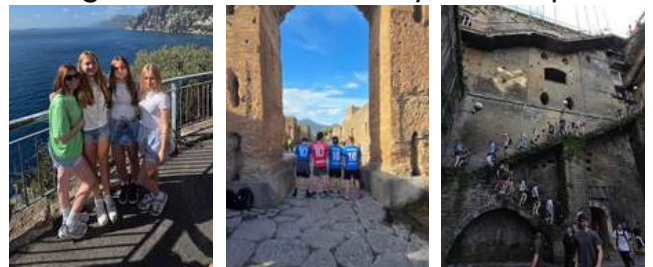
We returned to the hotel late that evening, ready to rest up for the challenge of climbing Vesuvius the next morning.



Day 2 – Climbing Vesuvius & Exploring Ancient Pompeii

Cloudy skies greeted us at sunrise, and spirits dipped slightly as we arrived at Vesuvius to find wind, rain, and thick fog swirling around the slopes. The mist made the volcano feel mysterious—almost otherworldly—but it certainly added to the challenge of the climb.

Halfway up, the weather gods must have heard our pleas. The clouds suddenly split apart, opening up the most incredible panoramic views of the Bay of Naples. Moments later, the sky cleared entirely, revealing brilliant blue skies. At the summit, we enjoyed lunch overlooking the world-famous crater, taking in extraordinary views and capturing countless photos. From the heights of Vesuvius, we travelled straight to the ancient city of Pompeii.



With several hours to explore, students wandered through the remarkably preserved streets and buildings, gaining a vivid sense of Roman life frozen in time.

It was a powerful and enriching experience.

The evening brought a relaxing walk into Sorrento, where students enjoyed food, drinks, and the chance to browse local shops for souvenirs.



Day 3 – The Amalfi Coast Adventure

The final full day began with sunshine and excitement as we prepared for a trip along the world-famous Amalfi Coast. Rough seas meant the ferry was cancelled, but our last-minute switch to small cliff-side coaches proved to be an adventure in itself. The winding coastal roads offered stunning views of the sparkling Mediterranean far below.



A brief stop in Positano allowed us to admire its pastel-coloured houses cascading down the cliffs, before we continued on to Amalfi.

With three to four hours to explore, students enjoyed local delicacies, wandered through steep, narrow alleys, photographed the striking cathedral, and soaked up the vibrant atmosphere of the town. For many, this was a highlight of the entire trip.

The journey back took us through the mountains, offering sweeping views across Naples and Vesuvius just as the sun began to set. The golden sky over the bay created a perfect finale to an already spectacular day.

After leaving Amalfi, our day continued with something a little sweeter—a gelato-making class back in Sorrento. The session began with a lively and humorous demonstration from our charismatic gelato expert, who had everyone laughing while also teaching us the art of crafting traditional Italian ice cream.



Students helped mix ingredients, learned how flavours are created, and watched the magic happen as the gelato churned. The best part, of course, was the tasting. We were treated to free samples of delicious flavours such as Oreo, chocolate, and many other favourites. It was a fun, relaxed activity and the perfect way to end a beautiful day on the coast.

A Memorable Farewell

After an early night and a smooth morning journey, we reached Naples Airport for our return home—but the surprises weren't over. Jet2 staff invited our students into the cockpit, giving them the chance to ask the pilot questions and see the controls up close. It was a brilliant final treat that capped off an already amazing trip.

– Mr K Hughes, Head of Geography

Festive Spirits Soar as Manacto Brings Dickens to Range High

The magic of Victorian London arrived at Range High School this week as Manacto theatre company staged a captivating performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Year 9 pupils gathered in the Arts' Theatre for a morning of atmospheric storytelling, haunting visuals, and a fresh perspective on Charles Dickens' timeless classic.

With a minimalist set and clever use of props, the small cast brought dozens of characters to life. Year 9 watched, mesmerized, as the actors transitioned seamlessly from the shivering Bob Cratchit to the terrifying, chain-clanking ghost of Jacob Marley.

The production stripped back the "chocolate box" Victorian stereotypes to focus on the core themes that pupils are currently studying in English:

- **Social Responsibility:** The stark contrast between Scrooge's wealth and the poverty of the 1840s; and
- **Redemption:** The emotional journey from a "squeezing, wrenching, grasping" sinner to a man of charity.



For many pupils, seeing the text jump off the page and onto the stage can provide that "lightbulb moment" that only live performance can offer. It really helps them understand Scrooge's transformation.



Beyond the festive cheers, this visit serves a vital academic purpose. Year 9 are currently analysing Dickens' language and intent, and Manacto's performance provided a perfect visual aid for their upcoming assessments.

By witnessing the physical embodiment of Scrooge's isolation, pupils are better equipped to write about the "stave" structure and character development.

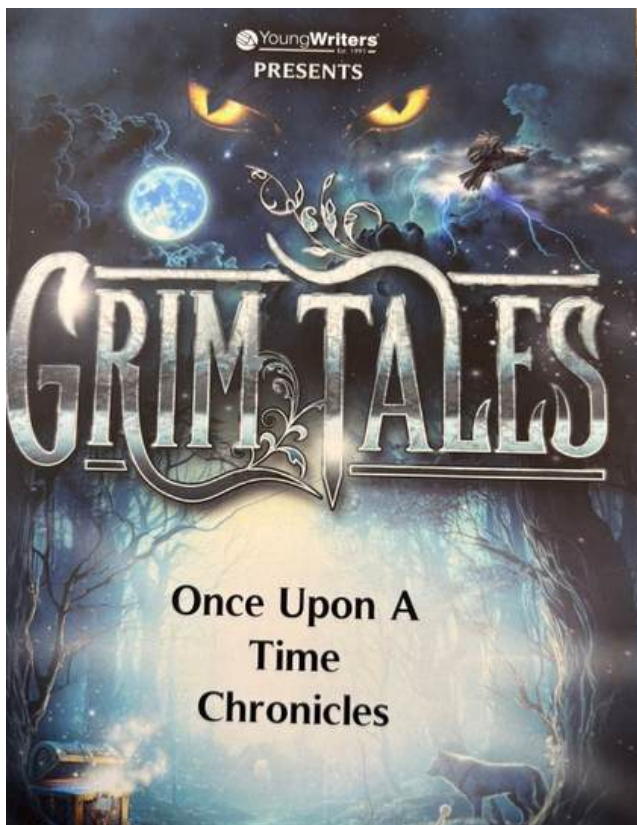
A huge thank you to Mrs Underwood for organising this visit, and to Manacto for reminding us all to keep Christmas in our hearts all year round!



"Oh! My! Gothic!" – Year 9 Creativity on Display

The back wall of the school library has been transformed into a realm of mystery and suspense with the striking "Oh! My! Gothic!" display. Showcasing the exceptional work of our Year 9 students, following their study of Gothic conventions, the exhibit features an evocative collection of student-authored fiction and non-fiction tales.

Other students can explore chilling narratives of madness and the supernatural alongside meticulously researched non-fiction booklets detailing real-life crimes such as the Lizzie Borden murders. Accompanying these tales are dark, atmospheric art pieces—ranging from moody landscape sketches to intricate, symbolic collage work—that capture the "uncanny" and "eerie" vocabulary students have mastered this term.



The Winners Circle

A special commendation must go to our Year 9 winners, whose work stood out for its exceptional creativity and atmospheric depth. The competition saw a high standard of entries, but three students truly captured the essence of the Gothic genre:

- Artistic: Douglas Jones for his visual piece titled "Gothic". His use of shadow and composition evoked a sense of traditional Victorian dread.
- Artistic & Written: Eva Johnston. Her article on Lizzie Borden combined meticulous research with a striking visual presentation, perfectly bridging the gap between history and the macabre.
- Written: Emilia Guy was recognised for her narrative piece, Fangs In The Moonlight. Her story was noted for its rich imagery and sophisticated control of tension, making it a standout example of modern Gothic fiction.

These winning entries are a main feature of the library display, serving as fantastic examples of how our students have engaged with the darker side of the literary canon.

Celebrating Our Accelerated Reader Champions

Reading remains the heartbeat of learning at Range High, and this term we are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students through the Accelerated Reader program. From consistent quizzing to monumental word counts, these pupils have demonstrated that reading is not just a skill, but a superpower.

The Millionaire's Club

Reaching one million words read is a phenomenal milestone that requires dedication and a true love for literature. We are incredibly proud to induct two new members into this prestigious circle:

- **Paco Heredia Moezer**
- **Jaimini Chater**

Both students have explored vast literary landscapes this term, joining the elite ranks of our Millionaire Readers.

Accuracy and Effort: The Category Winners

While volume is impressive, comprehension and progress are equally vital. These awards recognize students who have read with precision or made significant leaps in their literacy journey.

Most Quizzes Answered Accurately

- **Year 7:** Freddie Johnston
- **Year 8:** Sophie Randall

Most Effort to Improve Reading Age

- **Year 7:** Josh Bond
- **Year 8:** Alex Ras



Reading Endeavour Award

A new award added this year is the Overall Reading Endeavour Award, which looks at a combination of consistency, word count, and a positive attitude toward literacy across both year groups.

We are delighted to announce that the combined Year 7 & 8 Endeavour Award goes to:

Omar Ali (Year 8)

Omar has shown incredible resilience and commitment to his reading, setting a fantastic example for his peers.

*Congratulations to all our winners!
Keep turning those pages.*



Rekindling the Joy: The "Get Britain Reading" Campaign

In response to a growing national literacy crisis, The Times and The Sunday Times have launched an urgent new initiative: Get Britain Reading. Supported by literary giants like Salman Rushdie, J.K. Rowling, and Michael Morpurgo, the campaign aims to reverse the decline in reading for pleasure among both children and adults.

Why Now? The "Reading Crisis"

Recent research highlights a startling shift in our habits. UK adults now spend an average of **eight days a year** scrolling through social media, compared to just six days reading books. Among children, the statistics are even more concerning: **one in five** students aged 11 to 13 now say they never pick up a book voluntarily.

By championing reading for pleasure, the campaign highlights that literacy is not just about grades—it is a "silver bullet" for mental health, academic success, and future life outcomes.

The Busy Parent's 10-Minute "Quick Read" List

As part of the campaign's pledge, we encourage parents to reclaim just 10 minutes a day. You don't need to finish a whole novel; these formats are perfect for a quick, mood-boosting escape:

- **The "Short Story" Surge:** Try a piece from a collection like *The Book of Idle Pleasures* or a Sunday Supplement long-read.

- **The "Audio" Gateway:** If your hands are busy, listen to an audiobook via Audible or the BBC Sounds app. It counts toward your literacy minutes!
- **The Graphic Novel:** Visually stunning and quick to consume. Try *The Boy*, *the Mole*, *the Fox* and *the Horse* for a moment of calm.
- **Curated Articles:** Follow the Sunday Times "Long Reads" for in-depth journalism on a single topic—perfect for the commute.

Becoming a Range High Reading Ambassador

We are looking for passionate students to join our team of Reading Ambassadors. This is a leadership role inspired by the national campaign, and we want you to help us shape the school's reading culture.

Your Role & Responsibilities:

- **Peer Recommenders:** Share your current favourite reads in the library's "Book Blog" wall.
- **6th Form Reading Buddies:** Spend time reading with Year 7s & Y8s in their Accelerated Reader lesson.
- **Event Organizers:** Help run the upcoming "National Year of Reading 2026" kick-off events and competitions.

The Benefit:

- **Leadership Experience:** Gain formal experience in advocacy, event planning, and mentoring.

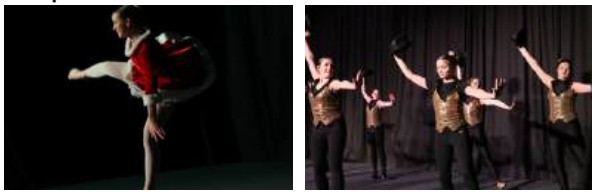
How to Apply

If you want to join Paco, Jaimini, Omar, and our other reading champions, speak to us. We're looking for enthusiasm, not just the fastest readers!

Contact: jc4@range.sefton.sch.uk

A Festive Triumph

The show kicked off with a high-energy dance number from the Tinsel Tappers performing to Winter Wonderland. Our 'Elf and Safety' team followed, ensuring everything ran smoothly—though not without a few cheeky quips from General Glitter! We even had a "Coldplay moment" when Mrs Povey and Santa Claus were caught red-handed listening to Yellow at a concert. Oops!



The atmosphere then turned melodic with a lovely joint choir featuring both High School and Primary students. This was followed by a stunning performance from Belle McNally, who gave a wonderful rendition of Santa Baby.

The Primary School children's nativity play, 'Santa Just Wouldn't Wake Up', kept us on the edge of our seats! Despite their best efforts, he finally stirred after some kind words, and Christmas was officially saved.



The elegance of our ballet dancers followed, leading into a fantastic performance by the orchestra, who played Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer before being joined by 'Vocal Range' choir for a powerful collaborative moment.

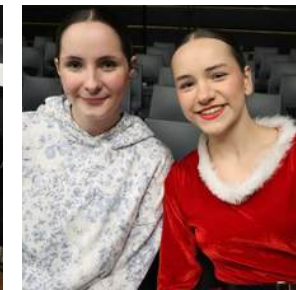
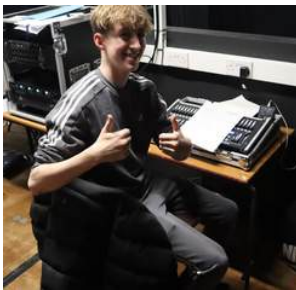


Our unique take on the Nativity is presented in the style of a news broadcast by our KS4/5 students. This comedic interpretation included the memorable announcement of Mary giving birth to Jesus and featured standout performances from the entire cast. Highlights included the "Sheep-shaprones"—who insisted on the title—the Three Kings, and a very popular Joseph. The Angel Gabriel also made a graceful appearance, maintaining a humble presence despite her



As the show drew to a close, the primary school choir returned to the stage, followed by a beautiful vocal performance from Emily Forrester. The evening concluded with an explosion of energy from the Year 7 group, whose final dance was followed by a final song, which brought the night to a triumphant end as everyone joined the stage.

THE JOLLY CHRISTMAS SHOW



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2026

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Tuesday 6th January

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Extracurricular Activities are Back in Full Swing!

Year 7 and 8 Football

Our Year 7 and 8 girls football team made a fantastic debut in their first tournament of the year at LCFA. Although the team didn't make it to the finals, the girls played some great football and showed huge team spirit against some fantastic opposition. They also performed brilliantly in a recent friendly match against Formby High School, which was the first time some of our girls have played competitively. A massive well done to everyone involved! Their dedication is evident, as the turnout for extra-curricular training has been fantastic. We are incredibly proud of their effort and commitment



Year 9 and 10

A huge congratulations to our Year 9 and 10 football team for their phenomenal victory over All Saints in the Merseyside Cup, winning with an emphatic score of 14-1. The team showcased superb football throughout the match, displaying fantastic possession and emphatic finishing.

A special shoutout goes to the captain, Lola, who led by example and bagged a brilliant hat-trick! Well done to the entire team for such a great performance. The girls now look forward to the next round, where they will face either Ridgeway or Maricourt in the New Year.

Year 8 Football

We are incredibly proud to announce that our Year 8 football team secured a fantastic victory against a formidable Archbishop Beck side in the latest round of the Merseyside Cup. The boys delivered a truly dominant display against tough opponents, controlling the game with exceptional skill, tactical awareness, and commitment, which ultimately resulted in a decisive win.

Beyond the excellent result, we must commend the team for their exemplary conduct both on and off the pitch, representing the school with superb sportsmanship and maturity. This significant win secures their place in the next stage of the competition, and we wish the squad the very best of luck as they roll on into the next round!



Year 9 Football

The Year 9 Football team has secured a place in the next round of the prestigious Merseyside Cup! Following the recent postponement of their fixture due to challenging weather conditions, the opposing team was unable to reschedule. As a result of this situation, our boys have been awarded a bye and will automatically advance to the next stage of the competition.

While the team was keen to play and continue their momentum on the pitch, they are delighted to progress and now eagerly await the draw for the next round. We look forward to seeing them back in action soon!

Primary School Football

We were delighted to host girls from our neighbouring primary schools this week for a fantastic introductory football session! The event was a huge success, designed to give the girls a fun and supportive taste of the game. The session focused on basic skills and positive team play, including:

- Dribbling fundamentals
- Passing accuracy drills
- Small-sided fun games



KS3 Netball

Our KS3 Netball teams celebrated a decisive win in their recent fixture against CTK. It was wonderful to see every team showcasing exceptional skill, with players across the board holding their own and demonstrating some truly great netball.

This success is a brilliant result of the hard work and fantastic commitment shown by the girls, whose extra-curricular turnout has been impressive all term. We are looking forward to building on this fantastic momentum with more exciting fixtures and tournaments coming in the new year.

Year 9 Basketball

Our Year 9 Boys' Basketball team recently competed in the high-intensity North Sefton Basketball Competition, demonstrating fantastic spirit and skill, which led to a thrilling and well-deserved victory early on. This crucial win allowed them to qualify for the highly competitive 3rd/4th Place Play-Off, where they faced a strong opponent and fought with courage and determination.



Although the boys played their hearts out, constantly exchanging points in a fiercely contested match, they were unfortunately narrowly beaten in the end, but they should be incredibly proud of their progress, commitment, and excellent representation of the school.

Year 8 Sefton Rugby Festival

The Year 8 Rugby Squad brought the same high energy and excellent form from last year to the recent Sefton Schools Festival. Despite the cold and bleak weather, our lads truly shone in the competitive setting, delivering a superb performance throughout the afternoon.

The team secured impressive victories against Holy Family and Stanley, whilst pushing Chesterfield to the absolute limit in a thrilling, narrow contest. Some key moments from the afternoon were Dan Grimes' kick over the top and chase to score a try, showcasing great vision and technical execution. Seth McBurney, James Stewart-Atherton and Finley Murphy crunching into tackles and clearing out rucks. To a man, they were outstanding and didn't back down from the opposition.

It was particularly encouraging to see so many students getting stuck in, as only a few currently play regular club rugby. Their attitude and work ethic were exemplary, highlighted by their incredible sportsmanship, even helping other teams with players! Well done to all the boys; we hope this successful outing encourages them to take up the sport further and join a local team, as they have clearly demonstrated their potential.



Year 7 & 8 Students Knock Down Pins and Barriers at Southport Ten Pin

A group of enthusiastic Year 7 and 8 students from our school had a fantastic time at Southport Ten Pin Bowling, taking part in a special event organised to promote positive inter-school relationships across the South Sefton area.



The trip saw our students join peers from several local schools for a morning of friendly competition and socialisation on the lanes. It was a brilliant opportunity for them to meet new people and collaborate with others in a relaxed, fun setting outside of the classroom environment.



Fitness Club Attendance is on Fire!

We are thrilled to highlight the amazing commitment of our students at the weekly Health and Fitness Club!

Their enthusiasm and dedication have led to impressive attendance week after week. It's inspiring to see so many prioritising their physical and mental well-being.



The club offers circuit training, strength work, and flexibility exercises in a positive environment, encouraging students to push their limits and develop healthy habits.

Badminton

For the second year running, our talented KS4 Badminton players won the Southport and Formby Tournament! The team played brilliantly, successfully beating some really good teams to retain their title.

A huge shoutout must go to Bertha, a Year 7 student who stepped up and held her own against Year 10 and 11 players, an absolutely outstanding achievement!



Support Range High in the Tesco Stronger Starts Vote!

We have some exciting news! Our application to the Tesco Stronger Starts Blue Token Campaign has been successfully selected for the in-store customer vote! This is a fantastic opportunity to secure vital funding for our school.

We need your help to make our vision a reality!

Our Project: Fitness Suite Revamp

We are aiming to revamp our current fitness suite to make health and fitness more accessible and empowering for all Range High students.

- Project Goal: To upgrade our facilities with modern equipment.
- Why it matters: Keeping healthy and fit is essential for our students' physical and mental well-being, confidence, and overall success.

How You Can Vote!

The customer vote begins in Tesco stores soon!

- When: Mid-January 2026 until the end of March 2026.
- How: Every time you shop in a participating Tesco store, you will receive a blue token. Please place your token in the box for Range High School – Fitness Suite Revamp!

The more blue tokens we receive, the better our chances of securing the top funding award!

Please encourage your family, friends, and neighbours to look out for our project and vote Range High when they shop at Tesco. Let's work together to make a real difference in our students' health and fitness journey!

- P.E Department



ATTENDANCE TEAM

Happy Christmas



Again, a busy start to the year; the attendance team has been busy talking to many families and offering support this term.

After a great start, we were disappointed to be hit by the flu bug, which has affected many of our students and staff. We have introduced a new system this year to offer more support to families when students are off school so, we now make telephone calls to those who are off ill to see if there is anything we can help with in supporting our young people back into school as soon as possible.

We have also made many welfare visits to students' homes. Please be assured that visits are a routine part of our safeguarding policy and procedures for all children who are out of school.

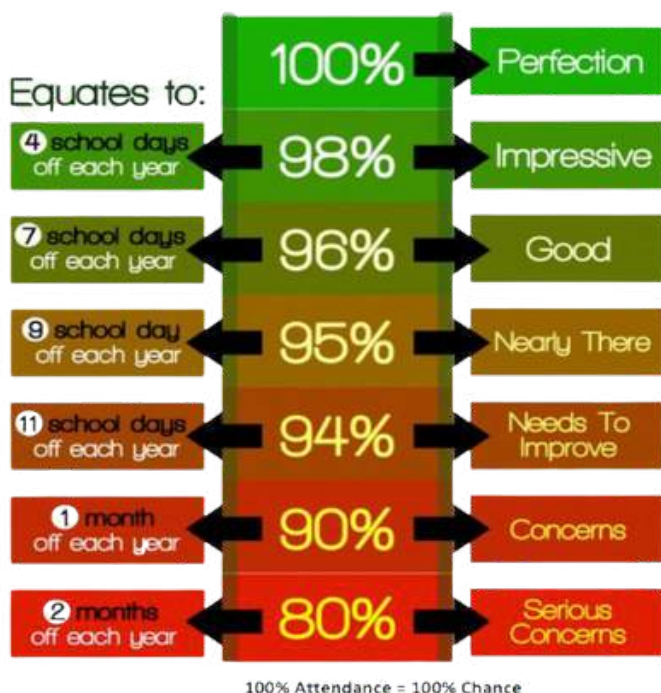


We have continued with Cookie Friday, which sees the tutor group with the most improved attendance enjoy cookies during tutor time on the second Friday of the week.

Don't forget that all attendance is now on Arbour; this is the platform for you to report absences and view attendance. We welcome you to regularly monitor and check progress.

We hope you have a peaceful and restful Christmas and New Year, and we look forward to welcoming you all back in January. Here's to our attendance target of 95% in 2026

- Attendance Team



ATTENDANCE TEAM

Flu Guidance

We have been advised that flu (influenza) is spreading earlier than usual this year and more people are catching it than in previous years.

There are easy ways to help stop flu spreading at school and at home. Please remind your child to wash their hands often – especially before eating, after using the toilet, and after coughing and sneezing.

Encourage them to cover their nose and mouth when they cough or sneeze, and to wash their hands afterwards. If they don't have a tissue, they can cough or sneeze into their elbow or sleeve, not their hands.



Children can still come to school if they have a slight cough or a common cold (like a runny nose, sore throat or headache), as long as they are otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

Please use the following links to find out more about flu and how to prevent it spreading:

[NHS Guidance for Parents:](#) Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.

[A-Z of managing Infectious Diseases:](#) Practical guidance on managing specific illnesses.

THANK YOU!



Fresh Start Fridays

Family Peer Support

A monthly peer support group for parents, carers or family members in Southport to feel a sense of community and improve their wellbeing.

A professional will be available to chat to and answer questions about any worries and anxieties you may have as a parent, carer or family member.

Second Friday of the month

Start Date: Friday 9 January 2026 Time: 12.30–2pm

Venue: Linaker Family Hub, Linaker Street, PR8 5DQ

A part of the Southport Together Community Support Service, supporting the wider community affected by last year's tragic events in Southport.

**For more information, contact us;
Southport Together Community Support Service**

T: 07955 282 945

E: communityoutreach@seftoncvss.org.uk



Sefton CVS
Supporting Local Communities

Sefton Council



Sefton Council for Voluntary Service (CVS), Registered Charity No. 1024546.
Registered in England, Company Ltd. by Guarantee No. 2632920.

Tea & Talk

Family Peer Support

A monthly peer support group for parents, carers or family members in Southport to feel a sense of community and improve their wellbeing.

Facilitated by registered counsellor Penny Roscoe-Jones from FLOAT therapies. Penny will be available to chat to and guide you through any worries and anxieties you may have as a parent, carer or family member.

Second Monday of the month

Start Date: Monday 12 January 2026

Time: 5:30pm – 7pm

Venue: Family Life Centre, Ash St, Southport, PR8 6JH

A part of the Southport Together Community Support Service, supporting the wider community affected by last year's tragic events in Southport.

**For more information, contact us;
Southport Together Community Support Service**

T: 07955 282 945

E: communityoutreach@seftoncvss.org.uk



Sefton CVS
Supporting Local Communities

Sefton Council



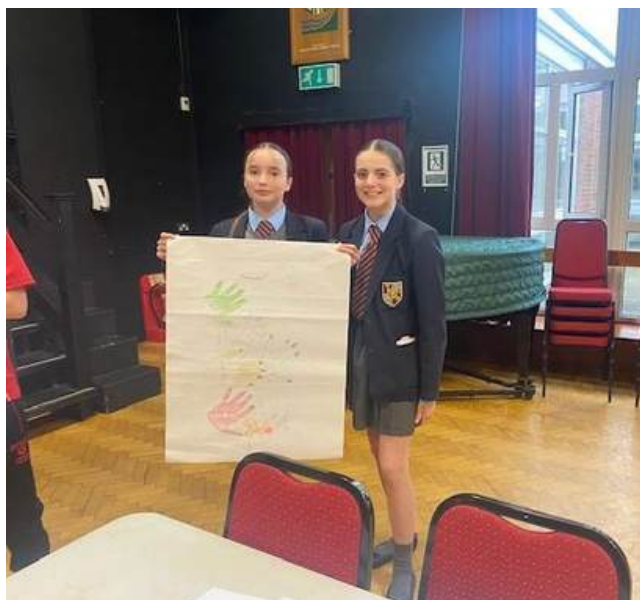
Southport Learning Trust Anti-Bullying event

On Thursday, 6th November 2025, Greenbank High School hosted an Anti-Bullying Ambassador Day, a dedicated event designed to promote respect, inclusion, and kindness within the school community.

This event involved 15 Year 9 pupils who volunteered to take part. Throughout the day, students participated in a series of structured workshops and activities led by Aim, Local Solutions, who are trained in Anti-Bullying

Ambassadors. These sessions aim to:

- Raise awareness of the impact and consequences of bullying
- Empower students to act as positive role models and allies
- Foster empathy, understanding, and mutual respect
- Reinforce our collective responsibility to ensure a safe and supportive school environment.



The Year 9 pupils made these comments about the day:

'It was really nice to have the whole day to work with my friends'

'I enjoyed having the opportunity to work with other pupils on this important issue'

'I now understand what can cause some people to bully others and how we can help to resolve this'



Since the event and training, our Year 9 pupils were introduced to the Year 7 pupils in assembly during anti-bullying week, and they have been attending Year 7 tutor times to get to know this cohort better and provide a supportive peer buddy for them to go to if they have any worries or concerns about school.

Well done to all the Year 9 pupils who took part in this event and are continuing now to support the Year 7s. You are doing a great job.

- Mrs J McGugan, Safeguarding lead

What is democracy? – a talk from a North Korean refugee

On 10th December, Year 9 and Year 10 pupils were treated to an assembly from Jihyun Park, a North Korean refugee. Born in Chongjin, North Korea, Park endured severe poverty, famine, and state oppression. After escaping North Korea twice—first being repatriated and imprisoned, then successfully reaching the UK in 2008—she became a British citizen.



She is recognised with awards such as the Amnesty Brave Award and the Times Heroes Award, and she continues to speak out internationally to raise awareness about the regime's atrocities and advocate for refugees.

The powerful session was an essential part of our Citizenship education, offering a unique and stark perspective on life outside of our UK democracy.

Jihyun spoke with immense bravery about her life in North Korea, drawing sharp contrasts between the realities of the North and the freedoms of South Korea and the UK. She shared harrowing insights into the country's concentration camps and the rigid, often brutal differences in social status.

Perhaps one of the most striking differences she highlighted was the setup of their households. Unlike our homes filled with family memories, Jihyun explained that it was common, and indeed mandatory, to display and effectively worship the photos of the country's dictators. Family photos were not displayed.

This was a truly powerful presentation that opened the eyes of our students to the value of democracy and human rights. At the end of the presentation, many pupils took the opportunity to ask Jihyun many thoughtful and interesting questions to which Jihyun was more than happy to provide honest answers.

Jihyun shared this message of thanks after the event:

'It was a great time with your students, and I really appreciate your kind hospitality. I already miss the wonderful atmosphere and hope we can get together in future times'

We extend our deepest gratitude to Jihyun Park for dedicating her time and sharing her extraordinary, challenging, and crucial story with Range High School.



Sleep: Your Child's Christmas Holiday Superpower

Why Sleep Matters at Christmas

Christmas brings excitement, late nights, visitors, and changes to routine. It's a wonderful and magical time, but often disruptive to sleep. Yet sleep remains one of the most powerful supports for children's and teenagers' mood, learning, behaviour, and overall wellbeing at this busy time of year.

Quality rest helps young people:

- regulate emotions
- strengthen immunity
- process new experiences
- maintain energy and focus

For teenagers, especially, good sleep boosts mood, focus, and stress management. And while time off school can ease tiredness, keeping sleep routines broadly consistent makes returning to early mornings in January much easier

Routines: Flexible but Predictable

Holiday schedules naturally shift, and that's okay.

Try keeping wake-up and sleep times within an hour of the usual routine when possible.

A simple, familiar wind-down routine still helps children and teens settle. Helpful cues include:

- a warm bath or shower
- reading or quiet activities
- dimmed lights
- following the same bedtime steps, even when travelling

These signals gently tell the brain: "It's time for rest."

Managing Festive Excitement

For younger children

Busy days, treats and Christmas Eve excitement can make bedtime tough. Short moments of calm, stories, cuddles and gentle breathing help settle busy bodies and minds.

For teenagers

Late nights often include gaming, messaging and socialising. Supportive conversations work better than strict rules:

"Would a short break from screens help your brain switch off?"

"What will help you feel rested tomorrow?"

Keep the focus on wellbeing, not restriction. This respects teens' growing independence.



THE YOUTH FAIRY

Winter Wellness Tips

Sleep-friendly bedroom:

Cool, dark rooms support deeper sleep. If festive lights make it bright, use blackout curtains or a soft nightlight.

Fresh air & movement:

20–30 minutes outdoors earlier in the day builds “sleep pressure,” helping children fall asleep more easily.

Mindful treats:

Sugary snacks are part of the fun, just aim for them earlier in the day.

For teens, watch out for caffeinated drinks in the afternoon or evening.

Emotional connection:

A few minutes of one-to-one time, chatting, reading, or checking in help children unwind after busy days.

A Gentle Reminder

Holiday sleep doesn't need to be perfect; flexibility is healthy. What matters most are calming cues, connection, and broadly predictable routines. Maintaining a loose rhythm helps protect well-being and makes the return to school smoother.

By nurturing sleep this Christmas, we give children and teens the energy, resilience and joy they need to make the most of the festive season. Sleep truly is their holiday superpower.



Parent Session:

Sleep Is Our Superpower



Coming soon:

Join us for a warm, informative workshop for parents/carers on the science of sleep and ways to support healthier habits at home.

Keep the date free: The morning of 16th January 2026.

This free session will include:

- ✓ Practical sleep strategies
- ✓ Simple neuroscience explained
- ✓ Tips to reduce bedtime anxiety
- ✓ Guidance on teen sleep cycles
- ✓ Access to my free downloadable calming sleep/hypnotherapy track

More details will follow soon — we'd love you to join us!

Stay Connected

For free access to weekly blogs and helpful resources:

Website: www.theyouthfairy.com

Facebook: The Youth Fairy Formby & Crosby

Instagram: [theyouthfairyuk](https://www.instagram.com/theyouthfairyuk)

Email: lynn@theyouthfairy.com

- Ms L Gaskell, Wellbeing Mentor



Artist Creativity this festive season

Dolly club

Christmas Dolly club Nativity! Year 8s are having a spontaneous Christmas dress up! Very creative.



Christmas Art Competition

In preparation for this year's Jolly Christmas Show, some enthusiastic KS3 and KS4 students have been diligently creating their Christmas designs for our new competition.

The entries will be displayed in the dining hall to welcome parents attending the evening performance. Well done to all



Birds of Prey Drawing Day

This December, the Art Department sees the return of its annual Birds of Prey Day.

Stephen Green from S & R Birds has been visiting the school for a couple of years now and has been keeping raptors for about 37 years at his Lancashire wildlife refuge in Haskayne.



Year 10 students really enjoy the Birds of Prey Drawing Day, and it provides them with valuable firsthand observations in colour and pencil for their coursework portfolios.

Primary Teachers CPD

Primary colleagues from St Luke's and Woodlands recently took part in an Art CPD session held at Range High School. The one-hour workshop brought staff together



to explore how sketchbooks can be used as a creative learning tool to support topic-based approaches in the primary classroom.

Through practical activities and discussion, teachers shared ideas on using sketchbook-style work to enhance creativity, encourage pupil ownership of learning, and strengthen cross-curricular links. The session was engaging and collaborative, providing colleagues with inspiring strategies to take back into their classrooms and further develop creative practice across the curriculum.

London Art and Photography Sixth Form Trip

There is a lot of enrichment through the arts here at Range, and we are fortunate enough to be able to visit some fantastic European cities to be inspired by and to experience art and culture first-hand. Past trips have included Paris, Barcelona and Venice. Our December trip this year was to our own capital city, London.



We took 17 students (the most ever!) for two nights, staying in the YHA Central London. This was a great base to visit the sights from, located within about a 25-minute walk from most places that we visited.



On the first evening, highlights included a trip to the Shard to see the illuminated river and surrounding city, followed by pizza and an hour's free shopping time on Oxford Street.

The following day, we visited the 'Blitz Club' Exhibition at the Design Museum, and this was brilliant. It was a short-lived nightclub that transformed 1980's London style and generated a creative scene that had an enormous impact on popular culture- from fashion and music, to film, art and design.



Next stop was the National Portrait Gallery, a true gem, with artwork spanning the ages from Tudor portraits to modern life and death masks.



On the second evening, the students visited Hyde Park Winter Wonderland, a giant fun fair which included Ice Skating, the Big Wheel and the Real Ice Slide, followed by some free time to go on rides, always a hit!



ART NEWS

Before returning home on the last day, we had a fabulous time at Madame Tussauds. Highlights included the Marvel Universe 4D Experience, time travel through 400 years of fascinating London history in 5 minutes via the Spirit of London Ride, the thrilling Chamber of Horrors and a host of the hottest celebs! This was followed by a lovely walk through Regent's Park to the vibrant area of Camden, a haven of counter culture, where we spent time on the eclectic high street and in the market.



The students behaved impeccably, with good manners and were a pleasure to take away and spend time with. They took lots of photographs for their coursework and learned new skills outside of the classroom- such as navigating their way around a busy city at one of the busiest times of the year.



"I had the best time in London, we had so many great opportunities. We went to the top of the Shard, the National Portrait Gallery, Madame Tussauds, Camden Market and Winter Wonderland. Although we had a packed itinerary, Miss Swift still made sure we had time for ourselves as well, whether that was shopping, getting food or going on rides. My favourite part was probably Winter Wonderland".

- **Abbey Drake**

"London was an amazing experience, to visit galleries and museums that are extremely eye-catching as a photography student. It was also very fun due to trips to Winter Wonderland and Madame Tussauds". - **Aoife Banks**

"I really enjoyed Madame Tussauds because I got to see lots of different people! Winter Wonderland was also very fun, and I went on a really fun ride and ate some lovely food!" - **Rosie Morton**



- Art department

Southport College Print Workshops

We recently had the opportunity to take a number of our Year 12 & 13 Art & Photography students to Southport College to take part



in a silkscreen printing workshop. This involved sending the students' photographs ahead to be made into photographic stencils on mesh screens for printing.

It provided a dynamic, hands-on opportunity to explore a key element of printmaking.

The students, particularly those interested in Fashion, Graphics & Fine Art, immersed themselves in the technical process, mastering the art of the squeegee to create sharp, layered prints. This practical session not only developed crucial technical skills for their creative portfolios but also gave the young artists a taste of professional-level textile and graphic printing, bridging the gap between classroom theory and industry practice.



Hope University Art & Design Taster Day

Students recently had the exciting opportunity to attend an Art and Design taster Day at Hope University, giving them real insight into what university life could be like next year. The day began with a guided tour of the Creative Campus, where we explored the impressive art and music facilities, lecture rooms, and even the student accommodation.

It was interesting to see the spaces where the university students study, create, and live, and it helped give students an idea of what university life would be like for them if they decided to go in the future.

After the tour, students were split into two groups: one focusing on design and the other on fine art. Both workshops were hands-on and engaging. In the fine art session, pupils developed their creative skills by designing and printing onto tote bags, while the design group took part in a drawing workshop all about graphic design.

Everyone really enjoyed the experience because it allowed students to explore new ways to be creative. It was a great chance to develop new skills and meet new people. Overall, visiting Hope University was a brilliant experience and a perfect introduction to University life.

- Art Department



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RANGE SIXTH FORM

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[rangesixthform](https://www.instagram.com/rangesixthform)

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Christmas Jumper Day!

Range Sixth Form was awash in tinsel, blinking lights and cosy knits last Friday as staff and students participated wholeheartedly in our annual **Christmas Jumper Day**! The atmosphere across the campus was incredibly festive, with every corner brightening up with holiday cheer.

While the fun and festive fashion was a highlight, the real star of the day was the incredible generosity shown by the entire Range community.

This year's Christmas Jumper Day successfully raised a fantastic amount through voluntary donations. These funds will be going to Save the Children, supporting the vital work they do across our community.

A heartfelt thank you to every student, staff member, and parent who contributed. Your kindness and willingness to donate make days like this so much more meaningful. We are proud of the spirit of giving demonstrated by our sixth form



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Bingo Brilliance! Sixth Formers Enjoy Festive Morning Fun

On the morning of Thursday, 18th December, the Sixth Form common room was transformed into a scene of festive high energy as our two resident super elves, Miss Templeton and Miss Cuffe, made their much-anticipated return to host the annual Christmas



Bongos Bingos. The atmosphere was electric from the very first call, with pic n mix sweets flying through the air even faster than Santa delivers his presents on Christmas Eve.



The competition for prizes was fierce, and we were thrilled to hand out some truly legendary items to our lucky winners. We saw everything from festive Grinch socks and a full-sized Christmas tree to a space hopper that was immediately put to good use.



A particular highlight was the distribution of cereal boxes, gifted with the heartfelt wish that our students may never go hungry at breakfast time during the holidays!

The stakes reached a fever pitch during one particular round when two students called out "bingo" at exactly the same time, leading to an intense rock-paper-scissors battle to decide the winner.

The tension in the room was palpable as the whole year group cheered them on. To bring the morning to a perfect close, the music was cranked up for a final celebratory dance, with everyone hitting the floor before departing for their well-earned break.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate the end of term, and we are so proud of the brilliant spirit our Sixth Formers brought to the event.



SIXTH FORM NEWS

PSHE in the Sixth Form this half term

Our Sixth Form students have recently benefited from two PSHE sessions designed to support their personal development and wellbeing.

All Sixth Form students attended a session on healthy relationships which was delivered by SWACA. The aim of these workshops was to equip our students with the essential skills required to form and maintain safe, positive, and respectful relationships. Following this, our school nurse delivered workshops to Year 12 and Year 13 about sex education.

The logo for SWACA, featuring the word "swaca" in white lowercase letters on a purple rectangular background.

Both events were highly valuable experiences, giving students important insights into personal safety, responsibility, and well-being.

Frank Morgan Writing Competition

Earlier this year, I approached Ms Skinner about entering a short story competition to help build my confidence and strengthen my CV. As someone with dyslexia, I had often felt at a disadvantage, so I wanted to push myself creatively. Ms Skinner introduced me to the Frank Morgan Competition, and my friend Matthew and I spent several lunchtimes crafting our entries.

My story centred on Harriet's 16th birthday and her Great Aunt Marge—a memorable character known for her stubborn lipstick marks and increasingly eccentric knitted jumpers. The story followed Marge's gentle decline into dementia and Harriet's growing understanding of the fragility and preciousness of life.



As one of the 5 finalists from a large number of candidates, we were delighted to be invited to the historic Athenaeum, a club founded in 1797 and home to around 60,000 books. During the visit, we met the club's president, a former Head of Modern Foreign Languages at our school for 30 years, as well as the competition judges. We also received the theme for the next round: "The Word."

This experience has strengthened my confidence in writing and shown me the value of stepping outside my comfort zone.

– *Raphaella Thacker, 12R*

UCAS

The university application season is here, and many of our students have already received some fantastic offers! I want to remind all students who have not yet submitted their applications to check their email regularly, even during the holidays. The UCAS deadline for equal consideration is Wednesday, January 14th, and it would be wonderful if all our students could meet this deadline.

– *Mrs. G Phillips, Head of Sixth Form*

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Lessons From Auschwitz programme

Six of our Year 12 History students have recently participated in the Holocaust



Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project, an initiative designed to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust.

This included a one-day trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland. This experience provided a vital historical context and a powerful reminder of the unimaginable scale and horror of the genocide. Before their visit, the students had the privilege of hearing the live testimony of a Holocaust survivor. Our students reported that this brought home the individual suffering and resilience witnessed during this dark period.

As part of the programme, they have taken on the role of Ambassadors, dedicating themselves to sharing their learning and the lessons of the Holocaust. Despite some initial nerves, they have delivered assemblies to several year groups. Their message focused on the importance of standing up to hatred and intolerance.

They educated students on the practical steps that can be taken to challenge prejudice and ensure a more inclusive and respectful community. The school is incredibly proud of these students for ensuring that the vital lesson, "You have to be a witness, not a bystander", continues to resonate with their peers.

- Ms A Murray

Immerse Education Essay Competition Success

We were delighted that some of our students took part in the Immerse Education Essay Competition and were recognised for their outstanding achievements and participation.

Round 1 of the competition attracted entries from students representing over 5,000 schools across 150 countries, and we were thrilled that students from Range Sixth Form were among those featured. Congratulations to Emily Phillips, who submitted an entry and was awarded Honours List.

She has been invited to join the Immerse Scholars' Salons – exclusive online academic forums led by world-class tutors and guest speakers. These complimentary sessions provide an exceptional opportunity to deepen subject knowledge, refine writing and critical thinking skills, and connect with ambitious peers from around the globe.

Students interested in future opportunities can find out more about the Immerse Education Essay Competition by speaking to Mrs Povey.

Competing offers valuable experiences for academic enrichment, encouraging participants to explore real-world topics and engage with university-style subjects.

A huge well done, Emily!



- Mrs. . Povey, Curriculum Area Leader for Psychology and Criminology

SIXTH FORM NEWS

KS5 Politics

Despite a very early start, the KS5 Politics and History trip to London was a huge success, offering students an invaluable, real-world connection to their curriculum.

Our day began with a tour of the Houses of Parliament, where students gained a first-hand understanding of how the UK's legislative system operates and the rich, complex history behind the institution.

A major highlight was the opportunity to meet with staff members from the office of our local MP, Bill Esterton. Among them was a familiar face: a former Range High student who went on to study Politics at Liverpool University! This session proved incredibly beneficial, allowing our students to gain practical career advice and network.



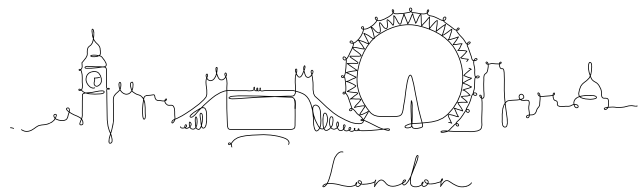
Following the visit to Parliament, the group made a brief but important stop at the Supreme Court, providing a glimpse into the highest court in the land and the judicial branch of government.

After a well-deserved break for lunch, the afternoon was dedicated to history. Students toured the fascinating Churchill War Rooms, the secret underground headquarters that sheltered Winston Churchill and his government during the Blitz. The interactive museum exhibitions were a particular hit, prompting students to consider his complex and often controversial legacy.

The day culminated in a festive detour to Oxford Street to admire the stunning Christmas lights and enjoy a brief spot of Christmas shopping!

Thank you to all those who contributed to making the day such a success.

- Ms. E Cuffe



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Senior Mathematical Challenge

The Senior Mathematical Challenge is a 90-minute, multiple-choice challenge which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The highest achievers are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates depending upon their score. 14 students took part in this year's UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge, and certificates were awarded as follows. Congratulations to everyone who took part!

Year 13

Silver: William Rothwell

Bronze: Thomas Johnson, James Malone, Theo Osborne, Luke Redmond, Julius Zajitschek

Year 12

Silver: Tom Blundell

Bronze: Thomas Gaskell, Emma Wilson

Edge Hill University Taster Day

This half term, a group of our Year 12 and 13 students enjoyed a successful taster day at Edge Hill University. The visit provided valuable insights into higher education and related fields. The staff were welcoming, and the campus facilities were impressive.

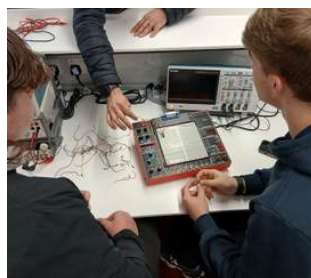


A highlight of the day was the free lunch, especially the popular pulled pork jacket potato!

Students engaged in various taster workshops, experiencing university-level learning in areas like Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Games Development, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, and Mathematics. Many were surprised to see how JavaScript programming, a key Computer Science skill, was used to explore mathematical concepts.

In the Electronic and Electrical Engineering workshop, students enjoyed hands-on activities with logic gates and breadboards, creating functioning light switches that connected their Computer Science lessons to real-world applications.

Our Year 12 and 13 students showed remarkable enthusiasm, asked insightful questions, and actively participated throughout the day. They truly represented the school well and embraced the learning experiences.



The trip highlighted that the skills from Computer Science and Maths are foundational for future careers in tech and engineering. Everyone returned to school motivated and with a clearer understanding of potential pathways.

- Mrs S Howes, Curriculum Area Leader of Computer Science & E-Safety Lead

