

Southport
Learning
Trust



RANGE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM NEWSLETTER



Issue 35 — May Half Term 2025





Dear All,

I hope you are well and enjoying the recent sunshine in the last few weeks - you can tell that it's exam season! Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter which, once again, is packed full of interesting stories, information and articles relating to all kinds of activities happening in and around our Range community. We have recently been highlighting the importance of great attendance with the wider school community and there is a special section inside of this edition giving some useful information and support around good attendance.

I am often amazed at what some of our students achieve and how they push themselves in the arts, sport or community events. Some of them are performing at a national and even international level, and they often do it quietly and behind the scenes. They will often shy away from any kind of fanfare when suggested to them. I won't single out any individual here, but I'm sure you will be interested to read of their achievements and will join me in congratulating them for their resilience, determination and hard work.

I know you will also join me in wishing all of our Y11 and Y13 students every success in their examinations. We are currently in the middle of exam season, and although nerves are somewhat 'frayed,' everyone is doing their best to remain focused and on track. Our Y10 students have also been doing their mocks as well as their Citizenship GCSE. I am quietly confident that all of their hard work will translate into real success when the results come in. Thanks, as always, to all of our dedicated staff who are working tirelessly to support everyone at this challenging time. Thanks also to everyone at home. Your children would not be able to achieve to their ability without your ever-present support and encouragement.

READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE: As you will be aware, these three simple words lie at the very core of our behaviour policy and expectations for everyone at school. I have to say that for the vast majority of our students, this simple mantra causes no issue whatsoever. For the most part, our young people come to school on time, they are respectful and they get on with the business of learning on a daily basis. For a small minority, however, this unfortunately is not always the case. It's always a good moment as we start to approach the end of the academic year to discuss your child's Class Chart profile with them; it gives an excellent overview of how well they are doing in school as well as highlighting some areas for improvement. As always, if you have any concerns, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

I would like to say a huge thank you to our Senior Student Team of 24/25. Ably led by Bella and Tom, this team of dedicated students have worked tirelessly throughout the year with the student councils, different year groups and the staff. They have represented the school at so many events and occasions. Well done to all of them, and I wish them every success in the exams and as they move on to the next exciting chapter in their lives.

Finally, and as always, thank you, all of our parents and carers who work with us on a daily basis. Your positive support and input is much appreciated by me, the governors of the school and the wider staff.

Wishing you all a 'sunny' and enjoyable half-term break!

Mike McGarry
Headteacher

Year 7 - Short but sweet

It's been a very short term since Easter, so I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Robinson on completing this Year's record-breaking London Marathon. Despite the heat, Mr Robinson ran an excellent time. His chosen charity was Macmillan Cancer Support for which he raised a magnificent £1600. Our Year 7 students raised an excellent £63 to help towards the amount. 7LR went round tutor groups for 2 weeks selling raffle tickets. Well done to Isaac Lavin 7LR, Jennifer Waring 7SAH and Mr Wynne (who didn't share with his tutor group) who were the winners of the Easter eggs.



A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to this great cause.

Enjoy your break!

- Mr Rudd & Mrs Gallagher

THANK
YOU

Year 8 - A Strong Finish to a Short Term

It's been a short but busy term for Year 8, and you should all be proud of the effort and determination you've shown in your work. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or taking part in wider school activities, you've continued to give your best and show great progress. Have a well-deserved rest over the half term break, and come back refreshed and ready for the final push towards the summer holidays!

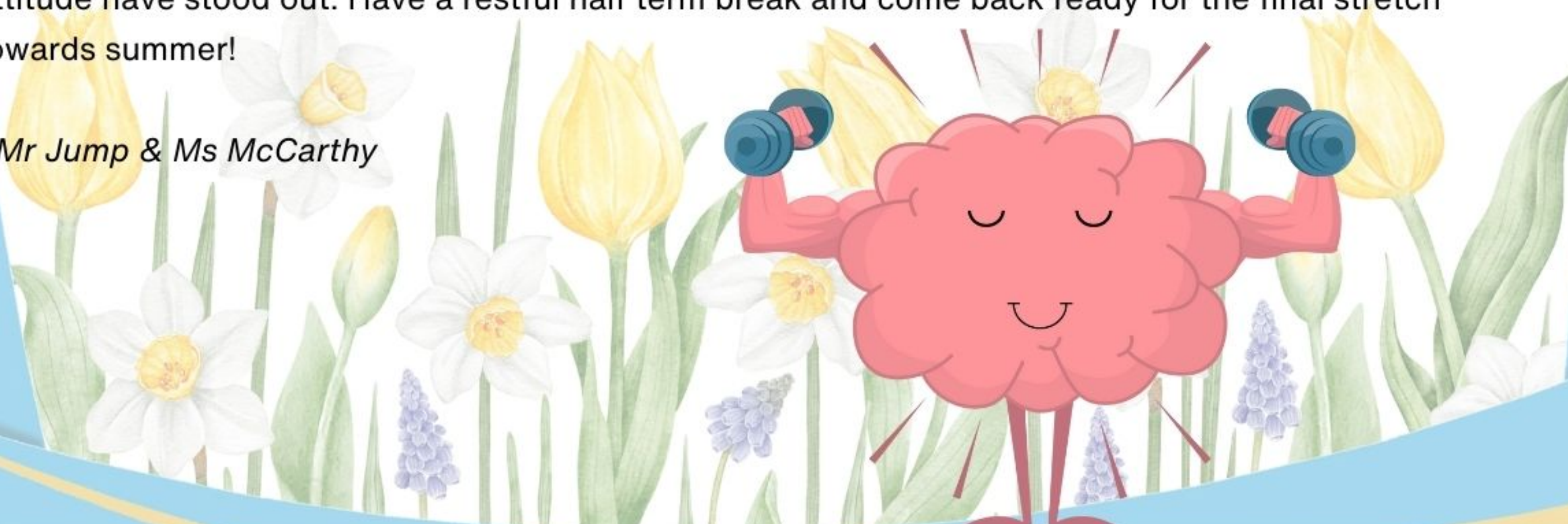
- Miss Singleton & Me Critchley

CHALLENGE

Year 9 - Rising to the Challenge

Year 9 have shown great maturity and enthusiasm this term, with many highlights both inside and outside the classroom. A special mention goes to those taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award—you've demonstrated fantastic commitment through route planning, volunteering, and skill-building, and we're proud of the progress you're making. Another highlight was the trip to Chester Zoo, where students engaged brilliantly with the learning activities and represented the school with excellent behaviour throughout the day. Although it's been a short half-term, your hard work and positive attitude have stood out. Have a restful half term break and come back ready for the final stretch towards summer!

- Mr Jump & Ms McCarthy



Year 10 - Stepping Up with Focus and Determination

SUCCESS

Year 10 have shown real maturity and resilience during their recent mock exams. They approached the process with focus and determination, using it as a valuable opportunity to reflect on their progress and identify areas for improvement. The feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting how well students have coped with the pressure and how seriously they engaged with the experience. Their ability to manage their time, stay motivated, and apply themselves to revision has laid a strong foundation for the challenges ahead.

We are also incredibly proud of how Year 10 conducted themselves during their GCSE Citizenship exam. From their preparation in the lead-up, to their focus in the exam hall, they showed a genuine commitment to doing their best. Many students took the initiative to revise thoroughly and seek support when needed, which was reflected in the calm and confident way they tackled the paper. As we approach the half-term break, we hope they take the time to rest and enjoy a well-earned break after a period of such hard work and dedication.

- Mrs Plumbley & Mr Duddridge



**HARD
WORK**

Year 11 - The Final Countdown

As we reach the end of our Year 11 journey, it's hard to believe how quickly time has passed. It has been both a pleasure and a privilege seeing you all grow from children into young adults. It feels like only yesterday since Mr Wilson and I picked you up in Year 9. Since then, we've grown, not just in knowledge, but in confidence, friendships and resilience.

The past five Years have been filled with lessons, not only in classrooms but in life. We've faced challenges, embraced opportunities, and made memories that will last a lifetime—from trips, school performances, sports days, to the final exams and everything in between. Each experience, whether joyful or difficult, has shaped us into who we are today.

As we leave to pursue a new path, whether it's sixth form, college, or apprenticeships, we take with us the lessons we've learned and the friendships we've made. Though we may be heading in different directions, we'll always be part of this Range High School community.

We have been blessed with an exceptional group of people, and we don't need a set of GCSE results to tell us this, so all we have to say is, we will miss you all immensely.

Good luck, Year 11, you've got this!

- Mrs Wilson & Mr Wilson

**I AM STRONG
I AM CAPABLE
I AM RESILIENT**

Art

Exams

Our GCSE and A-level Art & Photography students have worked very hard this term to finish their coursework, prepare for their exams and complete final pieces for marking. There are some great pieces of work that have been produced to a very high standard, and some successful places at prestigious universities for the Year 13s have been offered! Well done, and keep up the hard work. We are also looking forward to the new cohort coming in September. With this in mind....



Mural

Work began in the Easter holidays on a large-scale mural outside the art rooms opposite the lockers, you've probably all seen it! It welcomes all to the arts on offer here at school and was beautifully designed in full by Kirandeep Sangha in Year 9. She spent lots of her own time coming up with her beautiful design, which she and I and a couple of other students will come in to recreate and paint over the Easter Holidays. Incorporated in her design are the sunflower and wave painting motifs associated with our lovely student, Ruby Jones.



Sefton Open Exhibition

The annual Sefton Open Art Exhibition is still on at the Atkinson in Southport, where Ms. Swift has her painting of her dog on display. The exhibition is on until 31/05/25 if anyone would like to visit.

- Arts department



ATTENDANCE UPDATES

New Statutory Government Guidelines

Regular Attendance



Regular school attendance is crucial for your child's educational progress. Being present allows children to form lasting friendships, develop essential interpersonal skills, and contributes to better mental health and overall well-being.

Authorised Absences



Schools must only grant leaves of absence for specific circumstances set out in the 2024 attendance regulations.

The permitted circumstances are:

- Taking part in a regulated performance or employment abroad
- Attending an interview
- Study leave
- A temporary, time-limited part-time timetable
- Exceptional circumstances

See the guidance (paragraph 37). Unfortunately, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.


Working together to
improve school
attendance
Statutory guidance for maintained
schools, academies, independent
schools and local authorities

August 2024

SCAN ME!



Penalty Notice Changes



There are significant changes to penalty notices for unauthorised absences during term time, effective from 19 August 2024. What you need to know:

1

New penalty rates:
£160 per parent per child, **£80** if paid within 21 days.

2

Second offence within 3 Years:
£160 with no discount.

3

Penalty after 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10-school week period. This includes late arrivals after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school Years.

4

Max 2 penalties in 3 Years per child. Further offences may lead to prosecution.

**Regular attendance helps your child succeed!
Contact us if you have any questions.**

Late to School



School registers close at **9.20am**. The guidance states, '*If a pupil...arrives...after the register has closed, the attendance register must be amended to record them as absent using code U or another absence code that is more appropriate.*' This means that a child who arrives between 9.20am and 12.30pm will be marked as an unauthorised absence, unless there is a reason set out in the authorised absences section.



Academic Benefits



<i>Better Learning</i>	Regular attendance helps children keep up with lessons & understand material.
<i>Steady Progress</i>	Attending school every day means students don't fall behind and can stay on track.
<i>Higher Grades</i>	Being in school regularly gives children more chances to improve their marks.
<i>Increased Participation</i>	Regular attendance helps children get involved in lessons and activities.
<i>Extra Support</i>	Children who attend regularly have better access to teachers and extra help when needed.

Social Benefits



<i>Improved Social Skills</i>	Being in school helps children make friends and learn how to work with others.
<i>Sense of Belonging</i>	Attending regularly helps children feel part of the school community.
<i>Teamwork</i>	Working with classmates in lessons and activities builds teamwork skills.

Wellbeing Benefits



<i>Emotional Stability</i>	Routine helps children secure and less anxious.
<i>Good Habits</i>	Regular attendance builds important life skills like time management and responsibility.

Additional Support

Following the new government statutory guidance around attendance, we want to reiterate the support that is available to our young people and their families. At Range High School we are committed to fostering a supportive and nurturing environment that prioritises the mental health and wellbeing of every student. Our dedicated Wellbeing Support Team is here to provide the resources, guidance, and care needed to help students thrive both academically and personally. There are several external agencies who also provide support for young people and their families. Click the logo to find out more information:



Online wellbeing support community offering ways to manage emotions, helpful habits, podcasts and more!



A great app to help with everyday worries and to help look after yourself using meditation and breathing techniques.



An app to help learn hundreds of meditations to help with sleep and feelings of worry.



Emotional and practical support and guidance for children, young people and families



A mental health charity offering online counselling to those aged 8-21, who cannot afford or access support quickly.



CONTACT US

If you would like more information about the government statutory guidelines and the school's policy, which can be found on our website, **please email: admin@range.sefton.sch.uk**

Starting the Day Right: Range High Students Show Remarkable Dedication

At Range High School, the school day begins long before the first bell rings. Each morning, a growing number of students can be seen in the dining room, the library, and quiet corners of the school, heads down in books or reviewing notes, giving themselves a strong and focused start to the day.

This quiet commitment is a testament to the students' motivation and drive to succeed. Whether they're preparing for upcoming exams, revisiting topics from the previous day, or simply taking a moment to get into the right mindset, these early risers are setting a powerful example for their peers. Staff are proud of their initiative, as such dedication not only builds academic confidence but also fosters a culture of responsibility and self-motivation. It's clear that these students understand the value of consistent effort—and they're proving that even small habits, like arriving early to revise, can make a big difference.

Range High School is proud of its students who are taking ownership of their learning and starting each day with purpose.

- Ms McGowan



Range High School Students Published in Prestigious Fright Club Anthology

We are delighted to share the exciting news that five of our exceptionally talented Year 9 students—Hannah Thompson, Thomas Szabo, Magdalena Jones, Adam Jackson, and Ella Foster—have been selected to have their stories published in Fright Club, a national anthology by Young Writers.

Their spine-tingling and imaginative tales were shortlisted from hundreds of entries submitted by students across the country, earning them a well-deserved place among the most promising young authors in the UK.



This is a fantastic achievement that reflects not only the creativity and effort of the students involved but also the vibrant culture of writing and storytelling we are proud to nurture here at Range High School. Each of these students demonstrated originality, flair, and a real passion for writing—qualities that truly impressed the judges.

The English Department is immensely proud of Hannah, Thomas, Magdalena, Adam, and Ella. Their success is a shining example of what can be achieved through hard work, imagination, and a love of storytelling. We're certain this is just the beginning of their writing journeys and are excited to see what they create next. Congratulations to all five students on this outstanding accomplishment!

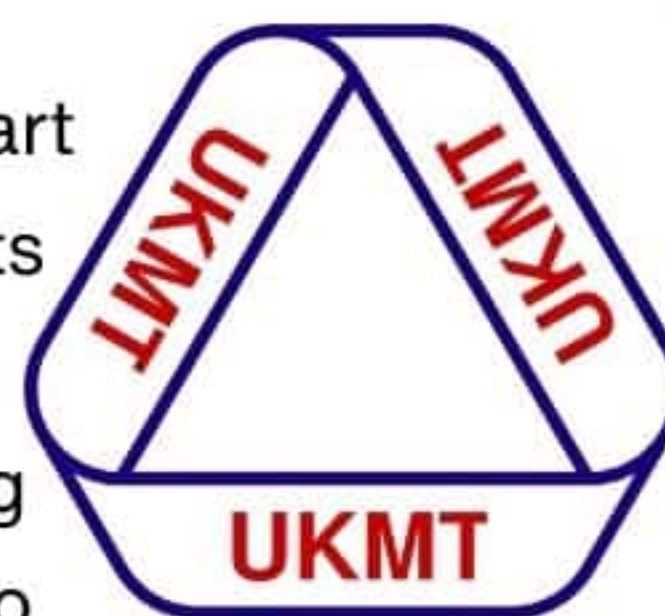
- Mrs A Underwood



The UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge

The UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge took place at the start of this half term, and I am delighted to say that over 20 students from across Years 7 and 8 entered the UK-wide competition.

The students sat a 60-minute, multiple-choice paper containing problems which are designed to make students think whilst also encouraging mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency.



To recognise the highest performing students in the challenge, the top-scoring 50% of participants are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates in the ratio 3:2:1
Congratulations to everyone who took part!

Bronze



Year 7

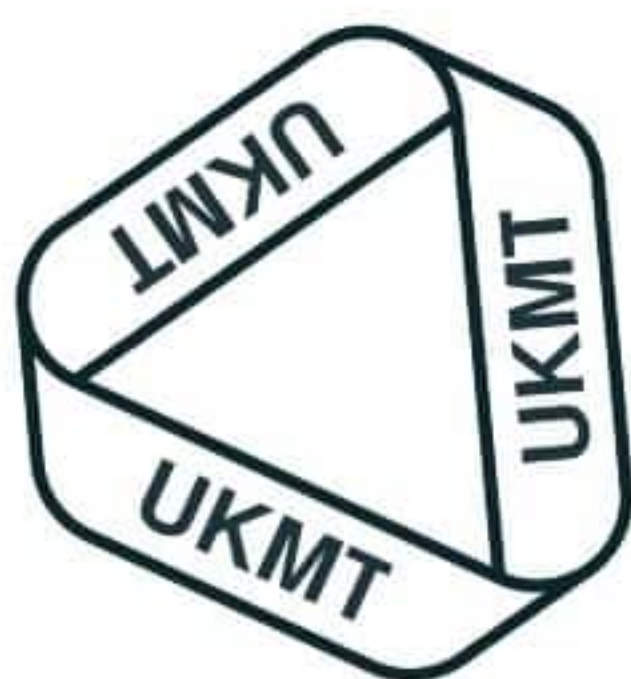
Harley Brown
Corey Forster

Year 8

Daniel Jones
Lucas McKenna
Ava Rimmer
Kaia Robinson



Silver



Year 7

Arabella Thacker

Year 8

Wing Chiu
Leo Kelly
Sam Maddox
Katie Sharpe



Gold

Year 7

Omar Ali

Year 8

Alastair Bosanquet
Ben Gregory
Ayla Ozgursel



Year 10 Food GCSE Students Impress with Fusion Feasts

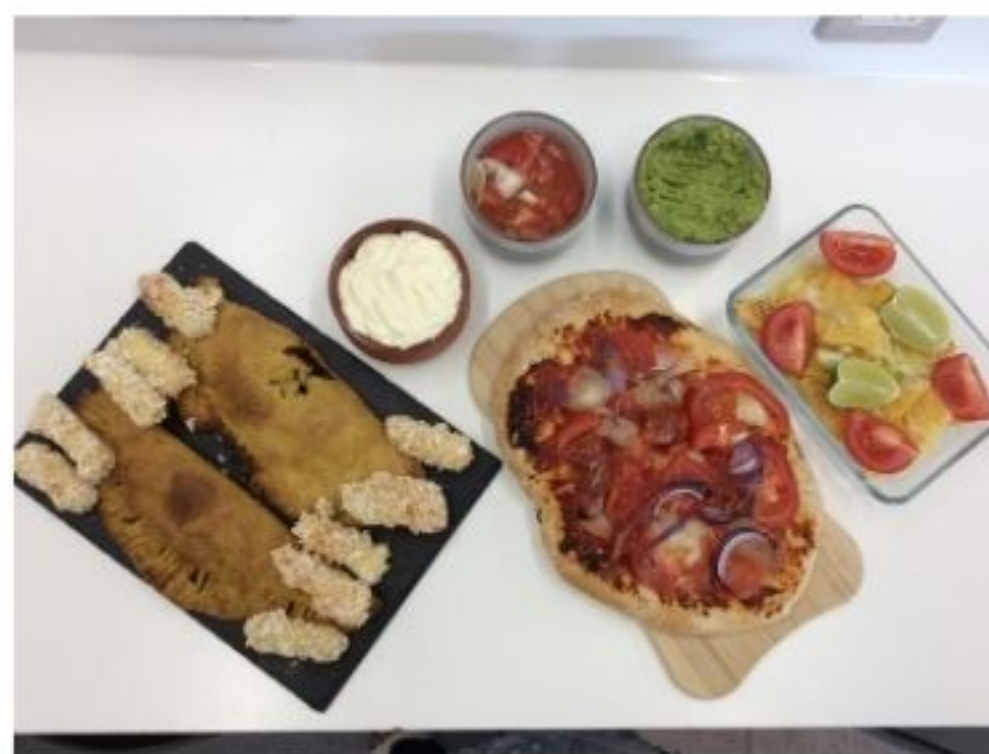
This month, our talented Year 10 Food GCSE students took a major step forward in their culinary journey, tackling the challenge of planning and preparing more than one dish at a time. The results were nothing short of outstanding.

Tasked with showcasing a range of techniques and flavours, the students rose to the occasion with creativity and confidence. From bold fusion dishes that blended global cuisines to carefully balanced seasoning that demonstrated real flair, their efforts highlighted not only practical skill but also a deepening understanding of food culture.

It was especially inspiring to see how many students embraced spices and ingredients from across the world, reminding us just how closely geography and food are connected. In a lesson that went far beyond the kitchen, our budding chefs brought the world to their workstations, proving that food truly is a global language.

Well done to all our Year 10 students for a fantastic display of ambition, originality, and culinary talent!

- Ms C Usher



Flood Watch: Year 8 Investigate Infiltration Around the School

Year 8 Geographers recently took their learning outside the classroom as part of an exciting fieldwork project investigating infiltration rates around the school site. Taking full advantage of the pleasant weather, pupils headed out with their class teacher to study how different surfaces absorb water—and what that means for flood risk.

Using some basic equipment, students assessed the permeability of a range of surfaces, including grass, soil, tarmac, and vegetated land. By measuring how quickly water soaked into the ground in different areas, pupils were able to gather real-world data to help them understand how our school environment manages heavy rainfall.

This activity is part of our ongoing commitment to bringing fieldwork to the core of our Key Stage 3 geography curriculum. By embedding practical investigations throughout their studies, we aim to support pupils' learning journeys—especially for those who may choose to take geography further in the future.

We now look forward to taking the results back into the classroom, where pupils will analyse their findings and explore what they tell us about flood risk and sustainable surface management. It was a valuable day of hands-on learning—and a great reminder of how geography connects the classroom to the world around us.

Mr K Hughes, Curriculum Area Leader for Geography



 **GEOGRAPHY** 

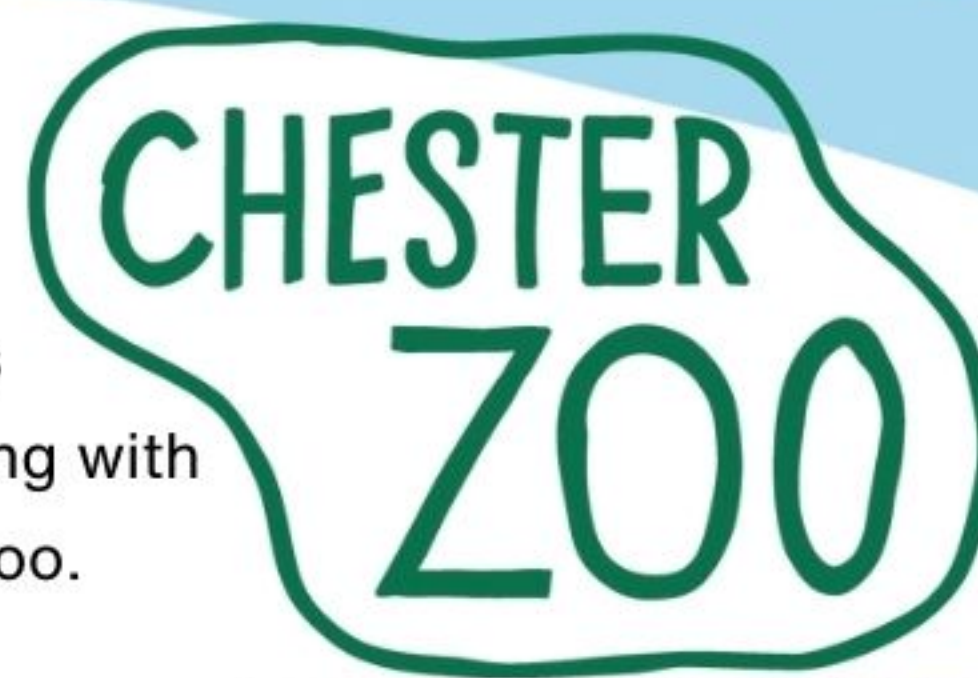
FLOOD

Geography - Chester Zoo

A group of Year 9 students recently went on an amazing geography trip to Chester Zoo, accompanied by their teachers: Mr Hughes, Miss Templeton, Mrs Pring, and Mrs Testaverde. The students were buzzing with excitement as they explored the diverse world of wildlife within the zoo.

They were divided into groups, each led by one of the teachers. It was fantastic to see them working together and having a blast as they came face to face with a range of fascinating creatures, including lions, Komodo dragons, leopards, snakes, elephants, tigers, lemurs, orangutans, rhinos, monkeys, bats, butterflies, and many more. To kick things off, Mr Hughes embraced the spirit of the day by getting his face painted like a tiger. The students couldn't stop laughing—and some even said he was roaringly convincing! As the students made their way through the zoo, they engaged with interactive exhibits that showcased the importance of biodiversity and the delicate balance within ecosystems. From simulated rainforests to arid savannahs, the zoo offered a miniature world of geography and natural wonder. One of the day's highlights was a captivating conservation talk. Students were shown real examples such as leopard fur and elephant tusks to raise awareness about the illegal wildlife trade. The session also addressed the environmental impact of palm oil and how it affects habitats across the globe.

More than just informative, the talk encouraged students to reflect on their own role in protecting the planet. It sparked some thoughtful discussions and a genuine sense of responsibility toward wildlife and the environment. Zoo staff also shared how Chester Zoo contributes to global conservation through breeding programmes, habitat restoration, and important research. Students were amazed to learn just how much work goes on behind the scenes to protect endangered species and support their survival. The weather stayed warm and sunny all day—perfect for exploring every corner of the zoo. At lunchtime, students enjoyed a well-earned break with a tasty variety of treats, including ice cream, pizza, fish and chips, and burgers. It was a great opportunity for them to relax, laugh with friends, and share their favourite parts of the day. The visit concluded with a trip to the gift shop, where students picked up everything from plush toys to educational books—souvenirs to remember an unforgettable day. The geography trip to Chester Zoo was more than just a fun day out; it offered a powerful lesson in the interconnectedness of wildlife, conservation, and human impact. The students returned with smiles on their faces, heads full of knowledge, and a greater appreciation for the natural world.



- Geography Department



GOAL!



Year 8 Football

Range welcomed Chesterfield High to Stapleton Road for the Sefton Cup semi-final. Chesterfield got the better of Range earlier in the Year, with a convincing 4-0 win in the National Cup. Range started the game strongly, winning their individual battles and putting plenty of pressure on the opposition's back line. Against the run of play, Chesterfield opened the scoring with a well-taken goal following a defensive clearance by Range. Range continued to put the pressure on and on several occasions were unlucky not to equalise. In the second half, Chesterfield doubled their lead from a corner. Range continued to push but could not find a goal.

It was a reverse fixture in the Merseyside Cup semi-final with Range travelling to Chesterfield High. A scorching hot day, and both teams were evenly matched from the get-go. Chesterfield took the lead midway through the first half and carried that lead into the break. In the second half Range took the game by the scruff of the neck with goals from Rohan Bird and Tom Dixon turning the tie around. Chesterfield were able to regroup and swung the game back in their favour with two quick goals of their own. Range tried and tried to find an equaliser, but it just was not meant to be. A season that the Year 8 football team should be extremely proud of, and one that will give them confidence to push on as they go into Year 9.



Year 10 Football

Our Year 10 football team has reached the final of the Sefton Cup, a magnificent achievement, where they will play Maricourt at Marine FC on June 6th. Any support would be greatly appreciated!

Year 7 Rugby

Our brilliant Year 7 team finished their season in style by winning the inaugural Southport Learning Trust competition, defeating strong teams from Stanley and Birkdale. The boys have trained exceptionally hard this season, and this victory was a just reward for their endeavours.

Year 9 Rugby

The Year 9 Rugby team participated in the inaugural Southport Learning Trust rugby competition at Southport Rugby Club, earning a 7-7 draw against Birkdale High.

One or two of our Year 9 team have gone on to join rugby clubs this Year, and huge progress has been made amongst our rugby cohort, who are already looking forward to next season.



Extra Curricular Summer Activities

With the Summer Term well underway, the PE department offers a fantastic range of extra-curricular sports clubs for all students! Whether you're looking to stay active, try something new, or just have fun with friends, there's something for everyone. Join us for Athletics, Tennis, Cricket, Rounders, and Fitness sessions running throughout the term. These clubs are a great way to improve your skills, boost your fitness, and enjoy the outdoors. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of experience or ability – just bring your enthusiasm and get involved!

#kNOwtoKnifeCrime Relay Marathon

Eight determined students from Range High School proudly took part in a special leg of the Southport Learning Trust relay, an inspiring event held in partnership with the #kNOwtoKnifeCrime campaign. The relay was organised to raise awareness around knife crime and to help fund an important initiative – training students to become Mini Medics and empowering young people with lifesaving first aid skills.

Range High's team received the baton (a bear mascot!) from the runners at Maghull High School and then set off on their challenge – running an impressive 6.5 miles all the way to Birkdale High School. Cheered on by staff, parents, and passersby, the students showed incredible determination, teamwork, and community spirit as they carried the message of hope and change across Southport. The #kNOwtoKnifeCrime campaign aims to raise both awareness and funds to equip young people with knowledge and skills that could make a critical difference in an emergency. Thanks to the relay and other fundraising efforts, students across the trust will soon have the opportunity to take part in Mini Medics first aid training – a powerful step toward making schools and communities safer.

Mr Owens, who helped coordinate the event, praised the students: "Our Range High runners were fantastic ambassadors. They showed real determination and enthusiasm, and we couldn't be prouder of the part they played in this meaningful cause."

The Range High team were equally enthusiastic about the experience, sharing how proud they felt to contribute to such an important campaign. The day was not only about the physical challenge but also about making a difference and spreading a powerful message of community, resilience, and hope.

Congratulations to the Range High runners and to everyone across the Southport Learning Trust who made this inspiring event a success!





London Marathon Trip

Six lucky Year 8 students had the unforgettable experience of travelling to London with Mr Owens and Miss Seagraves to take part in a weekend of sport, culture, and adventure — all in partnership with the Southport Learning Trust and the inspiring #kNOwknifeCrime initiative.

The highlight of the trip was the students' participation in the London Mini Marathon, where they joined thousands of young runners from across the country, showing off their determination, energy, and team spirit. Afterwards, the group cheered on the elite athletes at Mile 25 of the iconic London Marathon, soaking up the electric atmosphere and witnessing the dedication and endurance of some of the world's finest runners. Among the crowd favourites was Range High's very own Mr Robinson, who proudly completed the marathon and gave the students another local hero to cheer for.

But the weekend wasn't just about running — it was packed with activities that made for a truly memorable trip. The students enjoyed a game of bowling, took in the stunning views from the London Eye, explored some of the capital's famous landmarks, and topped it all off with a visit to the West End to watch the thrilling stage production of Back to the Future.

Throughout the weekend, the students were described as impeccably behaved, impressing staff and the public alike with their maturity, enthusiasm, and kindness. They represented their school and the Southport Learning Trust with pride and made a lifetime of memories that will stay with them for Years to come.

Mr Owens and Miss Seagraves expressed how proud they were of the students, saying: "This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and the students rose to the occasion brilliantly. We're thrilled they had the chance to be part of such a special weekend — from running in the mini marathon to cheering on Mr Robinson and seeing London's sights, it was unforgettable for everyone involved."

A huge congratulations to all the students who took part, and a big thank you to the staff and organisers who made this extraordinary weekend possible!

- PE Team





Community Support Update: Compassion Acts

We're pleased to share some updates from Compassion Acts, a local charity providing vital support to families in our area.

Uniform Hub – New Location

The Uniform Hub has moved! You can now find it further along Cambridge Walks in the Art & Gallery space, opposite the bike shop. It's open Wednesday to Friday, 11am–2pm, all year round.

Come along for pre-loved school uniforms and sports kit – available in return for a small donation.

Ideal for kitting out your children or picking up a few spares!

Family Space

Compassion Acts runs after-school Family Space sessions in Birkdale and Formby on Thursdays.

These will pause over the summer but return in the autumn term – look out for dates!

Food Pantry

Parents can self-refer to local Food Pantries if needed. It's a welcoming and supportive service.

Find out more on their website or contact them directly. <https://compassionacts.uk/food-pantry/>

Benefits and Debt Advice

Worried about finances? The team offers confidential benefits advice and debt support, helping families access the right help to improve household income and wellbeing.

Simply call the office to book an appointment.

How You Can Help

Join their £1 per month campaign – it's quick, easy, and truly makes a difference.

Did you know Compassion Acts receives no statutory funding?

In 2024, thanks to community support, they:

- Provided 3,384 subsidised food shops
- Distributed 1,675 emergency food parcels
- Supported 200+ volunteers
- Reclaimed £2.5 million in benefits
- Offered quiet support following local summer events

SCAN ME





Providing good quality school uniform to families in Southport and surrounding areas.

COMPASSION ACTS

Find us at:

Units 9-11

Cambridge Walks

Southport PR8 1EN

Wednesday to Friday
11am to 2pm

We need your support

Please donate for items taken
(card machine available)

Please contact the office on

01704 264505

should you need any further support

www.compassionacts.uk

email: uniformhub@compassionacts.uk Telephone: 01704 264505

Registered charity 1172948



Emotional Literacy Support Assistant



What is an ELSA?

ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant - a specially trained Teaching Assistant who helps students thrive emotionally.

"Helping you feel happier in School and reach your potential."

What can an ELSA help with?

- Loss and Bereavement
- Self-esteem & Confidence
- Managing strong emotions (anger/anxiety)
- Emotional Regulations
- Growth mindset
- Emotional literacy
- Bullying, conflict & friendships
- Social stories
- Emotional Based School Avoidance



What to expect in an individual session

6-8 sessions (45-55 minutes each) which are tailored to your needs after an ELSA assessment, each session will include:

- Emotional check-in (Zone of Regulation)
- Icebreaker activity (your choice)
- Main Activity
- Relaxation
- Review and reflection
- Emotional check-in



What to expect in a group session

Same as above, but focused on building co-operation, friendships and a sense of belonging through shared activities and goals.

Who you can reach out to for ELSA



- > Head of Year <
- > Assistant Head of Year <
- > Mrs. McGugan <
- > Ms. Pepper <



Your School's ELSA is: Miss Chambers

Bronze DofE Students Do Themselves Proud

We're delighted to report that all 51 young people successfully completed their final qualifying expedition, officially completing the Expedition section of their Bronze Award. Well done—absolutely fabulous! Over the course of the weekends, students successfully navigated over 22 kilometres (that's 13–14 miles in old money) while carrying full packs, cooking their own meals, setting up camp, and working together as teams. They also managed to learn new skills, face new challenges, and—unexpectedly—find out more about cows than they ever thought possible.

The evenings at camp were calm and well-managed: in bed by 10pm, lights out by 10.20pm, and most tents were quiet by 11pm. That's a record! By Sunday afternoon, we had a group of smiling but tired students, all of whom had risen to the challenge and completed their expedition with resilience and good humour. Thanks also goes to Award Solutions for providing the equipment and qualified Outdoor Instructors who helped teach the young people the skills they needed to succeed. To fully complete their Bronze DofE, students will need to ensure their Assessor Reports for their Physical, Skills and Volunteering sections are uploaded. Information about this will be shared with them via Class Charts.

A huge thank you to our dedicated team who supported the overnight stay:

Ms J Robinson, Ms P McCarthy, Ms N Wilson, Mr D Linley and Mr B Goulding—your pastoral care and overnight support were invaluable and greatly appreciated. Well done to all involved. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and can't wait to see what you go on to do next!

- Mrs J Riding





A Royal Welcome

I recently had the pleasure of meeting The Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace for a spot of tea and cake! I was joined by Mr Raikes, CEO of the Southport Learning Trust and Mr Symes, Headteacher at Maghull High School, along with a few thousand other people! It was a wonderful afternoon celebrating the achievements of the many young people who have achieved the gold award in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. We heard some inspiring stories of real triumph over adversity! We have a fantastic DofE scheme here at Range, and I would urge any young person to give it a go.

- Mrs Donbavand



Year 11 and Year 13 – Thank You for Your Hard Work

As exam season approaches, we want to take a moment to recognise just how hard our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been working. Your commitment, focus, and determination have not gone unnoticed. Thank you for showing up, for pushing through the challenging topics, and for trusting us to guide you - even at times when you might not have believed in yourselves, but we always believed in you.

Your perseverance is inspiring, and we're proud of every step you've taken.

To our Year 10 and Year 12 students - your time is not too far away. Now is the perfect time to build those habits and routines. Remember, we're always here to help. Drop-in sessions are available in Rooms 1 and 6 whenever we're free - just pop in!



Sixth Form News

Year 12 Mock Exams

Year 12 mock examinations will take place from Monday 16th June until Friday 20th June 2025. Students will sit mock examinations in all A Level subjects. BTEC lessons will continue as normal unless you have an exam. All students have received a copy of the exam timetable. Please follow your timetable and arrive on time to all exams.

Ruby Jones memorial

On Wednesday, 4th June, we will hold a memorial service for Ruby Jones. Ruby was a very special and valued member of our school community who sadly passed away in February of this year. We are keen as a community to mark her passing with a memorial service to celebrate her life and the wonderful impact she had on those fortunate enough to know her. This event will allow her friends and teachers to come together and reflect. The service will commence at 3.30 pm and will take place in the 6th form building. Members of her family will be attending. We would like to invite all staff and pupils who knew Ruby to attend this event.



Good luck, Year 13!

On Friday, 16th May we said goodbye to our Year 13s and wished them well as they began their exams. We had a celebration in the Sixth Form block where we reflected on their time at Range, and we enjoyed looking back at school trips, the Year 11 prom, and old school photos! We are looking forward to celebrating with you all properly once exams are finished at your prom. Good luck Year 13 - we are so proud of you!

- Sixth Form Team

Art & Photography A Level Trip

Planning for the annual Year 12 & 13 Art & Photography trip is underway for the new school Year, and students are deciding their own destination to help with their coursework and outcomes for their projects. We have decided on a festive, Christmas market theme, incorporating interesting architecture at a European destination of choice. Potential cities with excellent galleries and museums are Cologne, Lille, Brussels and Aachen.

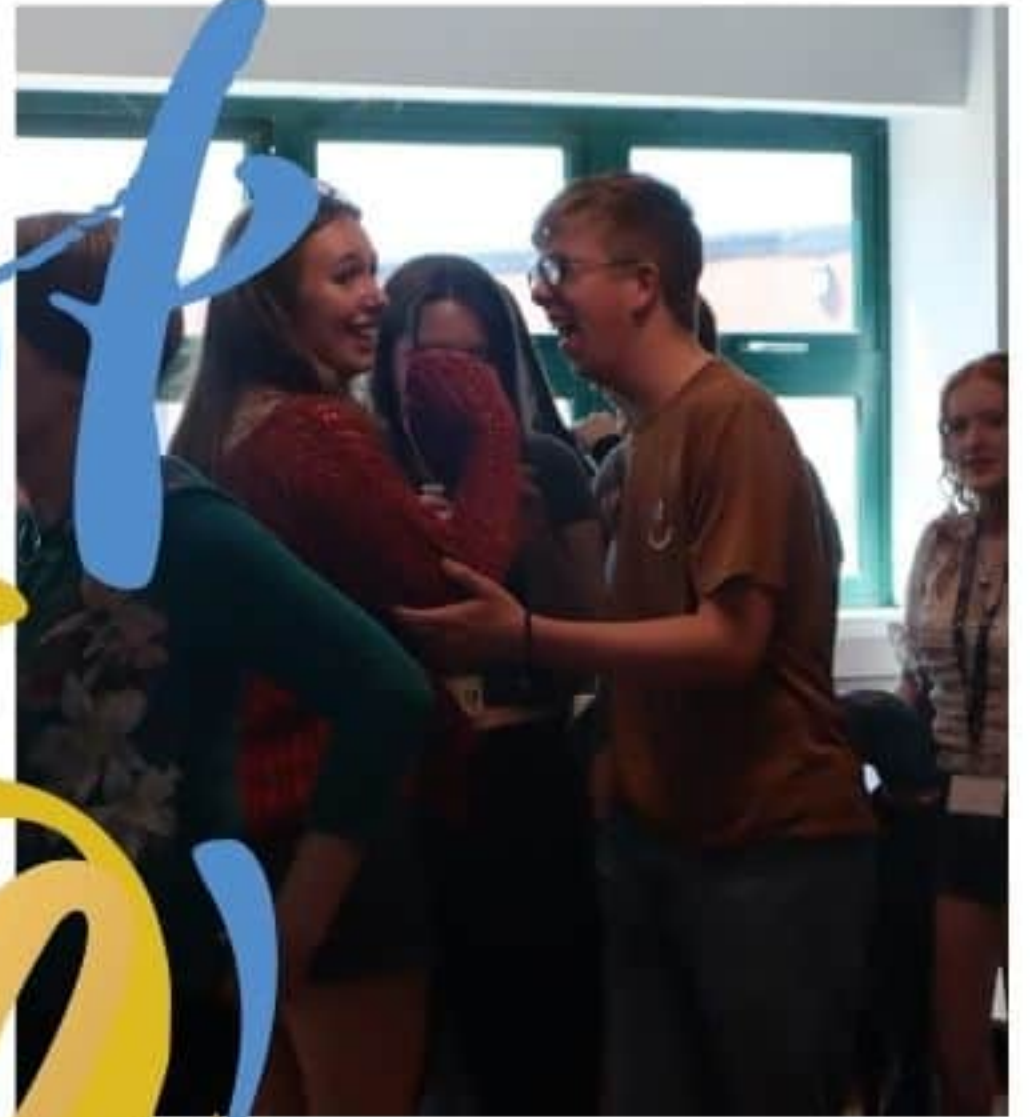


Liverpool Galleries Trip

Before our foreign trip takes place, we have our annual planned trip to the Liverpool galleries, including the Walker Art Gallery, Tate & RIBA North.

A highlight of the day will be the Liverpool museum's special photography exhibition, celebrating the creative legacy of Holly Johnson and charting the story of cultural icons Frankie Goes to Hollywood. Students will also have the unique opportunity to experience the UK premiere of Beyond Monet, an immersive exhibition showcasing over 400 works by Claude Monet, including his iconic Water Lilies series and Impression, Sunrise. This event will take place at the Exhibition Centre, Liverpool.

- Ms Swift



class of
2025
Good Luck!

First Aid Course

On 3rd April, we participated in an Emergency First Aid at Work Training Day. This was a fantastic opportunity offered to all Year 12 students. We gained practical skills and confidence in handling emergencies.



The session, hosted by Steve McDonald, provided hands-on training in CPR and essential first aid techniques. During the day, we learned various techniques. In the morning, we focused on how to place someone in the recovery position, perform CPR on adults, children, and babies, use EPI-PENS, and more. Steve demonstrated each technique, such as CPR and the recovery position, then allowed us to practise on others while offering guidance and correcting mistakes. This hands-on approach helped us enhance our skills.



In the afternoon, we learned about burns, wounds, fractures, dislocations, and signs of concussions. At the end of the session, we took a short multiple-choice test on what we had learned. To pass and receive our First Aid at Work certificate, we needed to score 14 out of 20.

Some students felt that the session significantly improved their knowledge of how to help others in emergencies.

For example, Lara said, "I really enjoyed the first aid course as I feel it was an incredible opportunity that not many schools offer! It has prepared me well for many different situations, allowing me to know what to do and potentially save a life if necessary. I also feel it will benefit me when applying for university and jobs in the future, so I am very grateful for this amazing opportunity and would definitely recommend it to others."

Similarly, Ellie said, "I thought the course was really good and useful as it helps prepare us for the future. It can also enhance our CVs, showing employers that we have training and can handle emergency situations. It has given me confidence, knowing that I have the knowledge of what to do in these situations."

This session has equipped Year 12 students with vital life-saving skills, reminding us all of the importance of First Aid. Whether responding to minor injuries or emergencies, knowing what to do can make all the difference. The experience has shown us how important First Aid is, and we encourage everyone to learn these life-saving skills.

- Mae Welch, Lara Kearon, and Ellie McKenzie



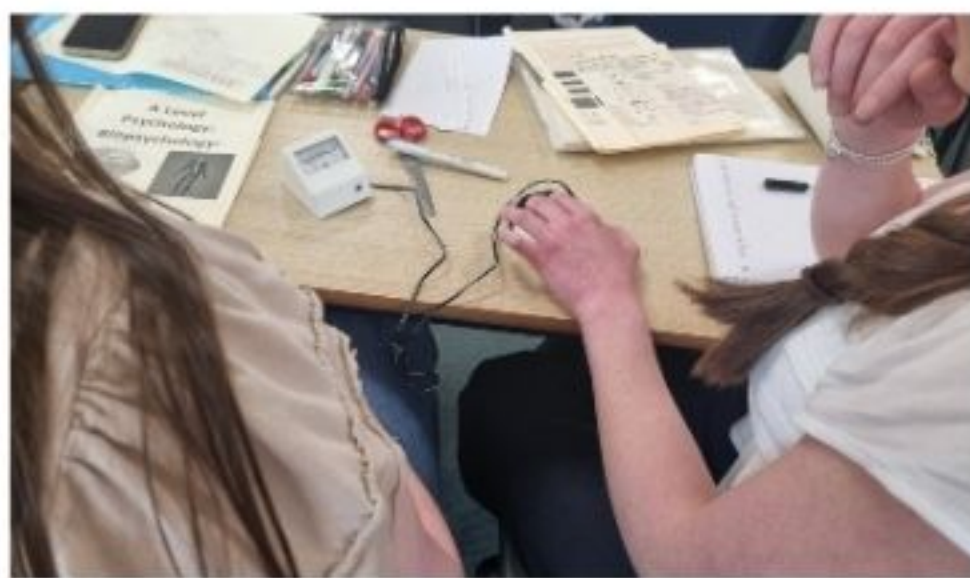
Criminology and Psychology

Ain't No Lie! Criminology Meets the Lie Detector

Year 12 Criminology students have been stepping into the shoes of investigators by using a Galvanic Skin Response (GSR) machine – often used in lie detection tests.

The GSR detects changes in the skin's electrical conductivity caused by sweat gland activity, which increases under stress or anxiety – classic signs of someone trying to hide the truth!

Students took part in lie detector simulations, acting as suspects and interrogators, testing how physiological responses can expose hidden truths. This hands-on session helped students understand how scientific methods are used in criminal investigations, and sparked discussion around the reliability of lie detection as evidence in court.



Psychology Focus: Localisation of Function

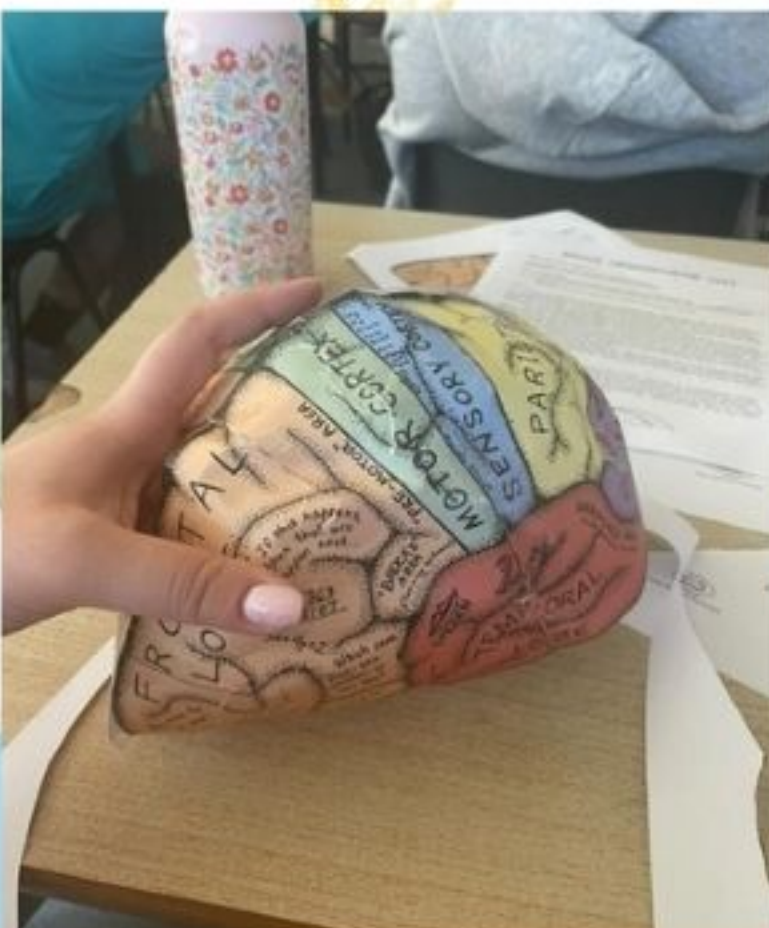
In Psychology, Year 12 students have been exploring the Localisation of Function in the brain – the idea that different areas of the brain are responsible for different behaviours and processes.

To deepen their understanding, students created brain models labelling key regions, including:

- Motor cortex – controls voluntary movements
- Somatosensory cortex – processes touch and sensation
- Visual cortex – interprets what we see
- Auditory cortex – processes sound
- Broca's area – involved in speech production
- Wernicke's area – important for language comprehension

They also analysed famous case studies like *Phineas Gage* to understand how damage to specific areas can cause changes in behaviour and personality.

- Mrs Povey, Curriculum Area Leader for Psychology and Criminology



Southport
Learning
Trust

