

WITHIN RANGE



Issue 39
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Half Term 2026

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RUBY JONES



Ruby Jones

Over the last two weeks, the Sixth Form have been remembering Ruby Jones. Ruby started at Range in 2019. At the start of Year 12, she went into hospital. For over 5 months, she battled to overcome illness but very sadly passed away on February 14th 2025. January 30th would have been her 18th birthday, and between this date and February 14th, the sixth form community and staff have been wearing yellow ribbons to remember Ruby and to show our support for her family at this very difficult time. Ruby was an incredible young person who always had a smile on her face and was so kind and generous to others. She was a wonderful part of our school community, and we miss her greatly. The Sixth Form will remember Ruby, especially during these two weeks, and she will always hold a very special place in our hearts.

- Mrs Phillips, Deputy Headteacher

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

I hope this edition of our newsletter finds you well. It is noticeable that the days are starting to get a little longer, the spring flowers are starting to push through and who knows, we may even see a little sunshine in the coming weeks!

I am sure you will enjoy reading through the articles inside outlining again all of the wonderful, extra-curricular work and activities that go on inside and outside of school. I usually don't highlight anyone in particular due to not wanting anyone to feel left out- we are so lucky to have so much talent at Range! However, I recently sat down and discussed an amazing achievement with Lennox Bowley, one of our very own Y7 students. Lennox has recently had his first novel published, a pretty impressive feat I'm sure you will all agree for someone so young! I was very impressed with how Lennox seems to be taking all of this in his stride. We are all immensely proud of him; you can read all about his work in the featured article. I am currently reading 'Snowfall Park' and I am very much enjoying all of the thrills and spills! Well done Lennox and we all wish you every success if you decide to pursue writing as a career. All of this ties in extremely well with so much of the work going on to promote the National Year of Reading- again, lots of details inside on how your child can get involved. As parents, I would urge you to encourage and promote reading for pleasure with your children. Educationally, it is well documented that developing a love of reading is hugely advantageous to development and success in all subjects.

You may have heard recently of new government guidance around the use of mobile phones in schools. As a reminder, we have a strict 'Not Seen, Not Heard' policy in school. We will be refreshing our guidance and reminding everyone in the school community about our rules on this after the HT break. Mrs Ashworth will be in touch with you separately on this and as always, your support of all aspects of our behaviour expectations is much appreciated.

This half-term, we are saying goodbye to two much cherished colleagues: Mrs Donleavy and Mrs Grove. After many, many years of service to the school and its young people, they are both retiring. On behalf of the governors and the entire school community, I am sure you will join me in wishing them both a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

As always, this particular half-term has gone by very quickly and has been as busy as usual. Students in all year groups have been very industrious in their endeavours. Year 11 have been focusing on revision techniques (or at least they should be!), Year 13 Mocks are looming, and the PE, Art, Drama and Music departments have been involved in all kinds of fixtures, productions and exhibitions across all year groups. We have also had another very successful History trip to Berlin which you can read about in this edition and as I write, we are eagerly anticipating a trip this week setting off for New York. We wish them all safe and enjoyable travels and experiences.

Although a bit late now, I wish all of you and your families a very Happy New Year and I hope you get a chance to relax a little during the half-term break. Please remember that Monday, 23rd February is an INSET Day and everyone is due back to school at the normal time on Tuesday 24th February.

Mike McGarry
Headteacher

KS3 HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGES

Year 7

Huge congratulations to all of Year 7 for another incredibly successful term at Range High School! It has been a pleasure to see you all settle in so well, from your fantastic engagement in the classroom to mastering life-saving skills during your Mini-Medics training this week. You have shown great maturity in learning how to stay calm and help others in an emergency, a vital skill funded by the SLT's recent fundraising efforts.

A special and well-deserved "well done" goes out to our brilliant football team for their stellar performance at the Liverpool FC game!

However they came second which is a massive achievement, and we are so proud of the sportsmanship and teamwork you displayed on the pitch. You've represented Range High with real pride.

We hope you all have a fantastic, restful half-term break. Whether you're relaxing or out on the pitch, enjoy the time off—you've certainly earned it!

-Miss Singleton & Mr Critchley



Year 8

The students have continued to work well since returning after the Christmas break. The Southport Food Kitchen asked me to pass on their thanks for all the food that was collected in December. Every item is vital to support families throughout the Sefton area.

Big congratulations to the Year 8 football team who beat De La Salle 3 -1 in the Merseyside Cup. This is not the only silverware the team is playing for this year, with a trip to Maghull in the Sefton Cup coming up soon. Well done, team!

Some of our Year 8 students enjoyed an afternoon out at the Liverpool Empire to see the timeless classic Mary Poppins. Mrs Gallagher said it was a great night enjoyed by all.

Next term will see the return of the Easter egg collection. We have been collecting Easter eggs for the last 5 years. Again, the eggs will be delivered to children in the local area. More details to follow in the new term.

Enjoy your February half-term!

-Mr S Rudd & Mrs L Gallagher



Year 9

Our Year 9 students find themselves at a truly exciting and significant crossroads. This term represents a shift in focus; while maintaining their hard work and dedication in the classroom, students are also beginning the vital process of exploring their GCSE options.

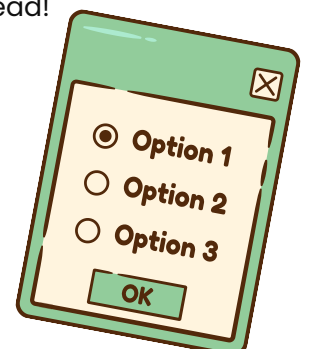
This is a landmark moment in your educational journey. Choosing which subjects to pursue at Key Stage 4 is an important decision that allows you to start tailoring your learning to your unique strengths and future aspirations.

We encourage all students to use this time wisely, speak with your subject teachers, and think deeply about where your passions lie. It is a time for curiosity and ambition as you begin to shape the path toward your future careers.

We hope all our Year 9 students and their families have a wonderful half term break.

Whether you're planning a week of adventure or simply looking forward to some well-earned lie-ins, we hope you take this time to relax and celebrate your hard work so far. Step away from the textbooks, enjoy the break, and we look forward to seeing you return refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead!

-Ms N Wilson & Mr J Wilson



KS4/5 HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGES

Year 10

Something impressive has been happening in our PSHE classrooms lately. Moving away from the traditional teacher-led dynamic, our Year 10 Mentors have stepped up to lead the charge in the Mentoring Violence Prevention (MVP) program, delivering impactful sessions to Year 8 students.

Before stepping into the "teacher" role, our Year 10 volunteers underwent rigorous training. They didn't just learn the curriculum; they learned how to facilitate difficult conversations, manage a classroom, and—most importantly—how to be relatable role models.

This training ensured they felt confident tackling some of the most sensitive topics in today's society.

The feedback from Year 8 has been nothing short of fantastic. Many students noted that they felt more comfortable asking questions and sharing their thoughts with someone closer to their own age.

—Mr C Jump & Ms P McCarthy



Year 11

As we approach the final set of mock exams, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible hard work and resilience our Year 11 students have shown. This is a pivotal moment in your academic journey—the "home stretch" before the summer GCSEs—and how you use this time matters.

Our mantra for the coming weeks is simple: Revise, Rest, Repeat. As we approach the final set of mock exams, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible hard work and resilience our Year 11 students have shown. This is a pivotal moment in your academic journey—the "home stretch" before the summer GCSEs—and how you use this time matters.

Success is about quality, not just hours. Focus on active recall and past papers to build exam confidence. Rest by sleeping well and taking breaks. Consistency with small daily efforts beats last-minute cramming.

Year 11: you are role models for younger students. Uphold high standards of uniform and conduct. Wearing your uniform with pride shows discipline and readiness to face challenges. Let's finish strong.

These mocks are tools, not traps. They help you identify strengths and growth areas. Keep working hard, stay positive, and support each other. We're proud of your progress and here to support you.

—Mrs J Plumbley & Mr K Dudridge



Sixth Form

It has been such a busy and productive few weeks, and I am so proud of how our students have handled the mid-winter stretch. We are now approaching a bit of a milestone, as we're about to enter our very last half-term without the pressure of formal external exams, which makes the upcoming Year 13 mocks right after the half-term break feel all the more significant.

On a particularly exciting note, our Sixth Form applications have officially closed, and I'm thrilled to share that we've had a record number of applicants since I became Sixth

Form Student Manager, which speaks volumes about the vibrant and inclusive community we've built together.

It's also been lovely to see everyone coming together to raise money for Claire House; the sight of those yellow ribbons everywhere has been a wonderful reminder of the kindness and strength of our Sixth Form. While Ruby is always in our thoughts, we are all thinking of her especially during this time of year.

—Mr J McKay & Miss H. Ball



RANGE SUPERSTARS

Kaia – not just climbing walls, but climbing towards her dreams

What began several years ago as a fascination stemming from a clip and climb birthday party has grown into a focused, competitive pursuit that's now placing Kaia on the national stage.

An avid indoor climber, Kaia specialises in both bouldering and lead climbing, Olympic sports disciplines that demand very different skill sets. Bouldering tests explosive power, precision, and creativity in short, intense bursts, while lead climbing requires endurance, composure, and tactical pacing on longer, more technical routes.



Two years ago, Kaia made the decision to take her climbing more seriously and push herself into the competitive arena. She has steadily developed the strength, technique, and mental resilience needed to perform at competitions spanning the UK.



Training has been relentless – on average 10-12 hours per week, working with a variety of coaches centered around The Climbing Hangar and Awesome Walls, Liverpool. Plus daily strengthening and conditioning to refine her performance and prepare for the competitions, often involving 6am starts and many miles in the car.

Kaia's dedication and commitment came together last December, when Kaia competed in the English National Open, one of her hardest competitions to date, against the country's strongest climbers. She did amazingly well, coming sixth out of a field of 48 elite climbers in her U15 age category and was invited to join the English development squad – a pathway towards the GB team. An amazing achievement and a very proud moment for Kaia.

If you would like to follow Kaia's journey her insta account is [@hanginwithkaia](https://www.instagram.com/hanginwithkaia).



RANGE SUPERSTARS

Lennox Bowley: Inspiring a Family of Writers

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievement of one of our own: Lennox Bowley (Year 7), who is now officially a published author!

His debut book, "Snowfall Park," is currently available to the world on Amazon, marking a massive milestone for this budding young writer.



The journey to publication didn't happen overnight. In fact, Lennox first came up with the idea for Snowfall Park and put pen to paper for his first draft when he was just seven years old. It is a testament to his creativity that a spark of imagination from primary school has grown into a completed project in secondary school



In a moment of refreshing honesty that every English teacher will love, Lennox admits that the road to the finished book wasn't all smooth sailing. He noted that his original draft required a lot of work, specifically when it came to capital letters and spellings!

If you're looking for your next great read, you can find Snowfall Park on Amazon right now. Supporting a local young author is a fantastic way to encourage the next generation of storytellers.

"We are beyond proud of Lennox. To see a student take a project from an idea at age seven to a published book at age eleven is truly inspiring. We can't wait to see what he writes next!"

— The English Department



With one book already under his belt and a budding career ahead of him, we are all eager to see where his imagination takes him next. Whether it's a sequel or an entirely new world, we'll be first in line for the book signing. Congratulations, Lennox!

— Mrs McGowan



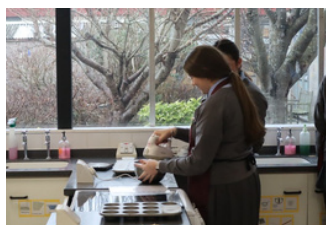
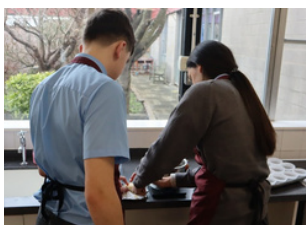
Pitch to Plate: Everton FC Chef Inspires Aspiring Cooks

Our Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a masterclass in performance nutrition this week as we welcomed Andrew Jones, a professional chef for Everton Football Club, into our kitchen. Andrew provided a fascinating glimpse into the world of elite sports catering, explaining how he fuels Premier League athletes for peak performance.



The session was particularly beneficial for our Year 11 students, who are currently focusing on the importance of macronutrients for their coursework. Andrew highlighted why carbohydrates and protein are the cornerstones of a footballer's diet. To put this theory into practice, the students created delicious protein balls finished with a biscotti coating.

Our Year 10 group focused on the science of baking, specifically the role of raising agents.



They prepared banana bread, a high-carbohydrate snack frequently served to players for sustained energy. Beyond the recipes, Andrew shared "tips of the trade" on how to maximise nutritional value and use professional plating techniques to make healthy food more appealing.

We would like to extend our thanks to Andrew for sharing his expertise and helping our students see the real-world application of their classroom studies.



EXTRACURRICULAR NEWS

Japanese Culture Club

Our club has been full of fun and creativity this term. Students tested their skills with kendama challenges, designed colourful manga-style sticker art, and enjoyed watching popular anime such as Spy x Family and My Hero Academia.

One of the highlights this term has been welcoming our ITT teacher, Mr Henry, who will be joining us until June. Even more exciting, Mr Henry previously lived in Japan for four years and speaks Japanese!

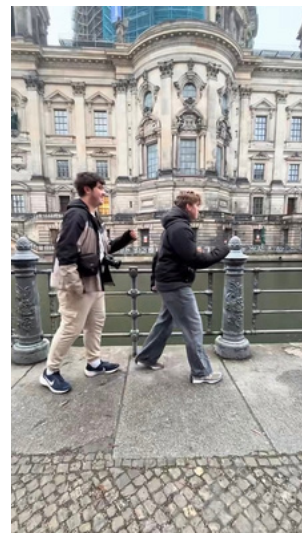


A poster for the Japanese Culture Club. At the top center is a crest with a shield, a crown, and a cross. To the left is a decorative branch with red cherry blossoms. The title 'Japanese Culture Club' is written in a mix of black and red cursive fonts. Below the title, it says 'What we do:' followed by a list of activities: 'MANGA & ART: MASTER THE ART OF DRAWING YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTERS.', 'TASTE TEST: TRY AUTHENTIC JAPANESE SWEETS AND SNACKS.', 'HANDS-ON CRAFT: LEARN ORIGAMI AND TRADITIONAL ARTS.', 'LANGUAGE: START YOUR JOURNEY LEARNING HIRAGANA AND BASIC PHRASES.', and 'CULTURAL EXCHANGE: CONNECT WITH OUR FRIEND YURI-SENSEI IN JAPAN AND SEE AUTHENTIC ITEMS SENT STRAIGHT FROM TOKYO!'. At the bottom, it says 'Date & Time' in red, followed by '* 3:25-4:25 PM' and '* ROOM 35'. At the very bottom, it says 'EVERYONE WELCOME!' with small flower icons on either side.

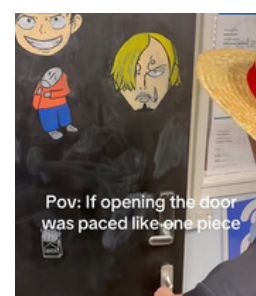
Next term promises even more to look forward to as we will start learning useful Japanese phrases and exploring the art of kanji calligraphy. If that sounds like something you'd enjoy, come along! Japanese Culture Club meets in Room 35 every Monday from 3:25-4:25 pm – everyone is welcome!

Range Waves: TikTok

Our Range Wave podcast has taken an exciting new direction. While we continue to discuss the latest trends and conduct interviews, the team has opted for a more bite-sized approach, focusing on creativity in our videos.



Brandon Le Breton, Joel Osborne, Isaac Cavanagh, Orla Tangeman and Oscar McKenzie have been producing entertaining TikTok clips about 'One Piece', exploring Berlin, and much more. Additionally, they had the opportunity to interview our talented young writer, Lennox Bowley, about his book 'Snowfall Park'.





Mental Health
Research for
Innovation
Centre



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

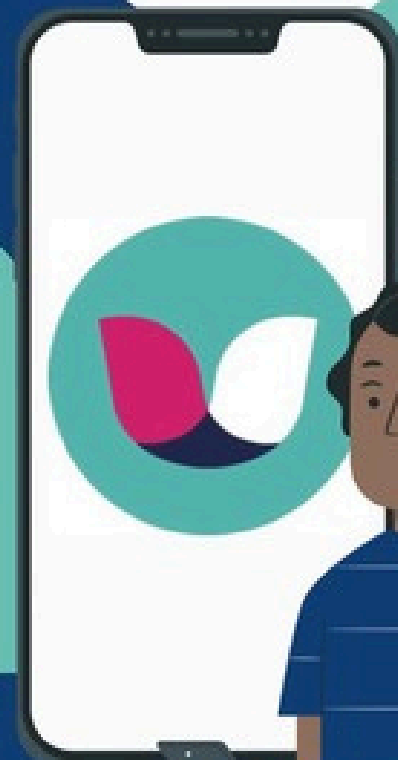


Mental health
apps for children,
young people
and families

Are you feeling stressed, anxious or low?

Explore our online library of
safe, approved apps covering
anxiety, low mood, sleep,
eating disorders, support for
neurodivergence and more.

Mental health
apps can help,
but which one
should you
choose?



Scan the QR code to
find out more

The History Department's Berlin Trip: A Journey Through History

This year's History trip to Berlin in January was very enjoyable for students and staff alike. One of the many highlights was the Unterwelten tours through the bunkers of Berlin. The tour focused on the experience of Berliners while the bombs were falling during World War II. Students also visited the DDR Museum, a lively and interactive exhibition which enabled them to learn about life in the German Democratic Republic through a range of objects and installations.

Fog meant that our evening excursion to the TV Tower was postponed to a midday visit, which allowed for fantastic views across sunny Berlin. As the tallest structure in the city, it offered students breathtaking 360-degree panoramic views. The immersive VR experience also allowed us to witness Berlin's evolution from medieval times to the present.

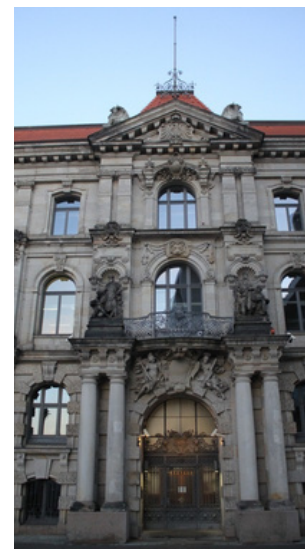
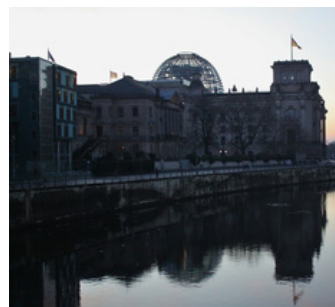
Sunday's trip to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp was a deeply moving experience. Students explored the camp's barracks, watchtowers, and memorials, and learned about those who were imprisoned there and their treatment. We saw the results of the fire that destroyed a Jewish museum at the camp—started by two neo-Nazis in 1992—which served as a reminder of the ongoing threat of far-right extremism.

We also toured the most iconic sites in Berlin, including the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, and Checkpoint Charlie. We visited the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, a thought-provoking site consisting of 2,711 concrete slabs of varying heights, creating a maze-like structure that evokes feelings of disorientation and loss. Our evening excursion was to a local bowling alley, where the students impressed us with their skills.

Our final trip was to the East Side Gallery, a 1.3-kilometer section of the former Berlin Wall covered in vibrant murals. The Wall was both a physical and ideological barrier, dividing families and an entire nation for nearly three decades. Pupils were able to visualise how difficult it would have been to escape from East Berlin and understand why so many lost their lives trying to do so.

This year's students were a delight to spend time with. Their enthusiasm and courteous behaviour made this a wonderful trip for all involved.

- Mrs Murray



Year 7 Football

After a frustrating string of weather-related postponements, the Year 7 squad finally took to the pitch for a pulsating, end-to-end Merseyside Cup tie against Rainford High.

The match lived up to the anticipation, played at a breathless tempo with both sides showcasing incredible energy and attacking intent from the opening whistle.

It was a true "cup tie" atmosphere, with momentum swinging back and forth throughout; however, despite our best efforts and some fantastic passages of play, Rainford proved just too strong on the day. Their clinical edge and physicality eventually tipped the scales, but our Year 7s can hold their heads high for a highly competitive performance that showed great character until the very end.



Year 8 Football

Merseyside Cup - Now into QF after 3-1 win away at De La Salle, St Helens
The Year 8s secured a hard-fought and well-deserved 3-1 victory away at De La Salle to progress in the Merseyside Cup.

It was a performance defined by immense togetherness, with every member of the squad digging in and working for one another from the first whistle. After falling behind, Dan Grimes kept his composure to slot home a clinical breakaway goal, bringing the sides level at 1-1. The momentum shifted completely after the break when Isaac Jones came off the bench to net a brilliant brace, sealing the win.

While the scoreline was convincing, it could have been even greater; Joey Smith was a constant menace up top, while Rio Naqvi caused endless problems for the opposition's left-back with his direct running. Anchored by a rock-solid defence and a goalkeeper, this talented side showed they have the grit to go far in this competition. Well done, boys, into the Quarter Finals we go!

Sefton Cup - Maghull Away QF lost away 4-2

Following our success in the Merseyside Cup, the team travelled to Maghull for a challenging fixture in the Sefton competition. Despite a 4-2 defeat, the scoreline didn't tell the whole story; we created numerous chances and, with a bit more luck, could have really pushed our opponents to the wire.

Joey Smith was a constant threat up front, using his physicality to hold up play and his pace to stretch the Maghull defence. His clinical finishing was on full display with a superb "deft touch" for our opening goal.

While our opponents were clinical and deserved the win, I cannot fault the squad's attitude. The players showed incredible grit and determination until the final whistle, proving themselves to be a true credit to the school.



Year 9 Football

The Year 9 football team progressed to the Last 8 of the Merseyside Cup after a pulse-pounding encounter away at Mosslands High School. In a game that truly had everything, the boys showed incredible grit to secure their place in the next round. Range couldn't have asked for a better opening.

From the first whistle, the team played with clinical precision and high energy. The pressure paid off early as a fantastic first-half performance saw Range carve through the Mosslands defence twice, heading into the break with a well-deserved 2-1 lead. Football is a game of two halves, and Mosslands came out fighting in the second.

As the clock ticked down, the home side piled on the pressure. In a heartbreaking turn of events,

Mosslands managed to claw their way back into the game, scoring a dramatic equaliser just as the final whistle blew. Range's clinical finishing returned when it mattered most. Range remained composed from the spot, winning the shootout and sparking scenes of wild celebration.

The squad now moves into the Quarter-Finals, moving one step closer to Merseyside glory. Huge congratulations to the entire team for their sportsmanship and resilience under pressure.

Girls Football

Our Year 9 and 10 girls are moving on up! After a forfeit from Ridgeway High School, the girls have officially secured their spot in the Quarter-Finals of the Merseyside cup. Whether we face St Hilda's or Archbishop Beck, one thing is for sure: we're ready for the challenge! The action doesn't stop there. After the half-term break, the KS3 and KS4 girls will be heading to the Southport and Formby tournaments. We can't wait to see them represent the school with pride (and hopefully bring home some silverware!).

Miss Seagraves had a fantastic weekend catching some high-quality football over at JMO Skem! She was on the sidelines to cheer on our talented Year 11 trio, Olivia, Jess, and Sienna, as they represented their club in a competitive clash against Crosby Stewart.

It was a total end-to-end thriller, but a heartbreaking late winner from the opposition meant the girls narrowly missed out with a 2-1 loss.

Despite the result, the performance was top-tier. A huge well done to the girls for showing such skill and determination!

Year 11 Football

The Year 11 squad progressed in the Merseyside Cup following a gritty and highly competitive victory over a resilient Maghull High side. In a match defined by fantastic battling performances across the pitch, both teams traded blows in a physical encounter that remained deadlocked until midway through the second half. Range finally broke the stalemate with a well-worked opening goal, but the drama was far from over.

As Maghull threw everything forward in a desperate search for an equaliser, the Range defence remained resolute, absorbing intense late pressure with great composure. With the game on the line in the dying moments, Range launched a clinical counter-attack to score a second, rounding off a superb win and securing their place in the next round.



KS3 Netball

Our Year 7 netball team achieved a fantastic milestone this week at the Merseyside Schools Netball Competition held at the Wavertree Sports Centre. Facing a challenging draw, the girls came up against some of the region's toughest opposition, including Merchant Taylor's, St Mary's, Greenbank, and Chesterfield High. Despite the high-pressure environment, the team displayed brilliant tactical awareness and clinical shooting to hold their own against elite competition.



Through sheer determination and excellent teamwork, Range successfully secured their place in the next stage of the tournament. In an amazing achievement, the squad will now progress to the next round, where they will be representing Liverpool. The girls' ability to stay composed against such established teams is a testament to their hard work during training. We are incredibly proud of their success and look forward to seeing them compete in the regional finals.

KS4 Netball

Our Year 9 and 10 netball teams demonstrated fantastic resilience this week at the Merseyside Schools Netball Competition held at the Wavertree Sports Centre. Facing a formidable draw against some of the region's top teams, including Merchant Taylor's, St Mary's, Greenbank, and Chesterfield High, the girls played some high-quality netball with great tactical focus and grit.



Despite their hard work and several hard-fought matches, the teams didn't manage to secure a win on this occasion. However, the experience of competing at such a high level is invaluable. The girls showed great character, staying composed under pressure and representing the school with excellent sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the progress they continue to make during training.



Merseyside Cross Country

Our Cross Country squad recently competed in the Merseyside Championships at Arrowe Park, a course many of the runners know all too well. It lived up to its usual expectations, boggy, cold, windy with tough inclines. But as our runners always do, they dug in deep and gave their best they could.



A huge congratulations to all our runners, but a special mention to Sienna Fortune, Harry Redhead and Mason Stringer who finished within the top 10 for their races. Good luck to those who qualified to run for Merseyside in the upcoming events.



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.

Stronger Starts

How You Can Vote!

The customer vote is in Tesco stores NOW!

- When: 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!

Rugby Legends Tackle Mental Health at Range High

Range High recently welcomed the 'Ahead of the Game' initiative for a powerful week of mental health workshops. The program, which uses sport to teach emotional resilience, featured two true icons of the sport: Rugby League legends Keith Senior and Adrian Morley.

Throughout the week, Keith and Adrian met with various year groups to share insights from their professional careers. They spoke candidly about the "tougher" side of sports—not just the physical hits, but the mental challenges of high-pressure environments.



The sessions focused on several key areas:

- The Power of Activity: How regular exercise acts as a natural boost for mood and stress management.
- Breaking the Stigma: Realising that even the world's toughest athletes need to speak up and seek support.
- Resilience: Building the mental tools to bounce back from setbacks, both in school and in lifes



By seeing their heroes prioritise mental well-being, students were encouraged to view physical activity as a vital tool for a healthy mind. The visit has sparked important conversations across the school about looking out for one another and staying active to stay well.

We extend a huge thank you to Declan, Keith, Adrian, and the 'Ahead of the Game' team for such an inspiring and valuable week.



THE FIX UP TEAM

Inspiring the Next Generation: Emmanuel Visits Range High

We were delighted to welcome Emmanuel from @TheFixUpTeam to Range High School this week for an energetic and transformative session with our Year 11 students.

With mock exams and GCSE preparations in full swing, the visit couldn't have come at a better time. Emmanuel spoke passionately about the power of a growth mindset, encouraging students to view challenges as opportunities to learn rather than obstacles to success.



Moving from "Fixed" to "Growth"

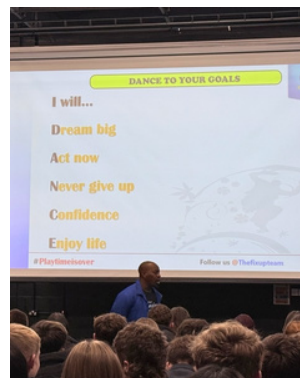
The core message of the day was simple but powerful: our abilities are not set in stone. By shifting from a fixed mindset ("I can't do this") to a growth mindset ("I can't do this yet"), our Year 11s learned how to:

- Build resilience during the exam season.
- Embrace feedback as a tool for improvement.
- Stay motivated through the final stretch of the academic year.

The energy in the hall was fantastic, and it was wonderful to see so many students leaving the session feeling empowered and focused on their goals.



A massive thank you to Emmanuel for his time and for sharing such valuable insights with our community. We look forward to seeing our Year 11s put these strategies into practice!



Business & Economics

This term Yr 11 BTEC Enterprise students have been presenting their business idea. This is part of their second piece of coursework and counts for 30% of their overall mark.

A lot of work has gone into completing a Business Plan and producing a presentation which they had to present in the conference room to Mrs Raffo and Mrs Chendo.



In addition to developing their business acumen, the students have gained invaluable experience in public speaking and teamwork. The diversity of ideas showcased during the presentations was impressive, ranging from sustainable fashion startups to innovative tech solutions aimed at improving daily life.



This exercise not only tested their understanding of enterprise concepts but also encouraged creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

The feedback from Mrs Raffo and Mrs Chendo was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the students' dedication and the potential for these young entrepreneurs to make a significant impact in the business world.



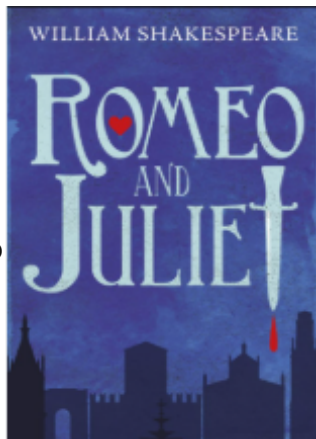
We are excited to see how these budding business leaders will continue to hone their skills and aspire to bring their visions to life. Keep up the great work, Year 11!

- Mrs A Raffo, Head of Business Studies and Economics



Literature Brought to Life **Manacto's Romeo and Juliet**

To help our Year 11 students master their GCSE English Literature texts, we are thrilled to announce that the renowned Manacto theatre company will be visiting us for a special, high-energy performance of Romeo and Juliet.



Watching the play live is one of the most effective ways to understand the nuances of Shakespeare's language, the intensity of the family feud, and the pacing of the drama—all things that can feel a bit "flat" when just reading from a textbook.

Why You Shouldn't Miss It:

- **Boost Your Grades:** Seeing the performance helps with "visualising" quotes, making them much easier to remember for your exams.
- **Expert Interpretation:** Manacto specialises in making the Bard accessible, clear, and most importantly – exciting!
- **Total Accessibility:** We've worked hard to keep this affordable. For a donation of just £5, students get a front-row seat to professional theatre.

The Details

- **Who:** All Year 11 Students
- **What:** Romeo and Juliet by Manacto
- **Donation:** £5.00 (Payable via Parentpay)

Don't miss this chance to see the star-crossed lovers in action. It's a small investment for a massive advantage in your studies.

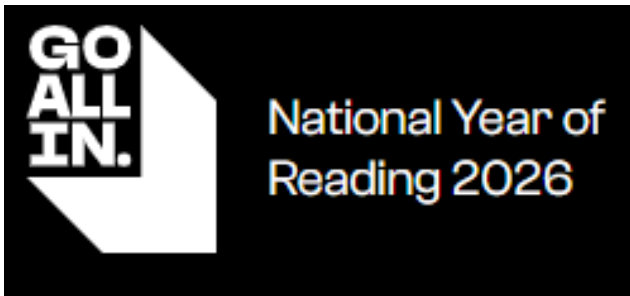
Double Trouble: Jekyll & Hyde at the Everyman

For our Year 10 into Y11 students, who are currently grappling with Victorian repression and the "beast within" for their GCSE English Literature, a very special opportunity is coming to the Liverpool Everyman Theatre. From 2nd to 4th July 2026, the Young Everyman Playhouse (YEP) company will be performing a "radically reimagined" production of Stevenson's classic, Jekyll and Hyde.

This isn't your standard top-hats-and-fog retelling; written by Evan Placey, this version drags the story into the digital age, exploring how the dual identities we create online mirror the fractured self of Dr. Jekyll. For students, this is a goldmine for "Alternative Interpretations", that high-level skill examiners love. By seeing how Victorian anxieties about science and morality translate into modern concerns about social media and addiction, students will find it much easier to write about duality and reputation in their own essays.

The Essentials:

- **Dates:** Thursday 2nd – Saturday 4th July 2026
- **Location:** Liverpool Everyman Theatre, Hope Street
- **Tickets:** £10 – £12 (An absolute steal for a production of this calibre!)
- **Why go?** It's a "Modern Gothic" experience that makes the tricky 19th-century context feel urgent, visceral, and up-to-date. An excellent family day out and end of term treat.



Soundtrack Your Story: National Storytelling Week 2026

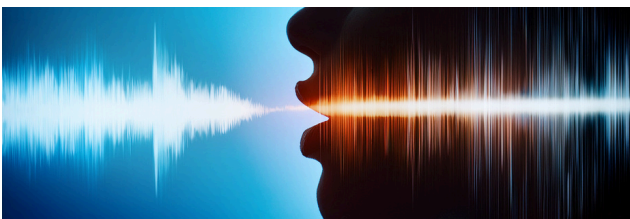
As we move through the first weeks of February, the air is thick with more than just the usual winter chill – it's alive with narratives. We are currently at the start of National Storytelling Week 2026

As a cornerstone of the National Year of Reading 2026, storytelling week isn't just about dusty folktales; it's a high-energy push to reclaim the joy of the narrative in a world that has, frankly, been a bit distracted lately.

The 2026 Theme: "Soundtrack Your Story"

This year's official theme, "Soundtrack Your Story," recognises that stories aren't just found in ink on paper. They are in the rhythm of a rap, the swell of a video game score, and the lyrics of the songs we have on repeat.

The campaign is leaning heavily into the idea that "reading" is a broad church. Whether you're dissecting the lore of an open-world RPG or analysing the poetry of a grime track, you are engaging in the ancient art of storytelling.



The "Go All In" Mission

National Storytelling Week is the first major "moment" of the National Year of Reading 2026. Launched just last month at the Emirates Stadium by the likes of Leah Williamson and Richard Osman, the broader campaign slogan is simple: "If you're into it, read into it."

- The Problem: Recent data from the National Literacy Trust showed that reading for pleasure among young people hit a 20-year low in 2025.
- The Solution: Meeting people where they are. If you love football, read the scouting reports. If you love cooking, dive into the history of the spice trade.
- The Ambition: To recruit 100,000 "Reading Volunteers" and ensure every primary school has a functional library by 2029.

How to Participate Right Now

Since we are midway through the week, there's still plenty of time to jump in:

- The 10-Minute Challenge: Ambassadors are urging every household to dedicate just 10 minutes a day to shared storytelling—be it a book, an audiobook, or a family legend.
- Digital Workshops: Keep an eye out for recorded sessions from authors like Jeffrey Boakye and Annemarie Anang, who are showing schools how to "speak story into the darkness" using music and rhythm.
- Local Libraries: Hundreds of "Storytelling Circles" are popping up across the country, focusing on oral traditions that remind us that the human voice is the original "audiobook."

"In an increasingly noisy, complicated world, reading is our quiet superpower."

Richard Osman, 2026 NYR Ambassador

For National Storytelling Week 2026 (January 31st – February 8th), the mission is clear: we aren't just reading stories; we're remixing them. As a headline event for the National Year of Reading 2026, this year's theme—"Soundtrack Your Story"—is all about the intersection of rhythm, lyrics, and the written word.

For Key Stage 3 students, this is the perfect moment to prove that reading isn't a "quiet, dusty" activity. Whether it's the beat of a verse novel or the lore hidden in a video game score, stories are meant to be heard as much as seen.

The KS3 "Soundtrack" Reading List

If you're looking to "Go All In" on your passions this week, these picks are designed to bridge the gap between your earbuds and your bookshelf:

Title	Why it fits the "Soundtrack" theme	Format
Musical Truth by Jeffrey Boakye	A journey through 28 songs that shaped Black British history. It's essentially a history book you can dance to.	Non-Fiction
On the Come Up by Angie Thomas	Follows Bri, an aspiring rapper. The narrative is infused with the rhythm of battle rap and the struggle to find your voice.	Contemporary Fiction
Solo by Kwame Alexander	A verse novel about the son of a rock star. The lyrical, staccato writing style mimics the tempo of a song.	Verse Novel
I Was Born for This by Alice Oseman	Dives into the high-stakes world of a famous boy band and the "soundtrack" of fandom and internet culture.	Contemporary Fiction
The Crossfire series by Robert Muchamore	For those into the grit of the music industry and the chaos of teenage rock bands.	Action / Thriller

Happening Right Now: The 2026 Highlights

- **The Jeffrey Boakye Workshop:** If you missed the live "Soundtrack Your Story" workshop on February 4th, the replay is now available via the National Literacy Trust. It's a masterclass in how to turn a personal playlist into a narrative.
- **The 10-Minute "Lyric Dive":** National Year of Reading ambassador **George the Poet** is challenging students to pick one song they love, print the lyrics, and "read" it as a poem. It's the easiest way to hit your daily reading goal while listening to your favourite artist.
- **Gaming Lore:** Libraries this week are hosting "Score & Story" sessions, where students analyse the world-building in games like *Elden Ring* or *The Legend of Zelda* by listening to their orchestral themes.

"If you're into it, read into it."

That's the 2026 campaign slogan. If you love a specific artist, read their biography. If you love a movie soundtrack, read the script. Storytelling doesn't have a "right" way to happen—it just has to resonate.

"Reading is our quiet superpower, but sometimes it needs a beat behind it to truly come alive." — *Richard Osman, 2026 NYR Ambassador.*



Sefton councillors vote to support the national Year of Reading 2026

At their meeting, Sefton councillors voted to support the National Year of Reading 2026, a UK-wide campaign designed to help more people rediscover the joy of reading.



Led by the National Literacy Trust and supported by the Government's Department for Education, the National Year of Reading 2026 is a nationwide initiative designed to reverse the long-term decline in reading for pleasure.



Reading is key

Cllr Diane Roscoe, Sefton Council's Cabinet member for Children, Schools and Families, said: "Of course, reading is key to the skills all young people are taught in Sefton's schools and colleges and is vital to the qualifications they need.

"Sadly, however, the number of us reading for enjoyment as we get older has been reducing, which is a shame because it can provide such inspiration and enjoyment, as well as comfort and escape when things aren't going so well.

"We will be supporting the National Year of Reading 2026 by championing the act of reading for pleasure, by continuing to increase access to reading resources and by encouraging membership and use of Sefton's libraries."

You can find out about Sefton's libraries and what's going on at them, here:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/childrens-services/schools-and-learning/libraries/>

Decline

Research shows that only 53% of UK adults read regularly for pleasure and that only 1 in 3 children and young people say they enjoy reading. The decline is sharpest among boys, teenagers, and low-income families.

In an effort to tackle this, Sefton's Family Hubs actively promote and support early reading and literacy through various initiatives and programmes. This is part of their broader early help services for children aged 0-19 and their families.



Reading to bump

And the Council's Early Years' service works closely with Liverpool Learning Partnership to deliver sessions on the benefits of reading from the earliest stage possible. Particular focus is on reading to bump, which is proven to support bonding, attachment and brain development in the uterus, giving children the best start in life.



Over the 2025 school summer holidays, approaching 3,100 young people signed up with Sefton Libraries for the Summer Reading Challenge, with over 2,200 successfully completing it. This meant reading six books or more and visiting the library four times over the summer holidays.

Summer Reading Challenge success

Cllr Liz Dowd, Sefton Council Cabinet Member with responsibility for Libraries, who seconded the Notice of Motion, said: "Every year Sefton is in the top three areas in the North West in terms of numbers of young people taking part in the national Summer Reading Challenge, which can only help to give young people the experience of reading for pleasure."



"Last year's record sign-up for the Challenge in Sefton was a massive 19% increase on the previous highest number taking part and a 63% increase in those who completed it, and I hope we can build on that during this National Year of Reading 2026.

"And at the end of October, coinciding with half-term week, we have Books Alive in Southport as part of this year's season of events. Books alive will be as if a book festival was designed by a child and will be a great celebration of books, stories and reading."

Details of Books Alive, the programme, will be released in June.

You can find out more about the National Year of Reading 2026 here: <https://goallin.org.uk/>



Lights, Camera, Action: Students Go Behind the Scenes at Fact Liverpool

This morning, our students swapped the classroom for the cutting-edge environment of FACT, Liverpool, for an immersive 90-minute dive into the world of Film and TV. It was an eye-opening session that proved there is much more to the screen industry than what we see in front of the camera.



The session kicked off with an inspiring talk by Ruth from @ellaproacademy, a professional hair and makeup artist. Ruth debunked the myth that the job is all about "glam." While red-carpet looks are part of it, she highlighted the vital role of "screen-ready" makeup—even for sports stars on shows like Match of the Day.



Students learned about the high stakes of continuity (ensuring a character looks the same in every shot) and the booming opportunities right here in Liverpool's growing

The takeaway? Collaboration is the heartbeat of the media industry.

The theory quickly turned into practice as students rolled up their sleeves for a makeup workshop. Things took a slightly more dramatic turn when the group moved on to special effects! Using professional techniques, students experimented with creating bruises that were, frankly, a little too realistic.

The results were so convincing they would have looked right at home on a high-octane TV drama, proving just how powerful the right application of colour and texture can be for visual storytelling.



Next, we were joined by Charlotte, a specialist in high-end TV costume design. Charlotte described her role as being a "vibe architect," explaining that "costumes speak before the actor does."



She shared her fascinating career journey—from a fashion design degree and postgraduate studies at Central St Martins to retraining in costume after a decade in fashion. Charlotte emphasised that costume design isn't just about clothes, it's about:

- Script Inference: Finding the character hidden within the words.
- Research & Annotation: The meticulous work behind every button and fabric choice.
- Industry Realities: Navigating tight budgets and fast-paced schedules.
- More Than Just Art: The Skills for Success



While the session was centred on the arts, the core message was about the transferable skills required to thrive in any professional environment. Our students identified nine key "power skills" they used throughout the morning:

- Resilience (dealing with the "realities" of the industry)
- Leadership & Teamwork
- Time Management & Budgeting
- People Skills
- Creativity
- Literacy & Inference (interpreting scripts and briefs)

We are incredibly proud of how our students engaged with Ruth and Charlotte. They didn't just learn how to apply makeup or design a costume; they learned how to build a career.

– Mrs J. Wilson, Curriculum Area Leader, Media Studies



**GO
ALL
IN.**

National Year of Reading 2026



Children come alive when they're exploring the things they're passionate about. From superheroes and football to cooking, dancing and dinosaurs – every word counts.

- **The National Year of Reading 2026 is your chance to help your child discover new worlds, grow confidence and build a lifelong love of reading – all through the everyday moments you already share.**

Keep an eye out for our year of reading activities in school this year

Use the QR code for more information about the National Year of Reading and how you can support your child

Fewer children are reading for pleasure

- **Across the UK, children are reading less than they used to and stories aren't getting the same space they once did. And it's happening across all age groups, from toddlers to teenagers.**
- **When reading drops, confidence, imagination and learning take a hit as well. Reading helps children focus, express themselves, develop their curiosity, and it gives families an opportunity to connect.**

Reading often takes a dip in the teenage years as school pressure, screens and social lives grow. But, at the same time, their interests grow stronger than ever.

The National Year of Reading offers resources and ideas that use their passions to get them engaged and make reading feel like something they choose, not something they're told to do.



SCAN ME

Gap Year of Reading Sixth Form and Staff Reading Challenge

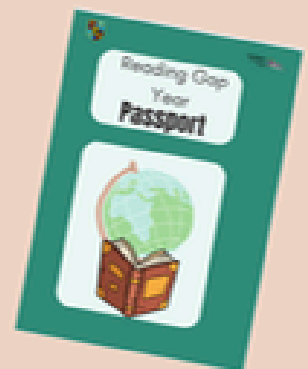


One of the best things about travel is exploring different cultures. Whilst we can't all explore all countries and continents at a time we can explore from the comfort of our own home through stories.

This is the challenge being set to our sixth form and staff body. Over the next 12 months can they complete their reading passports and travel to 12 countries via stories in the next 12 months?

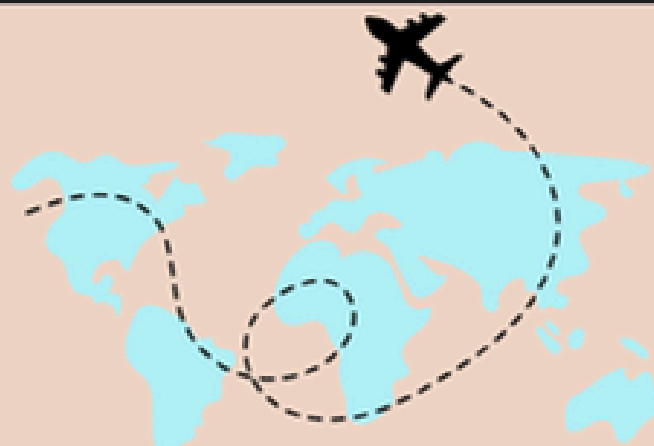
Students and staff can choose a pathway around a particular continent of interest or navigate themselves around the world looking at 12 novels across a range of genres and styles.

Once they've read the book they should write a short review in their passport and move on. Once completed there will be rewards of giftcards along with the reward of learning about other cultures.



72 books from across the globe have been bought and placed in the sixth form study area for travellers to choose from. These are mere suggestions and we welcome any additions to our maps. This can include accessing the books online or via audiobook.

All information regarding the books and the routes can be found on our departure lounge (google classroom) which can be entered using the code: 4bywgiv2 *why not share the journey with your child?*



ATTENDANCE NEWS

Attendance matters

We have a dedicated team of staff at Range High School who work on attendance: Mrs Dillon, Pupil Support Manager; Ms Lawrence, Lead Attendance Officer and Mrs Quinn, Attendance Officer.

As you would expect, we have very high standards and are committed to all our pupils making maximum progress. The attendance staff are always happy to offer advice and support to pupils, parents/carers and families on effective strategies for maximising attendance.

If you would like more details, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

What is classed as Persistent Absence?

Persistent Absence is classed as any absence that equates to over 10% of the academic year at any given time.

Any pupil who appears on the persistent absence list will be placed on an Attendance Support Plan and monitored by the Attendance Team.

The thresholds are set out below:

Close of first half-term: 3.5 days in total = 17.5 lessons missed

Close of 2nd half-term: 7 days in total = 35 lessons missed

Close of 3rd half-term: 10 days in total = 50 lessons missed

Close of 4th half-term: 12.5 days in total = 62.5 lessons missed

Close of 5th half-term: 15.5 days in total = 77.5 lessons missed

Close of 6th half-term: 19 days in total = 95 lessons missed

What can parents do to help?

It is important that you inform us of any medical or emotional issues that may be affecting your child's attendance to enable us to offer the appropriate support. If you suspect that your son or daughter is experiencing any problems or issues at school that may be affecting their attendance, please make contact with us as soon as possible either via email or by phone on 01704 879315. This will alert us to any problems and help us to work with you towards resolving any issues. Your son or daughter must understand that you are working with the school to ensure that there are no barriers to learning and that you do not condone absence.

We are lucky that we have an excellent first aid team here at Range for any medical emergencies; the team can assess any student for any sickness or injury. Please remind your son or daughter that they should not be using their mobile phone during the school day to ask you to collect them; they should seek advice from the first aid team, who can decide if they need to go home.

IT IS VITAL THAT YOU KEEP US INFORMED IF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CHANGE.

Year 11's Explore the Server Room

Our Year 11 GCSE Computer Science students took their learning offline this half term and into the heart of the school network! As part of our unit on Computer Networks, the class traded their workbooks for a VIP tour of our very own server room.

Guided by our fantastic Network Manager, Mr Latham, students got a rare look at the hardware that keeps us all connected. From the glowing LEDs of the switches to the complex Ethernet cabling, it was a chance to see the theory of data packets and network topologies in action.



What did we dive into? Mr Latham was very insightful, getting asked a lot of high-level questions. The group discussed:

- **The Backbone:** How our high-speed fibre optic cables connect different buildings.
- **Security:** How our firewalls and filters keep our data safe from the "outside world"
- **Storage:** Where all those student files actually live.
- **Hardware in Action:** Identifying routers, switches, and the cooling systems required to keep everything running 24/7.

It was a brilliant session that proved Computer Science isn't just about screens, it's about the massive infrastructure that powers our daily lives. A huge thank you to Mr Latham for his expertise and for making complex tech so easy to understand!

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

Year 7s Qualify as "Mini-Medics" Following Vital First Aid Training

On the 12th February 2026 – Year 7 pupils at Range High School have officially completed a life-saving training course, qualifying as certified "Mini-Medics" today. The initiative, which provided every student in the year group with two hours of intensive First Aid instruction.

Life-Saving Skills for the Next Generation

The course, delivered by specialist Mini-Medics trainers, was designed to be both engaging and age-appropriate. Over the two-hour sessions, the students moved beyond simple theory into hands-on practice. The curriculum included:

- Scene Safety and Assessment: Learning the "Ground Rules" of first aid—remaining calm, being sensible, and ensuring the area is safe before helping others.
- The Recovery Position: Practising how to place an unconscious person to maintain an open airway safely.
- Wound Management: Essential techniques for treating bleeds and understanding how to apply pressure to injuries.
- Communication Skills: How to effectively call 999 and provide precise information to emergency dispatchers under pressure.
- CPR Awareness: A basic introduction to chest compressions and the importance of quick action in cardiac arrest.

Fundraising with a Purpose

The training was funded through a specific Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Focusing on the critical issue of knife crime and community safety, the SLT successfully raised the necessary funds to ensure that every single Year 7 pupil could access professional medical training at no cost to their families.

By providing these students with the tools to handle emergency situations, the school is taking a proactive stance on student welfare and civic responsibility. The training ensures that if a student were ever faced with a medical crisis, they would have the presence of mind and the technical knowledge to provide assistance before professional paramedics arrive

A Community Effort

The course concluded today with a celebration of the students' achievements. School staff praised the Year 7s for their engagement, respect for one another, and their ability to tackle serious topics with maturity.



MINI MEDIC

A Positive School Culture

The atmosphere in the library—which served as the training hub—was one of focused determination. Staff noted how well the students adhered to the ground rules: participating fully, asking insightful questions, and showing profound respect for the serious nature of the topics discussed.

The final day of training was documented by Isaac Cavanagh, a Year 11 student and talented photographer from Range Waves, the school's student-led media group. His photos captured the transition of the Year 7s from curious learners to confident "Mini-Medics," ready to support their peers and the wider Formby community



As the Year 7s return to their regular timetables, they do so with a new sense of confidence and a certificate that recognises their commitment to saving lives. Range High School continues to demonstrate that while academic excellence remains a priority, the development of "life-ready" skills is equally vital to the growth of its students.

The school extends a massive thank you to everyone who supported the SLT's fundraising efforts, making this life-saving week possible.

- Mrs J McGugan

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Greenbank and Birkdale visit

Recently, I visited both Greenbank and Birkdale High Schools alongside Miss Ball and Mr McKay. I loved sharing and hearing about all the amazing experiences Range offers prospective students, as well as being able to give first-hand advice to students interested in the subjects I study.

I always love taking part in events like these as Range is such a special school with so much to offer, and it was lovely to see so many keen individuals who may attend the Sixth Form. When talking to students, we covered all of Range's facilities, the pastoral advantage of attending a Sixth Form compared to a larger college, and the breadth of knowledge and skills across all the faculties, which ultimately assist and nurture students in their future path, whether that be an apprenticeship or a competitive degree.

- Eleanor Baines, Sixth Form Head Student

Day in the life of a Sixth Former

On Friday, 6th February, our Year 11 students experienced a day as a Sixth Former. Students attended taster sessions in subjects they hadn't studied before, such as Criminology, Politics, Performing Arts, Digital Content, and Psychology.

"It was a really useful day and has helped me decide that I would like to stay on at Range to study Criminology"
- Gabrielle

"I was so impressed by the teachers who were leading the sessions. They are passionate about the subjects we are going to be studying," - Martha

"My favourite session was Psychology because we learnt about the psychology behind kindness, which was interesting" - Ava



Mae Phillips London Marathon

Mae is a Year 13 student who is currently training for the London Marathon, raising money for Claire House. She applied for the marathon in memory of both her dad and Ruby Jones, a Range student who lost her battle with illness last year. The school and especially the Sixth Form are so very proud of Mae and wish her every success in April. She is currently in New York with the Sixth Form, and to ensure she continues with her training, she will be running a half-marathon in the hotel gym! Good luck Mae and the money you will raise will have such a positive impact on families across Merseyside.

Netball

The senior netball team recently took part in the first round of the Merseyside netball tournament. The tournament brought together a range of schools competing for a place in the Merseyside finals.



Our girls played brilliantly throughout the tournament, winning all of their games and in turn going through as tournament winners. They were both determined and resilient, beating teams from across Sefton, including Formby High and Merchant Taylors'. The girls are now looking forward to the finals that will take place on Saturday, 7th March at Wirral Grammar School. I am so proud of the whole team, well done everybody!

- Mrs Phillips, Deputy Head Teacher

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Pop Culture: Violence Against Women and Girls

Our Year 12 Criminology students recently stepped into the digital lecture halls of the University of Sunderland for an insightful workshop titled "Pop Culture: Violence Against Women and Girls."

This session challenged the group to look beyond the screen and analyse how media shapes our perception of the justice system. By dissecting the representation of women in popular TV shows like *Adolescence*, students explored the nuances of how both offenders and victims are portrayed across various media platforms.

This critical analysis allowed them to connect their classroom theories to real-world cultural trends, sparking vital discussions on the power of storytelling in criminology.



Beyond the academic deep dive, the workshop provided a valuable bridge to higher education as students received a first-hand look at university life.

The University of Sunderland team shared what a typical day looks like for a Criminology undergraduate, outlining the diverse modules and career paths available within the field.

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

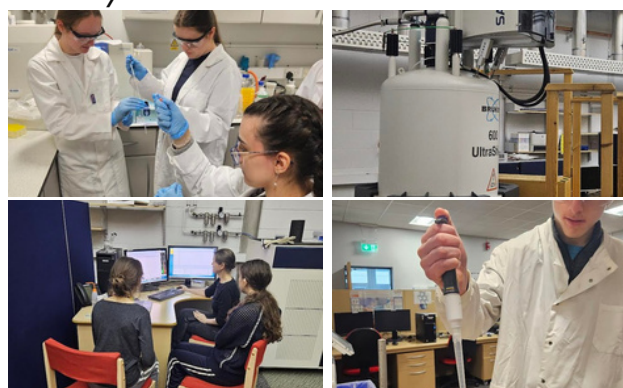
NMR

It was an inspiring afternoon that not only broadened their understanding of systemic issues but also gave them a clear and exciting vision of what their academic futures could hold.



As part of the A-level Chemistry syllabus, pupils are required to make various chemicals, including aspirin, which allows them to see the specification content put into context. Our aspirin samples were taken to the NMR centre at Liverpool University so they could be tested to see how pure the samples were. NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) is a technique used to find out about hydrogen and carbon environments, so you can deduce the structure of a compound. The fabulous staff at Liverpool University completed the analysis and were able to show us who made the best Aspirin. They also explained the variety of techniques used to analyse chemicals and samples from research studies across the university. Students were able to get 'hands-on' with practical techniques and completed a master class on NMR.

- Mrs J McGregor, Head of Science Faculty



Southport
Learning
Trust

