Walton High School Newsletter

April 2022

Spring Edition!

Headteacher's message

It has been another busy and productive term at Walton High School. I have been massively impressed by the sheer volume of achievements that our students have clocked up and I am sure that you will enjoy reading all about their successes in the following pages.

Of course, we are about to enter the most significant part of the school year for students at the top of the school as they embark upon their GCSE and A Level exams. Please do all that you can to support your children with their revision at this crucial time: all of the hard work will be worth it when those results come through in August!

I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful Easter break and I look forward to seeing the students refreshed and ready for what will no doubt be an equally busy Summer Term.

Neil Finlay
Headteacher

Future Pathways

Our Careers Fair 2022 is on Thursday 7th April from 6pm - 8pm. We have lots of stands showcasing Higher and Further Education, apprenticeships and a wide variety of professions and training. It is an excellent opportunity for pupils and parents to have a chat with exhibitors and gain some important insights into potential future pathways.

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U18 Rugby

The Year 11, Year 12 and James Milan from Year 13 played in the Staffordshire U18 Sevens' tournament on Wednesday 9th March and ended up winning the plate! These were the results:

Queen Mary's School, Walsall 19-12 (L)
Newcastle Under Lyme School (B) 5-32 (W)
Newcastle/ Stafford College 0-28 (W)
Thomas Alleynes, Uttoxetter 7-34 (W)

Congratulations to the team: James M - Y13, Hugo S - Y12, Archie B - Y12, Ollie D - Y12, George S - Y12, Ethan F - Y12, Cooper P - Y11, Tom C - Y11, Finn O - Y11, Henry R - Y11, Will S - Y11.

U15 Girls' Rugby

More good news! The U15 girls' rugby team won the Staffordshire District Tournament on Thursday 10th March. Some fantastic rugby from all the girls who played.

The Team: Mel P, Jess P, Caitlin S, Maisie V, Rosie S, Katie H, Niamh P, Victoria S, Millie C, Harriet C, Niamh J-Q.

Well done!

Year 10 Students Win Keele Maths Feast

On Wednesday 23rd March, four of our Year 10 students took part in the annual *Keele Maths Feast*, a maths problem-solving team competition. We are very pleased to announce that, not only did the students pluck up the courage to take part, but they ended up winning 3 out of 4 rounds getting full marks in 2 rounds and being the overall competition winners! The staff running the competition were blown away with the team work and resilience the girls showed and praised their mathematical abilities. Huge congratulations to Francesca N, Evie S, Millie C and Caitlin S. We are so proud of them!

Basketball Champion

Oliver Sweeney - Year 10

Oliver was part of a great team performance by C.O.B. (City of Birmingham) Rockets to get through to the Basketball England National League U16 Premier play offs. Oliver has been playing with the team for 3 ½ years and they are currently standing in the top ten in the UK.

Sixth Form News

Students Film Success

This term Letitia Smith and Rohan Jackson, Year 12 Film Studies students, took part in a residential course with the British Film Institute to study Special Effects and Animation in Film. During the course they teamed up with other talented young filmmakers to make an animated film or VFX sequence and spent time with industry specialists, receiving bespoke career advice and support with their projects. Letitia and Rohan beat strong competition in order to secure themselves places on the course. We are so proud of their achievements.

Boxing Champion

On Saturday 12th February our very talented boxer Amy Nolan, Year 12 reached the semi-final of the *Youth National Championships*,
With her stamina and skills and excellent performance Amy was scouted for England to join the *England Development Team*. A great achievement!

Well done Amy!

Sixth Form Youth Parliament

Since the start of the year, the group of Sixth Form students below have been working extremely hard in enrichment for Walton Sixth Form's Youth Parliament. They have been carrying out a number of different projects in conjunction with both the UK's Youth Parliament campaigns and their Youth Voice Award, which they have been working towards. As part of this, we have been working together on a way to keep both yourselves and students informed of our progress and have developed a small newsletter to keep everyone up to date with our campaigns. Please click here to access the newsletter in its digital form.

Members of the Sixth Form Youth Parliament include Patience C, Kian C, Madeline H, Robert M, Teagan M, Max R, Mabel S, Isabella S, Neve W. supported by Mr Brindley.

BBC Midlands News

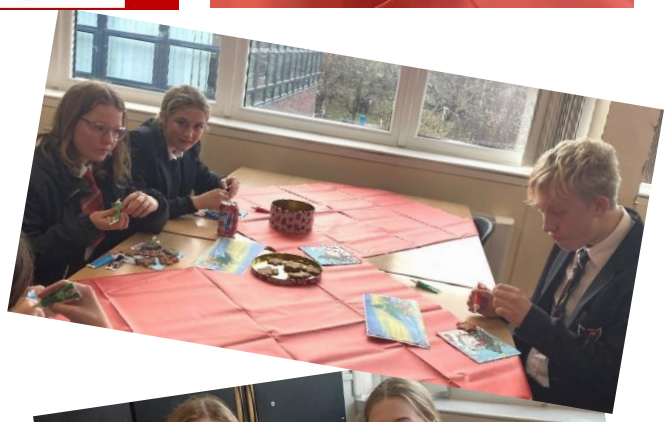
The BBC news team were in school interviewing Mrs Hickman for a broadcast on *Midlands Today* on 17th February. The interview was to raise awareness of FND and highlight the condition. Neve Collins, Year 11 was diagnosed with FND around a year ago and since then her mobility and seizures have fluctuated massively.
From being fully paralysed from the waist down, to being able to walk almost normally with the help of crutches, her mobility has improved tremendously over the last six months. Neve set herself a challenge of walking as far as she could with no walking aids and with a minimum distance of 5K.
Lots of students, teachers and friends supported the cause by doing a 10K sponsored walk on Sunday 27th February, with all monies raised by Neve going to the *FND Action* charity.

New Management Information System

The school's Management Information System (MIS) change over to IRIS Ed:Gen is now functional for staff to use. The new system has improved technical features and enhanced security.

News from Modern Foreign Languages

In December a group of Year 8 students helped us prepare to celebrate a German Christmas!
We decorated Lebkuchen and made traditional German tree decorations. Some Year 12 students helped us with the crafting!
We sang Christmas songs in German accompanied by Billy and James playing guitar and tuba and we ate lots of German Christmas goodies.
Lots of fun was had by all!



Tree Planting

The project to plant 3,500 trees in 2022 is completed! Co-ordinated by Mr Fletcher this was an amazing feat involving both students and staff.

Varieties of trees planted included: Alder, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Oak, Wild Cherry, Field Maple, Willow, Hornbeam, Rowan, Silver Birch and Hazel.

Mrs Rowland

Lads from Year 11 were involved in starting the planting task and then throughout the process. Later on we had help from our feeder primary schools: Oakridge, Leasowes, Barnfield and Berkswich.

Staff also contributed and groups of students were enlisted at lunchtimes.

Year 11 lads and Mr Fletcher

Group Planting

Saplings planted through weed retardant fabric

Jute discs used at the base to plant

World Book Day 2022

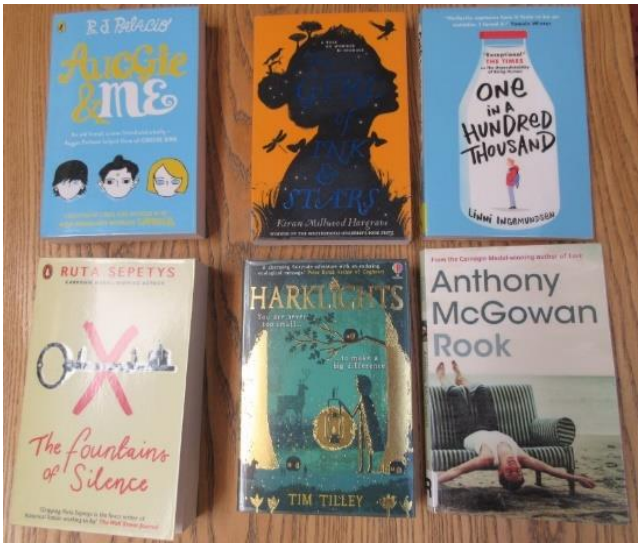
Events to celebrate World Book Day took place on Thursday 3rd March. These included a Book Character dressing up competition for Year 7 and 8 which was attended by Mr Finlay, Headteacher, Mrs Cooper, Director of Sixth Form and Governors, Mr Powell and Mrs Richards. A *book review* and *book cover design* competition took place for Year 9, 10 and 11.

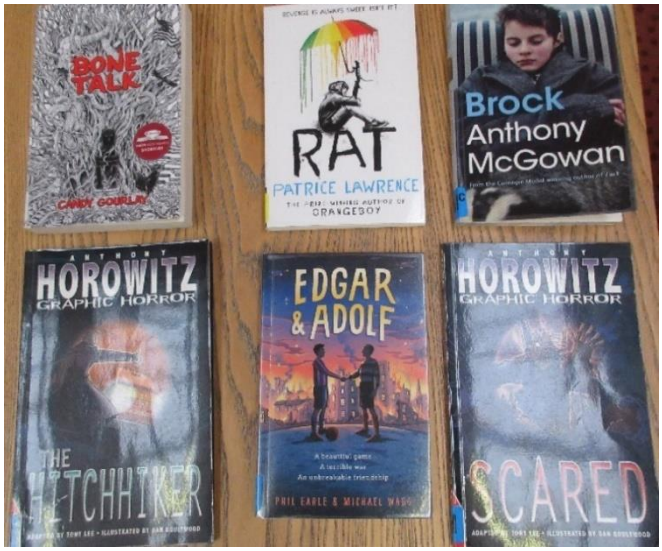
Year 7 and 8 winners were: James F, Defne O, Roumaissa B, C. Byrne, Isabelle H, Erin M.

Year 9 winner: Anum H for her fantastic review of *Fallen* by Lauren Kate.

Thank you to all who participated. A special mention to the Sixth Formers who helped on the day Ben, Madeline, Evie Thea, Samantha, Annabel and Rimini.

New Books In Your School Library





Competition

Back by popular demand! Read a book and earn a star! Students gaining 5 stars after reading five books will be entered into the prize draw to win prizes! The competition will run from Tuesday 26th April – Wednesday 29th June. Students can collect a card to record books read from the *School Library*.

Forthcoming Dates

Thurs	7 April	Careers Fair 6pm – 8pm
Sat - Sun	9 April - 24 April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Tues	26 April	Y8 Virtual Parents' Evening
Mon	2 May	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues	3 May	Y8 Options Evening 6pm – 7.30pm
Sat - Sun	28 May – 5 June	HALF TERM

Attendance Leaderboard

Kingsley	**95.88%**
Hazelslade	**94.01%**
Deercote	**93.48%**
Oldacre	**91.76%**

Help raise funds for Walton High School while you shop!
It's easy to get started, either google "easyfundraising.org" and choose support "Walton High School" or follow this link:

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Every time you shop on line, you can go through the easyfundraising website, which will then take you to your chosen retailer.

This is just a small list of retailers:

Argos, M&S, Amazon, Asda, Boots, lastminute.com, booking.com, Just Eat, Fat Face, Ebay, Sports Direct, John Lewis, H & M