

Wallingford School Sixth Form News

Term 3, Week 3: 24th January, 2025

Email: sixthform@wallingfordschool.com

6th Form



Events coming up:

Week Commencing 27th October

Enrichment Lecture – *Wednesday 29th January, 6F Common Rm*

After School Revision – *weekly Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday*

School Production, Joseph & His Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat - *Thursday 30th Jan – Saturday 1st Feb*

Year 12 Gold D of E Training Day (In School) - *Sunday 2nd February*

PSE Friday 31st January

Y12: Young Carers

Y13: Revision

Events coming up:

Year 13 Mock Exams - 5th – 14th February

Important information & News



We wish a Happy 18th Birthday to Eric.



Gonk



Sunny and Red are impressed with the winners this week.

In Y13, we recognize Annie for all her hard work and the insightful assembly presentation she gave to the Year 12's this morning.

The History department wanted to recognise Isabella in Y12 for the extra work she is doing in the subject. This is setting strong foundations that will benefit her greatly. Well done Isabella!



Enrichment Lectures 2025



Thank you so much to Ms Haworth-Walsh and Mr Bowen for the first two enrichment lectures in which we learned about Chinese investment in South America and the complete History of Art! Both pretty good ways to spend 30 minutes after school on a cold January afternoon. There are still three lectures to go and we look forward to seeing you in the sixth form common room for these enriching lectures!



Date	<u>Lecture: What do I really need to know about...</u>
Wednesday 29th January	<u>The Rwanda Genocide</u> How a country and its people were torn apart. Mr Harpin
Monday 3rd February	<u>Trainers</u> Come and find out how a horse, Michael Jordan and two squabbling siblings have all contributed to the establishment of a \$100 billion * market. *projected size of market by 2026 Ms Miller
Tuesday 11th February	<u>The Romantic Poets</u> 'Mad, bad and dangerous to know!' Beyond the incest, infidelity and insanity, the Romantic poets were some of the greatest writers in the English language, and have had an enduring impact on the culture and psyche of British and European literature. This whistle-stop lecture offers a brief overview of the lives and works of some of the biggest names of the Romantic era.

Journalism Guest Speaker

We were lucky enough to have a guest speaker from Oxford University come in and speak to some of our students about careers in Journalism at lunchtime today. Julia Sadler gave an incredibly insightful glimpse into the immense opportunities that journalism careers allow, explaining not only the importance of journalism but also ways into the sector. One thing she stressed as a takeaway from the talk was to keep writing! Whether as part of our Wallingford student newspaper or in personal blogs, honing your interest and skills are key. Another interesting point she made was that ways into journalism vary, you don't just need an undergraduate degree, there are conversion courses and apprenticeship out there.

The slides that were shown at today's talk will be made available for everyone interested and a link to a briefing on journalism from Oxford University Careers Service is available bellow.

Thank you again for giving up your time to speak to us Mrs. Sadler and we look forward to publishing the first edition of our student newspaper. (Sophie – Y13)

<https://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/journalism><https://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/journalism>

History – Dr Martin Stern

Last Tuesday 21st January, the Year 12 History class walked down to the Methodist Church in Wallingford to watch an interview with Dr Martin Stern, a holocaust survivor. Around 1.5 million children were murdered in the holocaust. Stern, who was born in the Netherlands in 1938 has an extraordinary story, surviving this horrific persecution. Much of this was down to good people who helped him. Sadly, some of them were punished and much of it was simply down to luck.

Seeing Stern was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and one I do not think any of us will soon forget. We have all learnt, read and watched things about the holocaust but seeing someone in real life who survived this genocide reminds us that 6 million is not just a statistic, but countless stories forced to remain unfinished.

The 27th of January will mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. It's important to remember the lessons we can take from such horrific events – to stand against persecution and intolerance so no child has to fear for their life. (Marta – Year 12)



Lessons from Auschwitz



Last year Annie and Thea became Holocaust Ambassadors through their engagement with the Holocaust Education Trust, an experience which Annie shared in assembly this morning to Year 12. Holocaust Remembrance Day is on Monday 27th January and this year commemorates the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau so it is a fitting time to open applications for this year's two places.

▶ If you would like to become a Holocaust ambassador, please apply by writing an email to Mr Holton and Ms Mummery explaining why you would like to be considered for one of the two places. You need to be available at the following times:

- ▶ Orientation Seminar: **Sunday 16th March, 1:00pm**
One-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland: **Thursday 20th March, from Bristol Airport**
Follow-up Seminar: **Wednesday 26th March, 3:00pm**
Next Steps deadline: **Wednesday 4th June**
- ▶ Cost: c£60 (although please see us if this is an obstacle to your applying)

Annie has written the following piece to share her experience:

Starting in February 2024 I have been taking part in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project which is organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust. One of the main aims of this project is to humanise the victims – to move away from only referring to the number 6 million and to keep the memory of victims alive by remembering stories of individuals, families and communities. There are many ways to make learning about the Holocaust connect with the victims, for example by listening to survivor stories, learning about Jewish life in Europe in the 1930s and 40s and by researching victims who you've heard of.

Another thing this project emphasised was the importance to not compare genocides – but to learn from them all. What many genocides, including the Holocaust, the Rwandan genocide and the Cambodian genocide can all teach us is how dangerous prejudice can be. No genocide starts with gas chambers and concentration camps. They start with prejudice, gradually forced onto the population by leaders and organisations. One of many lessons to be learnt from the Holocaust is how important it is to stand up against prejudice and discrimination as this is an example of how much of a dangerous slope even “small” actions of prejudice can be. As the number of anti-Semitic and Islamophobic hate crimes have both sharply increased in the last year, it is evident that the Holocaust still has a lot for our country and world to learn from.

It's understandable to not know how to approach learning about the Holocaust - although it is clear WHY the Holocaust is still very much relevant to us today, the statistics can make it seem incomprehensible, and the complex emotions associated with it might make it feel worrying. Despite this, I'd encourage everyone to start developing their own, personal understanding of the Holocaust. There are many ways to approach it to make it accessible for everyone. Learning about an individual community or family can make the scale and impact of the Holocaust more comprehensible than statistics, as it gives a personal feeling to the victims and their experiences. It is also important to note that there is no right or wrong way to react or feel. Learning about the Holocaust is understandably an emotional experience, which can often lead to many people having more questions than answers. However, it is entirely normal to not quite know how to feel.

Enrichment Lectures – Mansfield College

There are some amazing public talks coming up this term from Oxford University, Mansfield College.

Take a look at their website: <https://www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/mansfield-college-public-talks>

Dates	Lectures
Friday 31st January	<p>Capturing the Holocaust: Documentary Filmmaking, remembrance and family stories</p> <p>Holocaust Memorial Day encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. Now, as the last Holocaust survivors die, BAFTA-winning filmmaker Simon Finch (himself the child of a Holocaust survivor) asks how their stories can still be told.</p> <p>Simon Finch</p>
Friday 7th February	<p>The Joycelyn Bell-Burnell Lecture: The politics of Net Zero and the future of fossil fuels</p> <p>Net zero is becoming political. Professor Allen, the Appleton award-winning ‘physicist behind net zero’ asks what steps can be taken, by whom and when, to address global warming caused by fossil fuels and to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement before we stop using fossils altogether.</p> <p>Professor Myles Allen CBE</p>

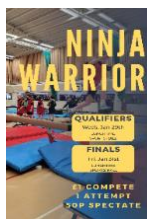
Donations



Thank you to everyone who brought in items for the Food Bank drive that took place at the end of Term 2 and the first 2 weeks back this term. Last Friday, we filled the school van with all the donations and dropped them off to the Wallingford Food bank.



Ninja Warrior



Ninja Warrior competition kicks off next Wednesday, 29th January with qualifiers in the Sports Hall at lunchtime.

Finals will take place next Friday, 31st January at lunchtime in the Sports Hall. £1 entry per person, 50p for spectators.

Debate Club

Monday evening saw the first round of debating competitions for our MUN/debate club team.

Two pairs of year 12s: George A and Matthew H, Charles M and Jamie C, and two pairs of year 10s joined the 60 teams from across the South, on Zoom, for their parliamentary style debate. Given only 15 minutes to prepare, with no access to the internet for research, the teams had 2 rounds of debate. This year's topics were "This house supports the ban of social media platforms for children under 16" and "This house supports the payment of a wage for house wives and house husbands". Having to not only prepare their own arguments for or against these motions, the teams had to pull apart the proposals given by the other 3 teams in their group. The pressure was on to make cohesive and coercive points that brought their arguments to the forefront of the discussion.



The 2 gruelling hours of debate were enjoyed by all, no progression to the next round this time but there is always next year! Well done debaters!

Useful Opportunities

UKAEA – United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

On **Friday 31st January**, we have some guests coming to school to talk to Year 11 and 6th Form who are interested in Apprenticeships. This can be for end of Year 11 or end of Sixth Form. The emphasis is on Engineering but there are some other options too, which I will list below. This is a drop in session not formal presentations.

Students will be able to find out about the apprenticeships offered, how to apply and any other questions they would like to ask. If you wish to attend, please let Mrs Lutunatabua know by lunch time on Monday 27th January.

The Apprenticeships they offer are:

Professional Support:

- L2 Nuclear Health Physics Monitor 24 months
- L3 Information Communication Technician 18 months
- L3 Assistant Accountant 18 months
- L3 Business Administrator 18 months
- L3 HR Support 18 months
- L3 Procurement and Supply Assistant 18 months
- L4 Public Relations and Communications Assistant 18 months
- L4 Associate Project Manager 24 months
- L6 BSc. (Hons) Integrated Project Manager Degree Apprenticeship 48 months

Engineering and Technical:

- L3 Engineering Technician 42 months
- L5 Technician Scientist 36 months
- L6 Digital and Technology Solutions Professional 36 months
- L6 Product Design and Development Engineer 60 months
- L6 Electrical/Electronic Technical Support Engineer 60 months

OAS – Oxfordshire Advanced Skills – Training for Apprenticeship Engineers and Technicians at Levels 2, 3 and 4

The Engineering Trust – They help match students with Employers throughout Oxfordshire and support students throughout the application process.

University of Glasgow Opportunities

UofG Student Life information sessions (Zoom):

Join us to hear about student life in Glasgow from a current UofG student. Our student will talk through their life in Glasgow, Societies, Sports, Accommodation and more, with time for questions. We will also be joined by a member of staff for any further questions. More details, dates and registration here:

www.gla.ac.uk/explore/visit/undergraduate/onlineinfosessions/studentledinfosessions

Channel Talent events:

We are hosting several virtual webinars across a variety of specialist areas throughout Jan/Feb via Channel Talent, including:

- Geography: Enclosing The Environmental Commons? Historical Roots and the Global Present w/ Professor Christopher Philo from UoG: January 28th 10:10 – 10:55am, details and registration here: www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/geography-university-interactive-talk-on-global-commons
 - Aeronautical Engineering: University Interactive Talk on Decarbonization – Technology & Industry Review w/ Dr Ian Taylor from UoG: January 29th 10:10 – 10:55am, details and registration here: www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/aeronautical-engineering-university-interactive-talk-on-decarbonization-technology-industry-review
 - insight4me Biology: Genetics w/ UoG & University of East Anglia: February 4th 09:05 – 10:05am: www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/insight4me-biology-genetics
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Oxfordshire Advanced Skills Event



<https://oas.ukaea.uk/openevenings>

Oxfordshire Advanced Skills are holding an engineering apprenticeships open evening on **30th January from 17:30 - 19:30 (2 x 60 min sessions)**. Students will have the opportunity to tour the facilities and meet the team, current apprentices and employer partners. Booking is essential.

RAF World: Ready for Take Off

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/raf-world-ready-for-take-off-tickets-1059583204889

This online event on **29th January from 19:30 - 21:00** is an opportunity to discover what life could be like as part of the RAF's dynamic team. From real-world skill-building and growth opportunities to extraordinary career pathways, students will get an insider's view of a career that truly takes you places



Christ's-Trinity Cambridge Women in Maths Residential

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/christs-trinity-women-maths-residential-march-2025

This residential is open to **young women Year 12 students** interested in studying Maths and related courses at a top university and will take place from **27th to 29th March**. Participants will attend lectures and classes taught by Cambridge academics, meet current students and admissions staff, have the chance to explore the University of Cambridge Christ's and Trinity Colleges and take part in social and other maths-related activities alongside academic sessions.

Deadline to apply: **28th January, 09:00**.

Peterhouse Opportunities

Year 12 Schools Tour – Oxfordshire

We still have some availability left for our Oxfordshire Schools Tour! Our Outreach Officers will be visiting Oxfordshire and delivering a session to Year 12 students; the standard session will cover how to make a competitive application to university (including to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge), and how to use supercurricular study to enhance an application.

We have some space left in the mornings of Wednesday 26th February and Thursday 27th February. Please contact us by **Monday 27th January** if you would be interested in either of these dates!

Christ's-Trinity Women in Maths Residential March 2025

This programme, run by Christ's College and Trinity College, is open to women in Year 12 who are interested in studying Maths at a top university. Participants will be invited to Cambridge and have the opportunity to stay in a college and attend lectures and classes taught by Cambridge academics! They will also meet current students and admissions staff.

The residential runs from the 27th March to the 29th March. This programme is only open to women from state schools who are studying Maths and Further Maths A Levels. Please find more info and the application form [here](#).

Deadline: 9am, 28th January 2025

Girton College Taster Days

Girton College are running a series of subject taster days in February and March, open to Year 12 and 11 students. There are three sessions, covering Biological Natural Sciences; Philosophy, Theology and Religion; and Classics, Archaeology and Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic.

These events are teacher nominated: for further information and the link for nomination please see [here](#).

Please also have a look at the Work Experience and the Careers board in Study for more information.

