

Wallingford School Sixth Form News

Term 4, Week 4: 20th March, 2026

Email: sixthform@wallingfordschool.com

6th Form



A message from the 6f team:

We wish Year 13 all the very best as they embark on their revision trip to the Lake District this weekend. We hope that all can find the focus quickly and really make the most of the time to kick start their revision for the summer exam period. It is due to be a quieter week in 6th form next week, but there is continuing to be a huge amount going on in 6th form. Earlier this week, Year 12 had trips, including our 3 holocaust ambassadors visiting Auschwitz. We look forward to hearing about this more next week. Today, Year 12 did superbly in presenting their EPQ presentations – more to follow next week! Also today, we were visited by our local MP Olly Glover who shared his views with and answered questions from our Year 12 Politics students. Next week, we see the ever competitive House Matches for Year 12, which will be a nice way for us to round off a busy term!

Events coming up:

Week Commencing 23rd March

Y12 Ski Trip departs – **Fri 27th March**

Term ends – **Fri 27th March, 3:05pm**

Y12 DofE Gold Practical Training Day – **Sun 12th April**

PSE: Friday 27th March

Y12 – House Matches & PR/RAP Conversations

Y13 – n/a

Events coming up

Term 5 starts – **Mon 13th April**

Y12 UCAS Fair Trip – **Thurs 23rd April** (during the school day)

Important information & News



We wish a Happy Birthday to James, Zoe and Ava, and a very Happy 18th Birthday to Lizzie, Annabelle, Annabella, Samuel, Ben, and Harry.



Y13 Lake District Trip KEY REMINDERS

A Reminder to meet on Sunday 22nd at school at 7:00AM. Please be prompt. If any students wish to take part in early morning runs, a reminder to bring running shoes!

Year 12 Trip to UCAS Exhibition at Farnborough International Airport – Thurs 23rd April

Year 12 parents & carers will have received information today about the Year 12 trip to Farnborough on Thursday 23rd April. The trip is taking place during the school day. The exhibition will have a large number of universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers who will be able to help best inform students on the possible pathways available to them.

The event also has course and careers taster sessions, student talks with Q&A, expert advice on how to research and choose what's right for you, and (perhaps most importantly) the chance to explore and meet representatives from universities and employers face-to-face.

We are hoping that all Year 12 students will attend. Please see the information communicated via Edulink

Year 12 Hustings for the Student Leadership Group – 2026/27

It is coming to that time of year, over the halfway mark, when Year 13 begin to relinquish their responsibilities and Year 12 are asked to step forward and take up the reins. We have seen an excellent response to the role of Peer Supporters, the interviews for which took place this week. Our outgoing student leadership group have recently spoken to Year 12 about their role over the past year, what they achieved and how they benefitted from the experience. We will be asking Year 12 students to put themselves forward during a hustings on Friday 24th April where they will be asked to talk to the year group about why they are applying, what they would like to achieve and what they feel they can bring to the team. We ask you all to consider putting yourself forward for this – it is a team effort and the most successful team has a variety of personalities and strengths. **To put yourself forward, please sign up on the sheet in the 6th form office.**

Aspiring Medics/Vets/Dentists in Year 12

On **Thursday 23rd April after school**, a former student who studied medicine will be visiting to speak to students considering pursuing medicine, veterinary science or dentistry about how they can best be preparing themselves for the applications for these courses. Venue tbc.

Easter 2026 Ski Trip Meeting/Roomings

Please can all those who are coming on the Easter 2026 Ski Trip meet Miss Shine in **K5 Monday 23rd at 1pm**.

If pupils know who they want to room with, please let them know they can write this down and deliver it to MSI's Desk in the KS3 Office

ILYMUN

Wednesday 11th March 2026, 3.45am: 10 students from Year 12 and 1 from Year 13 meet in the cover of darkness, waiting for the transfer to Lyon to begin. Nerves were rife with the anticipation of meeting host families and debating in new committees.

As always, the topics were perfectly current, with each committee having a crisis delivered to them by guest speakers – employees from INTERPOL, UN Women and political journalists. With the students tackling problems such as: How the current ceasefire in Yemen can be strengthened? What can be done to safeguard the rights of minorities; such as the Khoisan tribe who hold the secrets to cultivating Rooibos tea in South Africa? How can the UN Women ensure bodily autonomy and integrity for all? What can be done to ensure the sharing of global resources? How can INTERPOL act to stop transnational organised crime?

Additionally, this year we had 3 judges in the International Criminal Court who were presiding over the trial of Omar Al-Bashir – former President of the Republic of Sudan – who was charged with Crimes against humanity, War crimes and Genocide.

Courageous speeches were made by all – trying to convince their fellow delegates to follow the ways of their country; even if that was Myanmar and the rights of women! Confidence was gained and friendships cemented. The exhausted delegates left having forged lasting memories.

The students said:

“Before going to ILYMUN the only expectation was to improve my academics, however what I did not understand was that it would be the opportunity to meet amazing people from across Europe and what an incredible amount of confidence it takes to debate in front of such a large crowd of people. I have enjoyed my time at the Model UN and have made incredible friendships along the way too.” – Cassia

“Before I went to ILYMUN, I wasn't sure what to expect, but from only 3 days in France I have learnt so much. In Lyon I made new friends, acquired new skills, explored the beautiful city (only getting lost a few times!), and had the best night at the party. Throughout the experience, I was surrounded by hundreds of people whose passion and confidence was inspiring. I would 100% recommend ILYMUN.” – Rubymae



Football

Congratulations to our Girls Football Team who beat St Clare's 3-0 at the City Stadium last week, reaching the semi-final of the cup. Yesterday they acquitted themselves superbly, but were beaten by a very strong St Edward's side away from home.

Very well done to you all!



Y13 Biology Trip

The Biology trip to Oxford University Museum of Natural History was an amazing opportunity to physically apply our textbook knowledge into practice. We started our day doing a self-experiment to see if we had the Taster Phenotype by identifying bitter taste. Ultracentrifugation was first performed on a sample of our cheek cells before PCR, and finally, Gel Electrophoresis. This was used to identify our Genotype and whether our personal predictions were correct or not. Though this was an academic trip, we had the chance to explore the historic museum, and it was quite interesting to be able to see all of its items. I found this trip very useful and engaging as I learnt more about Biology beyond A-level, and I gained new skills that are directly helpful to anyone wanting to pursue a scientific career. (Poppy – Y13)



Peer Supporters

“All the applicants were brilliant – I really loved hearing what they had to say in the interviews – very caring and emotionally intelligent. Really made my days” – Mrs Driscoll

Year 12 new Peer Supporters need to check Satchel for a message from Mrs Driscoll. If you can't see it, please can they let Mrs Driscoll know asap.

Also, if any of the new peer supporters are biologists who have a lesson period 5 and 6 next Tuesday, please can they respond to the Satchel message that is relevant to them as a matter of urgency – regarding their required practical and the training

Calling any Climbers

There will be a talk by one of UK's leading amateur climbers - Mick Fowler. It is on **Friday 10th April in Brightwell Village hall**. It will be an interesting talk as Mr Fowler has climber in the Himalayas, Alps and in winter in Scotland.

Entry will cost £10, £5 if you're under 18. All funds will to Brightwell Supporting Refugees.

University Open Days

This is a brilliant time to start researching university and the many [open days](#) that they will be offering.

Most open days are at the weekend but should one be during the school week that you wish to attend, please email sixthform@wallingfordschool.com to inform us. Students will have to get catch up with any work they miss out on. This will be marked as authorised absence.

Current Affairs Kahoot This Week

Well done to the following for making the podium of this week's current affairs Kahoot quiz:

1 st Place -	10,915	Jasmine	13NJO
2 nd Place -	10,566	Skye	12DBO
3 rd Place -	9963	Jemima	12YH

Please see **Mrs Lutunatabua** for your prize!

Useful Opportunities

University of Oxford Mathematics Departmental Open Days

www.maths.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate-study/open-days

There are two open days coming up at the University of Oxford's Mathematics department:

- **Saturday 25th April:** in-person departmental open day in Oxford, with a day of Mathematics talks and course information (booking required).
- **Saturday 23rd May:** online virtual departmental open day, with course information, Q&A and some pre-recorded Mathematics talks (no booking required).

There will also be sessions at the Mathematics department as part of the summer university open days on **1st and 2nd July and 18th September** - no booking is required for sessions at the Mathematics department.

Biochemical Engineering Virtual Taster Lecture Series



www.ucl.ac.uk/engineering/biochemical-engineering-virtual-taster-lecture-series-2026

This annual online lecture series brings together leading researchers and academics from UCL Biochemical Engineering to share their work and insights, giving students the opportunity to discover what biochemical engineering is, explore the global challenges UCL are tackling and learn how their innovations are shaping the future. There are 5 lectures taking place between **23rd and 30th March**, covering topics such as lab-grown meat, next-generation vaccine manufacture, AI-driven drug design and advances in gene therapy.

The SHEF Movement

https://hittraining.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oClbKN47QN-KkA4mKsDvMw

The SHEF Movement (www.theshefmovement.co.uk) is an ongoing movement led by HIT Training to shine a light on female chefs across the UK - from apprentices finding their feet to leaders in the field. This webinar on **25th March from 10:00** will bring together a panel of inspiring voices from across the industry for an open and honest discussion, including the realities of working in professional kitchens and advice and insights for the next generation of culinary talent.



EKFB

EKFB are offering four hybrid work experience opportunities, at three locations, for a total of up to **50 Year 12 students**. Travel expenses for in-person days can be reimbursed and lunch on those days will be provided.

Attendees will join EKFB, a Main Works Contractor on the High Speed 2 (HS2) project, working on an epic 80km stretch between Warwickshire and Buckinghamshire - and get a real taste of life on one of the UK's biggest infrastructure projects ever.

What they will do:

- 🔧 Visit a real, working construction site
- 📦 Take part in hands-on STEM challenges
- 👤 Meet industry experts and hear how they built their careers
- 🏗️ Tackle real-world engineering problems
- 🔍 Discover the huge range of careers in construction and infrastructure
- 🗣️ Pitch ideas back to EKFB professionals

Students will be on site on Monday and Friday and collaborating online on Tuesday and Thursday via Google Classroom. They will work in small teams to design and plan their own railway project - building skills in teamwork, problem-solving, creativity and leadership.

Links to apply:

- **w/c 29th June** (Chipping Warden):
<https://finder.futuresforall.org/opportunity-detail/01DDCAB5-18A4-4C5F-466D-08DE6EDD88A5>
- **w/c 29th June** (Westbury):
<https://finder.futuresforall.org/opportunity-detail/CF753124-DEB9-4F9C-2076-08DE72E1EC38>
- **w/c 6th July** (Chipping Warden):
<https://finder.futuresforall.org/opportunity-detail/6F1432ED-3B8C-441B-515A-08DE73A54FFA>
- **w/c 6th July** (Aylesbury):
<https://finder.futuresforall.org/opportunity-detail/07C28533-A43D-457F-515B-08DE73A54FFA>

Applications close on **Monday 13th April** or earlier if they get significant interest (this is looking highly likely for Aylesbury).

St John's College Year 12 Study Days

www.sjc.ox.ac.uk/access-and-outreach/our-programmes-sjc/study-days

These Inspire Study Days are immersive, subject-specific events that take place at the University of Oxford St John's College that enable **Year 12 students** to experience what it is like to study their chosen subject at university. These events are free and include various workshops and lectures, college tours and free lunch.

- 22nd April - Classics
- 29th April - Maths & Computer Science
- 8th May - Psychology
- 15th May - English
- 5th June - PPE

Please note students should only apply to one event. Deadlines: Applications close 7 weeks ahead of each event.

St Anne's Supercurricular Club



www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate/outreach/students/st-annes-super-curricular-club

The University of Oxford's St Anne's Supercurricular Club is a series of online academic taster sessions aimed at **Year 12 students** who want to broaden their academic interests and gain insight into university-level research and undergraduate-style teaching. Students will gain insight into their proposed study area, ahead of when they start to put together their personal statement.

Each taster session will be one hour long and will introduce students to researchers' work and what this subject area might be like to study at Undergraduate level. All taster sessions will take place on **Thursdays from 16:00-17:00** between **16th April and 4th June 2026**.

Flash Fiction Competitions in French, German and Spanish

www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/schools-liaison-and-outreach/language-competitions



The University of Oxford Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages has announced that this year's Flash Fiction Competitions in French, Spanish and German are now open. These competitions invite secondary school students to submit a complete story of no more than 100 words, in French, Spanish, or German, for the chance to win up to £100. Entries are judged by a panel of academics who are primarily looking for creativity, imagination and narrative flair, as well as linguistic accuracy. Students' language skills will be considered in the context of their age and year group. There are 3 categories: **Years 7-9, Years 10-11 and Years 12-13**.

Closing date: **12:00 on 31st March**.

Lloyds Banking Group Easter Break – Virtual Work Experience

Are you ready to take your first step into the world of banking and finance this Easter Break? Whether you're considering apprenticeships, work experience, internships or graduate schemes—this session is your launchpad.

Lloyds Banking Group is a world-renowned commercial, personal, and investment banking management firm and the UK's biggest Bank. LBG has over 30 million customers and around 60,000 employees globally and is a FTSE 100 company. Under

the Lloyds Banking Group business, they also own Halifax and Bank of Scotland, as well as other financial institutions such as Scottish Widows.

What to expect:

- We'll show you an introduction to LBG
- How to evolve your presentation skills
- Take part in business-related challenges
- Commercial awareness and building essential skills workshops
- Learn about banking, finance, and digital technology
- Learn about a SWOT analysis and putting it into practice

Your future starts now. Let's unlock it—together.

Event Details:

Date: Monday, 30th March or Tuesday, 7th April - *please choose one session only*

Time: 10am - 2pm

For: Students at school and University

Location: (Zoom link provided upon registration)

Application Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBG_VWEX_MAR

MRC Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine Work Experience

The MRC WIMM runs a two-week work experience programme for Year 12 state school students in Oxfordshire, who are interested in biological and medical research.

Students will be hosted by [research groups](#) within the MRC Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, where they will have the opportunity to learn about different aspects of the research carried out in the Institute and to discover new experimental techniques. The programme also includes group sessions on research careers, immunology, haematology and other related topics.

In 2026, the programme will run from Monday 27th July to Friday 7th August.

Placement students are likely to be expected to attend between 10:30 am and 4 pm, Monday to Friday, for each of the two weeks. Lunch will be provided each day.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Students should be:

- In Year 12
- Attending an Oxfordshire State School
- Studying at least one science subject at A level (or equivalent)

Please note that students must be aged 16 or over to attend this programme due to Health & Safety policies.

Applications for the 2026 programme opened on **Monday 23rd February** and will close on **Friday 27th March**. [Apply Here](#)

Please take the time to have a look at the Work Experience and Opportunities board in 6F for more information and posters.

