

Wallingford School Sixth Form News

Term 4, Week 5: 27th March, 2026

Email: sixthform@wallingfordschool.com

6th Form



A message from the 6f team:

A shorter term, but by no means any less action-packed. We look forward to welcoming back the majority of Year 13 students who have been in the Lake District this week. We will hear more about this after Easter. Year 12 have had a taste of being top of the school this week. We are delighted that we have so many Peer Supporters who have successfully applied from Year 12. Equally, we are thrilled that so many students have put themselves forward for the Student Leadership Group elections. We look forward to the hustings event for this after Easter. We rounded off today with the House Matches for Year 12 – we saw some fiercely competitive netball and football games in true house spirit. Well done to Christie and Matilda for the wins in this. Enjoy the Easter Holidays.

Events coming up:

Week Commencing 13th April

Term 5 starts – **Mon 13th April**

PSE: Friday 17th April

Y12 – Student Leadership Group Hustings

Y13 – Revision Timetables

Events coming up

Y12 Hustings – **Fri 17th April**

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

Aspiring Medics/Vets/Dentists Talk – **Thurs 23rd April**

Important information & News



We wish a Happy Birthday to Daniel, Seth, Jacob, Jessica, Zac, Douglas, Aimee, Georgia and Amber, and a very Happy 18th Birthday to Daniel, Flora, Ollie, Ava, Emilie and Martha.



EPQ Presentations

Very well done to our 32 Year 12 students who delivered their EPQ presentations last Friday. We were treated to a very broad range of very well researched projects, ranging from Greek Mythology to Aviation with a lot in between. The EPQ is an important part of our provision at 6th form; it requires a long stretch of hard work and detailed research from the start of Year 12. Well done to all. We would also like to publicly thank our EPQ coordinator, Mrs Keogh. Mrs Keogh carries out this role as a volunteer and has done so for several years at school. We are very fortunate to have individuals in our school community who give up their time in this way.



Lessons from Auschwitz



During my visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau we visited many different blocks where we could see the book of names, the victims shoes and personal belongings, paintings, pictures and so on. It was a very educational and important experience and I would implore everyone to visit if they had the opportunity to do so. (Cecily – Y12)

We visited Auschwitz for a day as a part of the lessons with Auschwitz Project, this focused on the Holocaust and the persecution of Jewish people across Europe. We had a tour guide show us around both Auschwitz I & Auschwitz II, Birkenau, where we were shown replications and remains of the real camp. The trip gave us a

much deeper understanding of the horrors and helped us to be able to comprehend the extent of the suffering and lives lost. I would recommend a trip to Auschwitz to anyone with the opportunity as although it can be quite emotional, it also gives us a further view of the individual stories and loss. (Ava – Y12)

On the trip we visited both Auschwitz one and Auschwitz Birkenau (number two). It was a very surreal experience learning of the history of not just the place but the people too; This was one of the main things that the educators of the "Lessons from Auschwitz Project" and the tour guides wanted us to think on. Approximately six million Jews were murdered during the time of the holocaust, because of the enormity of these figures it is very hard to fully process the impact on humanity. Every single individual were not just six million numbers as the perpetrators wanted them to be seen as but six million men, women, children, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, couples, friends and many more. The things I learnt and experience on the trip will stay with me for years to come. It has expanded my aspect on life, as I got to walk out those gates, but sadly millions of people couldn't." (Andrew – Y12)



University Challenge



This term, we had a Sixth Form University Challenge! An impressive 22 teams signed up, with each team playing one round and the top 2 scoring teams progressing to the grand final. There were a range of VERY DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, on topics from philosophy to physics! The final two teams were Tabby, Kirsten, Evie T and Evie L versus Fred, Joshua, Yesith and Theo - who scored the best overall in their first round, with 85 POINTS. After a very close final, Fred's team won with 45 points! Congratulations to them, and the runner ups! (Lili – Y13)

Peer Supporters Training



We are delighted with the number of Peer Supporters from the current Year 12 who have successfully applied for this role. This week they completed their safeguarding training and generalist peer supporter training from Mrs Driscoll. We look forward to seeing the impact they have working with younger year groups in school.



Wallingford Youth Council



TRAIN are looking for 8 young people to work alongside Wallingford Town Council to make the town a better place. What's the Youth Council? The Wallingford Youth Council is a group of young people who: Speak up about issues that matter to young people Meet with local politicians Help plan projects, events, and ideas Make Wallingford a better place to live When/where: 1x 1-hour meeting every 6 weeks for a one-year term at Wallingford School. No experience needed.

For more information, contact Frankie at: Wallingford School on Tuesdays and Thursdays | frankie@trainyouth.org.uk | 07915 884605

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 - 6291	Dylan	12FCH
2 nd Place - 5689	Michael	12DBO
3 rd Place - 4989	Noah	12YH

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

Useful Opportunities

University of Portsmouth Taster Morning

Our [History, Politics and International Relations Taster Morning](#) will allow you to ignite a passion for understanding the past, shaping the present and envisioning the future.

Curious about how history and politics shape the world we live in today?

Whether you're drawn to History, Politics, International Relations or International Development, this is your chance to dive into the fascinating world of global studies and explore what makes these subject so exciting.

[Book now!](#)

Insight into PwC

If you are curious about business, passionate about solving problems, and ambitious, then this session is for you.

What to Expect

- Learn about PwC's Flying Start Business Management, and gain a head start into professional services
- The Business Management Flying Start programme, you'll step into a full-time role within the Operate business in Belfast.
- You'll also engage in structured study sessions with Ulster University Business School, organised in eight-week learning blocks. This approach lets you blend academic insights with practical business experience, setting a strong foundation for your future.
- Hear from professionals and ambassadors about their experiences and career journeys
- PwC offers a Flying Start Business Management degree programme based at Ulster University Business School.
- You'll be paid a highly competitive salary of £27,800 per annum from day one.
- Your tuition fees are fully funded for the degree programme.

Why Attend?

PwC is one of the Big Four professional services firms, supporting businesses across audit, tax, consulting, and technology. Their programmes offer a unique pathway into the industry, allowing you to earn while learning via paid internships and gaining real-world experience at a globally recognised firm.

This event will inspire and empower the next generation of professionals by providing valuable career insights, networking opportunities, and practical guidance on the next steps in your business and accounting career journey.

Apply via the link below to secure your place. [Click here to sign up now!](#)

Swansea University Summer School

Undergraduate Summer School - Swansea University (5-8 July 2026) is a four-day event designed to give students a real taste of what studying at a university is like, with a mix of academic insight, social experiences, and practical workshops.

What's On Offer:

- **3-day Residential Programme:** Students can stay on campus, attend subject-specific sessions like Medicine, Biomedical Science, Law, Business, and Engineering, and experience life as a university student.
- **Day Pass Option:** For local students who prefer not to stay overnight, full-day access to workshops and activities is available.
- **Insight & Inspiration:** The programme helps students gain clarity about their subject choices, learn about university study, and build confidence ahead of UCAS applications.

Key Details:

- **Dates:** 5th - 8th July 2026
- **Application Deadline:** 3rd May 2026
- **Residential Cost:** £225 (includes accommodation, meals, and activities)
- **Day Pass:** £80 (workshops and lunch included)
- **Financial Support:** Some financial assistance may be available for UK applicants who need it.

European School of Osteopathy (ESO) Maidstone Event

The **European School of Osteopathy (ESO)** invites you and your students to our **exclusive Open Event** on **Thursday 26th March, from 6pm - 8pm**, at our Kent campus.

What to Expect:

✓ **Insight into Osteopathy**

Learn about its role as an Allied Health Profession and the impact you can make.

✓ **Overview of Our Unique 3-Year BSc (Hons) Programme**

The only one of its kind in the UK, designed for a streamlined yet rigorous path to qualification.

✓ **Meet Our Students**

Hear firsthand experiences and explore our teaching and clinic facilities.

✓ **Live Osteopathic Technique Demonstration**

See core techniques in action.

✓ **Admissions Advice**

Get expert guidance on applications, entry requirements, and funding options.

✓ **New ESO Clinic Opening**

Discover our brand-new clinic at 102 Tonbridge Road. The fully refurbished space offers a bright, modern environment for Osteopathic care, teaching, and community health; marking the next exciting chapter for ESO.

[BOOK NOW!](#)

Queen's Commonwealth Essay

This is an international essay competition - students need to choose a question (list attached here if you're interested) and write a response of no more than 1000 words. **The deadline for submission is 15th April**, by email to Ms Haworth-Walsh, HAWORTH-WALSHA@wallingfordschool.com This is open to all students who might particularly enjoy some creative or persuasive writing, please give it a go. The deadline is the first week after Easter so they will need to start thinking about it pretty soon. Last year's entrants were invited to spend a day in London as guests of the Merchant Taylors and attended the Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey - please do share this with students if they need some incentive to enter!

If you get any questions, please see Ms Haworth- Walsh in K14.

Questions for The Queen's Commonwealth Writing Competition 2026

Please write your submission on ONE of the questions below.

Sport & Community Sport is one of the Commonwealth's most powerful shared languages.

1. With the Commonwealth Games returning to Glasgow in 2026, write about how sport brings people together across communities, cultures, or generations.
2. You move to a new place and join a sports team or volunteer group to meet new people. What happens next, who do you meet, and what common ground do you share?

Culture: Food, Music & Hobbies Cultural traditions often connect people across distance and difference.

1. Someone from another Commonwealth country knocks on your door. They ask you to share one food or song that represents where you come from. What do you choose, how do you share it, and what happens between you?
2. Write about a hobby, creative interest, or passion of your own. How does it connect you to other people, either locally or across the Commonwealth.

Protecting the Environment & our Natural World The natural world is one of humanity's most important forms of shared ground.

1. Think of a place in nature that is important to your community. Write about why it matters to people and how caring for it together helps create common ground.
2. From plastic clean-ups to tree planting, people all over the Commonwealth are working for the common good of our natural environment. Imagine a time where sustainable choices shape every part of daily life. Describe a day in this world.

Shared Identity, Responsibility, & Common Ground Across time, place, and culture, people are connected by shared stories, values, symbols, and responsibilities. These connections shape identity, community, and the principles that guide how societies are governed.

1. One night, students from all Commonwealth countries find themselves trapped inside an enormous library. The books will only let them leave if they create a new Commonwealth Charter. What would this charter say, and how would it help countries work together in the future?
2. Write about a time, either real or imagined, when you realised you had far more in common with another living being (could be human, animal, plant) than you previously thought.

Language, Human Connection & Understanding Common ground is forged through communication, from face-to-face conversation to video calls across the globe.

1. Across the Commonwealth, recent advances in digital technology have created new opportunities for connection, while also highlighting what remains uniquely human. What can people contribute that technology can never replace, and why is human connection still vital within diverse Commonwealth communities?
2. Within the Commonwealth, shared languages exist alongside and intermingled with many other national languages and local dialects. How does shared language create connection while still allowing space for difference and creativity.

SAE Institute Insights & workshops

www.sae.edu/gbr/whats-on

SAE Creative Media Institute provides niche creative media programmes to about 10,000 students at 56 campuses globally. They are holding some open events and taster workshops - such as film production, content creation and games design - to give students a feel for what studying there would be like.

Wadham Year 12 Book Club

www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/visiting-and-outreach/outreach-events/book-club-session-1

The University of Oxford Wadham College is excited to launch a free online book club for **Year 12 students** interested in studying a literature-based subject at Oxford. The Book Club will involve three online sessions, taking place online via Teams between **Monday 27th April and Monday 8th June**, as well as the chance to attend a final, in-person session and taster day at Wadham College on **22nd June**.

Each session will involve a short lecture, breakout room discussion with current University of Oxford students and recommendations for further reading and support. The theme for these sessions will be 'Possible Worlds', considering the ways that writers have thought about the possible futures that may await humanity. The aim is to build on core A Level English texts by thinking about their wider literary contexts with the aim of bridging the gap between A Level and university study.

In the 3rd session, Dr Cat Parry (Tutor for Portuguese) will also incorporate poetry in translation in order to develop appreciation for world literature. Participants will be required to read 1-3 short extracts (provided) ahead of the sessions.

Oxford Online Maths Club

www.maths.ox.ac.uk/outreach/oxford-online-maths-club

The Oxford Online Maths Club is a weekly livestream from the University of Oxford. It's free, interactive, casual and relaxed and the livestreams are recorded so that students can watch back afterwards if they can't make it to the live broadcast on **Thursday afternoons at 17:00**. The regular host is Dr James Munro and they often have current Oxford students answering questions in chat and appearing on the livestream to talk about maths.

The club is mostly aimed at young people about to apply to university or about to start a maths course, but everyone is welcome and no registration is needed.

UCAS Virtual Work Experiences

www.ucas.com/careers-advice/virtual-work-experiences

Springpod partners with UCAS to deliver virtual work experience programmes to support young people with decision-making and demonstrating subject interest through their UCAS personal statement. With a wide range of tasters from

Accounting & Finance, Agricultural & Environmental, Creative Arts & Design, Digital, IT & Computing, Energy and Utilities, Healthcare and Medicine, Hospitality, Catering & Events, Law & Legal Services, Marketing & Comms, Science and Research, Social Care and Supply Chain, Transport & Logistics, there's something for every student.

University of Oxford Big Think Competition

www.seh.ox.ac.uk/study/outreach/events-and-competitions/big-think-competition

Every year, the University of Oxford St Edmund Hall invites **Year 11 - 13 students** to tackle one of their academics' 'big' questions. These are designed to challenge students beyond the school curriculum and get them thinking 'big' about their subject and what it might be like to study it at university. To enter, they simply need to record a video of 5 minutes or less presenting their arguments, research, evidence and opinions. Winners will be invited to visit Oxford on **18th June**, where they will have the opportunity to discuss their entries with subject tutors, take a tour of the college with current students and enjoy lunch in the dining hall.

Closing date: **12:00 on 27th April.**

Geography Essay Competition

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/college/outreach/geography-study-day

The University of Oxford Christ Church is holding an essay competition on the subject of 'The Age of Humans', for **Year 12 students** interested in studying Geography at university. Students are invited to write a reflective essay of up to 800 words on the theme of 'The Age of Humans', in relation to whichever aspect of Geography they choose. Entrants are welcome to approach the subject in whatever way is most meaningful to them, as long as they provide a written essay-style response and demonstrate thinking geographically. Selected entrants will be invited to attend a Geography Study Day at Christ Church on **27th May** to celebrate their achievement and learn more about undergraduate study at Oxford.

Closing date: **17th April.**

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

