

Wallingford School Sixth Form News

Term 5, Week 5: 23rd May, 2025

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6th Form



A message from 6F team:

Debating trip. Wellbeing conference. Active Leaders at Cholsey Primary School. Drama Workshops at Brightwell. Fundraising bake-sale. 6th Form murals. Peer supporters. Student ambassadors. Sociology, German, Applied Science, Psychology, English Lit, History, PE, Physics, Russian, Travel & Tourism, Maths & Further Maths, Politics, Media Studies, Sport and Geography A Level and BTEC exams.

All of the above happened just this week, once again highlighting what a busy 6th Form we have. All students deserve this half term for a bit of rest, reflection and recuperation, in order to best prepare for the term ahead.

Events coming up:

Week Commencing 2nd June

Back to School – Monday 2nd June

Y12 Textiles Trip – Monday 9th June

PSE Friday 6th June

Y12 – Revision Techniques

Events coming up:

Y13 Books for Books Day – Friday 20th June, 10:40am – 12:00pm

Leavers Ball – Monday 23rd June, 7:00pm

Founders Day – Thursday 26th June

Important information & News



We wish a Happy Birthday to Maya, Orla, Leah, Sophie and Olivia.

We wish a Happy 18th Birthday to Molly, Douglas, Hamish, Hope, Teddy, Sophie, Sam, Samuel, Thomas and Will.



Gonk



Marta and Morgan were regonknised this week for impressive confidence when reading out their well composed poems at the MTOAT Wellbeing Conference.



Year 13 Key Dates

12th May onwards: Students are NOT expected in form time or study periods. Students should still attend their timetabled subject lessons unless told otherwise by their teacher. Students should, of course, attend timetabled revision sessions and exams instead of going to lessons.

Friday 20th June, 10:40 – 12:00 - Year 13 Books for Books Day: Students are invited to come into 6th form to collect their yearbook and/or hoody that they have ordered. In exchange, we ask that students use this opportunity to return any textbooks that they have borrowed from school.

All information regarding exams and the summer term can be found on the exam section of the VLE

[Exam Information](#)

Year 12 Assembly



Year 12's assembly was a celebration of everything to be proud of from the year group. Year 12s have been excellent role models and ambassadors around the school and the wider community, be it as a Peer Supporter, Student Leader, Subject Ambassador or Active Leader, and we have received wonderful unprompted feedback from the wider community complimenting our students. Foci for the final term were also discussed, with the aim continue to develop our happy, friendly and academic 6th Form.



Year 12 Debating Trip



Yesterday, we had the pleasure of a trip to visit the Oxford Union, famous for being a long-standing organisation where members speak freely on important global topics. We were greeted by a member of the Union, who took us on an informative tour. We saw various pictures of the many famous individuals who have visited the union, such as Morgan Freeman, Elton John and Winston Churchill. The Library was perhaps the most impressive section of the tour, as its large selection of books is hundreds of years old! We were then taken



into the main debating chamber, where we first watched a minor debate (referred to as the Emergency debate) which was on whether Britain was an 'island of strangers'. Finally, when the union president entered, the main debate began. The debate was whether the 'right to die is a human right' and the quality of the speakers was truly incredible. It was nearly impossible to choose a side by the end. Overall, a thoroughly enjoyable experience that I would definitely recommend to all.

Enrichment Lectures – Mansfield College

There are some amazing public talks coming up this term from Oxford University, Mansfield College. The talks last about 40 minutes followed by 20 minutes of Q and A. The talks are held in the Sir Joseph Hotung Auditorium, Mansfield College, Mansfield Road, OX13 3TF at 5:30pm. <https://www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/mansfield-college-public-talks>

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LECTURE</u>
Friday 30 th May 5:30pm	<i>The Milton Lecture</i> <i>Attacks on Knowledge</i> Richard Ovenden, Keeper of the Bodleian Library and author of <i>Burning the Books</i> , discuss the long history of the deliberate destruction of knowledge, and the social importance of its preservation, through the lens of libraries and archives. <i>Richard Ovenden, OBE, University of Oxford</i>
Friday 6 th June 5:30pm	<i>The right to a livable planet</i> <i>Joint talk with the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights</i> Elisa discusses how to promote, protect, and realise human rights while mitigating and adapting to climate change, in conversation with Helen Mountfield KC, Principal of Mansfield College. <i>Professor Elisa Morgera, UN Special Rapporteur</i>

MTOAT Wellbeing Conference

On Monday 19th May, the Peer Supporters had the opportunity to attend the Merchant Taylor's Wellbeing Conference in London. This year's theme focussed on safe spaces and belonging with important emphasis on pupil voice and student wellbeing.

After being warmly welcomed with hot beverages and pastries, we sat down amongst many other MTOAT students and had the chance to discuss the theme of 'Belonging'. To kick start the conference, we had an inspiring and interactive talk given

by the award-winning poet and LGBT+ activist – Dean Atta. Through his well-delivered speech, he highlighted the importance of raising awareness for diversity as he shared anecdotes of his younger self growing up in London, struggling to find his identity due to being torn between his Greek Cypriot and Caribbean descent.

The second speaker we had the pleasure of listening to was Seema Flower, an internationally acclaimed disabilities and visual awareness expert, renowned for the foundryship of [Blind Ambition](#). Through her powerful and moving talk, she expressed and demonstrated the importance of new technologies in supporting individuals with visual impairments. An example of this was the app [“Be My Eyes”](#) which allows visually impaired individuals to access a facetime call in which another individual can assist them by describing their surroundings, informing them of what is in their fridge and the expiry dates of food.

During the afternoon session, we attended workshops led by pupils from other MTOAT schools. Wolverhampton Grammar School shared their work on Diversity Champions and how they listen to and celebrate students within their school. Pupils from St. Helen’s School discussed the complex challenges faced by historic institutions as they critically examine their artifacts linked to colonialism and slavery. MTOAT Norwood presented on the Affinity Theory and how we form connections with individuals, who shared similar characteristics to ourselves.

Overall, the MTOAT Wellbeing Conference was a unique and thought-provoking experience which gave us the opportunity to develop our understanding on ‘Diversity’ and ‘Belonging’ through student led workshops and engaging talks from guest speakers – Dean Atta and Seema Flower.



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 – 6828	Alice	12GS
2 nd Place – 6513	Lili	12CHS
3 rd Place – 6477	Phoebe	12TMG

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

Useful Opportunities

STEP into OxMed Seminar



[Link to register](#)

An exciting and informative STEP into OxMed seminar held on **27th May from 18:00-19:00** will feature Professor Robert Wilkins, Director of Preclinical Studies, discussing 'Hans Ussing and models of epithelial function' and may be of interest to students considering a career in medicine.

Annual Access Conference

www.oxfordacs.org/acsaac

Designed by the University of Oxford African and Caribbean Society, this conference for **Year 11 and 12 students** on **5th July** at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford addresses contextual barriers faced by black state-school students from disadvantaged backgrounds when engaging with Oxford and other leading higher education institutions. Deadline to apply: **30th May**.



BFI Film Academy: Short Cut Film Fund

<https://youngfilmnetworksoutheast.org.uk/short-cut-film-fund>

This opportunity is for three aspiring filmmakers **aged 16-25** to receive a grant of £1,000 towards creating a short film of five minutes maximum. This includes all stages of production from start to finish including script, shooting, post-production etc. They will also receive tailored mentorship from filmmakers to support your creative development.

The aim of this programme, delivered by Young Film Network South East, is to nurture underrepresented aspiring filmmakers and guide them through their first filmmaking experience with financial support. The grant aims to help young filmmakers to create a short film that showcases their storytelling vision. It is the perfect first step to develop your skills in preparation for them to apply for other film funds, such as the [BFI Network Short Film Fund](#).

The deadline to complete and deliver the short film is **12th September**.

MHA Finance Work Experience

www.mha.co.uk/careers/early-careers/work-experience



MHA's Leading with Ambition Work Experience Programme offers **Year 12 students** the chance to explore life at MHA, develop valuable skills and get a taste of what a career in professional services can offer. There are a variety of locations available, including London, Birmingham, Milton Keynes and Maidenhead.

The week-long placement takes place from **7th to 11th July** and enables students to explore different departments - including accounts, audit and tax - and discover the incredible opportunities that lie ahead in the world of professional services. MHA offers a hands-on, immersive week where students will actively participate in real tasks, get a taste of life at MHA and experience what it's like to work in a leading professional services firm.

Deadline to apply: **25th May**.

The University of London Taster Courses

www.lse.ac.uk/study-at-lse/meet-visit-and-discover-LSE/visit-lse/taster-courses

The [University of London Taster Course programme](#) provides **Year 12 students** with a taste of what life at a university in London is like. Taster courses are free to attend and give students an opportunity to try out a variety of subject areas at numerous participating universities.

The London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE) taster courses give **Year 12 students** the opportunity to learn more about some of the programmes available at LSE. Participating students will attend two taster sessions in their chosen subject led by LSE academics and meet current LSE students. This year, LSE are holding in-person taster courses in **June** on the LSE campus in History (**4th June**), Language, Culture & Society (**10th June**) and anthropology (**11th June**).

National Film & Television School



<https://nfts.co.uk/places-available>

Students looking to make it in the film, television and games industry could consider taking their next step with a specialist, practical course at the National Film and Television School (NFTS). Applications are now open for a range of courses starting in September 2025/January 2026. The NFTS operates like a major studio, with state-of-the-art production facilities. Bursaries and scholarships are available.

Iffley Academy – Are you interested in working in education?

We currently have a Teaching Assistant role (and Pastoral Roles) available at the Iffley Academy.

Iffley is an outstanding Special Educational Needs (SEN) school for young people aged 11-18 years old. We are sharing this information with any Year 13 leavers who are interested in working with young people with SEND, and/or interested in

becoming a teacher in the future. It may be that a student is completing a gap year and working, before moving on to further studies. If they are, we would welcome applications and could facilitate a tour if they would like to find out more.

Please contact us on 01865 747606, to facilitate a tour. To apply for a role, visit <https://iffleyacademy.co.uk/vacancies/current-vacancies/>

Thames Valley Police

Thames Valley Police are hosting a careers event on **Saturday 31st May 2025** from 10:00am – 14:00pm, held at Said Business School, Park End Street, Oxford, OX1 1HP.

This event will be useful to you whether you're seeking an active role in law enforcement as Police Officer or are interested in learning about TVP's Police Staff roles. For more information follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/4w2wnvwn>

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

