



## Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter of the term. I do hope you all had an enjoyable break.

We started this term with a very enlightening staff training day, led by Mrs Bowers and Mrs Franks. Our training days are very important days in our academic calendar as they enable staff to come together to engage collectively in both learning and securing informed teaching and learning strategies, which can be used effectively in all subject areas. The time to share good practice, with colleagues, is so valuable and reinforces the expectations and standards of the lesson planning and delivery from staff to our students.

Mr Snelling welcomed all the students with his 'Welcome back' assembly, on Tuesday, which presented examples of the great work achieved by so many, including the recognition points and the rewards linked to this. He also advised of the behaviour policy and of the standards of behaviour that the academy expects from our students. These, the same standards that all parents, carers and students agreed to upon their admission to the academy. We all make mistakes and we will help our children to learn from them in our hope that they will not choose to repeat them. We thank our parents and carers who support the academy, when requested to help us help their children to do the right thing.

Mrs Williams presented a fabulous assembly on Climate Change and her passion and knowledge of her subject was no more apparent, when the IT failed to support by showing the PowerPoint, she had prepared. This did not phase Mrs Williams, who held the attention and interest of her audience of Firehills students (who walked to and entered the assembly hall perfectly) for the full assembly time, as she spoke so informatively about the impact of climate change on the world and on us, as individuals. We all learnt so much from Mrs Williams and we all exited the assembly hall a little more thoughtful about how we can all make that little difference.

The hard work has begun again. Year 11 are to meet their teachers on the 18th November to discuss their progress, to date and to work with their teachers, parents and carers to keep them on track and ready to achieve and realise their GCSE grades.

### **Year 11 Parent Consultations – Subject Teacher**

**Thursday 18th November 2021 - 4-7pm at The Hastings Academy**

We are pleased to inform you of the arrangements for Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening with your child's subject teachers. Appointments take place on Thursday 18th November between 4-7pm at the Academy.

Parent consultations are an important event in our Academy calendar. Appointments will last for 5 minutes and will focus on your child's performance and progress, as well as their attitude to learning. It will also give an opportunity to discuss any support that needs to be put in place to help with their future progress. To give you an even clearer picture of your child's progress, Year 11 progress reports will also be made available on the evening. We have recently introduced an easy to use online appointment booking system - SchoolBooking. Emails have been sent to all year 11 parents with information about the event and how to access SchoolBooking. Please follow this link for the letter: [Year 11 Parent Consultations Letter](#)

## Information for schools and colleges on asymptomatic COVID-19 testing

Thank you for continuing to encourage staff, students and pupils to test twice-weekly at home. This is a key part of reducing transmission of COVID-19 in secondary schools and colleges and reducing case rates across settings.

To help pupils understand the importance of testing and to encourage greater uptake, we recommend you think about the best ways of engaging your students in regular testing. We have provided a [toolkit](#) to support you in encouraging pupils and students to test regularly. The toolkit provides strategies, best practice case studies and online resources to help increase participation levels. This includes sending GOV.UK automatic text reminders to test, working with student groups to encourage testing and incentivising testing through reward schemes.

We recommend that you use the start of this term as an opportunity to re-emphasise the importance of testing.

Students who find it especially challenging to test using lateral flow devices (LFDs) should be treated sensitively and signposted to [additional support](#) available to help students test.

## Class Charts

You will be aware that we use Class Charts (<https://www.classcharts.com/>) at the Academy to inform parents and students of homework, rewards and detentions. Parents and students have separate Class Charts codes. If you or your child does not have either of these codes, please contact [office@thehastingsacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@thehastingsacademy.org.uk) as soon as possible.

## Detention Process Update

Students at the Academy are given every opportunity to meet our expectations and are recognised when they do this. Should a student not meet our expectations they will be issued with a detention. We have, this year, updated our detention process to foster independence and responsibility in the students. Students have a choice of what they do, should they make the right choice, they will complete their detention in less time.

The updated process for detentions in term 2 is shown below. Please note that Choice 2 (after school detention) has increased to 4pm. Students also have the opportunity to clear their detention by completing Detention Clearance Tasks at home on the second day.

| Detention Process   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Teachers will:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• set detentions when you have not met our expectations</li><li>• make it clear to you that you have got a detention and the reason why</li></ul> | <b>Students will:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• take responsibility for attending detentions</li><li>• check Class Charts every night</li><li>• serve detentions</li></ul> |
| <b>Day 1</b><br>Detention received  | <b>The teacher will set your detention on Class Charts by 3:15pm</b>   |
| <b>Day 2</b><br>Detention completed   | <b>Choice 1</b><br>20 minute detention in F1. Arrive by 11:15am  |
|   | <b>Choice 2</b><br>1 hour detention in Learning Recovery. Arrive by 3:05pm   |
|   | <b>Choice 3</b><br>Complete the Detention Clearance Task on Class Charts and present this at Learning Recovery the next day at 9:10am.   |
| <b>Day 3</b><br>C4 & Detention completed  | <b>Choice 4</b><br>Learning Recovery (9:10am – 4pm)  |

## Covid-19 Vaccinations

We would like to remind parents, carers and students that we will be holding Covid-19 vaccinations on-site on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November. If you have not already consented and wish for your 12-15 year old child to receive the vaccination, please ensure you do so by 11am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

## Expectations Assembly

In our assembly this week Mr Snelling celebrated the great work that our students are doing and reminded the student of our expectations at the Academy. Here are some of the slides from that assembly.

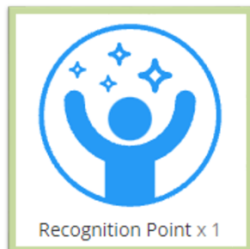
### Instant Recognition Rewards



**Teachers only give out 1 per lesson to the student that has impressed them the most**

- Keep them OR
- Put your name and tutor group on the back and put them in the box in your pastoral office for your chance to gain a reward
- The first house to fill up their box will gain a reward

### Recognition Points



**Staff will only give out 1 per week to the student that has impressed them the most**

- Positive phone call or a postcard home
- You may be invited to Graduation

## Great things happen here!

### Student Librarians

Student Librarians – We formally advertised for ten student librarians earlier this term. We were delighted with the high calibre of applicants, many who loved books, love organising, displaying books and helping other students. We would hope that this opportunity will look impressive on their CV's and/or college applications in the future. The student librarians have already started to help in the library, and enjoy many jobs, with 'zapping' the books and stamping the books coming out top so far.

Our ten student librarians are; Jenna and Ruby (Year 11), Rose Temple, Abigail Fagan, Emily Hughes and Christiana Foord (Year 8), Alyssa Alexander and Ruby Martin (Year 9) and Jacob Gore and Kadijah Ghoorahoo (Year 7).

Pictured below with Ms Jenkins are Rose, Abigail, Emily, Christiana, Jacob and Kadijah. Please do continue to support your children to read, to visit the library at break and lunch times and to borrow from our great selection of books.



## Tutor Schedule this Week

|            | Monday | Tuesday                     | Wednesday                        | Thursday                         | Friday                                       |
|------------|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| East Hill  | INSET  | Whole School Assembly (PSN) | Fire Drill Practice              | Reading                          | Assembly<br>Climate Change (CWI)<br>on Teams |
| Firehills  |        |                             | Assembly<br>Climate Change (CWI) | Reading                          | Fire Drill Practice                          |
| Silverhill |        |                             | Reading                          | Assembly<br>Climate Change (CWI) | Fire Drill Practice                          |
| West Hill  |        |                             | Reading                          | Fire Drill Practice              | Assembly<br>Climate Change (CWI)             |

### Evacuation Procedure

- Walk out in silence
- Line up in alphabetical order next to your tutor group label
- Wait in silence



## Online Gaming

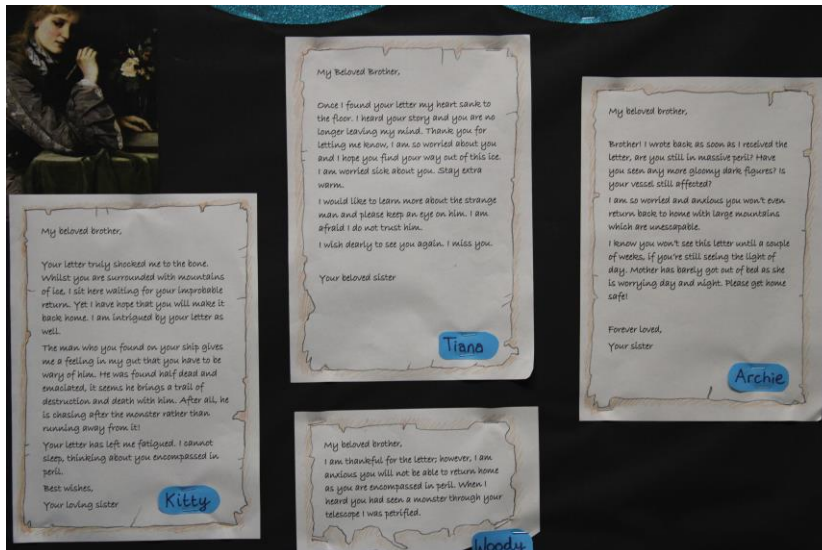
Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow young people to chat with others whilst they play.

For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect your child, watch this short video: [In-game chat: a guide for parents and carers](#) .

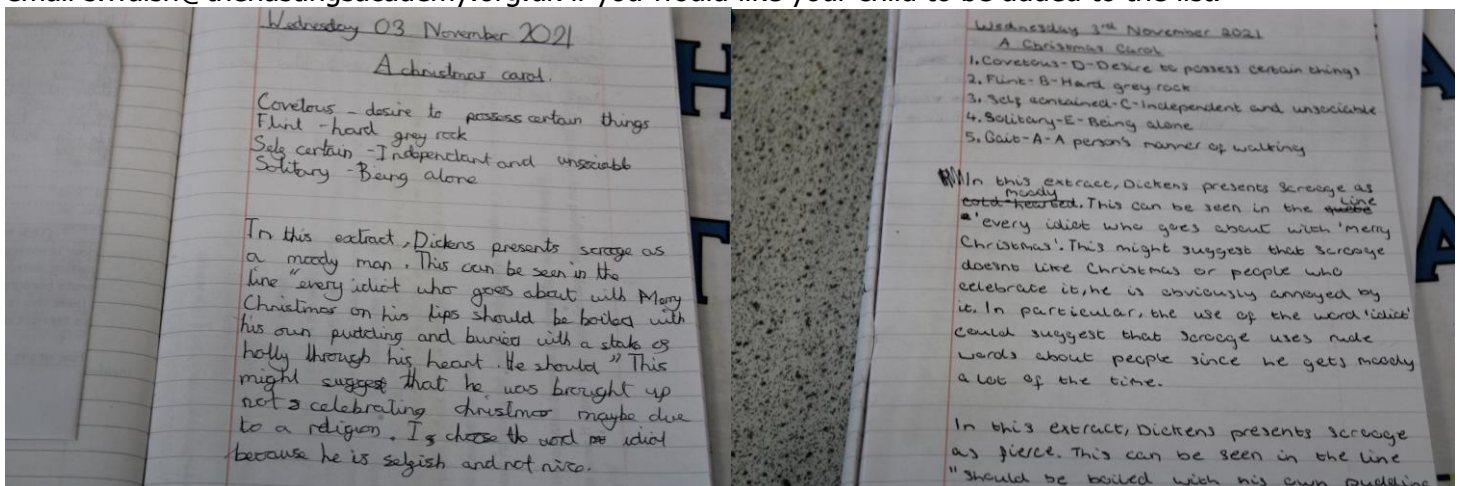
## Spotlight on... English



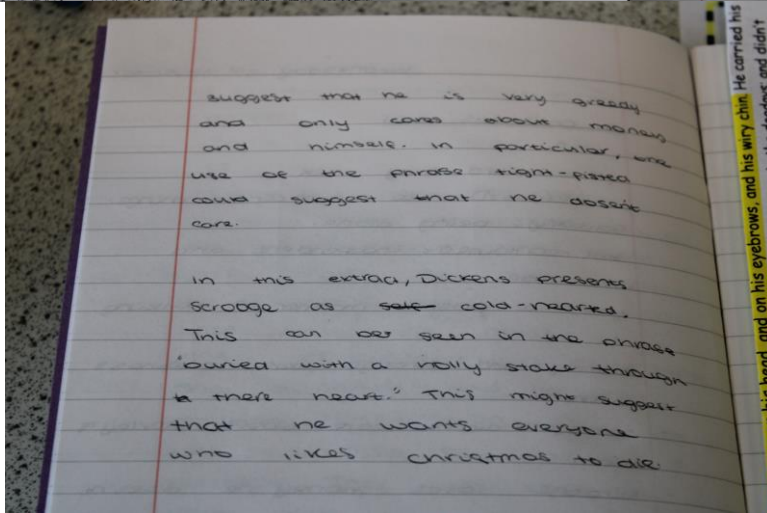
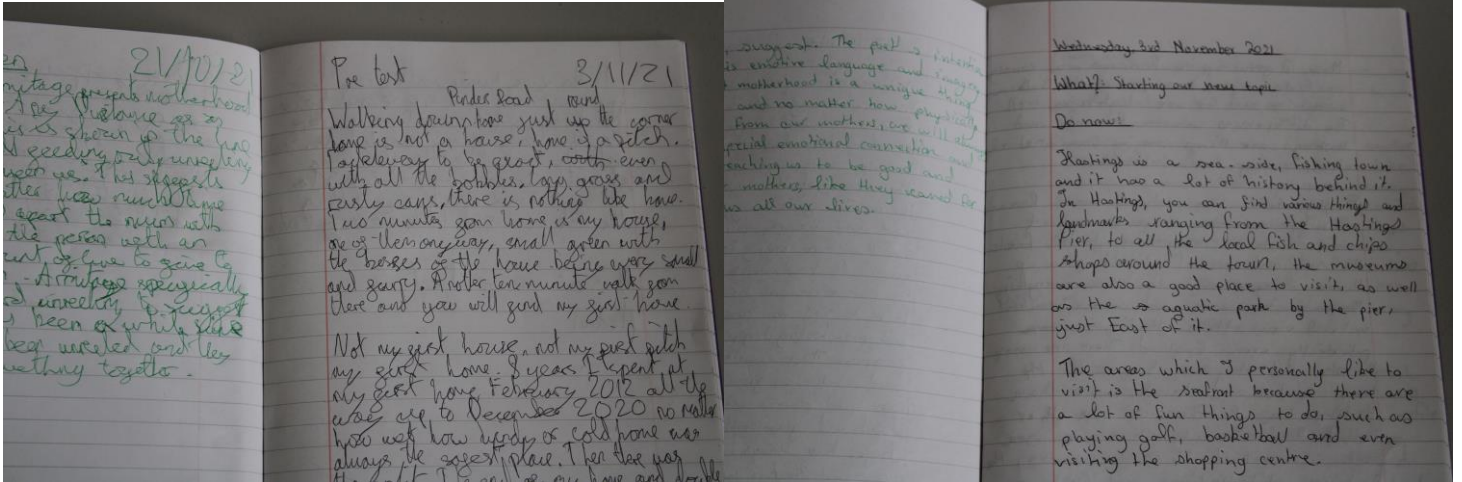
**Year 7:**  
Our Year 7's are continuing their study of Shelley's *Frankenstein* this term by analysing the gothic conventions and characters in the novel. It has been lovely to walk around the classrooms and see the students' empathetic letters on display!



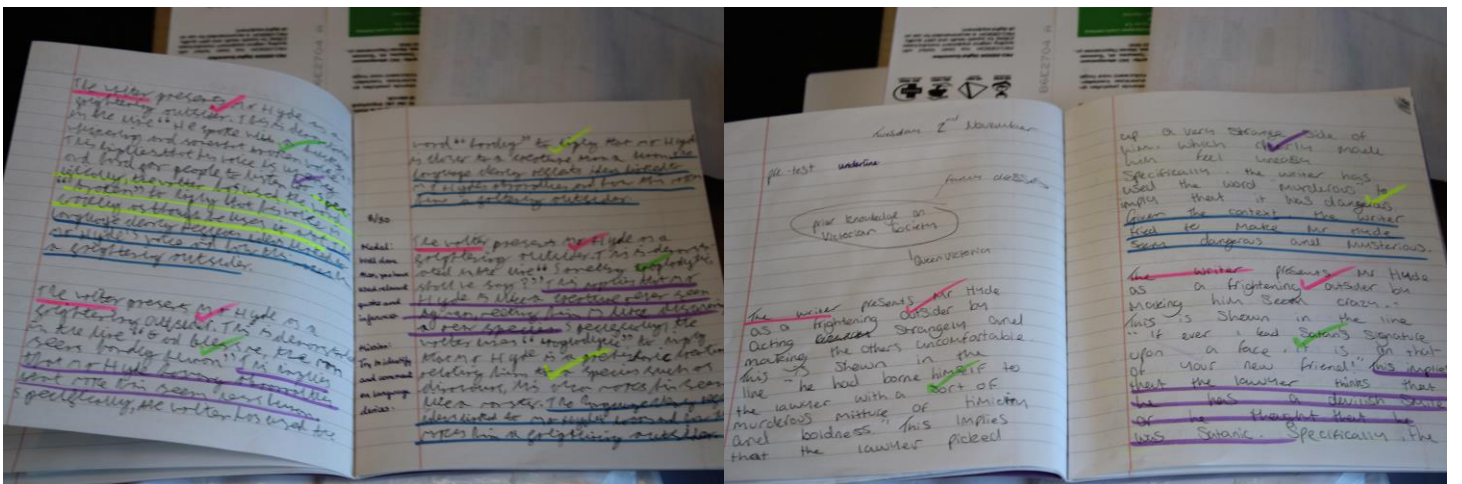
**Year 8:**  
Year 8s have started this term by studying Scrooge's character in *A Christmas Carol* and it's very interesting to see the students' opinions of him already. This unit of work will be assisted by their learning from term 1 where they looked at poverty in Victorian society in their Literary Heritage unit. We are currently running a small group tutoring session every Monday after school in West Hill from 3pm-4pm. We have a few spaces left so please email [s.walsh@thehastingsacademy.org.uk](mailto:s.walsh@thehastingsacademy.org.uk) if you would like your child to be added to the list.



Year 9:  
 Year 9s have started a really interesting unit this term by looking at their own identity living in Hastings. It was great to read so many different interpretations of their views on their home town; particularly wonderful to see that Ford considers his home as the Hastings Football pitch! We are currently running a small group tutoring session every Tuesday after school in West Hill from 3pm-4pm. We have a few spaces left so please email [s.walsh@thehastingsacademy.org.uk](mailto:s.walsh@thehastingsacademy.org.uk) if you would like your child to be added to the list.

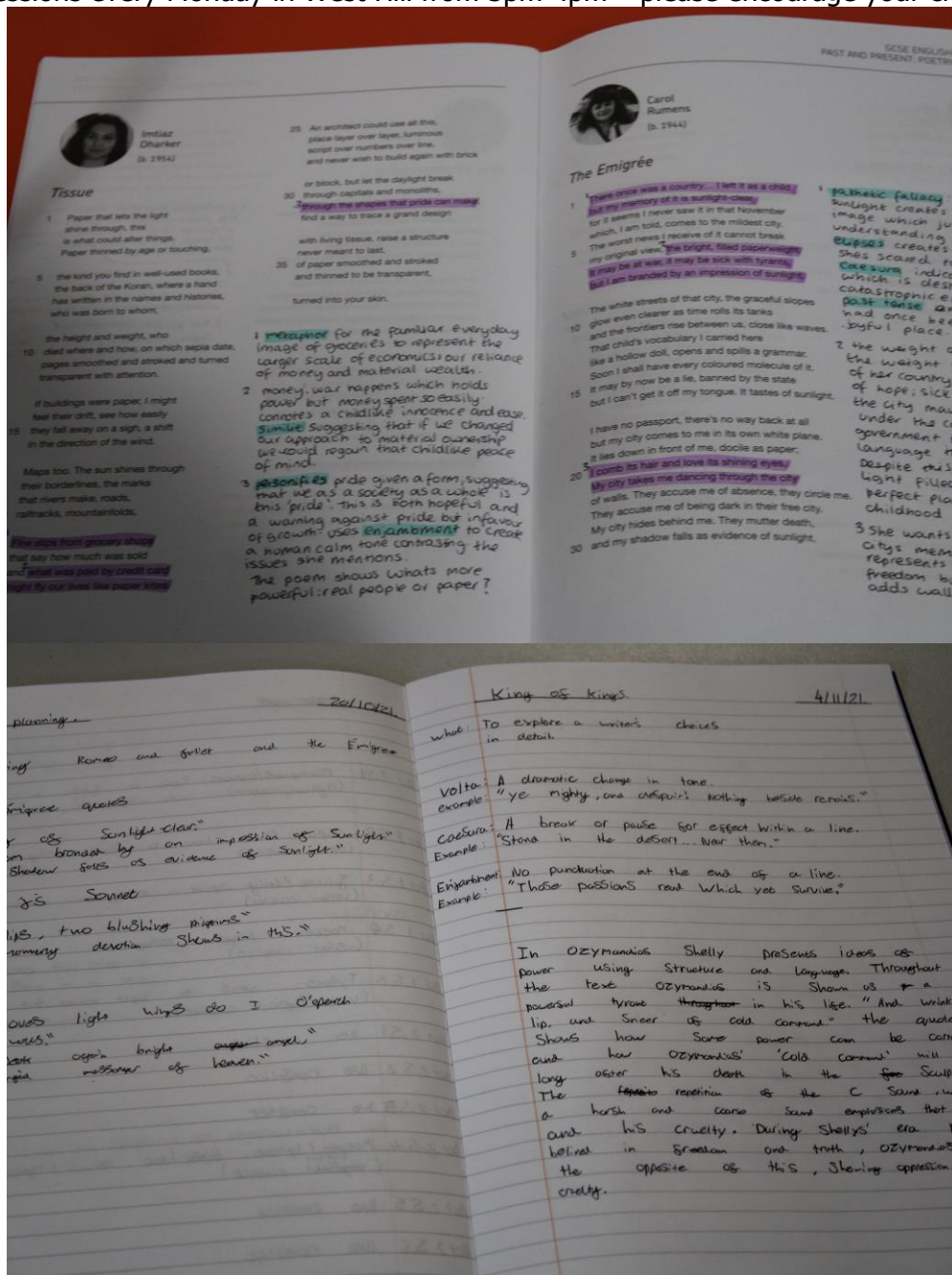


Year 10:  
 Our year 10s are continuing their GCSE year with a study of Stevenson's *Jekyll and Hyde*. They have started this term by looking closely at how Stevenson presents the character of Hyde and how he may be seen as a frightening outsider. It's great to see them using the skills they have built on since year 7 in their essay writing.



Year 11:

As we get closer to their exams, our year 11s have started the term off really well by focusing on analysing and annotating their poems in detail before we move on to looking at ways to approach Language Paper 2. We are running revision sessions every Monday in West Hill from 3pm-4pm – please encourage your child to attend.



## Remembrance Day 2021

We will be holding an assembly for all students on Thursday 11th November to commemorate Remembrance Day. We also plan to hold an event at 11am with all students to reflect a period of silence and thoughts.



## Free Books

Hastings Academy wishes to say a big thank you for the great donation of 300 copies of *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas. These were donated to the school from the publisher via [The National Literacy Trust](#). We'll get great use out of these in the English department, the school library and are sharing them with [Eggtooth](#) and [Ore Community Library](#).



## Message from Lily Williams – Deputy House Captain of Firehills

In Firehills this week, we have been learning about global warming in our assembly. This assembly was presented by Ms Williams, who taught us about the drastic effects and changes our planet is facing and what we can do to help our environment.

We were told how 90% of plastic ever produced is still on this earth, which means it's either in landfill or our oceans, therefore polluting our planet. Did you know that certain species are in danger of extinction due to climate change, for example the polar bear, giant panda and green sea turtle?

Not only were we taught facts about climate change, and the disastrous events it's doing to our planet, but we were also told how to help stop climate change, by doing simple tasks like recycling whenever is possible and cutting out any un-sustainable palm oil from our diets, since it is the little actions that can make a big difference. I know that as pupils, we all take this issue seriously since it will be the future generation that will clear up the mess earth has turned into.

Betty Ormond, a student in year eight has quoted "I think global warming is impacting our world for the worst already, and it will continue to impact our world a lot in the future if we don't do something about it. We will be the ones living in our world, so, it's up to us to change it for the better."

Another student, Freya Finn, has voiced her opinions on climate change by saying "carbon emissions from fossil fuels are linked to climate change and global warming. If we reduce the amount of fossil fuels and carbon emissions simply by reducing the amount of time we use in the car; this can really benefit us and our planet. Every little thing counts."

## This Week in Personal Development

This week our Year 7s developed their knowledge of a wide range of careers available that they can explore.

Years 8 and 9 received drugs and alcohol education, and will expand on this knowledge over the next three weeks. This week, they looked at risk-taking behaviours.

As part of this term's focus on financial decision making, Year 10 started a unit on gambling education and debt.

Year 11 are focusing on building their future and applying to colleges. Their first lesson this week was on causes of stress and how to effectively manage it.

## Make The Future Yours

If you are keen to research about different careers, click on <https://www.makethefutureyours.uk/> and have a look at their 2nd edition of Make The Future Yours magazine. This edition focuses on accountancy, university and apprenticeships. It is well worth a look!

## Mathematics Homework Club

The Maths Department are providing support to all students with their Maths Homework in E16 every Monday and Thursday, from 3 - 4 pm. Students will have access to computers and Teacher support. We look forward to seeing our students there.

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## Year 11 Careers Guidance Meetings

Our Year 11 Careers Guidance meetings are now in full swing. Students are meeting with a member of the team from My Future Starts Here, during an allocated time slot over the next few weeks.

Keep an eye out for a message from us, informing you of when your child's appointment will take place. As parents and carers, you are also more than welcome to join the meeting.



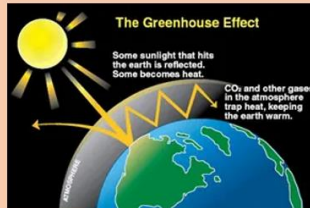
# Climate Change Assembly

This week, Ms Williams held an assembly focused on climate change. Below are some of the slides from her presentation:

Climate is the average weather in a place over many years. Climate change is a shift in those average conditions.

The rapid climate change we are now seeing is caused by humans using oil, gas and coal for their homes, factories and transport.

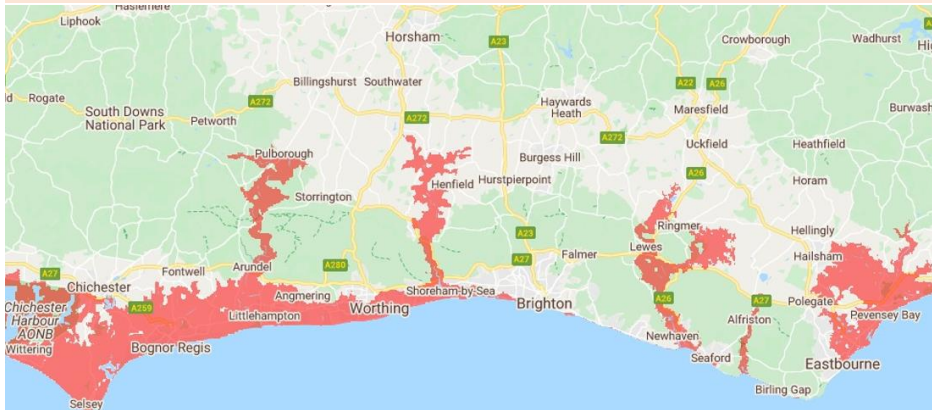
When these fossil fuels burn, they release greenhouse gases - mostly carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). These gases trap the Sun's heat and cause the planet's temperature to rise.



The world is now about 1.2C warmer than it was in the 19th Century – and the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has risen by 50%.

Temperature rises must slow down if we want to avoid the worst consequences of climate change, scientists say. They say global warming needs to be kept to 1.5c by 2100.

World leaders are currently meeting in Glasgow to agree on how we can introduce measures around the world to prevent our planet heating up even further.



In the east of Sussex, Rye, Newhaven, parts of Seaford and Eastbourne, Pevensey and more could be submerged by 2050, Climate Central estimates.

## What we can do



Think carefully and buy wisely – eg buy peanut butter with **sustainable palm oil** to discourage further deforestation



**Avoid buying plastic** and re-use plastic whenever you can eg bottles for drinking water



Avoid air travel and car journeys to cut down on pollution

*Think about your future and the future of your children*

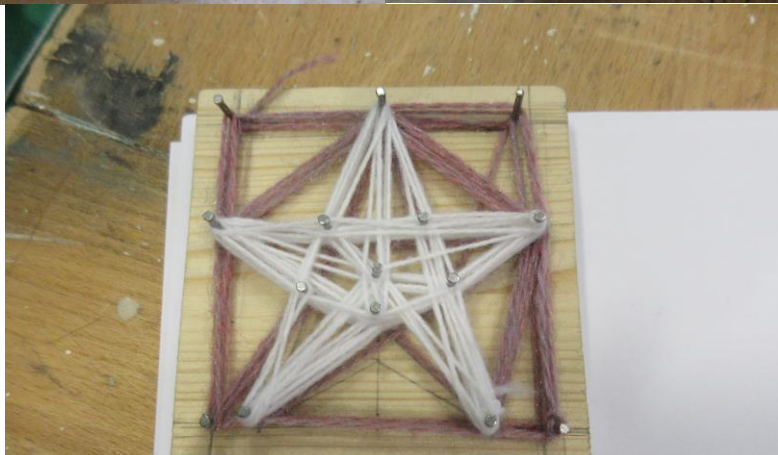
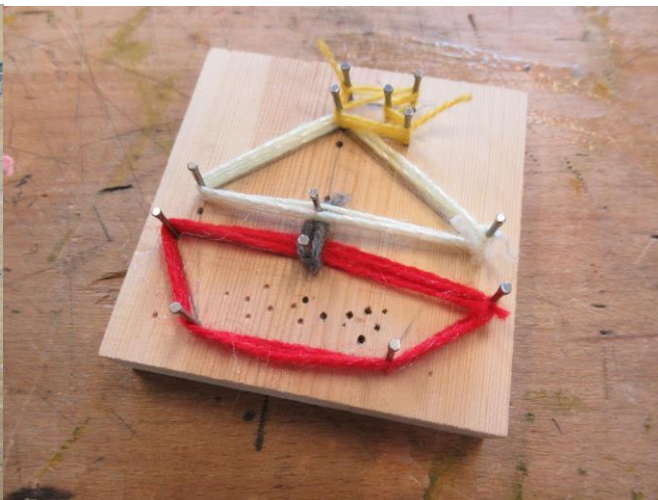
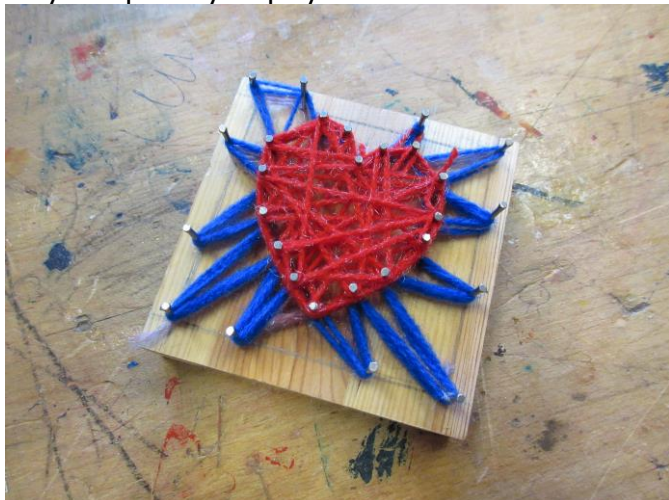
## TEEP Training – INSET Day

TEEP stands for Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Program. It is a clear teaching formula that we introduced to our teaching staff over five years ago. It has enabled consistency and creativity with our teachers. We have sustained and built on the TEEP model and now have 8 level 3 trained staff who are a support mechanism to the rest of our teaching staff.



## DT Work

Year 7's, DT, have been working on a Strings & Nails project. The project involved designing their piece and making it. The project saw them working on their design and research skills, tool handling and working to a brief. The making of their work involved learning how to use a pin hammer to accurately hammer in pin nails to a piece of wood then use coloured string to wrap around the nails to produce their designs. A hook was added so they can proudly display them at home!



I think we are all going to have a dry weekend, which is always a pleasure to know. If you are attending a firework display, keep warm and keep safe and we look forward to seeing your children again, on Monday.

Kindest regards,

*Hilary Morawska*

Hilary Morawska