



# Hazelwick School Newsletter

March 2024

## Dates for your Diary:

Thu 28th Mar:  
End of Term

Mon 15th April:  
Start of Term (Week 1)

Mon 15th - 29th Apr:  
Year 10 exams

Thu 25th Apr  
Year 12 Parents'/Carers'  
Evening

Mon 6th May:  
May Bank Holiday: School  
closed to students

Wed 8th May:  
Year 9 Parents'/Carers'  
Evening

Mon 13th May - Fri 17th May:  
Year 7 exams

Thu 9th May - Wed 19th Jun:  
Year 11 GCSE exams

Mon 13th May - Fri 21st Jun:  
Year 13 A level exams

## Headlines

Ms A Fearon, Headteacher

### Exam season is well and truly upon us!

Here are some hints and tips for parents/carers of any students in Years 11 and 13.

#### Planning

The secret to doing well in exams lies in planning. Help your child to create a clear revision plan and method of studying that will make them feel in control of their work.

#### Tips for revision planning

- work out a revision timetable for each subject
- break revision time into small chunks, interspersing revision with "down time", such as exercise or fresh air
- make sure all the essential books and materials, including plenty of past paper questions to practise, have been gathered
- condense notes by using a method such as postcards, highlighters, mindmaps, prompt cards, etc.

#### You could:

- go through school notes with your child, or listen while they revise a topic
- encourage your child to attempt as many practice papers as they can
- time your child's attempts at practice papers
- ensure that your child eats healthily and has plenty of sleep

### St Catherine's Youth Enterprise Challenge

Please find in this newsletter details of the fund-raising activities organised by our wonderful team of students. The final figure has yet to be announced; we are sure that we have beaten our target of £1500, but by how much, we have yet to calculate. Fingers crossed for a record-breaking total!



We say goodbye to the following teaching staff at the end of this term: Mrs Gray (Reading Mentor) and Mr Wegg (Maths). We extend our warmest thanks to them for their service to our school and wish them all the best for the future.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable Easter break.

All good wishes

# News, Events & Activities from the English Department...

Students from Creative Writing Club had a showcase event after school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February in the drama studio. The readers put on a wonderful event and read their short stories and poems and then told the audience a little about their inspiration for their work.

**Poems:** Millie Dodd, Pari Sharma, Danielle Mangan-Sarson

**Short Stories:** Dev Parekh, Amelia Wong, Alice Fu, Neel Karuppiyah, Eloise Cathcart.

Mrs Welby



# News, Events & Activities from the Geography Department...



The Hazelwick Geography Department ran a Tropical Rainforest Model competition for Year 7 students. The standard of entries was very high, making judging the winners extremely difficult. Well done to all the students who entered!

Pictured below are the winners for the 'Most Geographical' and 'Most Creative' categories.

Lydia Tubb was awarded 'Overall Winner' and her model was exceptional. Not only did it light-up, but Lydia recorded herself describing and explaining the different layers of the rainforest. Congratulations Lydia!

Miss Schoonraad

## Winners - Most Geographical

Lisseth Chavez 7NWI



Avnita Karri 7ESP



Jayne Kumari 7NWI



## Winners - Most Creative

Joseph Laker 7DLO



Sofia Gomes 7YBA



Ryan Dutta;  
Cameron Rose-  
Elliott 7NWI



## Overall Winner – Lydia Tubb 7YBA

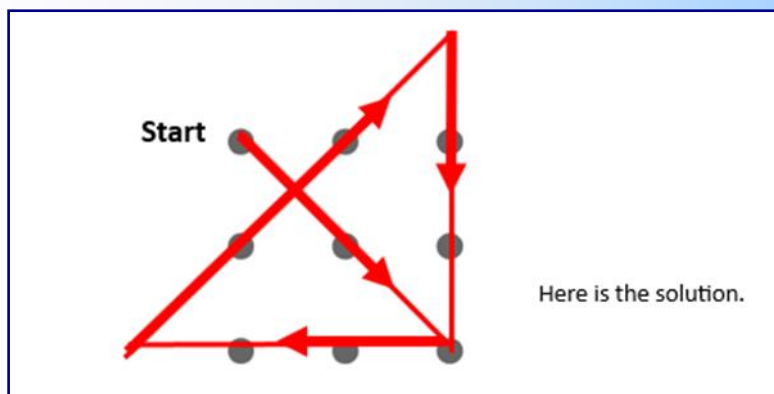




# News, Events & Activities from the Maths Department...

Draw nine dots on a piece of paper like this. Can you go through all nine dots with four straight lines?

You **cannot** take your pen off the paper, but you can start where you want.



Well done if you managed to solve it.

## Here is March's Puzzle

How many colours are required to colour a map of the United States so that no two adjacent regions are given the same colour?



Good Luck!

The solution will be in next month's newsletter.

Mrs Mayhew

# News, Events & Activities from the MFL Department...

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 41 eager Year 10 students left Hazelwick bright and early for a French & Art Trip to Paris with Mrs May, Mr Chalmers, Mrs Hay, Miss Holbrook, Miss Kempton and Mrs Aitken.

We travelled by coach, ably driven by our hero, Ian, who took us wherever we wanted to go in Paris with very little fuss and lots of good humour and we stayed in the really cool Generator hostel in the centre of Paris.

We arrived in Paris and marched across the city to dine at the iconic Hard Rock Café and strolled back admiring the sights and sounds of Paris with our wonderfully knowledgeable tour guide, Mr Chalmers.



The next day, we visited a real French school and met some real French students and some of us even spoke a bit of real, but maybe not altogether perfect, French! It was fascinating to see a French school in action and to take part in some of their lessons.



After saying “au revoir” to our French friends, we then visited the Palace of Versailles, which was beautiful and immense, and then travelled back into central Paris to go up the Tour Montparnasse, from where we had a 360-degree view of Paris and all its amazing monuments.

On Saturday, we visited the Louvre art museum and saw some incredible works of art, including the Mona Lisa. The art students spent some time sketching, which was fun.

In the afternoon, we went on a boat trip along the river Seine. It was great to be able to see all the sights whilst sitting down (it was a tiring trip!) and to find out even more about the history of Paris and its monuments.

After that we visited a modern art gallery at the Centre Pompidou, a crazy inside-out building with some crazy works of art. It was fantastic.

We woke up on Sunday, exhausted from the full-on itinerary, but sad that it was already our last day in Paris. We climbed up to the beautiful white church called the Sacré Coeur, which is in the artists' quarter of Paris called Montmartre and spent the morning admiring the views and the art and buying a few souvenirs of Paris.



We then got back in Ian's magical coach and drove back to the UK. It was such a fun and memorable experience, and it was so great to share it with our friends. I don't think any of us will ever forget this trip!



**Alice Fu said:** “What an amazing experience it was! I really enjoyed visiting all the sights, especially the Tour Montparnasse where I got to see a 360° view of the whole of Paris. I also really liked visiting the Louvre and Montmartre. The view from the top of Montmartre was really nice. I enjoyed going to the French School where I got to see how a French school operates on a day-to-day basis. This will be a trip I remember forever!”

# News, Events & Activities from the MFL Department Continued...

**Cooper Lang said:** "The French and art trip was probably the best school trip I've ever been on. We got to see all the famous Paris monuments such as the Tour Eiffel, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre, etc. and we visited a French school which was pretty fun. I'm a French student so I was put with some French

English students and it was fun talking to them and looking around their school, although I wouldn't want to do their timetable as they're in lessons till 5pm. It was really cool to do all of this with my friends and the hostel we stayed in was also very nice and last but not least our incredible coach driver Ian who drove us around Paris. Overall, I would say it was a great trip would recommend it to any French and Art student. I would certainly want to do it again with all my friends. 10/10"



**Kayley White said:** "I had so much fun - we did so many amazing activities and I definitely made some lifelong memories. All the teachers were amazing and always made sure we were safe and having a good time. It was so cool to get the opportunity to see so much of Paris and to have the best time with all my friends."

**Neel Karrupiah said:** "I really enjoyed this trip and am very grateful to everyone who organised and helped to run it. I got to understand how the French school system worked and talked to some French students at Collège Alberto Giacometti and learnt about life in Paris. The architecture in Paris is really cool."



**Faye Hood said:** "I absolutely loved going to Paris! One of my favourite parts of going was seeing the Louvre and able to see all the amazing artwork that was shown. Another incredible thing that I loved was seeing the Eiffel Tower from the Tour Montparnasse and the impeccable views of Paris. Apart from all the sightseeing, I really enjoyed spending time with my friends and seeing Paris with them. Thank you for an amazing trip, I will remember it forever."

Faye Hood - 10MOW



Neel Karupiah - 10MOW





# News, Events & Activities from the Music Department...

Earlier in March, the Hazelwick School Choir took part in Crawley Sings Live, a massed singing event at The Hawth Theatre in Crawley.

The Choir rehearsed 4 songs that were performed as part of the event, including 'It's Alright' from the Disney film 'Soul', 'Green Green Grass' by 'George Ezra', and 'Something To Say', composed by Emily Barden.

These 3 songs were performed as part of a massed choir of over 120 voices, joining with choirs from nearby schools. The Hazelwick School Choir also performed 'He Lives In You' from 'The Lion King' on their own. Evie Cross wowed the audience performing her own song 'Barely Surviving', and accompanying herself on the guitar. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience of singing at The Hawth Theatre, and we received lovely feedback from other members of staff, congratulating our students for their performances.

Miss Moore



# News, Events & Activities from the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team...

In March Year 12 had half a day off timetable to visit the University of Surrey to attend a UCAS Fair. It gave them the opportunity to talk directly to universities and gain knowledge to help them make their decisions on what to do post Sixth Form. The students gained lots of information, with one student saying:

“It was a great chance to talk to universities of good standing and have a dive deep into the wide variety of courses available.”

This UCAS Fair happens every year and is just one way the Sixth Form supports students in achieving their future goals.

On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> March, the Sixth Form Culture Day took place. Students across both year groups gathered to support the St Catherine’s team with their fundraising and were given the opportunity to dress in something that felt important to them. This gave students a chance to learn about other cultures, identities and religions, whilst also embracing their own. The sea of beautiful lehengas, sarees and many other cultural clothing gave just a small representation of Hazelwick’s diversity. During the lunch break, an open mic performance was carried out in south hall and the sixth formers were able to watch a range of incredible acts including singing, dancing and even karate. The culture day was just as successful as last year and will remain an annual Hazelwick tradition.

As we approach the final weeks of our time at Hazelwick, we are continuing to work hard to achieve our full potential in the summer.

***Written by Salma Al-Moussaoui, Ciaran Simpkin and Morgan Zacharias on behalf of the Student Leadership Team***





# House News...



What a busy half-term for House events! Well done to everyone who has taken part in an event this term.

## University Challenge

A joint House event ran for Year 12 and 13 that required them to test their general knowledge skills. Each of the teams performed exceptionally well and it was a really tense competition.



In the final competition, Duleep-Singh and Winton went head-to-head with some tie-breaker questions and Duleep-Singh were victorious.

Winton	Seacole	Equiano	Fry	Turing	Duleep-Singh
Final total = 500 House points	Final total = 500 House points	Final total = 400 House Points	Final total = 400 House points	Final total - 400 House points	Final total – 1250 House Points

## Design a Planet Competition

Mx Nolan ran the design a planet competition this term for Year 7 and 8. Well done to all who got involved!

# House News Continued...

## Design a Planet Winners

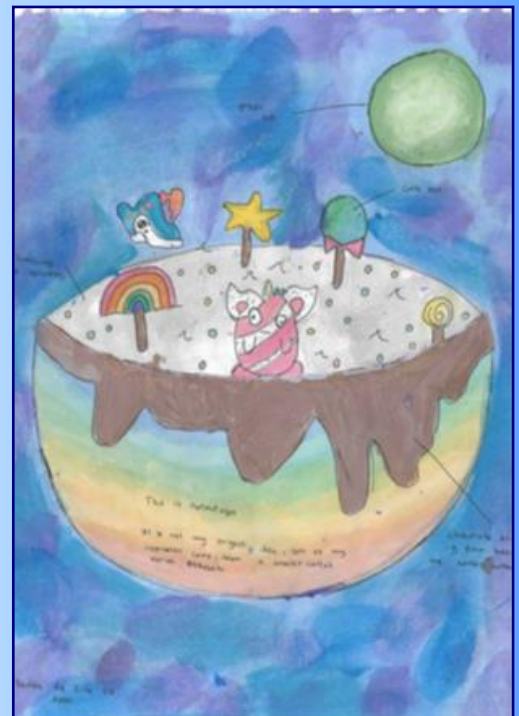
Joint Winners –  
Rhia Rahi, Phoebe Palmer  
&  
Shaima Rahman

A huge congratulations to 8LSC who managed to win a whopping 2400 points for their house with their incredible entries! 😊



## Design a Planet Results

*Seacole*	*2400*
Fry	900
Turing	800
Equiano	200
Winton	No entries
Duleep Singh	No entries



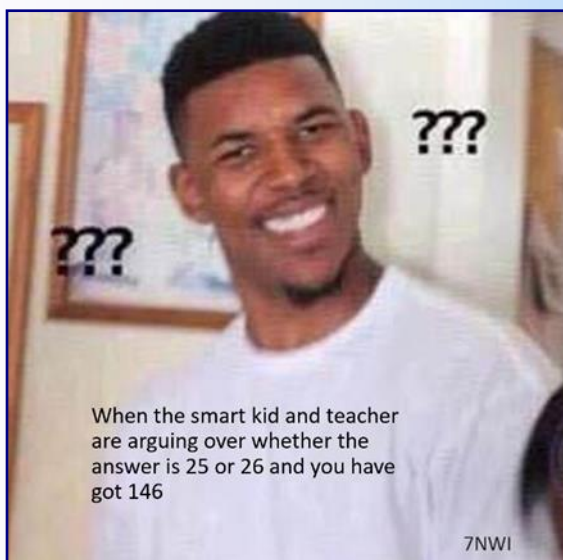
Well done to Haily Patel in 7EGA for being our runner up!

## Caption Competition

All of the Forms in school were challenged to come up with the best caption. Here are some of the winners.



# House News Continued...

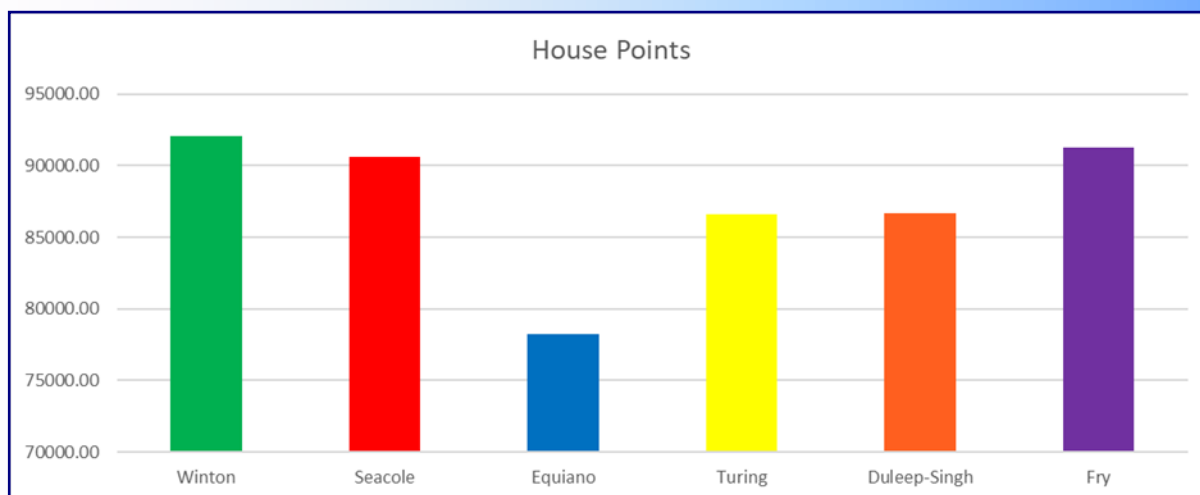


Final totals for the Meme quiz!

Well done to Seacole and Winton on their joint win!

House	Total points
Equiano	700
Fry	200
Duleep Singh	1400
Seacole	1500
Turing	100
Winton	1500

The final totals at the end of March.



Well done to all who have got involved with competitions and activities this half-term!

Have a restful break.

Miss Stapleton



# Careers Café...

In this section of the newsletter, we bring students, parents and carers information on careers and the world of work.

## National Careers Week



Hazelwick had a whole school focus on careers during National Careers Week (March 6<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup>). The aims were to:

- ⇒ Focus on careers guidance and education.
- ⇒ Help students understand, realise, and fulfill their career goals.
- ⇒ Support students to feel confident about the future.
- ⇒ Enable students to focus on what they need to do now to move to the next stage in their careers journey.

Several assemblies were delivered by Mrs Andrews (Careers Leader) and activities were provided to all form teachers for use with their classes. We were also delighted to welcome Ciaran Moynan, Operations Training Manager at GTR, to talk to students about careers at the largest train operating company in the country.

These assemblies and activities were planned carefully to meet the needs of each year group as part of our stable careers programme. The themes covered were:

Year 7 – Jobs of the future and thinking about what you'd like to be.

Year 8 – Exploring career paths and options and how the Hazelwick Bees develop your employability skills.

Year 9 – Understanding Labour Market Information, skills for the future and reflecting on own interests and values.

Year 10 – Exploring post 16 options and apprenticeships and key qualities for the workplace (attendance and punctuality).

Year 11 – BBC Bitesize and managing and researching your career path throughout life key qualities for the workplace (leadership and cooperation).

Year 12 – Using Labour Market Information to make choices post KS5.

Year 13 – Making effective job applications. Charlene from Thales explained what a local employer looks for when recruiting.

In addition to form time activities, subject teachers across the school supported this event in their lessons in a variety of ways.

# Careers Café Continued...

## Who are GTR?



ThamesLink /

- GTR are the largest train operating company in the country
- 18% of all passenger journeys in the UK are made with GTR
- 7,400 staff and 236 stations

## Different types of jobs on the railway

One of the best things about working on the railway is the variety of different job roles

Just some examples:

- Engineer
- Signaller
- Control
- On Board
- Stations
- Management
- Train Driver
- Media and Marketing
- Doctor/Nurse



GTR

## Taster Events

The University of Brighton have some exciting online subject taster events coming up in April. Attending subject events are a brilliant way for students to broaden their understanding and demonstrate their commitment to a subject area, and these can be referenced in their personal statement.

Upcoming events include:

WW2 Racism and Q+A

A Day in the Life of a Midwife

Heroes, Victims and Villains: Considering the Stories of the True Crime Genre

To book, complete the form here: [Advice about university \(student-crm.com\)](https://student-crm.com)

## Top 10 desirable jobs and companies for teenagers revealed in new survey

The 2024 BBC Bitesize Survey of more than 4,000 13-16-year-olds has placed Doctor as the most desirable job above Engineer and Teacher and the NHS as the most desirable employer, beating Apple and Google. When asked what the most important thing about any future job would be, 'happiness' ranked ahead of 'feeling good about what you do', with 'money' in third place. This is a useful question to ask students as they consider their futures.

[Survey reveal: What's the new number one in top 10 jobs teens want? - BBC Bitesize](#)

Mrs Andrews



# Read On!

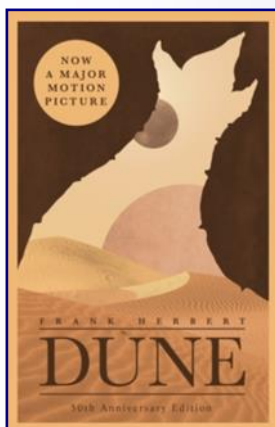
With the recent cinematic release of the second 'Dune' film, I thought I would feature some classics from the science fiction genre. This fiction genre has spawned numerous subgenres, including alien invasion, dystopian, AI, cyberpunk and sci-fi horror. The varied themes explored in the novels still 'speak' to the modern reader which I think explains why these classics have remained in print for decades. I have also included the link to the Yoto Carnegie shortlists and look forward to hearing the views and opinions of our student Shadowers. I would also like to thank our guest reviewer this month, thank you Miss Palmer.

## Science Fiction Classics

Britannica Online defines the literary genre of science fiction as the branch of fiction "that deals principally with the impact of actual or imagined science upon society or individuals." The article gives a history of the genre over the decades, explaining that compared to other genres, it is a modern genre. The genre's themes are varied and include utopias and dystopias, alternative societies, sex and gender issues, alien encounters, space travel, time travel, alternate histories and parallel universes and advanced technologies. This link will take you to the article that gives more details about the history and themes:

<https://www.britannica.com/art/science-fiction>

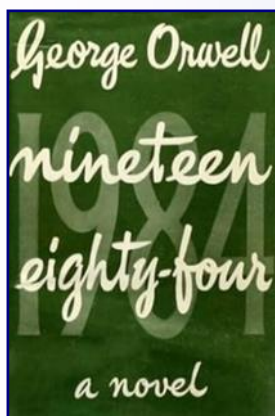
I thought I would share some of the titles that make the 'best' lists of science fiction novels, including a couple of my own favourites.



### Dune by Frank Herbert

Originally published in 1965, Herbert's masterpiece is considered to be one of the greatest science fiction novels. The novel won several literary awards, including the Hugo and Nebula awards. The first novel in Herbert's series introduces the reader to the rarest of elements, melange, or 'spice'. The drug has special properties and is used to make interstellar travel possible and increases the lifespans of those that can afford to take it. Spice is only found on the desert world Arrakis and there are warring factions who want to control the spice. There are six novels in Herbert's original series and the authors Kevin J Anderson and Brian Herbert have continued them.

<https://www.fantasticfiction.com/h/frank-herbert/>



### 1984 by George Orwell

Nineteen Eighty-Four or 1984 was first published in 1949. Orwell's dystopian novel examines political themes, including totalitarianism and mass surveillance, drawing upon Stalinist Russia as his political model. I think the book has stayed in print as the theme of the manipulation of political facts is still relevant to the modern reader. The book's central character, Winston Smith, rebels against the oppressive Party which is led by Big Brother. The novel depicts Winston's resistance and a love affair, which is forbidden by the Party. Orwell's cautionary tale has been adapted to several films, television series and the stage.



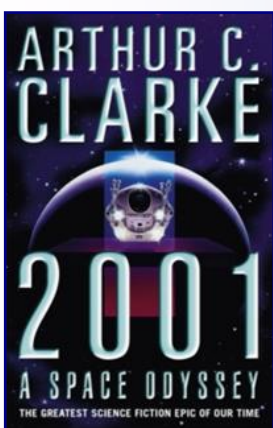


# Read On Continued....



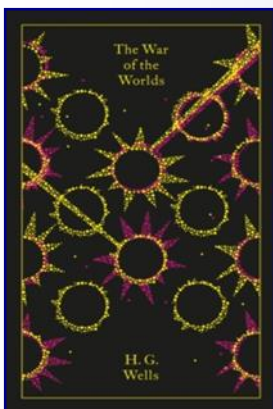
## **I, Robot by Isaac Asimov**

Along with Robert A. Heinlein and Arthur C. Clarke, Asimov was considered one of the 'Big Three' of science fiction writers. The author was a prolific writer and wrote over four hundred books during his lifetime. Asimov was born in Russia in 1920 and moved to the USA when he was a toddler. In 1939, his short story 'Marooned Off Vesta' was published, launching his science fiction writing career. I have selected 'I, Robot' as an example of the theme of writing about the interaction between humans and machines with artificial intelligence. The 'novel' is actually a collection of four short stories that has the fictional Dr Susan Calvin telling each story to a reporter as the framing narrative. Here the reader is introduced to the author's Three Laws of Robotics, which not only influenced other science fiction writers, but also the ethics of artificial intelligence.



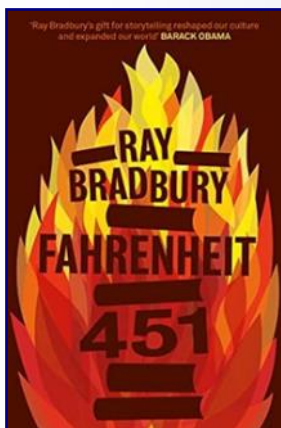
## **2001: A Space Odyssey by Arthur C. Clarke**

Clarke wrote the novelisation of the iconic film after the film's release. Stanley Kubrick and Clarke wrote the film's screenplay based upon Clarke's short story 'The Sentinel.' Clarke went on to write three other novels in the 'Space Odyssey' series. The first novel in the series begins with the discovery of a black monolith that has been discovered on the moon. In an attempt to contact alien intelligence, a deep space expedition is launched. Clarke explores the themes of the perils of technology and artificial intelligence, evolution, space exploration, and nuclear war. For many devotees, Clarke is the 'king' of science fiction writing and was awarded an UNESCO award for popularising science in 1961.



## **The War of the Worlds by H. G. Wells**

This is one of my personal favourites, possibly because of the fact that it is considered one of the earliest examples of a story about conflict between humans and aliens. The story was originally serialised in two different magazines in the UK and the USA between 1895 and 1897. The novel was published in full in 1898. When a cylinder is discovered on Horsell Common, the curious local people approach with a white flag. Little do they know that is the start of a Martian invasion. The book has inspired numerous film, television, stage and radio adaptations and has never been out of print.

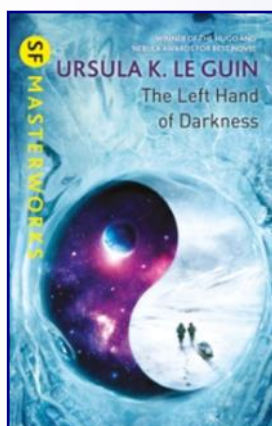


## **Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury**

Bradbury considered himself as a fantasy and horror writer, claiming that his stories were fantastical and unreal. First published in 1953, 'Fahrenheit 451' is a dystopian novel set in a distant future. The plot features a 'fireman' named Guy Montag whose job it is to burn books. Books have been banned and Bradbury uses this story arc to explore the theme of censorship and the importance of literature and critical thinking. I think that the book has stayed in print due to these themes, which resonate with a modern readership. If you enjoy this story, you may also wish to add his 'The Martian Chronicles' to your lists of books to read.

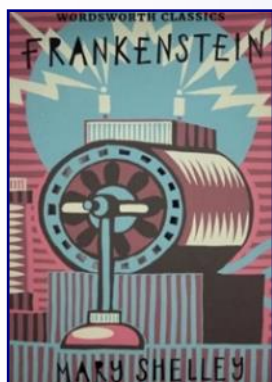


# Read On Continued....



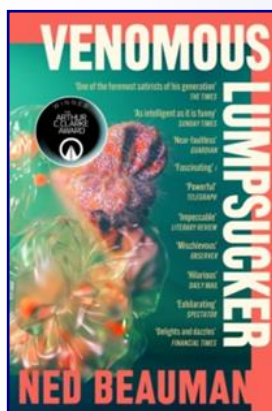
## The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. Le Guin

Le Guin was a prolific writer and I have selected this novel as it was one of the first examples of feminist science fiction. In a genre dominated by male writers, this novel won Le Guin both the Hugo and Nebula Awards for science fiction writing, the first female writer to do so. The novel was published in 1969 and through her two central characters, Le Guin examines the effect of sex and gender on society and culture. The themes of loyalty and duty, religion and spirituality, and connections to other people are also explored. Set in the author's fictional Hainish Universe, a lone character from one planet is sent to a planet where the inhabitants' gender is fluid. In order to complete the mission, the gulf between the cultures must be understood if they are to be bridged.



## Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus by Mary Shelley

Now I know that many of you will be asking why this classic Gothic horror novel has been included in my list, but it is also considered to be an early work of science fiction. The science fiction author Brian Aldiss claimed that the novel represented "the first seminal work to which the label SF can be logically attached" in his book 'Billion Year Spree.' The novel has classic science fiction themes that include the use of advanced technology and the ethics of scientific experimentation. First published in 1818, the novel relates Victor Frankenstein's experiments and his bid to create a living creature. Shelley combined elements of science fiction, horror and mystery that have influenced numerous adaptations.



For some contemporary novel recommendations, I would suggest the Arthur C. Clarke Award website as this annual book award is given to the best science fiction novel that was first published in the previous year, within the UK. The link below will list the shortlists and winners for each year. The 2023 award was won by Ned Beaman for their novel 'Venomous Lumpsucker'. The novel relates the story of mining executive Mark Halyard and biologist Karin Resaint who must team up to search for the lumpsucker fish that is feared to be extinct. This is a humorous satirical mass extinction novel that also won the Sunday Times Science Fiction Novel of the Year.

<https://www.clarkeaward.com/#home>

## Science Fiction Subgenres

The novelist Brandon Cornett has written an outline about some of the common science fiction subgenres and gives examples of novels for each one, some classics and some contemporary, which includes some titles written for young people.

<https://www.cornettfiction.com/science-fiction-book-subgenres/>

## The Yoto Carnegies

The shortlisted titles for this year's Yoto Carnegie Medals for Writing and Illustration have been announced and Mrs Bridgman will be running a Shadowing group with students for the Medal for Illustration. I have included the link to the shortlist for both awards. The winners for both awards will be announced in June.

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/medals/>

Keep reading!

Mrs Thornton BA (Hons) MCLIP  
School Librarian



# Read On Continued....

## Guest Reviewer

**Our guest reviewer this month is:** Miss Palmer, Teacher of Drama

**Book Title:** The Invention of Wings

**Author:** Sue Monk Kidd



Set in Charleston, South Carolina, during the height of slavery, the novel explores the complexities of race, gender, and freedom. Sarah Grimké, a young girl from a wealthy Southern family, is gifted Handful, a slave, on her eleventh birthday. What unfolds from this moment is a profound exploration of the bond between these two women, each struggling against the constraints imposed by society.

The Invention of Wings is a powerful novel, inspired by real life events and set in the Deep South of America in the nineteenth century. The book spans Sarah and Handful's lives and follows them through the trouble and difficulty that was the slave trade. Despite their life experiences being considerably different, Sarah strives to fight for Handful and they create a long-lasting bond that is stronger than just a friendship.

One of the most compelling aspects of "The Invention of Wings" is the dual narrative structure, which allows the reader to see the world through both Sarah and Handful's perspectives. This was one of my favourite things about the book, as I felt like I really knew both characters and it made the events that took place in the book seem so much more real. As Sarah fights against the limitations placed upon her as a woman in the Deep South, Handful grapples with her own desires for freedom and self-determination.

What I think sets this novel apart, is its authenticity. The author's meticulous research shines through as she brings to life the harsh realities of slavery and the societal expectations placed upon women. The characters are vividly drawn, their emotions raw and palpable, making it impossible not to be drawn into their world. Through Sarah's journey towards activism and Handful's quiet acts of defiance, the book highlights the resilience and strength of the human spirit, even when faced with adversity.

Having not studied History for GCSE, I feel like I learnt a lot about the slave trade from this book and the heart-breaking way of life for so many people. The Invention of Wings is not just a story; it is a journey of self-discovery, empowerment, and liberation. It challenged me to confront uncomfortable truths about the past while offering hope for a better future. For those who appreciate historical fiction that is both poignant and enlightening, this book is an absolute must-read!





# Accelerated Reader...

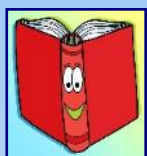


RENAISSANCE  
**Champion School**



## Millionaire Readers

Congratulations to our new millionaire readers this month: George Laker 7CST, Avish Sinha 7CNM, Iona Riddoch 7NWI and Siddhartha Chikoti 7YMO.



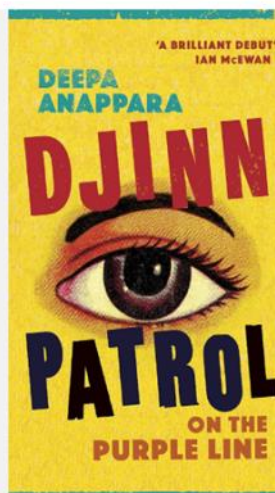
## Book of the Month

This month the Reading Ambassadors have chosen *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* by Deepa Anappara. A mystery thriller set in a slum neighbourhood of Delhi.

### March's book of the month!

'What really sets *Djinn Patrol* apart, though, is the authenticity of Jai's voice. Narrating in the first person, Anappara immerses us not only in Jai's world of deep social inequities, but also in his internal world.'

*The Guardian*



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
7 MARCH 2024

# Accelerated Reader Continued...



RENAISSANCE  
**Champion School**

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
7 MARCH 2024

## World Book Day



We celebrated World Book Day in the library on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and were lucky to have the fantastic author of the October Witches, Jennifer Claessen come to visit us. Jennifer spoke to the students about life as an author and her writing style. She then took questions from the students and showed them how to write their own mini books. It was a great experience for the students and we thoroughly enjoyed having Jennifer visit us.

For further information on Jennifer's wonderful books please visit her website; [www.jenniferclaessen.com](http://www.jenniferclaessen.com).

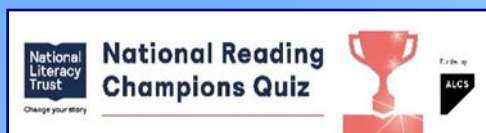




# Accelerated Reader Continued...



RENAISSANCE  
**Champion School**



On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, nine of our Year 8 Reading Ambassadors took part in the National Reading Champions Quiz. The competition is an opportunity for students to enjoy a book quiz with their peers and compete with other schools in their region.

The students competed in the South East heat, competing against 22 other schools. Hazelwick School finished a respectable 12<sup>th</sup> place. The students were all fantastic and really enjoyed the experience.

Well done!



(L-R) Pari Sharma, Isabelle Emmans, Danielle Potts, Freya Wheatley, Keisha Limbachia, Lucas Connell, Sivaguhan Velventhan, Thooba Momeen and Bahoolean Murugaraj.

Mrs E Gray

Accelerated Reader Mentor



# Sport...

## Talented Athlete Programme (TAP) 'Challenge' Workshop – Traversal

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, the Year 10 TAP students participated in a workshop to present them with a 'challenge.' These students participate in a range of sports at county level and above. If they wish to progress further, it will be essential that they can meet ever increasing physical and mental demands.

The purpose of this workshop was to present them with an activity that gave them a physical and mental challenge to help build resilience in the face of something that is new. Students traversed, hung from, swung from, jumped off and over, climbed up and more, to experience the sport and art of Parkour.

This took place under the tutelage of Drew, the founder and owner of Traversal, Sussex's only dedicated indoor Parkour facility. Drew was impressed by the ability of the students to meet the challenges he presented, and some may even consider this as a new sport!

Well done all, you were fantastic!

Mrs McHugh  
PE TAP Coordinator



# Student News...

## World Association for Kickboxing British National Championships

Year 13 Student Gabriel De Rosa on the last weekend of February travelled to Nottingham for the WAKO (World Association for Kickboxing Organisations) British National Championships for the third time.

He competed in Point Fight Kickboxing where the aim of the game is to hit your opponent to earn points. If a point is scored, the fight stops and resets back to the line: very similar to the Karate Kid.

Gabe had a great performance. In his first division Junior Male (16 to 18) under 69 kgs, he won his first fight by ten clearing his opponent in the first round. (If a 10-point margin is reached the fight ends automatically).

He then had a close fight losing 17-20 to his next opponent in extra time. He fought with great spirit and technique. However, he got bested by the better fighter, just missing out on 3<sup>rd</sup> place and coming 4<sup>th</sup> in that division.

He then had his second division - Junior Male Under 74 kgs - where he won his first fight by managing the distance against the taller opponent. This put him into the final against the fighter that went to the World Championships last year to represent Team GB. Gabe lost by 15-5 in the second round but showed some of his best fighting, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> ever final Gabe has made it to after almost 4 years of competing. The first year he went to these championships, he was the one to get 10 cleared in the first round. The second year he won a fight, then lost his second. This time round he made it to the podium, showing great resilience and perseverance.

Gabe will continue to train and work towards the possible opportunity to represent Team GB at the World Championships in Hungary in August 2024, as well as revising for his A Levels of course!

Miss Hammans  
Head of Year 13





## Student News Continued...

### British Gymnastics Championships

The Year 7 team are very proud of James Hill from 7ZBA who qualified to compete in the British Gymnastics Championships.

This was a competition which included the best 72 young gymnasts in the country. He finished in the top 20 in the rings competition - an amazing result, considering the strength required to compete on this apparatus.

In the overall competition he finished 48th. This is a fantastic achievement as he competed in the under 14 category and was one of the youngest in the field.

Well done James!

Heads of Year 7



### British Schools Judo Championship

Megan Howe 11MVN and Zara Howe 10MOW competed in the British Schools Judo Championship representing Hazelwick School. After both Megan and Zara lost their first fights, Zara went on to win all of her remaining fights to win bronze and Megan won three out of four fights just missing out on a bronze medal and finished 5th overall.

Well done to Megan and Zara!

Heads of Year 10





## Donations for the Allotment

The Allotment Club has been working hard to prepare for spring. We have built two new raised beds and added a woodchip path to the area. The next step is to start planting outside now that the weather is improving.



If you have any garden related items that you no longer need, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to the Allotment Club and they will be put to good use!

Donation ideas include:

- A shed, polytunnels, small potting sheds
- Bags of soil or compost
- Seeds and plants (flowers or vegetables)
- Decorative items (gnomes, painted pots, small sculptures)
- Outdoor furniture (tables, chairs, sun umbrellas)

If you would like to donate any items, please drop them off at reception. If they are very large items, please email Miss Smith at [ssmith1@hazelwick.org.uk](mailto:ssmith1@hazelwick.org.uk) to arrange delivery.

Miss Smith

# Spotlight on Safeguarding...

**For your information this month, via the Newsletter, we are raising awareness of an event Hazelwick students attended on the dangers of county lines drugs dealing and knife crime.**

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, Year 8 students from across Crawley secondary schools visited the Hawth Theatre for a Safer Crawley event on the dangers of county lines drug dealing and knife crime. The event was delivered by the St Giles Trust and presented by a former gang member who spoke to the students about how young people are groomed and exploited by county lines criminal gangs. In preparation for the event, Year 8 students received pre-event lessons as part of the PSHE curriculum on the topic of county lines and knife crime. This was followed up by a post-event lesson where students were able to reflect upon the event and explore the topics in greater detail. County lines is a term to describe the transportation of drugs from one area, commonly big cities, to another area of the country where criminal gangs are setting up a drug dealing operation. County Lines drugs dealing involves the use of children in the transportation and dealing of drugs. According to the NSPCC, the average age of the children who become involved as drug runners is between 15 and 16, however children as young as 12 have also been groomed into these gangs. Areas where County Lines drug dealing is taking place also suffers from an increased level of violence including knife crime.



Worryingly, the involvement of young people in knife crime has grown, according to a BBC report, which states that more boys and girls are carrying weapons as a result of being drawn into the gangs and exploited by drug dealers. Social media is used as a tool by drugs gangs to lure young people in and they will commonly display money and knives. One of the common reasons given as to why young people are carrying knives is for protection. However, according to the educational programme 'no knives, better lives' young people carrying knives are more likely to be stabbed themselves when situations get out of control. Locally, there have been a number of incidents over recent years involving knives including the tragic murder of an 18 year old man in Crawley last year.

At Hazelwick School, in addition to the Safer Crawley event the Year 8 students attended, the topic of county lines is also taught as part of the Year 10 PSHE curriculum and Year 9 students study the legal, social and personal ramifications of carrying knives as part of the citizenship curriculum.

## Where to get further information and support:

### **Crimestoppers – County Lines**

[Understanding County Lines: Resources and Information | Crimestoppers \(crimestoppers-uk.org\)](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/understanding-county-lines-resources-and-information)

### **Sussex Police – Serious violence – knife crime**

[Our response to violence and knife crime in Sussex | Sussex Police](https://www.sussex.police.uk/our-response-to-violence-and-knife-crime-in-sussex)

### **Catch 22 – One to One specialist support service**

[County Lines Support and Rescue | Catch22 \(catch-22.org.uk\)](https://www.catch-22.org.uk/)



## Hazelwick Twitter Account



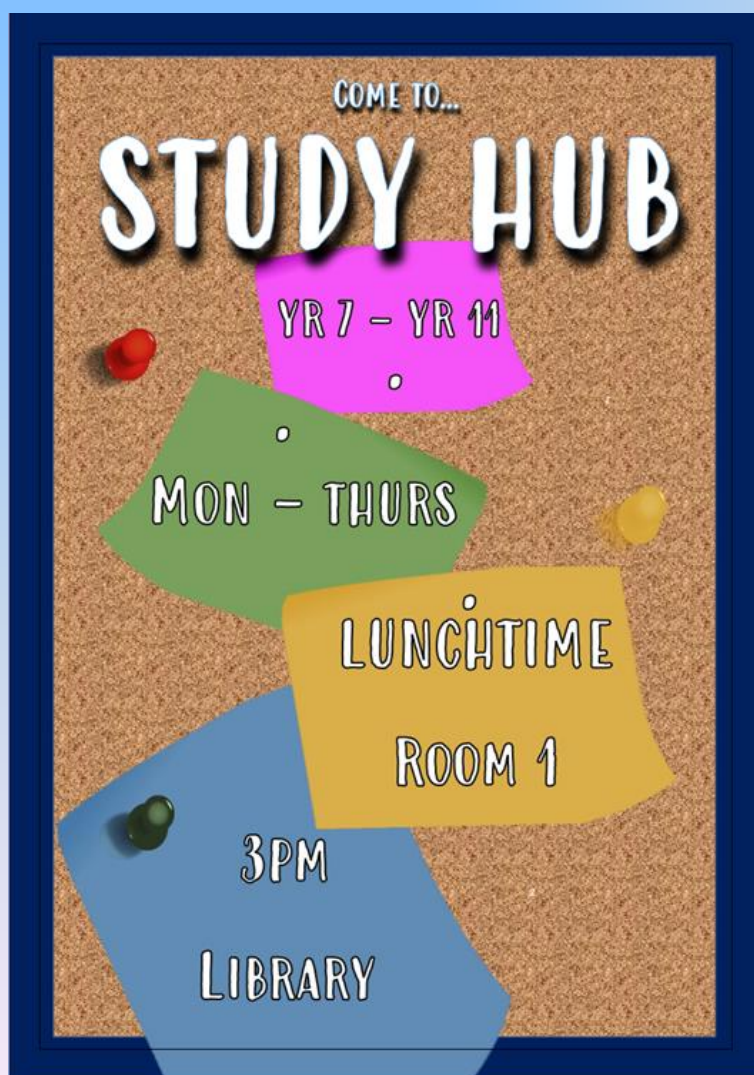
Follow us on our Twitter account @HazelwickSchool for reminders of key dates and details of important events.

## Insight - Parent Portal

Insight is a secure online system which allows parents/carers to access a range of data and information about their son/daughter. Once logged in, parents/carers can view information such as their child's timetable, session attendance, behaviour points and school reports.

If you have not accessed this yet and would like more information, please email [insight@hazelwick.org.uk](mailto:insight@hazelwick.org.uk)

## Homework & Revision Clubs



### Study Hub

Years 7-11

supervised study at  
lunchtime and 3-4 pm  
after school.

No need to book, simply  
turn up when you need  
help.

Sixth Form: Monday to Friday until 4.30pm – Supervised study in the Octagon.