

WOODSIDE VOICE

WOODSIDE SHARED VALUES

**Exceptional education and
experiences: every child, every day.**

WE WILL

Have **PRIDE** in everything we do
and who we are



RESPECT people for who they are



Demonstrate **KINDNESS** and
support each other

Mulberry
Academy Woodside

A message from the

Headteacher

Welcome to our Autumn/Winter Woodside Voice. Much of the content reflects our first term and the important process of starting a new academic year, as we now find ourselves at the beginning of a new calendar year. Community and experiences for our young people sit at the heart of many of the highlights.

October is always a special time for us to explore learning beyond the classroom. This happens both through the curriculum and enrichment activities. This year's Black History Month performances were outstanding, and we were lucky to enjoy a spine-chilling performance from Josh, lead of Dance Giant, who runs a weekly dance programme with our students.

There are countless examples of young people leading and stepping out of their comfort zones. This includes driving on a racing track, exploring a foreign country without families, leading the Global Girls Conference, speaking about healthy relationships on TV, and performing on the pitch.

For Year 7, our focus is on creating a sense of belonging and sharing the joy that school and life can bring. Alongside numerous clubs and experiences, this includes trips to the History Museum, mudlarking on the Thames, Halloween adventures, and the magic of winter. This term ended with a free book for every student, hot chocolate, and a shared reading session in the final week before the break.

As we move into 2026, the resolution I have given our young people is to use their voice for change in their community and for progress in the classroom. I look forward to sharing this journey in our next edition.



Ms. Angela Wallace
Headteacher

STEM STUDENTS MAKE THEIR MARK ON THE TRACK

Mulberry Academy Woodside's STEM Racing team delivered a strong performance in their latest competition and showed what focused, practical learning looks like in action. The group worked after school to prepare their car, test each part and solve problems as they arose. Their effort created a car that held its own on a competitive track.



The team secured 5th place in practice, which set them up well for race day. They went on to place 18th in Race 1 and 23rd in Race 2, finishing in the top half of 33 teams. This was the first time this cohort raced, so these results stand as a clear achievement.



The group responded well to setbacks, adjusting their design as issues emerged and making decisions with care. They showed growing engineering skill, sound judgement and teamwork built through hands-on problem solving.

Projects like this give students room to explore ideas, understand how things work and build confidence through practical work. The team now has its first race behind it and a strong foundation for what comes next.



YOUNG ARTISTS TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT BLUE HOUSE YARD

Our students exhibited their work at the first mini Pop Up exhibition at Blue House Yard, where they received excellent feedback from a wide mix of visitors. Local workers, Haringey Council staff, families and international guests paused to view the pieces and praised the quality, imagination and confidence in the artwork.



The exhibition gave students a platform to share their creativity beyond the classroom and helped strengthen our links with the local community. Their work made a strong impression and highlighted the range of creative opportunities available at our school.

Exploring Ancient Athens

Students in the Mulberry Societies programme travelled to Athens to explore the myths and stories that shaped the ancient world. Mulberry Societies give students the chance to study subjects in greater depth and take part in enrichment that builds learning beyond the classroom, and this visit formed part of that experience.

The group visited the first Olympic Stadium, climbed the Acropolis and explored Delphi and the Ancient Agora. Each site helped students see how history, philosophy and culture grew from these famous places.

The trip offered more than sightseeing. It gave students the chance to step into the world they study and understand it through real experience. Many described the journey as inspiring and a highlight of their time in the programme.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October brought a lively mix of creativity and community spirit as we celebrated Black History Month across the school. The kitchen served Afro Caribbean dishes that added colour and flavour to the week, while the main hall transformed with student made displays that explored history, culture and identity.



A standout moment was the BHM performance. Students took to the stage with singing, poetry, drama and dance, sharing work that showed confidence, pride and real artistic skill. Families, staff and guests filled the hall and the atmosphere reflected the hard work behind the scenes.

Year 9 students also led Sneakers Day to raise funds for the Godwin Lawson Foundation. Their planning and teamwork kept our values at the centre of the event. A themed treasure hunt added a playful touch, sending students across the site to solve clues linked to key figures and stories.

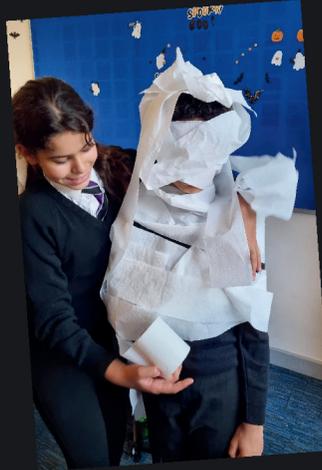
The month reminded us that Black history runs through our lessons, discussions and experiences every day. It shapes who we are and what we celebrate across the year.



HALLOWEEN AT WOODSIDE

OAK CLUB ACTIVITIES

Year 9 students marked Halloween with an after school cookie design competition that mixed creativity with plenty of fun. Armed with icing, sprinkles and a clear brief to make something spooky, they produced designs inspired by ghosts, pumpkins and classic Halloween characters. The session gave students a relaxed space to unwind after lessons while showing a different side to their creativity.

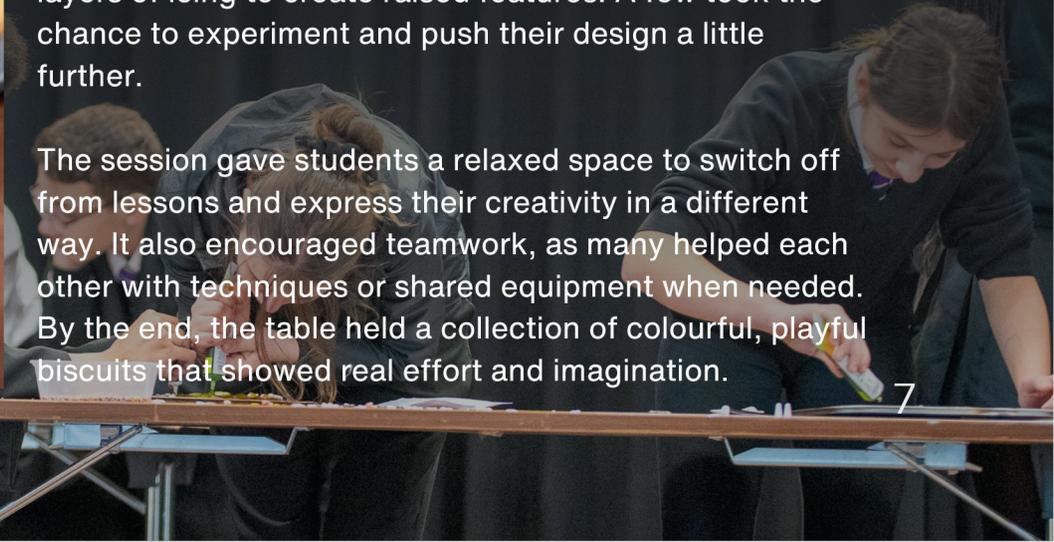


CREATIVE BAKES AND SPOOKY DESIGNS

Year 9 students marked Halloween with an after school cookie design challenge that brought a good mix of focus and fun. The group arrived with trays of plain biscuits and set up their stations with icing, sprinkles and a wide range of colours. Staff gave a short introduction, then students planned their designs and shared ideas before they began.

The room filled with careful piping, bold choices and plenty of laughter as students tried to bring ghosts, pumpkins and other Halloween characters to life on a biscuit. Some worked with neat patterns. Others built layers of icing to create raised features. A few took the chance to experiment and push their design a little further.

The session gave students a relaxed space to switch off from lessons and express their creativity in a different way. It also encouraged teamwork, as many helped each other with techniques or shared equipment when needed. By the end, the table held a collection of colourful, playful biscuits that showed real effort and imagination.



Twenty one Year 10 students attended the second annual Global Girl Leading summit at Mulberry School for Girls. The summit aims to equip young women with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge gender inequality and make informed choices about their futures.

Students heard from speakers working in women's leadership at local, national and international levels. They also took part in workshops led by a range of organisations, each focused on practical changemaking skills. The day included premieres of student led projects, from a short film to a poetry performance.

Ten of our students were selected to serve as summit leaders. They supported logistics, welcomed guests and helped run the programme throughout the day. The experience gave the group insight, teamwork and a real sense of what leadership looks like in practice.



Inside the World of Gothic Mystery

On the 10th of December, we welcomed M. A. Bennett to the library to speak about her Gothic Mystery novel, 'No Escape.' A mixed group of students from Years 7-10 arrived bright and early to hear M. A. Bennett discuss her process and the inspirations behind her work. Bennett gave insights into how writers create engaging stories by drawing from history and literature.

After her presentation, Bennett opened the floor to questions. Our students asked thoughtful questions about life as an author, how the publishing industry works, and her personal journey as a professional writer. The students gained advice, perspective, and a deeper understanding of how books are written and shaped and then brought into the publishing world.

M. A. Bennet is a history graduate of Oxford University and the University of Venice, where she specialised in the study of Shakespeare's plays as historical sources. Her novel No Escape is a mysterious thriller involving estranged twins, an enigmatic grandfather on his deathbed, and a fortune locked by dangerous puzzles. This event was made possible through our coordinating with Pickled Pepper Books, a local bookstore.

We were thrilled that our students were able to learn from and be inspired by M. A. Bennett. We hope to welcome more writers into the library soon!



SCIENCE SPARKS

THAT WONDER

Year 7 pupils enjoyed an inspiring science experience when renowned British chemist Dr Andrew Szydlo returned to Mulberry Academy Woodside. His demonstration, As If By Magic, combined dramatic experiments with clear explanations that brought the science curriculum to life.

From fiery reactions to unexpected chemical changes, each experiment captured attention and showed how science works beyond textbooks. The session balanced spectacle with learning, helping pupils understand key concepts while enjoying the excitement of live experimentation.

Students left curious and keen to learn more, with many expressing a growing interest in STEM subjects. Several Year 8 pupils who attended the show last year also returned, eager to see it again. Dr Szydlo's ability to spark curiosity and encourage thoughtful questioning left a strong impression and inspired pupils to explore science beyond the classroom.



London Through Time on the Thames



Some of our Year 7 history students brought their learning to life with a mudlarking trip along the River Thames. The visit formed part of their first enquiry, London Through Time, and gave students the chance to explore the city's past through real discoveries.

As they searched the riverbank, students uncovered a range of artefacts hidden beneath their feet, from pottery and oyster shells to fragments of glass and animal bones. Each find offered a small window into daily life from different periods in London's history.

With guidance from their teachers, students explored how these objects connected to the people who once lived and worked along the Thames. The experience sparked thoughtful discussion and curiosity, allowing students to piece together stories from the past. The trip turned history into something tangible and memorable, taking learning well beyond the classroom.



MATHS IN ACTION THROUGH STEM

50 Year 7 and 8 students took part in an engaging STEM workshop designed to stretch their problem solving skills and show how mathematics connects to the wider world of science, technology and engineering.

Working in teams, students tackled a range of hands on challenges, from logic puzzles and number investigations to real life problem scenarios. The activities encouraged collaboration, critical thinking and creativity, skills that sit at the heart of maths and run across all STEM subjects.

The workshop gave students the chance to see maths in action beyond the classroom and understand its role in everyday life and future careers. It was encouraging to see such high levels of enthusiasm, with students sharing ideas, testing strategies and supporting one another throughout.

A big thank you to the workshop leaders from The Talent Foundry for delivering such an inspiring session. We look forward to more opportunities to continue developing our young mathematicians and innovators.



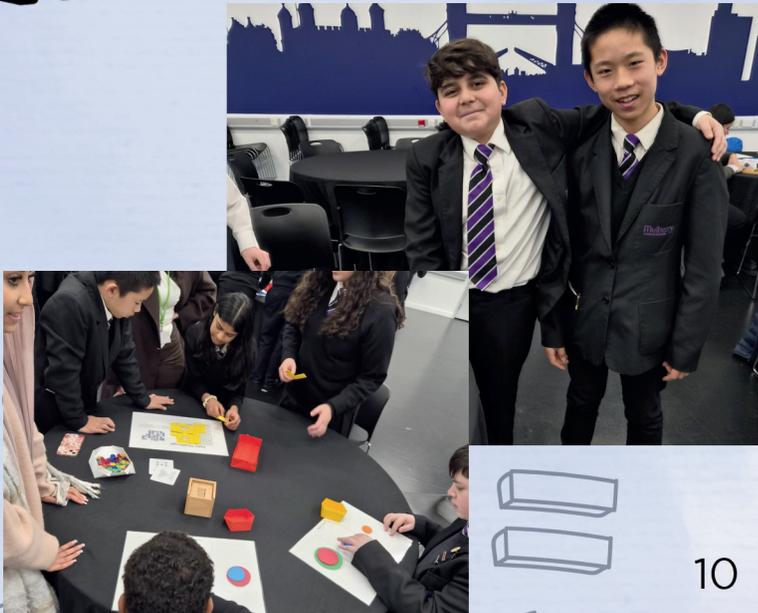
A WINNING DAY AT THE MATHS BONANZA

Seven Year 8 students represented Mulberry Academy Woodside at the Maths Bonanza hosted by London Academy of Excellence Tottenham. Competing against schools from across the borough, students took on a series of challenging maths problems across multiple rounds.

One of our teams finished the day as overall winners, beating all other teams and bringing home the trophy. Both teams also received praise for their excellent conduct and positive attitude throughout the event.

The competition offered students a chance to apply their mathematical thinking under pressure while working collaboratively with their peers.

Their success reflected both their problem solving skills and their commitment to representing the academy with pride.



Year 8 Careers Fair



Year 8 students took part in a Careers Fair delivered through a lively carousel format that kept learning active and engaging. The event welcomed a wide range of visitors from different industries, giving students a clear insight into future pathways and the world of work.

Throughout the morning, students rotated through interactive stations led by professionals from fields such as engineering, law, digital media, healthcare, entrepreneurship, and the charity and public sectors. Each session offered practical activities and honest discussion, allowing students to ask questions, hear real career journeys and explore the skills employers value.



Students spoke positively about the experience, particularly the chance to learn about different routes into careers and the importance of resilience, teamwork and lifelong learning. For many, the fair opened up ideas they had not previously considered.

The Careers Fair plays a key role in our commitment to high quality careers education. We are grateful to all the visitors who gave their time and shared their expertise. Year 8 students left the event feeling informed, motivated and excited about what lies ahead.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES AT THE GUARDIAN

A group of Year 9 students visited The Guardian headquarters to take part in a workshop titled Behind the Headlines, which explored how news is created and reported.

The session gave students a clear insight into journalism and the role of the media in society. They learned how stories are researched, written and edited, and discussed key ideas around accuracy, bias and ethics in modern news reporting.

Students spoke with working journalists, asked thoughtful questions and tried their hand at headline writing and reporting tasks.



Science Comes Alive at New Scientist Live

Year 9 STEM students attended the Schools' Day at the New Scientist Live exhibition at ExCeL London, taking part in a day filled with interactive experiences and inspiring talks that brought STEM subjects to life.

The exhibition offered a wide range of hands on activities and demonstrations, allowing students to explore how science, technology, engineering and mathematics shape the world around us. Highlights included exhibits on artificial intelligence, robotics and virtual reality, with a strong focus on their impact on medicine and health, food and agriculture, and space exploration.

The visit sparked curiosity and encouraged students to think about future careers in STEM, from protecting the planet to advancing space travel. Students engaged enthusiastically throughout the day, asking questions and exploring ideas beyond the classroom.

One student described the trip as an exciting experience that made science feel deeper, more enjoyable and accessible, reflecting the positive response shared by many across the group.



From Classroom to Council Chamber!

Some of our Year 9 students stepped beyond the classroom with a visit to City Hall, gaining a clear and engaging insight into how local government works. A guided tour of the historic building set the scene before students took their seats in the council chamber, where real decisions shape the local community.

A hands on workshop brought democracy to life as students debated real issues and explored how young people can have a voice in their communities. City Hall staff praised their enthusiasm, thoughtful questions and respectful engagement throughout the visit.

The experience helped students see themselves as active citizens with a role to play in public life.

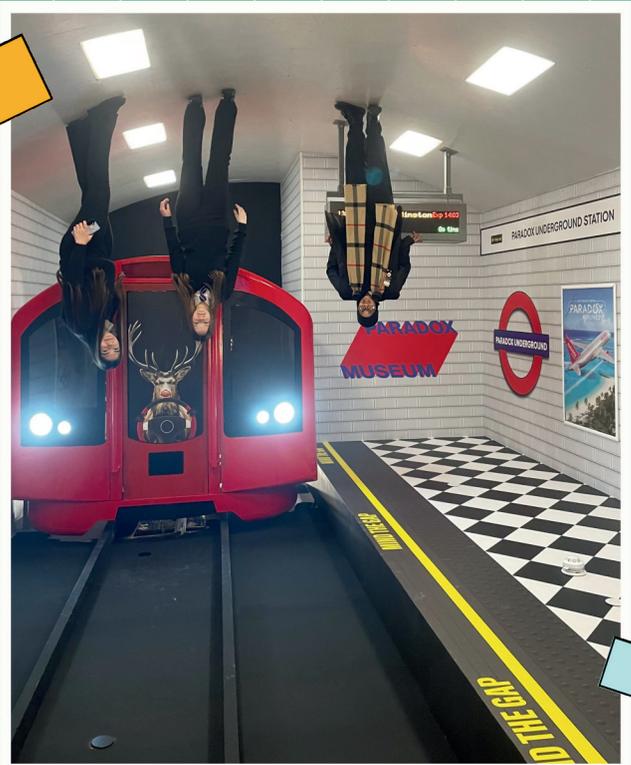
Exploring the Science of Illusion

Our Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to visit the Paradox Museum, a place where reality bends, perspectives shift, and nothing is quite as it seems. The visit was not only a fun and memorable experience, but also a chance for students to explore science, perception, and creativity in an interactive way.

Throughout the day, students wandered through a range of mind-bending exhibits, rooms where gravity appeared to change direction, illusions that challenged their senses, and installations designed to make them question what is possible. Laughter, curiosity, and a healthy dose of confusion could be heard as students experimented with each paradox, trying to work out the science behind the tricks.

Teachers noted that the museum provided a wonderful balance of entertainment and learning. Many of the displays prompted students to think critically, ask questions, and consider how the brain interprets information. It sparked fantastic conversations about physics, psychology, and how easily our minds can be fooled.

The visit was a highlight of the week and a valuable enrichment experience for our Year 9s. We're proud of how engaged, enthusiastic, and respectful the students were throughout the trip.



Cracking the Code in Business

Year 10 Business students took part in an exciting Business Escape Room Challenge during their taster session at Capital City College Group. Working in small teams, they tackled 14 themed puzzles covering key business ideas such as finance, marketing, customer service, ethics and market research.

Each puzzle revealed a digital code to unlock the next stage, encouraging teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking. Prizes were awarded to the top teams, and the challenge offered a fun, hands-on introduction to the skills and knowledge developed on the BTEC Business programme.

PRIDE ON AND OFF THE PITCH



Congratulations to our graduating Football Beyond Borders cohort, who represented Mulberry Academy Woodside at the summer residential COPA. Since joining the programme in 2022, students have benefited from mentoring that supports their development both on and off the pitch.

Across the two day event, the team impressed with strong teamwork, skill and resilience, reaching the final after a series of confident performances. Although they narrowly missed out on the overall win, their progress was recognised with awards for Social Emotional Learning, reflecting their commitment and personal growth.

The group received high praise from Football Beyond Borders staff for their attitude, engagement and respect throughout the event.

INSIDE THE WORLD OF GENERATIVE AI

A group of 20 Year 10 students took part in an AI workshop delivered by IBM, focused on artificial intelligence and generative AI. The session introduced students to how these technologies work and how they can be used to solve real world problems.

Using IBM's design approach, students developed creative problem solving skills through structured brainstorming and hands on activities. They explored how technology and design thinking can work together to turn ideas into practical solutions.

The workshop gave students valuable insight into emerging technologies and encouraged them to think critically about how AI can shape the future across different industries.

Inside the Human Brain

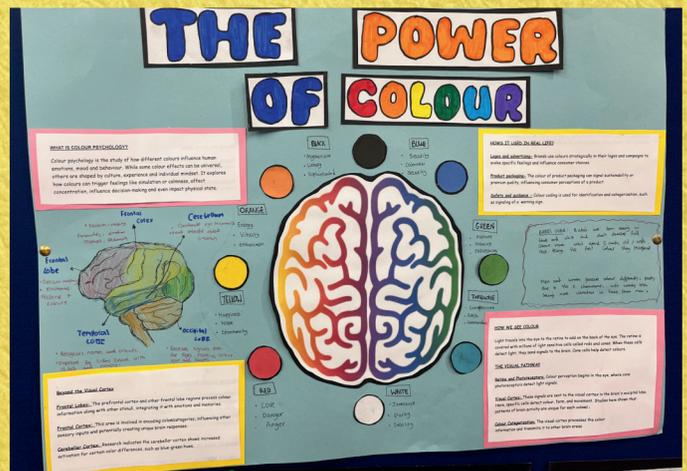


Democracy in Action!

Year 11 Citizenship GCSE students visited Parliament for a powerful insight into how democracy works in practice. They explored key parts of the building, including the King's Chamber, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

A standout moment came as students observed a live emergency debate, bringing their Citizenship studies sharply into focus. The visit also offered a rare glimpse of politics in action, with students spotting several high profile figures inside the chamber, adding to the sense of occasion.

The experience helped turn classroom learning into something real and immediate, leaving students engaged, informed and inspired.



A group of Year 11 students completed the final stage of The Brain Project at London Academy of Excellence Tottenham, following a series of workshops focused on the structure and function of the mammalian brain. The programme combined academic study with independent research, allowing students to develop their ideas over time.

Students presented their findings as research posters and attended talks from professionals working in neuroscience and neuropsychology. The standard of work impressed organisers, with one poster, The Power of Colour, winning a best poster award for its exploration of how colour influences human emotion, mood and behaviour.

The project offered a valuable insight into advanced scientific study and research skills.

Learning from the Masters



As part of their coursework, Year 11 Photography students took part in a workshop at the National Portrait Gallery in central London. The visit gave students the chance to study professional portraiture up close and draw inspiration from the artists on display.

Working in small groups, students created portraits of one another, focusing on composition and lighting. The practical session encouraged experimentation and thoughtful discussion around technique and creative choices.

Gallery staff praised the group for their enthusiasm, teamwork and willingness to explore new ideas.

WINTER AT

A Winter Ball to Remember!

Year 7 ended the term with a Winter Ball that brought warmth and energy to the school community. The assembly hall became a bright, welcoming space filled with music and lights as students came together to celebrate.

The evening gave students a relaxed chance to spend time with friends in a safe, well organised setting. Fresh waffles added a seasonal touch, while staff support helped everyone feel comfortable and included.

The Winter Ball helped students build friendships, feel part of school life and finish their first term of secondary school on a high, creating a memory many will carry with them.



Festive Evening at the Winter Fair

This year's Winter Fair brought the Hub to life with colour, activity and a strong festive feel. Students led the evening, running game stalls where visitors won tickets to exchange for prizes, alongside a busy tombola.

The candy floss and waffle stand drew long queues throughout the night, while a student led craft stall selling handmade baubles and bracelets added a creative touch and gave visitors the chance to support student made work.



WOODSIDE

Night of Talent at the Winter Concert

The Winter Concert brought the school community together for an evening that felt like a Royal Variety show at Mulberry Academy Woodside. Students from Year 7 to Year 10 took to the stage and shared a wide range of talent with confidence.

The programme flowed between drama, dance and singing, with the MAW choir at the heart of the evening. Two solo performances stood out for their focus and courage, highlighting the strength of talent across the year groups.

Each performance reflected the care and effort put into rehearsals, creating a warm and inclusive evening enjoyed by families, staff and students alike.



A Christmas Book Flood

Jólabókaflóð is an Icelandic tradition meaning Christmas Book Flood, centred on giving books and making time to read, reflect and connect.

This year, teachers hand wrapped books for every Year 7 student and added personal messages, making each gift feel thoughtful and personal. The books arrived in classrooms and created a calm, purposeful moment at the end of term.

Student Council added to the experience by preparing and delivering hot chocolate, bringing warmth and a sense of occasion. Jólabókaflóð gave students time to slow down, celebrate reading and reflect the values at the heart of school life.

BREAKING NEWS

WOODSIDE STUDENTS SHARE THEIR VOICES ON SKY NEWS



Students took part in a workshop on healthy relationships during a visit from Sky News. The session gave pupils space to talk openly about respect, consent, and everyday behaviour.

Students shared views, discussed real situations, and explored how to challenge negative attitudes. Several pupils took part in interviews, speaking with confidence and maturity about issues that matter to them.

You can watch the Sky News piece featuring our students by scanning the QR Code!



SHOPPING WITH A PURPOSE

Our Main School Council used funds raised from the Winter Fair to shop for those in need, turning a great evening of community into a meaningful act of support.

Council members chose items carefully, aiming for essentials that would genuinely help others over the winter months. The students planned the list, shopped together, and prepared the donations with care.

The whole process gave them a clear sense of how community events can lead directly to positive action beyond the school walls.

Bringing funds from a festive fair into real support for others also echoes wider traditions of thoughtful giving.





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