

## YEAR 9 BRING STORIES TO LIFE THROUGH ANIMATION



### THIS ISSUE

Year 9 Students Step Into the World of Surgery at the Hunterian Museum

World Book Day Writing Competition details

Power House Day at Woodside

# Ms Wallace's Announcements

LATEST UPDATES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

## DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS,

Then it was February! Thanks to all our families who made it to the Year 10 parents' evening this week. This is an incredibly key time for students, acting on feedback now and consolidating good routines for homework and revision really pay off.

Wednesday saw our first Super House Day, an opportunity to boost our lunchtime offer, with one-off lunches full of multi activities. In the colder months, a lunch club is a really great way to spend time after having a rest and something to eat. Next week, the student council have arranged a rose sale for fundraising on Valentine's Day.

When we return after the break, we will be marking Chinese New Year with activities and food. There will also be activities running to support Ramadan and celebrate with our iftar; Eid events; St Patrick's Day; Newroz; Bulgarian Liberation Day; Holi; and Easter.

Finally, whilst World Book Day is fast upon us, the whole of 2026 is the National Year of Reading. We are doing lots in school, but at its heart is promoting reading at every opportunity. If you have spare magazines or books, please can your child drop them at Student Reception, as we are placing these out in the Hub and other areas to read at social times, alongside our library and mobile library, to support ease of access to books.

**Ms. Wallace**

## UPCOMING KEY DATES



**Mon 9 Feb - Tue 10 Feb**

Diversity Role Models  
Workshops for Year 7s

**HALF TERM BREAK**

**Mon 16 - Fri 20 Feb**

**Tue 24 Feb**

Year 10 K30 Parents  
Evening

**Thurs 26 Feb**

Iftar Evening  
(See poster for details)

**Wed 4 Mar**

Year 9 Careers Carousel

**Tue 10 Mar**

Year 9 Options Evening

## NEXT WEEK: WEEK 2



@mulberryaws

If you have any specific questions regarding the transfer of school to the Mulberry Schools Trust, please email

[clerk@mulberryschoolstrust.org](mailto:clerk@mulberryschoolstrust.org)

# Year 9 Bring Stories to Life Through Animation

The second Woodside Film Festival opened with strong energy as Year 9 students took part in a stop motion animation workshop.

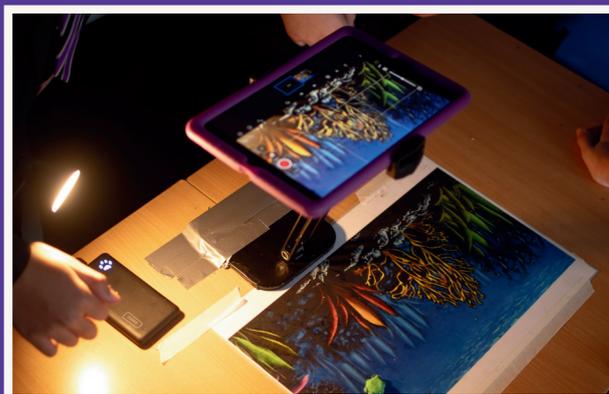
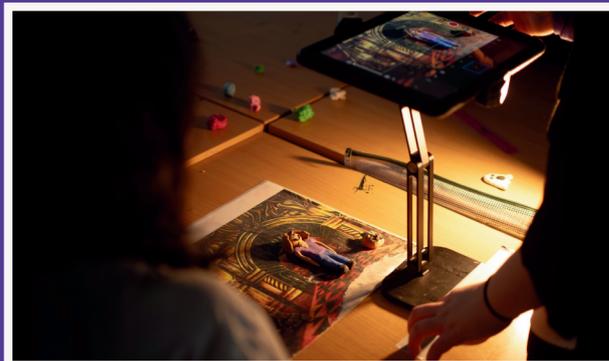
Industry practitioners guided students through the process of turning still images into short films. Working in small groups, students planned storylines, created characters from clay and built miniature sets. They tested lighting, camera angles and timing to bring each scene to life frame by frame.

The workshop developed creativity, patience and problem solving. It also built teamwork and communication as students shared ideas and made decisions together. Many gained confidence using professional animation software for the first time.

Finished films will be screened in assembly next, with students proud to see their work shown to peers. The workshop set the tone for the festival and showed how imagination and collaboration can produce thoughtful and memorable cinema.

Huge congratulations to “Lebron, directed by Azka, Maysa, Najma, Nadia and Mercan, for being selected as the winner for the stop motion animation film.

To watch the video scan the QR code.



**SCAN ME**



## A Discussion with Nick Read

Filmmaker Nick Read returned this year as part of the Woodside Film Festival to work with Year 9 students.

Students watched My Name Is Happy, followed by a discussion about the film and the documentary filmmaking process. Nick spoke about his subject matter and how meaning is created through visual choices, helping students understand how documentaries are shaped on screen.

The session gave students practical insight into real filmmaking and supported their growing confidence in analysing film.

## FILM POSTER WORKSHOP

Year 9 students took part in a poster-making session focused on designing horror film posters using Canva.

Students explored layout, colour and typography to communicate genre and mood. Each design presented an imagined film, with careful thought given to visual impact and audience appeal.

Lillie-Mae in 9T won an Amazon gift card for her standout poster, The Undead. Special mention goes to Sabika, Claudiu and Devasha for the strength and originality of their designs.



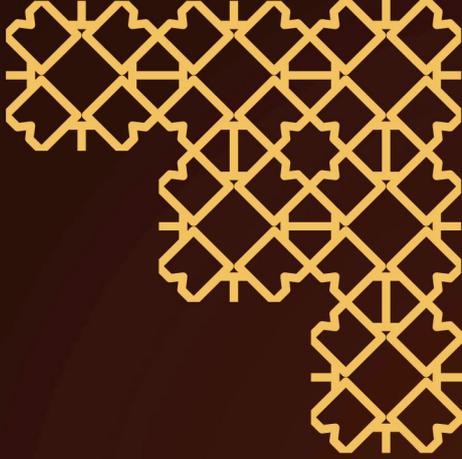
Sabika



Claudiu



Devasha



# Iftar at Woodside

THURSDAY | 26TH FEBRUARY  
5:15 - 6:30 PM

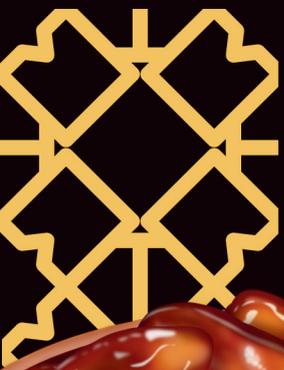
WE WARMLY INVITE OUR  
STUDENTS, PARENTS AND  
CARERS TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
SCHOOL IFTAR EVENING.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Maghrib prayer will take place just after  
breaking of the fast.

Prayer mats will be available, but we  
recommend bringing your own if possible.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE EMAIL  
[FISLAM@MULBERRYSCHOOLSTRUST.ORG](mailto:FISLAM@MULBERRYSCHOOLSTRUST.ORG) WITH  
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING, OR LET  
YOUR FORM TUTOR KNOW.



# POWER HOUSE DAY

The first Power House Day took place this week, with students taking part in a range of lunchtime challenges across the school.

House captains supported activities throughout the day, helping to run events and encourage participation. Students competed in basketball shooting challenges, speed stacking, a crossbar challenge, one v one contests, table tennis, and a trampolining competition, using spaces including the sports hall, astro, canteen, hub and basketball area.

Participation earned students double praise points, with further points awarded to the winning house. Staff recorded names to make sure all contributions were recognised.

The event created a lively atmosphere at lunchtime and gave students a chance to represent their house, support one another and get involved in friendly competition.



## Shortbread and Teamwork in Oak Club

The Year 7 Oak Club spent time in the kitchen this week making shortbread, learning new skills and working together. Support from Oak Seniors in Years 8 and 9 helped guide the session, with volunteers giving their time to assist and taste test the finished bakes.

## The Stage is set for Moana Jr.

Auditions for Moana Jr took place on Wednesday, marking the start of a long awaited production at Woodside.

There was a strong turnout, with students showing enthusiasm and a wide range of talent. The drama department ran the auditions in a workshop format, ensuring every participant took part. Students worked through activities that included acting and singing, giving staff a clear sense of each performer's strengths.

The standard across the group made selections challenging, reflecting the depth of talent on show. The auditions set a positive tone for the production, with callbacks scheduled for Monday as the journey continues.





## Year 9 Students Step Into the World of Surgery at the Hunterian Museum

Year 9 students took part in a hands on surgical skills workshop during a visit to the Hunterian Museum.

The session introduced students to the world of medicine through a mix of history, science and practical activity. Pupils explored surgical techniques and equipment, giving them a clear insight into the skill and care required in medical practice.

The workshop supported students with an interest in science and medicine and encouraged others to try something new. Many left keen to share what they had learned and with a stronger understanding of the dedication behind medical careers.

Students engaged fully throughout the visit, showing curiosity and focus. Experiences like this help connect classroom learning to the real world and support students as they consider future pathways.

Thanks to the Hunterian Museum team for hosting a thoughtful and memorable workshop.



## Year 9 Students Take Part in SOAS Politics Workshop

This week, Year 9 students took part in a workshop led by a SOAS graduate, focused on politics and global issues.

The session encouraged students to think critically about how political systems work and how decisions are made at national and international levels. Through discussion and interactive activities, students explored key ideas, debated real world issues and developed confidence in sharing informed views.

Students engaged thoughtfully throughout and represented the school well.

From  
Year 9,  
With love

11TH - 13TH  
FEBRUARY

BREAK AND LUNCH

ROSES & BAKED GOODS  
RAISING MONEY FOR  
BOUNDS GREEN FOOD BANK

# SPREAD KINDNESS With a SINGLE ROSE

CASH  
ONLY



BUY A ROSE FOR £ 1

WHETHER IT'S A FRIEND WHO ALWAYS MAKES YOU SMILE, A FAMILY MEMBER WHO'S BEEN THERE FOR YOU, OR EVEN YOURSELF, EVERY ROSE IS A CHANCE TO SHARE A LITTLE KINDNESS.

WHEN AND WHERE

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FRIDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY

SNACK SHACK DURING BREAK AND LUNCH

## Ignite Your Future

Write your best fantasy, sci-fi, future-oriented flash fiction story and submit it to the library!  
Limit: 500 Words  
Dream as big and wild as you can!



Submit by March 5 2026  
Prizes:  
1<sup>st</sup> Kindle  
2<sup>nd</sup> Amazon Giftcard  
3<sup>rd</sup> Amazon Giftcard

# World Book Day Writing Competition

To celebrate World Book Day, we are going to hold another writing competition in the library. This time, the theme is fantasy/sci-fi/imagined futures. Use your imaginations and dream big to create something short, dazzling, and inventive.

Submit your 500 Word short story to Mr. K in the library by March 5th, or World Book Day, to be considered for prizes. If you would like guidance or to talk through your idea, come to the library and Mr. K will give you advice and support!

We hope to see all of your amazing submissions soon.



## Write the Future

Submit by March 5

Write a 500 word flash fiction story with the theme of fantasy, sci-fi, futures, or any imaginative possibility.

Dream big! Submit or talk to Mr. K in the library.

PRIZES:  
• KINDLE  
• AMAZON GIFTCARD  
• AMAZON GIFTCARD

## World Book Day: Meet Author Kenechi Udogu



On Thursday, March 5, we will be celebrating World Book Day! Throughout the week, a variety of amazing events, offerings, and competitions will run in the library and around the school. We hope to celebrate and impart the joy and power of reading.

On World Book Day, we are excited to welcome Kenechi Udogu as she comes to speak to our students about her book, 'Augmented.' She will share her process, thoughts on life as a writer, and give invaluable insights to our students about creativity. Our author events are an amazing opportunity for our students to become immersed in a passion for books.

To reserve a spot for your student and purchase a signed copy of Kenechi Udogu's book, please follow the QR code below!

We look forward to having her come as a part of our World Book Day week events! Look out for more announcements and events coming soon.

## YEAR 9 TOP PRAISE THIS WEEK

Malarno 9U

Youcef 9E

Azeem 9E

Melis 9U

Ikraan 9E

Mulberry  
Academy Woodside

CAREERS  
FAIR

We are running a Careers Fair for Year 9 students that aims to provide our students with various insights into the employment industry.

We would be honoured if you or your company could participate in this year's event scheduled for **Wednesday 4th March 2026**, from **9:10pm to 12:50 pm**.

Our attendees for this event are keen to explore and engage with representatives from distinguished companies or professions like yours.

If you are interested in attending or if you have any questions about the event please do not hesitate to contact [sozcan@mulberryschoolstrust.org](mailto:sozcan@mulberryschoolstrust.org)



# Safeguarding

## BEHAVIOUR ONLINE

*Not all behaviour online is acceptable, even if it feels normal or common. Talk with your child about what kindness looks like in digital spaces and where clear boundaries sit. Remind them that respect, honesty, and empathy apply online in the same way they do face to face.*

*Help your child understand that unkind comments, sharing images without permission, exclusion from group chats, and spreading rumours are unacceptable behaviours. Encourage them to pause and think before posting, commenting, or forwarding content.*

*Explain that online actions leave a digital footprint. What is shared can be saved, reshared, and revisited later. Support your child to take responsibility for their choices online and to use digital spaces in a way they would feel comfortable explaining to a trusted adult.*

# ATTENDANCE TOP TIP FOR PARENTS

## BUILD RESILIENCE

Sometimes children feel a little tired or say they don't want to go in. Encourage resilience by reminding them that school is important even on tricky days. Every lesson counts, and showing up builds stamina and perseverance for the future.

# ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?



A worry is a concern. People you can talk to:



Ms Oliver  
Assistant Headteacher



Ms Peter  
Deputy Headteacher



Ms Sanford  
Deputy Headteacher



Ms Wallace  
Headteacher



Mr Ashton  
Deputy Headteacher



Ms Wrigglesworth  
Assistant Headteacher



Mr Krepky  
Assistant Headteacher



Mr Rabbitts  
Assistant Headteacher



Mr Blisom  
Deputy Head of Wellbeing



Ms George-Hedley  
Head of Wellbeing



Ms Rees  
SENCO



Ms Deer  
HOY 7



Mr Gittins  
HOY 8



Ms Hinds  
HOY 9



Mr Miranda  
HOY 10



Mr Whitehead  
HOY 11

If you have any questions or concerns regarding SEN provision, please feel free to get in touch directly at [jrees@mulberryschoolstrust.org](mailto:jrees@mulberryschoolstrust.org)

## ATTENDANCE LADDER



## KEY RETURN TO SCHOOL DATES

**Half term Break : Monday 16th - Friday 20th**

**February 2026**

**Spring Term 2 Starts: Monday 23rd February 2026**

**(All students to return to school)**

**Easter Break: Monday 30th March 2026 - Friday**

**10th April 2026**

**Summer Term 1 Starts: Monday 13th April 2026**

**(All students return to school)**

# UPCOMING NATIONAL DAYS SPRING TERM

**FEB 11**

**INTERNATIONAL DAY  
FOR WOMEN AND  
GIRLS IN SCIENCE**

**FEB 13**

**VALENTINE'S DAY  
ROSE SALE**

**MAR 5**

**WORLD BOOK  
DAY**

**MAR 8**

**INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY**

**MAR 14**

**PI DAY**

**MAR 21**

**WORLD  
POETRY DAY**

# CULTURAL EVENTS



**SPRING TERM**



**2026**

**FEB  
17**

Date may vary

**CHINESE NEW  
YEAR**

**FEB MAR  
17 - 18**

Dates may vary

**RAMADAN**

**MAR  
03**

**BULGARIAN  
LIBERATION DAY**

**MAR  
04**

**HOLI**

**MAR  
17**

**ST.  
PATRICKS DAY**

**MAR  
24**

**NEWROZ**

**APR  
05**

**EASTER**

**APR  
12**

**ORTHODOX EASTER**



# NEXT WEEK'S VALUES IN ACTION

## CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

NEXT WEEK, OUR VALUES SESSION WILL FOCUS ON CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER.  
YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME BY:

### PRAISE EFFORT, NOT JUST RESULTS

ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CHILD'S HARD WORK, PERSEVERANCE, AND WILLINGNESS TO TRY NEW THINGS, FOCUS ON THE PROCESS RATHER THAN THE OUTCOME. THIS HELPS CHILDREN BUILD CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE, EVEN WHEN THINGS DO NOT GO PERFECTLY.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

CREATE REGULAR OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILD TO TALK ABOUT THEIR DAY, FRIENDSHIPS, AND ANY CHALLENGES THEY MAY BE FACING. LISTENING CALMLY AND WITHOUT JUDGEMENT HELPS CHILDREN FEEL HEARD, VALUED, AND SUPPORTED.

### MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

CHILDREN LEARN A GREAT DEAL BY WATCHING ADULTS. SHOWING KINDNESS, RESPECT, AND EMPATHY IN YOUR OWN INTERACTIONS HELPS YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND HOW TO TREAT OTHERS AND HOW TO RESPOND POSITIVELY IN SOCIAL SITUATIONS.

### SUPPORT PROBLEM-SOLVING, NOT FIXING

WHEN FRIENDSHIP OR PEER ISSUES ARISE, GUIDE YOUR CHILD TO THINK THROUGH POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN STEPPING IN STRAIGHT AWAY. ASKING QUESTIONS SUCH AS 'WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU COULD DO?' HELPS BUILD INDEPENDENCE AND CONFIDENCE IN MANAGING RELATIONSHIPS.

### CELEBRATE KINDNESS AND INCLUSION

NOTICE AND PRAISE MOMENTS WHEN YOUR CHILD SUPPORTS A FRIEND, INCLUDES OTHERS, OR SHOWS EMPATHY. RECOGNISING THESE ACTIONS REINFORCES POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND ENCOURAGES CHILDREN TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING THOSE AROUND THEM.



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