

DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

29 November 2024 edition

The wonderful thing about our newsletter is that it is a fabulous opportunity to celebrate all the amazing things that our staff and students do and achieve. Whether it be supporting families in our local community through the Christmas hamper and stocking campaign or working as an Anti-Bullying Ambassador, it is lovely to see our students displaying such kindness.

This is the case for our current students, but also our ex-students. Last week Morton, one of our former 'Head Boys' came back to talk to our year 11 Platinum Academy about the importance of resilience. Now in his twenties, Morton is an Officer in the RAF. He gave an inspirational talk about what his experiences have taught him about pushing on and being successful. We are so fortunate to have incredible former students like Morton, who are prepared to give up their time to support our current students.

An exciting new development we are planning is the 'Winter Lecture Series'. This will bring in experts from a variety of fields to talk to and inspire our students. This will range from astrophysics to global

politics and peacekeeping. There will be further details on this in the next edition of the newsletter.

We must also take this opportunity to say a huge well done to year 11 for the way in which they are approaching their mock exams. They are completely focused and working so hard. They really are a credit to themselves and we look forward to celebrating their results in the new year!

Congratulations to the year 7 girls' football team who won the district tournament this week. What an amazing achievement. Finally, we look forward to seeing year 8 parents and carers next week at the consultation evening. It's always great to have the opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making with you.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Shaun Allison &
Chris Woodcock
Co-Headteachers

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Curriculum Spotlight



Year 7

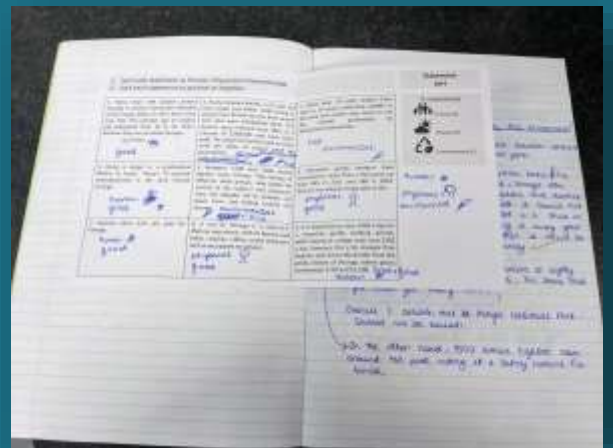
Year 7 students have had an engaging start to KS3 Geography by embedding the learning and development of key geographical skills, such as map skills, into a unit of work exploring some of the most unique, interesting and extreme environments in the world. Students study a variety of extreme global locations such as Mount Everest, Virunga National Park and Death Valley and use these settings to develop an understanding of how humans and the environment interact and impact on each other, whilst also considering how sustainable human life is in some of these locations.

Geography@DHS

Geography

"Geography is interesting as we are learning about different types of environments and landscapes. It's fun as you learn so much which is new." Milan in year 7

"I've enjoyed learning about Mount Everest and other places on the planet which are extreme." Sonny in year 7



"You learn about cool places in the world and get to improve your map skills and knowledge of the world we live in." Madison in year 7

The Durrington Journey



Curriculum spotlight

Year 8

During the first half of the Autumn term year 8s focused on the significant geographical issue that is climate change. The students explored historical climate change using past data to examine the natural and anthropogenic drivers of our climate, before studying the predicted future implications of climate change on a global scale. Having studied the role of fossil fuels in driving climate change, students went on to study a variety of alternative energy production options including nuclear, solar and wind. They also assessed the viability of these alternatives by considering the positives and negatives of each.

This half term students have moved on to looking at the geographical spread and impact of diseases. By using a variety of case studies, including COVID-19, students are exploring how globalisation has increased the likelihood of disease spread, and how diseases can have economic and environmental impacts beyond just their social reach. They will also explore how the type of disease is linked to the level of development of the country and how international aid is being used to control and eradicate diseases.

#Year8

Geography



"Learning more about climate change is really interesting, such as what would make the ice caps melt, and the effects of climate change around the world."

Maddie in year 8

"I like learning about different countries, how people live, and the diversity of living conditions."

Archie in year 8

#TeamDurrington



Curriculum spotlight

Year 9

Year 9s started their year studying some of the most significant and core elements of Geography, developing an understanding of the earth's structure and the theory of continental drift.

From this understanding they went on to study the theory behind a variety of tectonic hazards such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis.

Students also looked at example case studies of each type of hazard, learning how to differentiate between primary vs secondary effects, and short vs long term responses.

The year 9s were also given the opportunity to develop their comparative writing skills, comparing case studies and exploring reasons for differences in destruction etc. such as wealth.



Going beyond our best

Geography

This half term the students are studying a range of atmospheric and other non-tectonic hazards. Examples of this include tropical storms, tornadoes, forest fires and avalanches.

Students will study the formation of these hazards and case studies of real life examples to gain an understanding of the devastation they can cause.



This unit of work will also begin to look at the impact of climate change (linking back to work in year 8) on our atmosphere and the implications for events such as extreme weather in the UK and the frequency/severity of tropical storms.

"I like geography because we have been learning about natural hazards/ disasters and it is very interesting." Daisy in year 9

#DHSGeography



Curriculum spotlight

Year 10

The year 10s began their GCSE geography course following on from their studies in year 9 and looked deeper into the opportunities and challenges faced by urban areas in contrasting countries.

They reviewed their work on the social, economic and environmental challenges of LIC urban areas such as Mumbai, and then moved on to study the challenges facing UK cities (with a particular focus on Newcastle) in regards to social deprivation, regeneration and environmental impacts.



"I love geography because it teaches me more about how day to day life is in other countries, and I get to learn more about the environment too, which is so important."

Naledi in year 10



#GCSEGeography

GCSE Geography



"I chose geography as a GCSE because I find the topic interesting and useful as I can learn more about the world and our future. I also enjoy the specific topics we have learnt at school in this subject."

Seline in year 10

"I really enjoy GCSE geography because there are loads of opportunities such as school trips in this country and abroad."

Alfie in year 10

#proudoofDHS



Curriculum spotlight

Year 11

Year 11s have started their second physical geography unit which builds on students previous knowledge. Focusing on the Jurassic coastline of Dorset, the students examine the physical processes that shape our coastline, and have learnt how to provide detailed and sequential explanations of how landforms are created.

They have also studied in detail the variety of hard and soft engineering strategies available to protect coastal areas from erosion, and evaluated the strategies used in Bournemouth as a case study of coastal defence.

This half term they are examining the evidence that much of the UK was once glaciated during the last Ice Age. By studying the UK landscape the students are learning how glaciers form, move and shape our landscape, and they will then move on to give detailed explanations on the formation of various glacial landforms of erosion and deposition.

This unit of work ends by looking at the Lake District as an example of a previously glaciated landscape. They will focus on the different land uses/ economic activities available in this area, before moving on to study the impact of tourism and the management of these impacts.

#Aspiration

GCSE Geography



"The geography department works so hard and are always helping to make our learning as easy and as efficient as possible, they always put us first and it makes a massive difference to my outlook on the subject."

Jessica in year 11

"I chose the subject of geography due to my personal interest in the way the world works and is formed. Trips that I have been given the opportunity to go on are the Iceland trip which I will be going on next term."

Ethan in year 11

#Perseverance



Curriculum spotlight

Last week the geography team led the week's assemblies and spoke to all the students across the school about the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP29, which took place from 11th to 22nd November in Azerbaijan.

Extreme weather events across the globe were talked about, including the effect on the population who have endured these extremes in weather, and also about the simple things we can do, as individuals, and as a school, to reduce our own carbon footprint.



#COP29

Geography



Geography extra-curricular

The geography department runs a number of trips to different locations throughout KS3 and 4, ranging from local fieldwork studies in Worthing town centre and coastline, a residential weekend visit to Dorset where students study the natural landscapes such as Durdle Door, to the ultimate experience being a residential trip to Iceland that will depart again this year at Easter, giving students the opportunity of a lifetime.



#EducationalTrips



Christmas Charity Appeal

Christmas hampers and stockings are an annual tradition here at Durrington High School and our Student Senior Leadership Team are launching this charity event again for Christmas 2024.

Kindness is one of our KAPP values here at DHS, by definition it means giving to and caring for others. This is not just within our school building but within our community as a whole.

Following the Durrington tradition our Christmas hampers will go to local charities and foodbanks, whilst our Christmas stockings will be delivered to our local primary schools.

Therefore, by donating anything that you can, you are providing happiness to our local community due to **your** kindness!

How can you help?

For the hampers we ask that you bring in any toiletries that you can give. For example: Hand wash, baby wipes, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, shaving foam, toilet rolls, washing up liquid, deodorant etc.

For the stockings, we ask that you bring in any young children's toys that you can give. For example: Colouring books, small teddy bears, colouring pencils, reading books, mini-games, either new or in good condition.

Going beyond our best

Kindness@DHS

“From the week beginning the 9th of December to its conclusion on the following Friday, students and staff of Durrington High School have been tasked with decorating and filling their annual Christmas stockings and hampers. Following our school tradition, tutors will be given a cardboard box to fill with toiletries and bathroom items, that will be gifted to various good causes around our area. The forms will each decide how to decorate their hampers, with designs from previous years ranging from sleighs to chimneys to TARDIS's. The Christmas stockings are to be filled with toys and games that will be delivered to local primary schools by the SSLT. We urge as many people as possible to take part and give as much as they can.” Joseph Waterer - SSLT

Why is this an annual tradition at Durrington?

To be kind

There are lots of local children who simply won't have a Christmas like perhaps we do, by showing them kindness aligns strongly with our key core values and this small gesture means a great deal to them and their family.



Curriculum spotlight



Year 7

Year 7 started their Durrington journey looking at one of the most significant events in British History, the Norman Invasion. Students study the reason for the invasion, the conquest itself, including the Battle of Hastings and the eventual outcome. This unit provides students with context about the foundations of British society, ranging from control, the system of law and the changing role of the Church and Monarch.

History@DHS

History

This half term the year 7s unit of study focuses on the social aspect of the later Medieval period. Students will study what Medieval England was like, why religion was so important to people and how it influenced people's lifestyles, and also the growing power of the church. They will explore what women's lives were like in this time period, as well as how minority groups in England, such as the Jewish people, were treated. Finally, they will learn about two of the biggest events in Medieval history - the Black Death and the Peasants Revolt. The students will understand how these events fundamentally changed the nature of British society and led to changing attitudes.

“What I love about year 7 history is you get to learn the history of where you live and all the interesting facts about old Kings.”

Archie in year 7

“I enjoy history because it is a subject where you always learn something interesting.”

Bradley in year 7

“My favourite part about history is learning about English history and at the moment we are learning about the wars.”

Myla in year 7



#TheDurringtonJourney



Curriculum spotlight


Year 8

Imperialism is one of our key historical concepts during year 8 history. The students began the term studying and understanding why Britain wanted to develop an empire, and learnt about the earliest attempts at forming colonies in America.

Students went on to explore Britain's journey to become a global superpower by case studies looking at India, Africa, Ireland and Australia. Within this, the students are investigating the methods Britain used to expand their Empire, how they changed the colonies they controlled, and began to discover why some countries wanted independence from the British Empire.

The year 8s will be encouraged to form their own judgements about the nature of the British Empire after investigating the facts and looking at a range of interpretations.

They are also learning about how the Transatlantic Slave Trade was established, and the role Britain played in this. The students will then look at how the abolition movement grew and what led to the abolition of the Slave Trade within the British Empire.



"I love history because it gives us the past of our country and tells us how we got to where we are today. It's a lesson I always enjoy." Caden in year 8

History

"I like that history covers a large range of topics which are important. Learning is fun and interesting, and taking part in questions helps me learn key features."

Hollie in year 8



"I chose to sign up to be a History Ambassador as since I have been in primary school history has always fascinated me. It's a wonderful subject as you learn about the past and see how times have changed, and the staff are incredibly kind and caring."

Poppy in year 8



"History is such an interesting topic! Learning about William of Normandy to learning about the Transatlantic Slave Trade. History is one of my key subjects I enjoy and I know lots of other people enjoy it as well."

Maison in year 8

"I enjoy learning about history because you find out things that happened in the past and how it has gone on the shape the world today."

Harry in year 8



"I like history because it teaches you things you never knew you'd be learning about!" Darcy in year 8



Curriculum spotlight

Year 9

Year 9s have been looking at one of the defining moments of the twentieth century with the rise to power of Adolf Hitler. During this unit of study, students will investigate the circumstances in Germany that led to Hitler being elected to power, and why exactly he was able to achieve this.

Students are also investigating the methods that Hitler used to control the German people such as propaganda, terror, and the positives which he offered many people. These methods of control will be examined in detail as the year 9s will be expected to reach a judgment about how life changed for ordinary Germans.

Once in power, Hitler took the world into a new global conflict. It was under this event that he stepped up his programme of genocide against the Jewish people. This event is still incredibly emotive and the students studies will require them to be aware of the mature themes and issues surrounding this.

They will also investigate the origins of the Holocaust and will look into the History of Anti-Semitism. These ideas will then be applied to the process of genocide undertaken by the Nazis. This will include an in depth look at the Nuremberg laws, Ghettoisation and the eventual development of death camps. Later this year there will be a trip to the Imperial War Museum to extend their learning.



#Year9

History



"I like history because I get to understand a lot of things that have happened in the world. I especially like to learn about WWI and WWII. History is very interesting if you like to learn about what is going on, and what has gone on in the world." Sonny in year 9

What I enjoy about history is that it is so interesting. There is so much to learn about and we are currently learning about the holocaust and although it is interesting it is also very sad. So far, my favourite thing I've learnt about is how Hitler rose to power and took control of Germany because it shows how easy people can get fooled and manipulated." Thomas in year 9

[#DHSHistory](#)



Curriculum spotlight

Year 10

Year 10s have started their GCSE course looking at the thematic study of Crime and Punishment in Britain. This is designed to help students understand changes and continuity across a long time period.

Our study takes place in the context of crime and punishment in Britain. Our 4 periods of study are the Medieval period (1000-1500), Early Modern period (1500-1700), 18th and 19th Century Britain Industrial period (1700- 1800) and Modern Britain (1900-present).

Students are investigating the reasons for change or continuity across these time periods by assessing the impact of factors such as Religion, the role of Government, the impact of individuals and societies attitudes. The year 10s will then be expected to explain the role of the different factors for what defined a crime, and why different punishments were used.

"What I really love about history is learning many stories that led to change in our beautiful world. Many cultures forming together for our learning. I am so proud to be an ambassador for this department."

Ashton in year 10

"It's interesting to study and learn about what happened in the past and how it contributed to the present." Dilara in year 10

History GCSE



"History helps my understanding about why everything is how it is, and what not to do, how to prevent it from repeating. It intrigues me and it's personally my favourite subject as I learn people's personal stories and experiences how it was for them and in their eyes how things happened."

Max in year 10

"The reason why I became a History Ambassador was because I wanted to represent a subject I love and enjoy and introduce people to the finest parts of history and show them how to enjoy it too. History is an important subject and deserves to be represented."

Freya in year 10



"I like history because it is interesting to learn about how society has changed for the better/worse." Shay in year 10

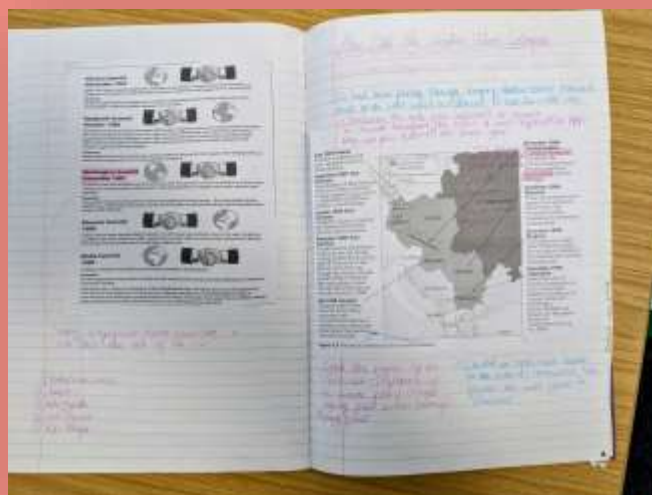


Curriculum spotlight

Year 11

Year 11 started their term with a 50 year period study of the Cold War. The Cold War still holds significance in today's world and students will investigate the main conflicts that led to the new world order.

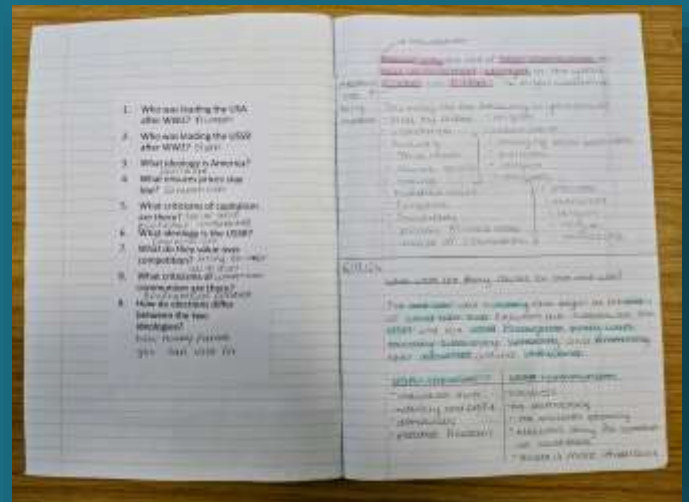
The chronological sequencing of the events is particularly important and students will be expected to explain why certain events happened, or what the consequences of events were. Topics studied include the Berlin Blockade and the eventual building of the Berlin wall, the Cuban Missile crisis as well as the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union.



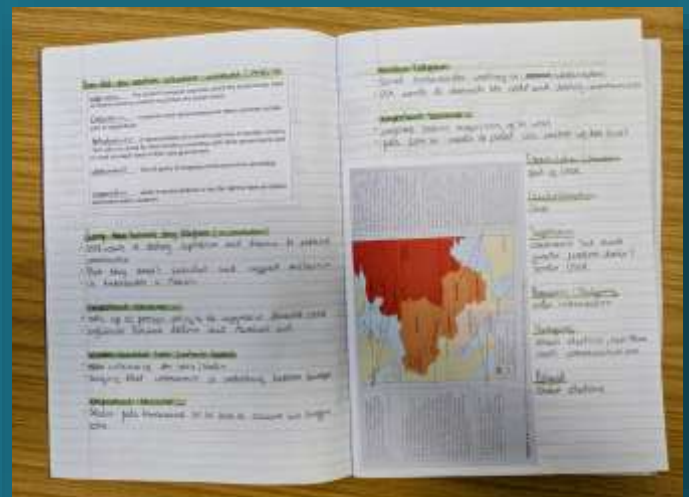
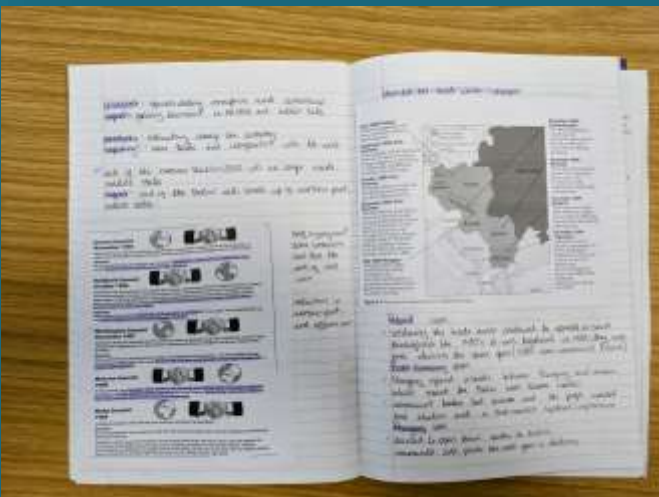
Work by Roza Atesogullari in year 11

#Classof2025

History GCSE



Work by Bethany Evans in year 11



Work by Scarlett Dean in year 11

#Pride



Curriculum spotlight



During November the history department delivered special Remembrance assemblies to all the House groups. Two of our brilliant History Ambassadors took a lead role in these assemblies, Adam Cooper and Freddie Page, both in year 9, read out poignant extracts from the diary of Private Charles Blackmore.

#StudentLeadership

Humanities Ambassadors



Our fabulous Geography Ambassadors:

Ben Packham, Olli Waldron, Harrison Lyons, Nethini Gunasena, Jake Whitehouse, Arabella-Rose Peniston-Bird, Naledi Mwakaluka and Maisie Edwards.

Our brilliant History Ambassadors:

Olivia Yard, Josie Upperton, Ashton Hegde, Freya Derbyshire, Dilara Roberston, Poppy Tulett, Adam Cooper, Amber Ledwidge, Holly Kennedy, Chloe-Marie Mannell, Shay Reeve, Katy Day, Theo Birri, Jake Whitehouse, Freddie Page, Max Enticott, Hollie McCullough, Miraj Ahmed, Maison Fok, Ben Wain and Hollie

#StudentAmbassadors



National Cyber Security Centre



Twenty year 8 girls took part in the NCSC's Cyber First competition last week. The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), runs the CyberFirst Girls Competition to encourage more girls to consider Computer Science as an option at school and a career in cyber security.

As we rely more and more on social media, online shopping and online services as part of our everyday lives, we need the right talent in place to protect us from online threats. The competition is designed for girls and those identifying as female in year 8 in England and Wales, as a way to introduce them to cyber security, why it matters and where it could take them.

#DHSComputing

Cyber First Competition

The group was split into 5 teams and they spent their day working through a series of ever-increasing difficult challenges, set for the very best young leaders, problem solvers, communicators and forward-thinkers, to complete as many of the challenges set by the NCSC.

They were hugely successful and the scores they managed to achieve by the end of the day were the best ones we have ever reached in the three years of us entering the competition. Well done to all the girls who took part and we look forward to watching their futures in cyber security.

The DHS Cyber Team:

Maya Bennett, Ella Bexley,
Isla Bowdery, Amelia Brown,
Poppy Burford, Alexie Charles,
Ava Duarte, Sophie Hopkins, Poppy
Jackson, Maddie Jones, Olivia Kelly,
Eponine Larks, Isla Leadbetter,
Emily Lemon, Ruby Lovell, Lily McGill,
Chloe Mitchell, Daisy Neal,
Ruby Nederpel, Grace Packer and
Jessica Stavely.



#TeamDurrington



National Anti-bullying week 2024



As part of our continued work in making sure the school is a safe and happy place for all our students, we were delighted to have taken part in the national anti-bullying week. Working alongside the Anti-Bullying Alliance and their country wide theme this year which was 'Choose Respect' students learnt more about bullying in both their SME lessons and assemblies.

Alongside Siaana Hearn (our Senior Student Lead for Anti-Bullying) we delivered assemblies from 4th-8th November highlighting the importance of anti-bullying, recognising the impacts and reminding the students of our school processes. Our 100+ school anti-bullying ambassadors have also been undertaking some targeted work with their peers to highlight how and when they can access support if they need it in school.

#Kindness

'Chose Respect'

As part of Anti-Bullying week our Anti-Bullying ambassadors took part in a task to have positive conversations with various students they didn't know across the school. This allowed them to develop their confidence, communication and leadership skills, as well as giving the students they spoke to a boost of kindness and confidence to speak with others. Below we have some comments from our ambassadors about the conversations they had.

Poppy said "I really enjoyed the assemblies as they increased the awareness of bullying to all students, making it clear what are rules are and how to get support if you see or experience incidents of bullying. I really enjoyed speaking to other students as it developed my confidence and helped me make new friendships."

Amy said "I aspire to be an excellent public speaker and to help others, having conversations with other students helped me develop my self-confidence and we are now good friends."

Imogen-May said "Anti-Bullying week was really important as some students' experience bullying and we must give them confidence to be themselves, and odd socks day really celebrated this."

Grace said "Speaking to other students developed my confidence as I could hear their opinions and support them however needed. It made the other students feel heard and helped develop their sense of community at Durrington."

#Respect



National Anti-bullying week 2024



On Friday 15th November 2024 we also took part in the nationwide event of an Odd Socks Day. Odd Socks Day is simple and fun and represents the chance for students and staff to demonstrate that they too are committed to eliminating bullying in all its forms. Both staff and students fully engaged in this exciting day as you can see from the images.

Amy-Louise said "Odd socks day was brilliant as it allowed us to embrace everyone being different and this was then celebrated across the school. I also really enjoyed the conversations with other students finding out about their interests, it helped me develop my confidence and I now see those students regularly."

James said "Anti-Bullying week was great as it recognised the issue of bullying and raised the importance standing up to the issue. Students were really positive when speaking to me and felt happy and confident at Durrington, I also really enjoyed odd socks day."

#Anti-bullying Week

Odd socks day



As Siaana shared with students 'it was really important that we all supported the odd socks day as it shows that we are standing up to bullying and supporting individuals that are being treated unfairly by others'.

I was really proud to see so many staff and students take part in the whole Anti-Bullying week as well as the odd socks day, it was brilliant to see the whole Durrington community come together to support a really important topic. We will continue to develop our work around Anti-Bullying to ensure that Durrington High School is a safe and happy place for all of our students to thrive.

Mr Poole
Anti-Bullying Lead



#OddSocksDay



Learning Resource Area

Year 7

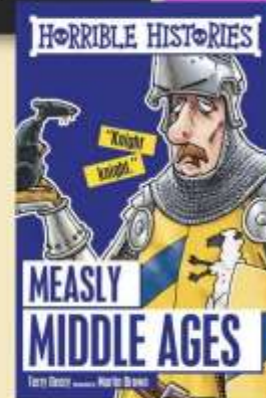
Would you have enjoyed school in Medieval Times?

Good news!

- There was no homework.
- You didn't have to go if you were poor ... or a girl.
- Your spelling and grammar would never be corrected as you spelled it any way you wanted to.

Bad News!

- You didn't have break times!
- Make a mistake and you were beaten
- You had to buy your own paper, ink and books which were expensive.



What happened to the Princes in the tower?

This book tackles the medieval mystery that to this day remains unsolved what happened to the princes in the Tower. The two cousins of Richard III who seemingly disappeared after being reported spirited to the Tower of London in his reign.

We follow our protagonist Jack who works at his abusive aunts apothecary, but he dreams of working as a surgeon for the kings soldiers. He soon finds himself in trouble as the kings soldiers mistake him as royal, as he shares an uncanny resemblance to one of the royal princes. He and his new friend Alice set off on an adventure to find out who he actually is.



The Crowfield Curse by Pat Walsh

An angel is buried behind the abbey!

It's 1347, and Will, an orphan boy, lives and works as an apprentice of the Crowfield monks. Sent into the forest to gather firewood, he stumbles across a trapped, wounded creature no bigger than a cat. The little goblin shares a terrible secret: Buried deep in the snow behind the monastery is an angel. But, Will wonders, how can an angel die? And what does this angel have to do with the history of Crowfield? When two cloaked strangers show up and start asking questions, Will is drawn into a dangerous world of Old Magic.



Recommended reading

Year 8

Wintercraft Series

Embark on a dark and dangerous journey into a Gothic world where the dead and the living are only separated by a thin 'veil'. Kate Winters has the ability to bring life and death together and everyone wants to use her ability, stopping at nothing to get to her.



Fledgling by Lucy Hope

A dark, gothic adventure set in the Bavarian forest, with angels and owls and magic and a boy who isn't all that he seems to be...

A cherub is blown into Cassie Engel's bedroom during a thunderstorm, triggering a series of terrifying events. Cassie must discover if its arrival was an accident or part of something more sinister.

With a self-obsessed opera singer for a mother, a strange taxidermist father, and a best friend who isn't quite what he seems, Cassie is forced to unearth the secrets of her family's past. As the dark forces gather around them, can Cassie protect all that she holds dear?

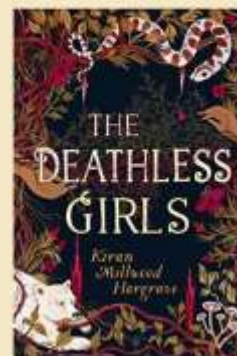


The Deathless Girls by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

On the eve of her divining, the day she'll discover her fate, seventeen-year-old Lil and her twin sister Kizzy are captured and enslaved by the cruel Boyar Valcar, taken far away from their beloved traveller community.

Forced to work in the harsh and unwelcoming castle kitchens, Lil is comforted when she meets Mira, a fellow slave who she feels drawn to in a way she doesn't understand. But she also learns about the Dragon, a mysterious and terrifying figure of myth and legend who takes girls as gifts.

They may not have had their divining day, but the girls will still discover their fate...



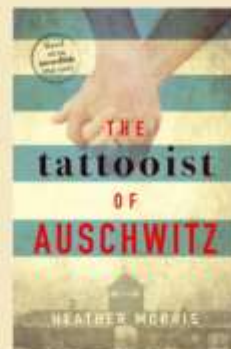
LRA recommended reading

Year 9

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

In 1942, Lale Sokolov arrived in Auschwitz-Birkenau. He was given the job of tattooing the prisoners marked for survival - scratching numbers into his fellow victims' arms in indelible ink to create what would become one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust.

Waiting in line to be tattooed, terrified and shaking, was a young girl. For Lale - a dandy, a jack-the-lad, a bit of a chancer - it was love at first sight. And he was determined not only to survive himself, but to ensure this woman, Gita, did, too.



Signs of Survival

Meet Renee and Herta, two sisters who faced the unimaginable -- together. This is their true story.

As Jews living in 1940s Czechoslovakia, Renee, Herta, and their parents were in immediate danger when the Holocaust came to their door. As the only hearing person in her family, Renee had to alert her parents and sister whenever the sound of Nazi boots approached their home so they could hide.

But soon their parents were tragically taken away, and the two sisters went on the run, desperate to find a safe place to hide. Eventually they, too, would be captured and taken to the concentration camp Bergen-Belsen. Communicating in sign language and relying on each other for strength in the midst of illness, death, and starvation, Renee and Herta would have to fight to survive the darkest of times.



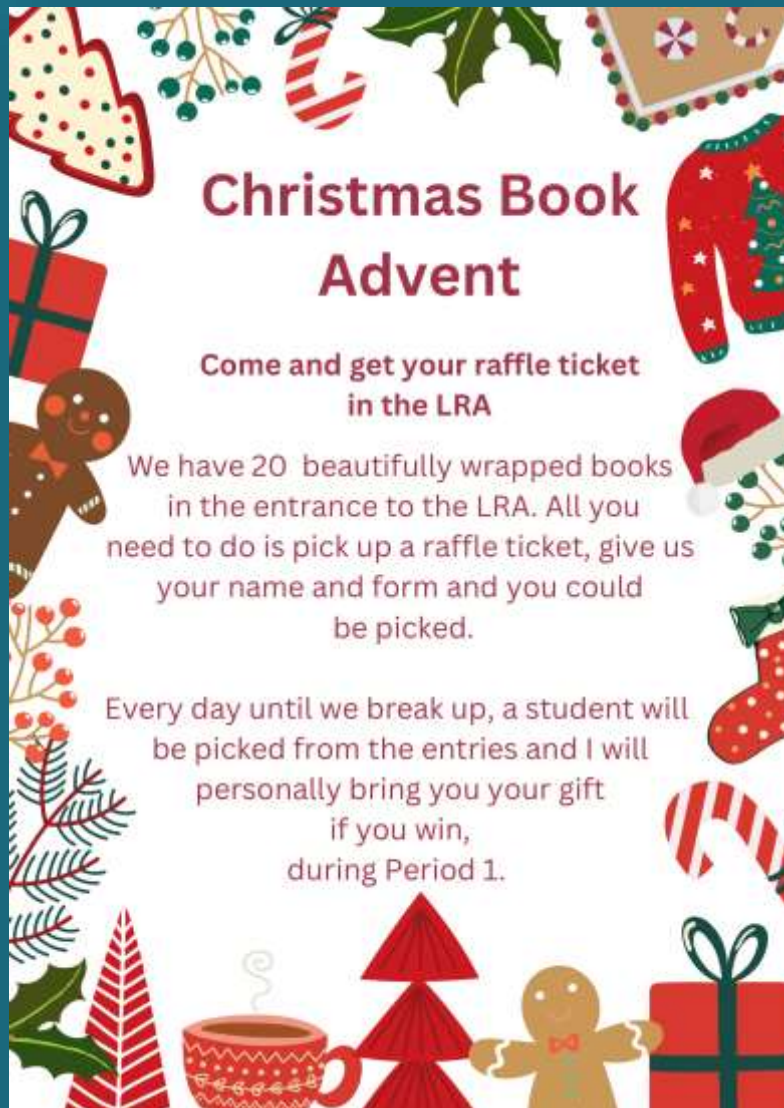
Schindler's List by Thomas Keneally

In the shadow of Auschwitz, a flamboyant German industrialist grew into a living legend to the Jews of Cracow. He was a womaniser and a heavy drinker who enjoyed the good life, yet to them he became a saviour.

Thomas Keneally's Booker Prize-winning novel recreates the story of Oskar Schindler, a Germany industrialist who risked his life to protect Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland, who continually defied and outwitted the SS, and who was transformed by the war into an angel of mercy. It is an unforgettable tale, all the more extraordinary for being true.



Christmas Book Advent



DHS Student Librarians

Does your child love reading? Do they love spending time in the LRA? Perhaps they would be interested in joining the amazing student librarian team. Application forms can be obtained from the LRA. Closing date 9th December.

#StudentLibrarians



The DHS Platinum Academy



It was an absolute pleasure to have former Head Boy Morton Woodburn back in school last week to speak to our Platinum Academy students prior to the beginning of their mock exams. Morton is now a Fighter Co-ordinator based at the National Air and Space Operations Centre at RAF High Wycombe where he oversees the work of around 100 RAF staff.

During his talk Morton spoke to students about his life post-Durrington, the choices he made that have led him to his current position and what he learned from his time at Durrington. Morton also gave advice to students on how to manage the challenges of the exam period, being organised and overcoming life's challenges.

The talk was highly inspirational and the student feedback incredibly positive, so much so that we are looking forward to Morton coming back in the Spring to talk to our whole year 10 cohort.

Going beyond our best

DHS Class of 2024

Last week we welcomed back our ex-year 11s when they came in to collect their GCSE certificates.

This was a great opportunity to catch up with this wonderful year group and to find out what they are up to now, and how they are enjoying their further education courses, apprenticeships and work placements.

Drinks and nibbles were served and the evening was enjoyed by all. We wish you all the best with your futures and don't forget to keep in touch!



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride





KAPP nominations

Our system of KAPP rewards and recognition ensures we are able to award students for going beyond their best in a variety of ways.

How can you nominate your child?

It's very simple. Just let us know if your son/daughter has done/achieved something amazing and you think it might be worth a Kindness or Pride badge. We have tried to make things as simple as possible. The only thing you need to do is complete the form below, telling us about your child's accomplishments.

[KAPP rewards recognition form](#)

Aspiration and Perseverance badges will be rewarded by the school, through teaching staff and house teams.

#KAPPAwards

Durrington High Values

Durrington High School



Kindness

Giving to and caring for others.

Aspiration

Aim high, dream big and believe you can get there.

Perseverance

Digging deep and never giving up.

Pride

Being proud of who you are, what you achieve and the success of others.

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

#DurringtonValues



Inspiring Future Teachers

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRAINING TO TEACH IN YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS?

Come along to our GET INTO TEACHING –
INFORMATION COFFEE MORNING and find out
how you could embark on a career with
excellent progression opportunities where no
two days are the same.



Thursday 16th January 2025/ 8:30am – 9:30am
Durrington High School, The Boulevard, Worthing, BN13 1JX

REGISTER HERE



Going beyond our best

Get into teaching event

**Get into Teaching –Information Coffee Morning on 16th January 2025
at 8.30am to 9.30am**

Venue: Durrington High School

Find out about Teacher Training with Inspiring Future Teachers - South Downs Teacher Training and what a career in teaching has to offer.

This event is for anyone interested in training to teach in either the primary or secondary sector - start date September 2025.

This Get into Teaching event will include a presentation about our Postgraduate School Based Teacher Training programmes as well as the chance to ask experts about your teacher training options and what it's like to teach. You will also receive one-to-one advice on the application process, the training program, and finances.

Please complete the form in full. Any queries should be directed to info@southdownsscitt.co.uk

Express your interest in attending here: [Get into teaching event](#)

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride



Lunchtime Clubs November 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	LGBTQ+	All Years	Sawyer	G31E
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Tuesday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Debate Club	All Years	Mrs Leney	S2
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Wednesday	Rubix Cube Club	All Years	Miss Gover	G26M
	Chess Club	All Years	Mr Borrett & Mr Venness	G21M
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Thursday	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Friday	Fashion/Textiles	9	Mr Bloomer	FO3T
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	LGBTQ+	All years	Sawyer	G31E
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro

After-School Sports Clubs Autumn 2nd Half-Term 2024

Day	Club	Staff
Monday	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr De Gruchy
Tuesday	KS3 Girls football club	Miss Johnson
	Yr 8 Basketball Training	Mr Burnett
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Brombley
	KS4 Boys Basketball Training	Mr Pickford
	U14 Girls Football Fixtures	Mrs Fuller & Mrs Wallis-Taylor
Wednesday	Yr 7 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Miss Johnson
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Training	Mr Brombley
	Netball Training	Miss Cann
	Yr 10 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Poole
Thursday	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Miss Johnson
	Yr 8 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Burnett & Mr Mott
	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Training	Mr De Gruchy
	Yr 9 Netball Fixtures	Miss Cann
	Yr 11 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Pickford
Friday	Badminton Club	Mr Brombley & Mr De Gruchy

#GetInvolved



After-School Clubs November 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Writing Club	All Years	Miss Foster & Mr Gaffney	G32E
	Y7 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y7	Mr De Gruchy	PE Office
Tuesday	Y9 Gifted and Talented Art (Oct Half Term)	Y9	Mrs Gray, Mr Bloomer, Miss Kingwell & Miss Grimes.	F04T
	Choir	All Years	Mrs Maughan	F20C
	MFL Film Club	All Years	Mr Gilbert	U06L
	Code Club	Y9	Mr Scott	F24T
	KS4 Spanish Speaking Club	Y10-11	Mrs Baquedano	U01L
	Arabic Club	All Years	Mrs Farah	U02L
	Y8 & Y9 French Club	Y8-9	Mrs Cooper	U03L
	Y8 & Y9 Spanish Club	Y8-9	Miss Smith	U05L
	KS3 Girls football club	Y7-9	Miss Johnson	Pavilion
	Y8 Boys Basketball Training	Y8	Mr Burnett	Sports Hall
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y9	Mr Brombley	PE Office
	KS4 Boys Basketball Training	Y10-Y11	Mr Pickford	Sports Hall
	U14 Girls Football Fixtures	Y7-Y9	Mrs Fuller & Mrs Wallis-Tayler	PE Office
Wednesday	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Drama Club	All Years	Miss Cross	Performing Arts Theatre
	Minecraft Club	Y7	Mrs Carter	F27T
	Y7 Science Club	Y7	Miss Gorgen & Miss Lee	G15S
	E-Sports	All Years	Mr Scott	F24T
	Y7 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Y7	Miss Johnson	PE Office
	Netball Training	All Years	Miss Cann	PE Office
	Y9 Boys Basketball training	Y9	Mr Brombley	Sports Hall
	Yr 10 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y10	Mr Poole	PE Office
Thursday	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Whole School Musical	All Years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Y7-Y9	Miss Johnson	Sports Hall
	Y8 Stem Club	Y8	Mrs Laming	G09S
	Yr 8 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y8	Mr Burnett & Mr Mott	PE Office
	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Training	Y7	Mr De Gruchy	Sports Hall
	Yr 9 Netball Fixtures	Y9	Miss Cann	PE Office
	Yr 11 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y11	Mr Pickford	PE Office
Friday	Dance Live	All years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	Badminton Club	All years	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Brombley	Sports Hall

#DHSEnrichment



Term dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September – Friday 20 December

Half Term

• Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

INSET Days

- Monday 2 September
- Tuesday 3 September
- Friday 22 November

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January – Friday 4 April

Half Term

• Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

INSET Days:

- Thursday 23 January
- Friday 24 January
- Monday 10 March
- Tuesday 11 March

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22 April – Tuesday 22 July

Half Term

• Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

INSET Days:

- Friday 27 June

Bank holidays

- Monday 21 April
- Monday 5 May

The Durrington Journey



Diary Dates

- Year 8 consultation evening - Thursday 5th December
- Carol Service at St Andrews Church - Monday 16th December

Sign up to our newsletter

- Our newsletter is sent out fortnightly to parents & carers and we aim to cover as much as possible from across the school. If your family and friends would like to receive our fortnightly editions they can sign up here: [Newsletter](#)

Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)



*Going beyond our best through
Kindness, Aspiration,
Perseverance and Pride*



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