

WESTFIELD NEWS

Upcoming events

Tuesday, 16th April – Start of Summer term (students return)
Tues, 16th to Sat, 20th April – Spanish Trip for Years 9 & 10
Thursday, 25th April – Year 8 Parents' Evening, 3:30pm to 6pm
Tuesday, 30th April – Athletics Fixture at Woodside, Watford
Friday, 3rd May – Careers Fair
Tuesday, 7th April – Athletics Fixture at Jarman Park, Hemel
Thursday, 9th May – External exams begin
Thursday, 9th May – Duke of Edinburgh practice walk around Ruislip Lido
Tuesday, 14th May – Athletics Fixture at Jarman Park, Hemel



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Believe | Strive | Achieve

Head's blog

Funnily enough, not all jobs a Headteacher has to perform are enjoyable. However, I was very fortunate last term, as I got to be involved in a number of lovely activities.

Our Matilda show was fabulous. To see such a wide range of students performing, with such skill and confidence, was amazing. However, what was also so good to see was how everyone 'pulled together' as a community. Students helped with scenery, lighting, and helped to make and sell refreshments at the interval. It was a great event that showed us at our best.

Finally, rewards assemblies – it is easy to get sucked into the negatives that young people do. Yet, it was an absolute pleasure to give out achievement badges to students in Years 7, 8 & 8 in assembly.

In amongst all the other exciting student events, it is important to ensure that those students – who attend school day in and day out, work hard lesson after lesson – are rewarded and reminded we are all so proud of them.

Thank you.

Year 7

Achievement Awards: Elif D, Lewis J, Dia P, Shubhransu S, Isabella B, Shahzaib T, Sam N, Andriah R, Hugh M, May P, Ashtami D, Viyat V, Lisa C, David C, Kasim B, Faith B, Prius G, Sanam S, Maddison B and Fabrizio D.

Year 8

Achievement Awards: Fatima N, Franklyn A, Sebastian B, Sabahat K, Salma B, Liam B, Shannon A, Sarah M, Cosmin B, Maeve P, Joe P, Dilaaj N, Keith L, Josh E, Sabrina H, Ismail S, Poppy B, Nathaniel M, Antoinette A, Freya Y and Bandzy M.

Year 9

Achievement Awards: Noah W, Jency B, Daniel F, Shayla W, Cecilia W, Eisa A, Claudia D, Kenneth M, Ver Leah B, Julia J, Josie R, Danial P, Jaden L, Cara Moore, Amina B, Marcus C, Christy K, Harry R, Ava W and Kieran B.

Year 10

Achievement Awards: David H, Hashim A, Bhavik R, Jasmin V, Taimur T, Mehria A, Ksheeraja N, Tobi O, Adi B, Joseph E, Dona J, Aisha T, Shifa G, Josie D, Alexandru V, Evany A, Dawid J, Alessia V, Maia B and Abdullah R.

Year 11

My star of the half-term is David A. David is one of the band of wonderfully conscientious, hardworking Year 11 students, and he definitely deserves this recognition. He comes to before-school revision, stays for the after-school revision and also willingly participates in the extra Saturday and holiday revision sessions. Well done David – keep it up and August will be good.

Year 12

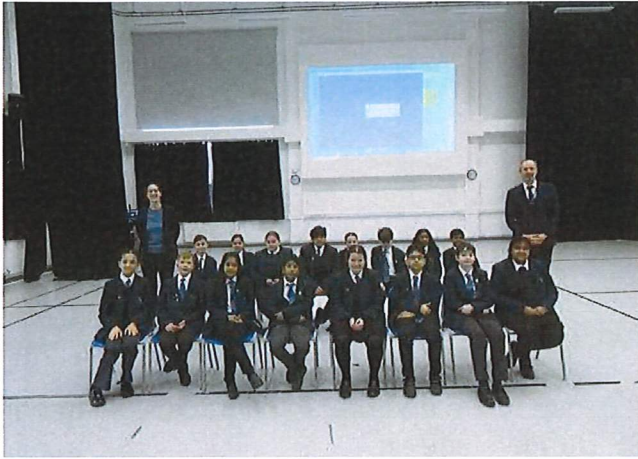
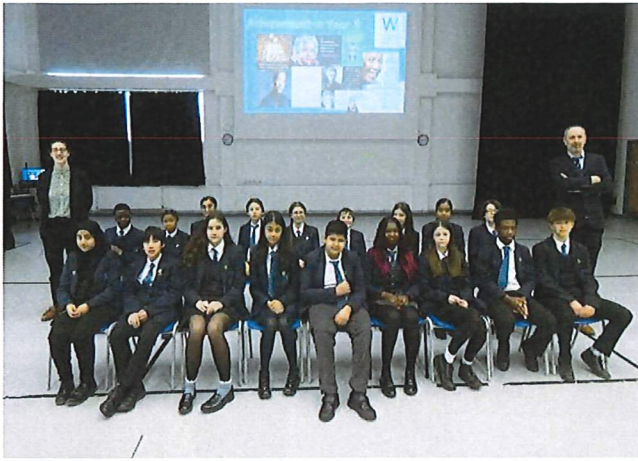
Star of half term is Alberto U – as an external student, he has fit in well to the Westfield Way and the Football Academy; with his hard work and resilience through injury he has become a great asset to the team and our school.

Year 13

My star of the half term is Maleeha B. Maleeha gives a lot back to the school by helping with duties. She always has a smile on her face and is friendly and polite to everyone she meets. She commits fully to the Westfield Way, whilst ensuring that she maintains her commitment to her studies.

Rewards assemblies

Years 7, 8 & 9 students had their achievement assemblies, where students were awarded achievement badges and certificates for their academic achievements from the Spring term. We would like to say well done and keep it up to all of our Year 7, 8 & 9 students. Our next achievement assemblies will be in June – will it be you?



Creative Arts Faculty

Drama

Students went to London to see Back to the Future. This was an excellent show, and enabled students to write a live theatre review, as well as have a better understanding of all the elements that go into putting on a fabulous show.

Fantastic moments in the show were the flying car and the pyrotechnics, which wowed us all, as well as the amazing acting, particularly from the 'Doc'.

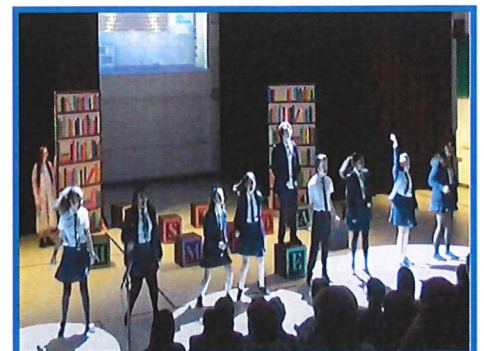


Performing Arts



Matilda School Production took place on 28th February and 1st March. We were delighted to celebrate all the talent and hard work of our KS3 and KS4 students in the production. Students worked really hard to become 'revolting children'! We know they had lots of fun putting the production together, as much as the audience had watching it. A big thank

you to the cast, crew, 6th Form helpers and all the Food Tech students. Also, a special thank you to all the staff who were part of the journey – we could not have done it without you all; everyone's hard work paid off. Join us in June 2024 to find out what will be coming next for Westfield Productions!





Dance

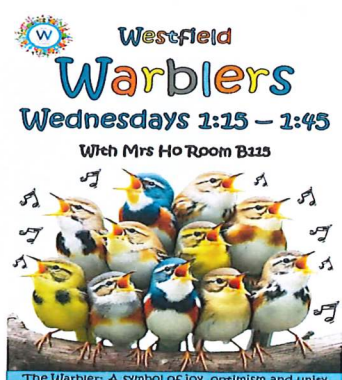
Dance Club runs every Monday at lunchtimes – attend to receive a pass from the teacher!

This week we had a great time learning a new street dance move and began choreographing our own small group pieces with help from Year 10 GCSE Dance students.



Music

Congratulations to Lewis for winning the choir naming contest! "The Westfield Warblers" will now be the official name of our school choir, and we couldn't be more excited! We believe this name truly represents the unity and joy that our choir brings to our school community.



MFL Faculty spotlight

Onatti Theatre visit

The Year 10 and 9 French students were invited to watch a visiting theatre company, who performed 'Le Cours d'Art' by Onatti Productions. This company travels around the UK to secondary and primary schools.

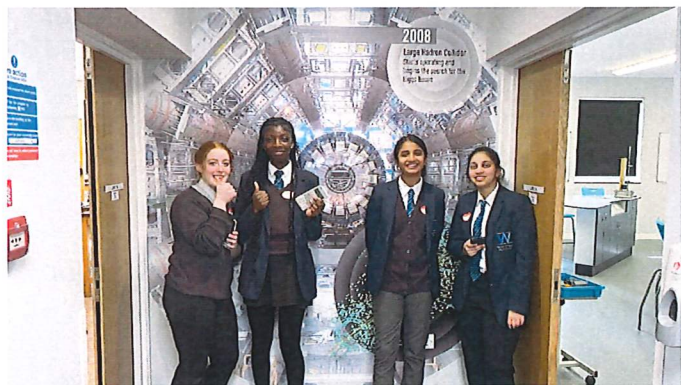
Students were able to listen to the play in French and some students took part in the actual performance itself as guests. Well done to all the students who were able to participate in this play.



Science Faculty spotlight

Triumph at St. Helen's Physics Tournament

On 8th March, Ksheeraja, Shifa, Sophia A & Sophia Z showcased their dedication and talent at the St. Helen's Physics Tournament, leaving an indelible mark on the competition. They began their journey with an A-Level Physics practical, meticulously collecting data to determine the spring constant (k), displaying both expertise and precision in their scientific approach.



Their teamwork, critical thinking skills and perseverance were on full display throughout the day. The event concluded with an inspiring lecture from a tech company consultant, highlighting the real-world applications of physics and serving as a beacon of motivation for our budding physicists.

Congratulations to Ksheeraja, Shifa, Sophia A and Sophia Z for their outstanding performance and unwavering commitment to scientific excellence.

Following this, the girls immersed themselves in an array of challenges, from cracking physics-themed puzzles in an escape room to engaging in a heart-pounding calculations relay race.



IET Faraday Challenge at St Albans

Students went to Beaumont school to take part in the IET Faraday Challenge. They were tasked with developing something to improve road infrastructure in the UK. They came up with a device that sensed potholes forming in the road. When the pothole gets deep enough, it triggers a sensor in the road surface that activates a light to warn road users. The idea was praised by the organisers. Unfortunately, we were beaten by another school, however, they did excellently and enjoyed the experience.

National Careers Week

National Careers week was 4th – 9th March. It is a week's celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. The aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance to all students. There were online activities and resources, also presentations that Form Tutors and their tutees took part in during the week.



The star of the show was an external speaker, George Fouche, who came in and shared his experience of his life and career path with Years 9

& 10 students. It was amazing to see how engaged all students and staff were – a fantastic speaker and very moving; very positive feedback from our Year 9 students.

Library news

Reading for pleasure

"A book that you love, that you read and read well, over and over again, lives in you, becomes your thought and thinking pattern, teaches you and guides you on how to act and react in life!"

As parents and grandparents, we all want our children and grandchildren to develop a life-long love of books and reading.

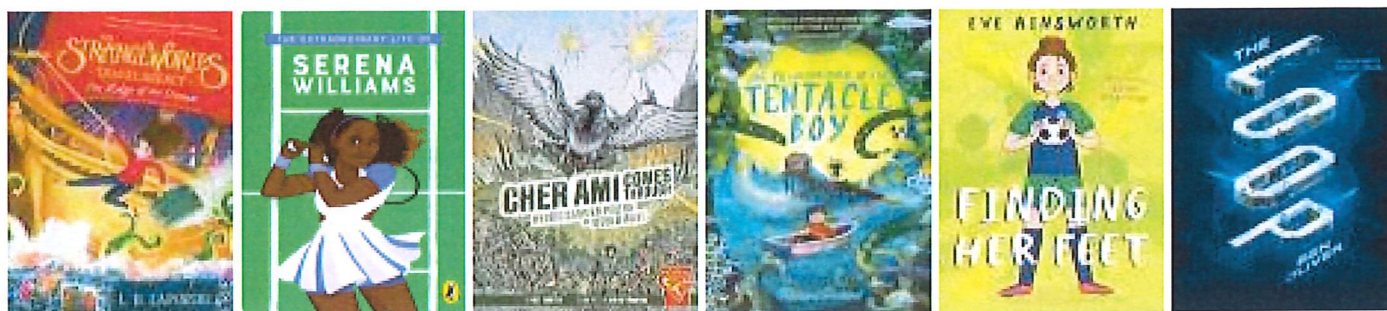
Our recent World Book Day events supported reading for pleasure through everyday actions:

- Ensuring our students have a choice in what to read.
- Ensuring our students have trusted help when choosing what to read.
- Ensuring our students have access to books at school and home.
- Ensuring our students have time to read.

Students and staff spent three weeks choosing and reading books – the final selection we bought was based on the students' answers to two questions:

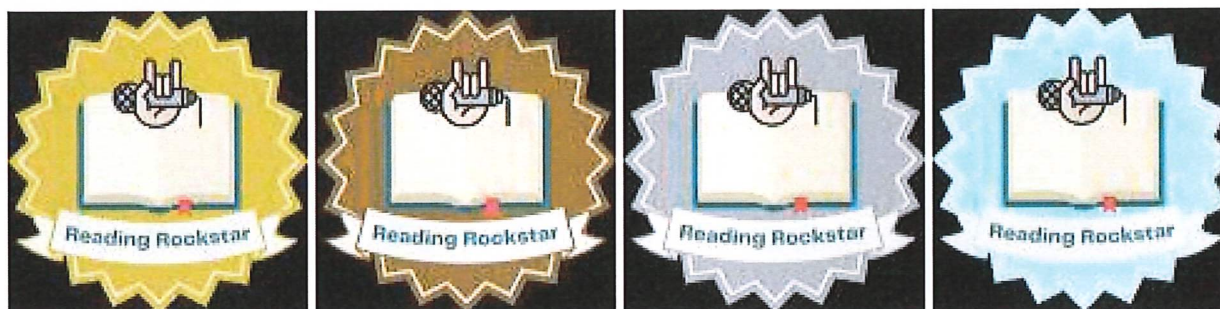
1. Which book do you want to carry on reading?
2. Which book do you think the library should buy?

Here are some of the many favourites that are already on loan:



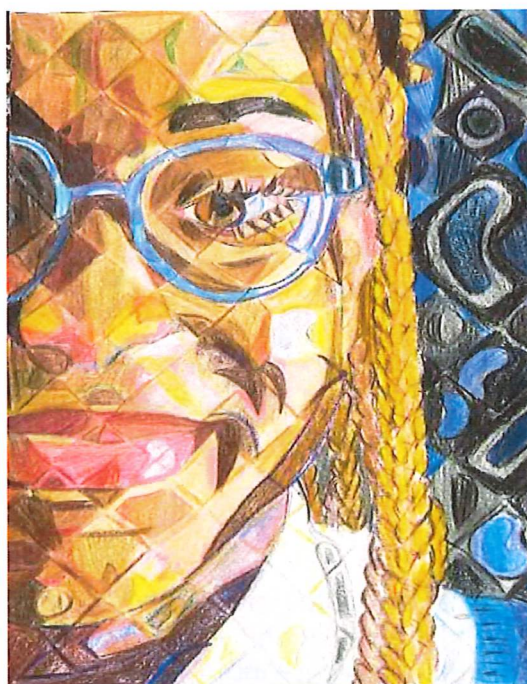
What level are you?

Every time you read and return a title, you are working towards your bronze, silver, gold and platinum **Reading Rockstar** badges and certificates. Congratulations to those students who have reached bronze and silver already this year.



Artwork

Student of the month featured artwork is Uyiosa in Year 10. Year 10 students have been looking at a range of portrait artists throughout their Identity project. Uyi has created her own portrait in the style of American artist Chuck Close.



Sixth Form

On 22nd March, we had a local charity, Herts Young Homeless, come in to talk to the Year 13 students about independent living, budgeting and student finance. The students took part in an online quiz to see how much they already knew and then took part in opinion polls. This was a great way to help prepare them for life at university and budgeting for the current costs of living away from home.



PE fixtures / events

Football

It has been a great season for our football teams this year – we have provided professional coaching sessions for all of our year groups, and students have committed well to attending these and are

thoroughly enjoying them.



Our Years 8 & 9 football teams both reached the final for their leagues and finished runners up.



Both games were close, and our students gave their all with lots of goals being scored.

Basketball



Basketball fixtures have been very successful for us, with the Year 10s winning their league and other year groups achieving some great wins along the way too!

The Year 9 basketball team finished the season on a high, beating St Michaels 46-43 in a nail biting match. The boys were determined to see out the win, with the game going back and forth. Man of the match was Kieran B with 30 points and an amazing performance! The team finished the season with 3 wins & 1 loss. Depending on the final games to be played, this could mean their first time finishing top of the league!

A special well done to the team from Mr Allen who has been so impressed with their commitment to training and teamwork every week. The team has improved every year and there is still so much to come from this group!

Netball

Our netball fixtures have gone well, with more students attending training and wanting to join the team – students are really enjoying the training and fixtures, developing their skills and knowledge of the game.



Athletics

Athletics training has been getting underway in preparation for the season to begin after the Easter break, we are looking forward to competing against other schools and getting on the track!

Fitness club

Fitness club continues to be a busy club for all year groups, with students making the most of our fantastic facilities.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh students have started to progress well through their practical sessions. Prior to half term, students took part in their first practice walk around

Cassiobury Park.

Here, students learnt the basics of map reading and compass skills which are crucial skills on the qualifying expedition.

Students are still expected to attend their meetings run by their mentors, whilst the practice walks are taking place. These meetings take place bi-weekly and will be communicated with your child via their

Google Classroom. If, for any reason your child cannot make these sessions, they must contact their mentor as attendance to these sessions are important.

After the Easter break, students will be taking part in more independent walks around Ruislip Lido. In their meetings, students will be learning how to use the cooking stoves and basic teamwork skills.



Parent information

Help for young people and their families with support for mental health issues can be found on the NESSie in Ed website. There are supportive webinars available to book, please visit <http://nessieined.com>.

Please note that these webinars are delivered live via Microsoft Teams and may run over. Joining links will be sent via email 24 hours before the event.

The webinars are listed here.

Supporting Children/Young People who Struggle to Attend School

Thursday 2nd May

Thursday 17th June

9:30am - 11:30am

Supporting Children/Young People who are LGBTQ+ or Gender Questioning

Thursday 16th May

Thursday 20th June

9:30am - 11:30am

Supporting Children/Young People with Anxiety

Thursday 18th April

Thursday 6th June

9:30am - 11:30am

Supporting Children/Young People with Bereavement and Loss

Tuesday 25th June

9:30am - 11:30am

Supporting a Child/Young Person with Self-Harming Behaviours

Wednesday 3rd July

9:30am - 11:30am

8 Week Online Peer Support Group for Parents/Carers of Children Avoiding School

Tuesday 23rd April -
Tuesday 18th June

9:30am - 11:30am

