

# Principal's Update Newsletter (March - April)

---

*March - April 2025*

---



## **In This Issue**

- Term round-ups
- House Points
- Wrenn 50th Anniversary Festival
- World Book Week
- Mental Health & Wellbeing Launch
- Brilliant Club
- Fish Heroes
- Spring Concert
- Culture Day
- Longtown Trip

## **Careers News**

- Stem Roadshow

- Speed Networking
- Barclays Life Skills

### **Giving Back**

- The Lewis Foundation

### **Dates for Diary**

## **A letter from the Principal**

### **Principal's Letter - End of Term Round-Up**

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

As we come to the end of another exciting and fulfilling term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights that have made this term so special. Our school continues to thrive thanks to the incredible efforts of both our students and staff, and we are particularly proud of how we've continued to foster a positive and inclusive learning environment.

### **Inclusivity and Community**

One of the key themes this term has been our commitment to inclusivity. We've worked hard to ensure that every student feels valued and included, regardless of their background, abilities, or interests. Our school community is stronger than ever, thanks to the ongoing efforts of our staff and students to create an environment where diversity is celebrated, and every voice is heard. From classroom activities to extra-curricular events, we've seen remarkable examples of students supporting one another and demonstrating empathy and kindness.

### **Mental Health Initiatives**

This term, we've also placed a strong emphasis on mental health and well-being. We recognise that these are challenging times for many, and we remain committed to providing resources, support, and a caring environment for all our students. Our mental health awareness work, peer support groups, and dedicated counselling services have continued to make a positive impact on students, helping them navigate the ups and downs of daily life. I encourage students to reach out whenever they need support, as mental health is just as important as academic success. Please take the time to read the information about the new Wellbeing Hub as there is support for parents too!

### **Music Concerts and Celebrating Talent**

One of the highlights of this term has been our music concerts and performances. It was a joy to see so many of our talented students performing on stage, showcasing their hard

work, dedication, and passion for the arts. These events not only highlight individual talent but also bring our school community together, demonstrating the power of music to connect and inspire us all. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our music department for organizing these memorable events and to all the students for their performances.

### **Culture Day**

Another standout moment was our Culture Day, which provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of our school. From traditional dances and music, to displays and fantastic discussions, it was a day full of learning and enjoyment. Students had the chance to share their cultures and traditions, fostering greater understanding and respect within our school community. It was a reminder of how diverse and vibrant our school truly is.

As we look forward to the next term, I want to thank everyone—students, staff, and parents—for your continued dedication and support. Together, we have created a community that is not only focused on academic excellence but also on nurturing well-rounded, compassionate individuals.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break over the holiday period, and I look forward to seeing everyone return for an exciting and productive next term.

Warm regards,

Laura Parker

**Principal**

## Term Roundups

---

### *Year 7*

---

This term has been an incredibly successful but busy, six weeks.

Year 7s attended an assembly where Tresham College spoke to them about their futures and next steps. It was a very insightful assembly for our Year 7s as they were given an abundance of information about college life and were able to gain some tools to help navigate their futures. Our Year 7s were impeccably behaved while the visitor was delivering the assembly and listened intently. Well done Year 7.

On Friday 28th March our 6th form team held a **Charity Fair** to raise funds for **The Lewis Foundation Charity**. This event took place during Period 5 and our Year 7s were able to get involved in several activities as well as purchasing some delicious, sweet treats. It was a great way to end our week and Year 7 were a real credit to the school with their appreciative

and respectful behaviours. The total donations raised was just **over £1000**, so thank you very much to all the Year 7s who got involved and donated.

Thursday the 3rd of April was a **Cultural Day** for the lower school. Our Year 7s were able to watch these performances during Period 2. It was a fantastic event where our Year 7s who took part were phenomenal and those in the audience were also brilliantly behaved again, making me incredibly proud to be leading this year group.

A special mention to Oliver H who was the only Year 7 to attend the Flag Football Tournament to represent Wrenn. Well done, Oliver!! We are incredibly proud of you and your commitments.

I hope you all have a well-deserved, restful 2 weeks!! 😊

**CHARLOTTE GIBBS**

ENGLISH TEACHER & PROGRESS LEADER Y7

---

### *Year 8*

---

What a lovely, busy half term we've had.

We had a large number of the year group attend Longtown residential in Wales. The feedback from this trip was phenomenal. The number of students who pushed themselves out of their comfort zones, grew in confidence and took part in new experiences was fantastic and to hear such positive feedback of how the students conducted themselves was a true testimony to their character.

As per every half term, we ended with a celebration assembly. This term there has been over **57,000 achievements points** given to Y8 students as they continue to embed the Wrenn ethos. I asked staff to give a name from each class they teach for a student who has stood out this half term and why. It was lovely to receive so many positive comments from staff highlighting how fantastic our students are.

On Thursday 3rd April we hosted our **KS3 Culture Day**. Firstly, I want to say how amazing everyone was who took part in this day. Days like those make me realise why I work in education. To see students interact with each other, encouraging each other and educating each other made me so proud. I was in awe of the students involved in the day from the heritage clothing, traditional dancing, singing and flag waving – for some to get on stage in front of their peers was a daunting task but they wanted to show off their heritage and culture.

I want to give a massive mention to **Kamila M** and **Nyameba B** who both performed solos. The amount of courage this must have taken is something I wish I had at their age, but both girls shined with confidence through their performances.

A few other things that we've had this half term include sports fixtures, Spring Concert, STEM workshop, Speed Networking and so many more events.

I hope you all have a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing students back on **Tuesday 22nd April**.

**BETH JERRETT**

YEAR 8 PROGRESS LEADER, GEOGRAPHY TEACHER

---

### *Year 9*

---

Yet another amazing half term! Year 9 have really found their rhythm. We completed our options forms in record time, with pupils clearly engaged in the process and making careful decisions. Thank you to everyone who was involved in this process for the commitment, thought and enthusiasm shown.

Our **Celebration Assembly** was another wonderful display; it is a testament to these pupils that they are so enthusiastic in celebrating each other. Emails will be coming out shortly to let you know if your child received a shout out from one of their subjects or from their form tutor.

**World Book Day** is always one of our favourite days on the calendar. It is wonderful to see the pupils getting so excited about literature and discovering books that they may not have previously heard of.

The pupils also enjoyed the Key Stage 3 **Culture Day** event; thank you to all the performers who put on an amazing show.

We are continuing to push towards our **Graduation Ceremony** at the end of the school year. Many '**Work Hard**' badges have been given out, showing that pupils are embracing the Wrenn Values.

We have a great deal to look forward to over the next term and we cannot wait to be a part of it. For now, enjoy your rest.

**HELEN MAINPRIZE**

PROGRESS LEADER: YEAR 9

---

## Year 10

---

Year 10 have continued to tick away at their qualifications. This includes some successful Business grades released to students, well done to those students!

So many things on the agenda this term:

- AP1 reports
- Photography trip
- Matilda rehearsals
- Brilliant club launch

Looking forward into next term as we prepared for AP2. Students will be taking part in **Barclays Life Skills** as well as **Aspire Higher** in order to push their thrive for future destinations beyond Year 11.

In the celebration assembly, **148 golden tickets** were given out with many students receiving several nominations. That's down to the hard work and commitment of these students, well done! **26 golden ticket winners** were awarded including some duplicates (luck of the draw) and that's due to the sheer quantity of golden tickets that certain students have gained as well as some new winners! Fantastic.

Have a restful, chocolate filled Easter Holiday.

**KATIE LAWMAN**

TEACHER OF DRAMA AND PROGRESS LEADER Y10

---

## Year 11

---

I am so very impressed with Year 11 and how they have handled the demands of this half term. The first day back saw the start of mock period beginning again and the first week was tough with whole cohort exams every day. We discussed with Year 11 how their real exam timetable will be more spaced out, which is a relief for them and for us... phew!

Along with this, this half term different groups of Y11 have also...

- Completed practical exams and mock exams such as Food Tech, Art & Photography.
- Attended a Box Clever production of Macbeth.
- Attended and completed work on their Geography Field Trip.

- Engaged in a "how to manage exam stress" workshop.
- Reflected on their mock results in their mock results afternoon on the 28th March 2025.
- Attended a Mock Magistrates session in Oxford.

In terms of rewards and intervention sessions this half term:

- 126 Y11s attended revision sessions during Feb half term #navigatingtheirfuture.
- 96 year 11s have attended a P6 session this half term. Well done to Jamie K and Mary F for being the top P6 attenders this half term.
- 52 have attended Maths breakfast in the morning. Well done To Gurbaaj N for being the top attender to Maths breakfast.
- 78 have attended the LRC for independent revision after school. Well done to Paige H for being the top attended to the LRC.
- Year 11 have a total of 11,773 house points so far this year!
- We had 117 student shout outs in our Y11 celebration assembly.

Points mean prizes is still very competitive with the prize this half term being awarded randomly to someone in the top 100 on the leaderboard. Well done to Diana who won the £300 prize (number 33 on the leaderboard) and has chosen an Amazon gift card.

#### Top 10 Points mean prizes

Leaderboard position	Name	Total points overall
1	Jamie K	793
2	Mary F	688
3	Gurbaaj N	673
4	Olivia K	670
5	Alyson G	653
6	Cian L	653
7	Demi L	649
8	Paige H	645
9	Emily R	641
10	Kwadwo B	631

**Some reminders for next half term:**

1. Attendance matters and every lesson counts. Please ensure your child is not missing school or lessons where possible in the lead up to exams. We are consolidating, practicing skills and revising.
2. A reminder to purchase prom tickets before the 30th April. Please see the poster below.



**CASIE WRIGHT**

PROGRESS LEADER: YEAR 11 & AAP SECONDMENT

The 6th Form students have been busy with various commitments and activities this term.

The term started with Year 13 students completing their final mocks. This is a crucial step in their preparation for the upcoming A-level and BTEC exams. The results will guide their revision strategies and help them focus on areas needing improvement.

Our Year 13 students are also finalising their 'firm' and 'insurance' offers. Additionally, having had an informative PSHE session on student finance, they are now navigating the complexities of their student finance applications to ensure they are well-prepared for university life.

Year 12 students have been showcasing their Extended Project Qualifications (EPQ) presentations, demonstrating impressive research and presentation skills. Topics range from scientific explorations to creative arts, reflecting the diverse interests and talents within the cohort. During the week beginning 3rd March, Year 12 students actively participated in work experience placements, gaining valuable insights into various industries. We had 100% of our students involved in placements, with the majority of them being off site. This hands-on experience has helped them make informed decisions about their future career paths.

The Year 7 Charity Fair held on Friday 28th March was a resounding success, raising over £1000 for The Lewis Foundation, a charity which supports those having cancer treatment. The event showcased the 6th Form students' creativity and commitment to supporting a worthy cause, with various stalls and activities contributing to the fundraising efforts.

We have three 6th Form students who are preparing for the exciting summer trip to Malaysia through World Challenge. We have teamed up with our sister school, Weavers Academy, for this once-in-a-lifetime adventure. Students are eagerly anticipating this opportunity to explore a new culture, engage in educational activities, and create lasting memories.

We are super proud to announce that Alfie Richards, who is in Year 12, was elected to be one of two representatives of North Northamptonshire in the Youth Parliament in Westminster. Alfie received one of the highest number of nominations from over 1000 votes from across young people in North Northamptonshire. Alfie's manifesto focuses on safety and protection, as a local issue, education, as a national issue, and the dangerous impact of social media, as a global issue. We know he will have a fantastic year representing the voices of youth in North Northamptonshire.

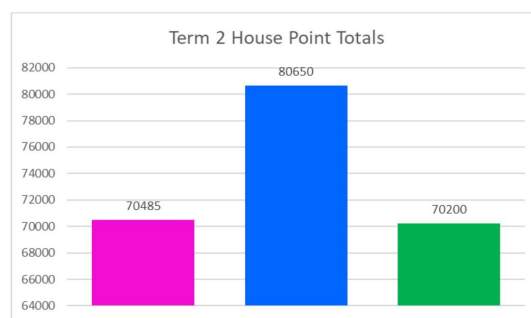
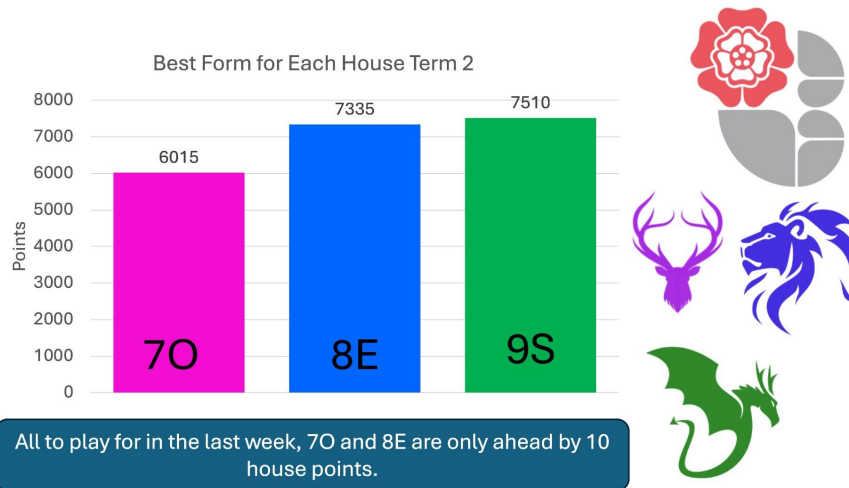
Finally, our end-of-term Success Assembly celebrated the achievements of students who have been demonstrating our WRENN ethos: lots of chocolate and a great way to end another busy term.

**NATASHA THOMAS-FRANCIS**

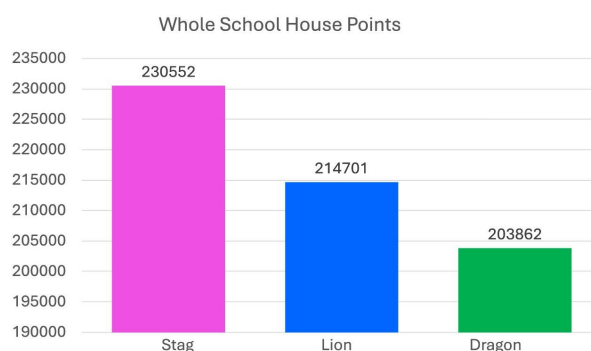
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM & CIC COORDINATOR

## House Points Update

As of the last day of term (Friday 4th Apr), here's the latest in the huge number of points students have earned.



## Overall Leaderboard



## Wrenn 50th Anniversary Festival

***This year, Wrenn, the school as we know it, turns 50!*** That's 50 years of being a co-ed, secondary school. 50 years of contributions to the local community and 50 years of equipping students with the tools they need to grow from students, into adults who can carve their own path.

### **There will be:**

- Snippets from Wrenn's history
- Fun activities
- Stalls
- Entertainment from: Music, Dance and P.E
- Food

**If you would like to get involved**, we would love to hear from our local community. Contact: [amy.bunker@wrennschool.org.uk](mailto:amy.bunker@wrennschool.org.uk)

### **Parking**

We are asking people to **park at the Swansgate Car Park, in town**. To avoid congestion, parking on our site will be restricted to Disabled parking, Emergency services and staff access only .

**No dogs** (Trained assistance dogs exempt). For Hygiene reasons, Dogs are not permitted on school property.

**No Smoking or Vaping** on site.

Drop by on **Saturday, 28th June** and Celebrate half a century of education with Wrenn School. **SPREAD THE WORD!**



**WRENN  
SCHOOL**  
**@50**  
**1975-2025**

# **SUMMER FESTIVAL**

**SATURDAY  
JUNE 28 2025**

**DODDINGTON  
ROAD SITE**

**10AM - 2PM**

**Craft Stalls, Food Stalls, Games, Live  
Music, Dance Acts, Live Performances,  
Sports Displays**

**Pitches still available  
£10 per stall**

Contact:  
**[Amy.Bunker@wrennschool.org.uk](mailto:Amy.Bunker@wrennschool.org.uk)**

Due to it being a school site, unfortunately no dogs please.

## Wrenn Alumni



Are you interested in keeping up to date with events, receiving opportunities to engage with school or participating in our 50th anniversary events?

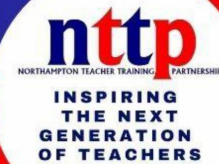
Follow our dedicated Alumni social media channels.

Wrenn School - Alumni

@Wrenn\_Alumni

# NORTHAMPTON TEACHER TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

TRAINING TEACHERS FOR 25 YEARS



## WANT TO TRAIN AS A SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER?

TEACHER TRAINING  
COURSES FOR THE  
ACADEMIC YEAR  
2025-2026  
ARE NOW OPEN



[WWW.NTTP.CO.UK](http://WWW.NTTP.CO.UK)

**APPLY  
NOW**

[www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training)

## BESPOKE TRAINING AND SUPPORT

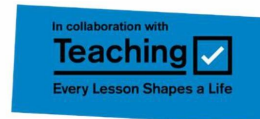
### NTTP WEBSITE

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE  
ABOUT TRAINING WITH US?  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT  
THE NTTP WEBSITE



MAY 2024

TEACHER TRAINING BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE UP TO £31,000 – SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY



*More info can be found at:*

## World Book Week



**WORLD BOOK WEEK**  
at Wrenn School  
*Monday 3rd March—Friday 7th March 2025*

Day	Activity	What do I have to do?
<b>ALL WEEK</b>	<b>SWAP A BOOK</b>	Donate a book from home that you have already read to the 'Book Swap Box' in DR library (maximum of 3) Collect a book swap token (and 5 points!) from Mrs Wescott and come back later to collect a book from the box that you haven't read.
<b>Monday 3rd March</b>	<b>'Black out Poetry'</b> Visit DR Library and select a short story; black out areas of text to create poems.	Collect your form from DR Library and have a go at creating your own poetry. You will receive 3 points for submitting your poem to Mrs Wescott.
<b>Tuesday 4th March</b>	<b>'Who's behind the book?'</b> Students find photographs of staff reading from around the school (hidden behind a book cover) and guess who is reading what.	Collect your form from the DR Library and find the photographs of staff reading from around the school- who's behind the book? You will receive 1 point for every correctly identified member of staff! Hand in your form to Mrs Wescott in DR Library.
<b>Wednesday 5th March</b>	<b>Favourite Book:</b> Visit the DR library and write the name and the author of your favourite book on a bookmark and hang it on our reading tree.	Collect your bookmark from Mrs Wescott to gain 5 points.
<b>Thursday 6th March</b>	<b>Our Favourite Book Day!</b> Can you find out which staff members are their favourite book characters?	Collect your form from the KS4 base/DR Library and ask staff what character they are (they will be wearing or sticker, or may even be dressed up!) Receive 1 point for every character that you correctly identify (by collecting their signatures) by the end of lunch break. <i>Submit any remaining record forms to Mrs Wescott in DR Library or to Miss Stone on LR reception by the end of lunch today.</i>
<b>Friday 7th March</b>	<b>WINNERS ANNOUNCED!</b> 1st Prize: Amazon Kindle 2nd Prize: £20 Book Voucher 3rd Prize: £10 Book Voucher	KS3 (Kindle)—Come to the DR library during break time for cake and the announcement of our World Book Week winners! KS4 AND 5 (Vouchers)— Come to the LR Hall during break time for cake and the announcement of our World Book Week winners

**KS4 AND 5 STUDENTS WISHING TO GET INVOLVED CAN DO SO ON THURSDAY 6TH MARCH AND FIND CHARACTERS AROUND THE SCHOOL BUILDING. VOUCHERS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO FIND THE MOST!**



1 - A Christmas Carol



*2 - Milady de Winter - 3 Musketeers*



*3 - Shere Khan - Jungle Book*



4 - Slinky!



5 - Dorothy (complete with Toto) and Veruca Salt



6 - The Very Hungry Caterpillar



*7 - How To Train Your Dragon, the Fantastic Mr Fox*



*8 - 3 of the Dwarfs*



9 - Dorothy and the Wicked Witch



*10 - Mrs Sybil Birling (An Inspector Calls)*



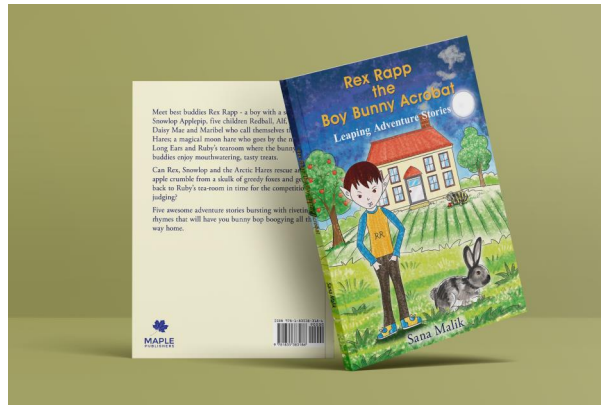
*11 - How to Train Your Dragon*



12 - Mike Wazowski: Monsters inc.

A special mention for our very own author and self publisher - Sana Malik





I have some super exciting news to share with you.

My children's book 'Rex Rapp the Boy Bunny Acrobat' will be published this year in April/May 2025. It's written in memory of our boy bunnies who passed away in 2017. It will be on Amazon and international retailers soon.

The Kindle edition is already on Amazon. The story is about a lonely orphan boy with a bunny-like appearance who one day reads a magical spell and transforms into a bunny. There are five adventure stories in one book. It was tough looking for an illustrator let alone navigating the process of self-publishing, In the end I did all the illustrations myself!

My son got home from school yesterday and announced, "*It's a REAL book!*" I had to explain it will not be in Waterstones and only online.

We both wanted it in the bookshops. There is a **signing and reading event** booked on the **7th** and the **12th of April** at **Weston Favell Library** from **10.30 to 11.30am**. Do pass the word on to friends and family if you so wish.

Kind regards

**SANA MALIK**

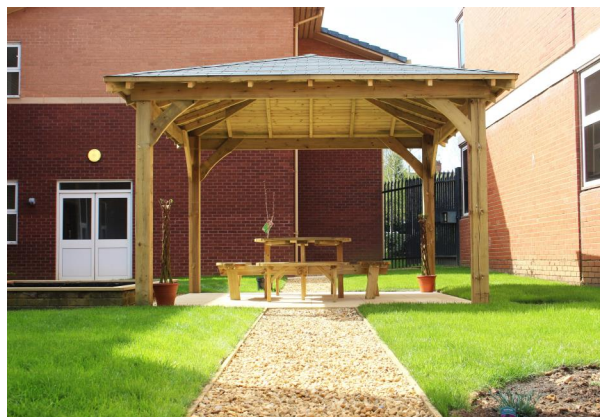
EAL ASSISTANT

## Mental Health & Wellbeing Launch



We also had our Grand opening of our **Great Spaces Sensory Garden**. This includes a new allotment section on London Road, a pond, and a peaceful courtyard.

More pictures to come from the grand opening. but just for now... a sneak peek





To Join, please visit: <https://club.teentips.co.uk/login/>

This is available if you are a student, parent, or member of staff. Please get in touch if you want to know more.

[Laura.cooper@wrennschool.org.uk](mailto:Laura.cooper@wrennschool.org.uk)

## Challenge Focus

The Brilliant Club



## The Brilliant Club

---

*We've had the exciting opportunity to enroll some of our more able students onto The Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme. We launched the programme with 15 year 9 students in the Spring term and we will be launching it with 14 year 10 students in the Summer Term.*

---



## What is The Brilliant Club?

---

*The Brilliant Club is a UK charity that works with the PhD community to support less advantaged students aged 8-18 to access the most competitive universities. Their research found that students from the least advantaged backgrounds have a 2 in 100 chance of going to the most competitive universities, compared with 28 in 100 for the most advantaged.*

---

## What is the Scholars Programme?

---

*The Scholars Programme gives students the opportunity to attend tutorials with a trained PhD tutor. Tutors deliver sessions on their area of expertise and students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to secure places at competitive universities. Research from the Higher Education Access Tracker shows that the programme has a positive impact on GCSE attainment; students who complete the programme are more likely to achieve 9-5 in Maths and English than those who had similar KS2 results. Students work towards completing an assignment which is marked and moderated using the university grading*

*system. Students then get the opportunity to complete a graduation event at a university. By enrolling our students into The Scholars Programme, we hope to nurture their love of learning, alongside raising aspirations and attainment.*

---

You can read more about it here: <https://thebrilliantclub.org/>

## Fish Heroes





### **The canned Alaskan salmon have arrived!**

We're 1 of 300 schools to receive some of the 3,600 cans of Alaska pink salmon, donated by Alaska Sea Food.

Mrs Brotherston will be cooking next term with the year 10's and expanding their pallet with some new flavor's and skills. Keep an eye out next time for what the students end up cooking with it.

At Wrenn, we are enthusiastic about getting our kids cooking and preparing them for their own independence. We look forward to exploring the varieties and nutrition that can come from the vast ocean.

### [Spring Concert 2025](#)

Many thanks to all the parents who came and supported the many wonderful students that performed at our Spring Concert.

Not only is this a huge deal for our students who finally reap the rewards that come from the many hours of practice, but it also encourages them to want to improve on their next performance.

We celebrated a wide range of music, covering; Rock, Pop, Classical, Folk, Acoustic, EDM, Original compositions, Choral and our upcoming Matilda Musical.

We would also like to thank all the staff that gave up their time over the past term, as well as on the night to make it all possible.

There have been so many new faces that have appeared on our stage. ***This is evident that Music at Wrenn is growing!***

Many acts you saw here are looking forward to that next chance to perform, in the Matilda Musical (Dates and Tickets to be confirmed), and at our even bigger event this summer, when Wrenn turns 50!



**WRENN SPRING**

**CONCERT**

**Mon**  
**31st**  
**March**  
**6pm start**

**BRAND NEW** music from  
Wrenn students & new groups  
**FREE ENTRY**

**ACOUSTIC COLLECTIVE - CHOIR - EDM BAND**  
**NMPAT STRING GROUP - SIXTH FORM DUO**

**SOLO ARTISTS**  
ESME DRAPER - NOAH CARR - LILY VIVASH-PETERS  
LAYLA FLINT - MATI STIKOWSKI - KIERA MOFFETT  
KENDRA OKELOLA - GEORGE GALLACHER

Wrenn LR Main Hall  
London Road  
Limited Parking

WRENN SCHOOL  
Creative  
Education  
Trust



























*13 - String Group*





14 - 6th Form Duet



## Culture Day

### *"That was incredible"*

Doddington road was buzzing from first thing in the morning as, for the first time EVER, lower school hosted **Culture Day**.

Culture Day has gone from strength to strength, celebrating the diversity within our school community.

Last year our Sixth Formers lead the way in supporting the upper school in creating their own dances, sharing food and imparted their cultural background with the rest of the school.

This year we saw a range of dancers and singers displaying their culture from:

- Jamaica
- Barbados
- Italy

- Poland
- Albania
- Russia
- Ghana
- India
- Pakistan
- Africa

Followed by a united celebration parade at the end.

We loved seeing the whole of the lower school embracing and enjoying the performances. The students have also taken something else away from this. The confidence that comes with preparing and performing in front of peers stays with the students and is a core value that Wrenn encourages. We hope this empowers them to take it further into future job interviews, new challenges and their aspirations.

***We are now looking for next years performers!***

If you would like to celebrate your culture with the rest of the school, students please make yourself known to Miss Fitzjohn. We are hoping to have even more dancing, singing, musical talents and so much more. It's all down to the students.





15 - Nyasha



# Longtown











The groups have climbed and successfully completed a scramble mountain walk, where they have learnt about different rock formations. The groups have had to really push themselves to face their fears.

Another amazing day at Longtown when students completed a number of activities ranging from gorge swimming, walking and abseiling into a cave. Not once have they given up and clearly exemplified why we are ***proud to be Wrenn***

## Careers News

We have had some really exciting events happening this half term.

### **Year 12 Work Experience**

All of our Year 12 students undertook 1 week of face to face work experience, in a variety of businesses/organisations. The students found their placements themselves in areas that interested them.

Feedback from the businesses was fantastic and every single student made us proud with their work ethic and motivation during this week.

### **Destinations Assemblies**

We have had Tresham College in to speak to all of our Lower School students to get them thinking about their futures. It is never too early to be prepared with the knowledge regarding future decisions.

### **Lunch and Learn**

We have completed our Lunch and Learn sessions for our Years 12 and 13 students. We have been delighted to have volunteers from Weatherby's Bank, Khrono LTD and the DWP in to speak to our students about future decisions and to give them information about different industries they may not have heard about before.

We are always looking to increase those people willing to come in and speak to our Sixth Form students. If someone would like to come in and speak to our students about their industry/careers journey please contact our Careers Lead Mrs Bolton on [joanne.bolton@wrennschool.org.uk](mailto:joanne.bolton@wrennschool.org.uk)

### **Barclays Life Skills**

Our Year 10 students have had their second session of Barclays Life Skills, they spent one hour looking into how to be a good problem solver. We are excited for the next two sessions that we have in the future terms.

### **Project 13 with Dale Willis**

Our Year 13 students have now completed the Project 13 workshops with Dale Willis. The aim of this workshop was to give those students who are looking for a degree apprenticeship the support they require to help make this dream and reality. Dale went through how to

write a great CV, how to smash an interview, the use of LinkedIn and how to brand yourself in the best way possible to be able to better their chances of getting a degree apprenticeship.



## Careers Meetings

All of our Year 11 and the majority of our Year 12 students have had their Careers Meetings with a fully qualified Careers Advisor - Janet. These meetings have been integral for our students to talk through their future plans and ambitions. Janet then produces an action plan after these meetings with all the information that has been discussed and links to useful websites.

## Stem Roadshow



16 - Lexi the Co-Bot

In this ever-evolving world of technology, it can sometimes feel a bit difficult to keep up with. Especially with the rapid growth of AI.

The STEM Roadshow delivered a brilliant display of how AI is used with its current capabilities:

- Hijacking our personal image and voice, or creating new ones
- Creating a hit pop song AND video
- Robot Dog and its "Prompts"

As we grow into an age where it could be difficult to know what's real and what's fake... or **DEEP FAKE**, it's important that our students not only know how to spot the tell-tale red flags, but also how they could potentially incorporate it into their future careers. In a live demonstration, and no cameras, the AI tools our hosts were using were able to copy their faces and voices, and give responses which our own students suggested.

Some key points to remember, and it applies with most things:

- If it's too good to be true, it probably is.
- Don't give out yours or anyone else's personal information.
- Look for signs - glitching, sound isn't right, odd behaviour, generic questions, is the source trusted?

**Engineers are in demand** and the next wave of technological advancement could be just around the corner. It may be worth considering a career in this field, especially when job security seems to be under the microscope when it comes to what AI is capable of. Students may be interested in many aspects of Engineering, such as:

- Mechanical
- Software
- Civil
- Electrical
- Biomedical
- Chemical
- Aerospace
- Environmental

One thing seems to be certain from today, whatever the future holds for robotics and artificial intelligence, it looks like we still want people to be in the driving seat in using this tech, however knowing the right commands and prompts to use... well there's a whole lot more to be discovered there.



## Speed Networking



One of the most valuable skills we can teach our students is how to engage with others confidently and thoughtfully. With this in mind, we organized a Speed Networking event for our Year 8 students, a unique and engaging way to enhance their communication abilities.

The event was made possible by the generous participation of a diverse group of volunteers, who kindly dedicated their time to engage with our students. These volunteers came from a wide range of professional backgrounds, offering a wealth of knowledge and insight into various careers.

### **The Challenge:**

To make this activity both fun and educational, we set an intriguing challenge for the students: they had to figure out what each volunteer's job was without directly asking the most obvious question, "What is your job?". Instead, students were encouraged to ask thoughtful, probing questions and use their communication skills to gather clues. The task required them to think critically and creatively, as they narrowed down the possibilities based on the responses they received.

To add an extra layer of complexity, students were only given three minutes with each volunteer. This limited time frame meant they had to be concise and focused in their questions, ensuring that every second counted in the quest to uncover the volunteers profession.

### **Building Confidence:**

While it may seem like an almost impossible task, the event provided our students with the opportunity to practice important life skills such as active listening, asking open-ended questions, and thinking on their feet. By interacting with professionals from various industries, students were not only able to practice their communication skills but also gain valuable insights into the diverse career paths available to them in the future.

The Speed Networking event was a great success, helping our students build confidence in their ability to communicate effectively with others. It demonstrated that communication is not just about talking—it's about listening, asking the right questions, and making connections. We are grateful to all the volunteers who made this event possible and look forward to continuing to offer our students opportunities to grow their skills in real-world settings.

This event is just one example of how we aim to equip our students with the tools they need to succeed, both in school and beyond. By fostering these communication skills, we are preparing them for a future where effective networking and relationship-building will be key to their success.

## Barclays Life Skills



Problem solving is one of the most valuable skills we can develop, both in the classroom and in everyday life. From navigating personal challenges to making decisions in the workplace, the ability to approach and solve problems effectively is crucial. Recognizing the significance of this skill, our Year 10 students recently took part in a series of Barclays Life Skills sessions aimed at evaluating and enhancing their problem-solving abilities.

During these sessions, students were asked to reflect on their problem-solving skills. They began by considering whether they believed that they were good problem solvers, allowing them to assess their strengths and areas for improvement. This self-reflection was an important first step in developing a growth mindset, encouraging students to view challenges as opportunities for growth rather than obstacles.

Students were presented a variety of problems, ranging from hypothetical situations that tested their critical thinking abilities to challenges designed to encourage teamwork and innovation. The tasks were designed to push students out of their comfort zones and encourage them to think outside the box.

What stood out the most was the students' ability to solve these problems in creative ways. Each group brought unique perspectives and ideas to the table, demonstrating the importance of collaboration and diverse thinking in problem-solving.

## Giving Back





### **Year 7 Charity Fair Launch**

Every year in sixth form, we try to support a charity that is local – one which someone is connected to in school. This year we were raising money for The Lewis Foundation and we were asking for the whole school to support this charity, as it's such a worthy cause.

As you can see below, there were many activities the students could enjoy.

The total donations raised was just over £1000!

Caricature	Cake bake Sale
Basketball Shootout	Guess the Sweets Jar
Soft Drinks Stall	Making Friendship Bracelets
Lucky Dip – TOMBOLA	Cupcake Decorating
Face Painting	Slime Making
Photobooth	Soak a 6th-former
Squid Games	Cup Buddies
Cup Pong	<u>Keepy Uppy</u> Competition
Spaghetti & Marshmallows Towers	Stationary/Sticker Stall
Ring Toss	Pet Rocks
Raffle	Nail Painting
Penalty Shootout	Popcorn

## Dates for the Diary



## Easter Revision

We had some fantastic opportunities for students to come in for additional revision week. GCSE exams start w/c 5th May!

### Easter Revision Sessions—April 2025

Sessions	Tuesday 8th April	Wednesday 9th April	Thursday 10th April
Session 1 - 9.00am - 10.45am	Y11 Sociology- What are the perspectives? - CWT Room 22 Y11 History - Crime and Punishment - JSR Room 24 Y13 Applied Science - LWE Room 25 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Drama - STA/ABO Room 17	PETXI Maths Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Geography - BJT Room 26 Y12 Maths - DPK Room 17 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Food, Prep and Nutrition - GBN CP2	PETXI Science Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Maths - FOUNDATION - NGN Room 22 Y11 Computing (Paper 1) - JTN CP2 Y11 Maths - HIGHER - DPK Room 17 Y13 Law - MDS Room 26 Y13 History - RH Room 25 Y11 DT - CLE DT2
Session 2 - 11.00am - 12.45pm	Y11 Sociology- Acing RM questions - CWT Room 22 Y11 History - Crime and Punishment - JSR Room 24 Y13 Applied Science - LWE Room 25 Y11 Geography - BJT Room 26 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Drama - STA/ABO Room 17	PETXI Maths Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Geography - BJT Room 26 Y12 Maths - DPK (11-12 noon) Room 17 Y13 Maths - DPK (12 onwards) Room 17 Y13 Sociology - HMP Room 22 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Food, Prep and Nutrition - GBN CP2	PETXI Science Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Maths - FOUNDATION - NGN Room 22 Y11 Computing (Paper 2) - JTN CP2 Y11 Maths - HIGHER - DPK Room 17 Y13 Law - MDS Room 26 Y13 History - RH Room 25 Y11 DT - CLE DT2
<b>Lunch - 12.45pm - 1.15pm</b>			
Session 3 - 1.15pm - 3pm	Psychology A Level - CWT Room 22 Y11 History - Crime and Punishment - JSR Room 24 Y13 Applied Science - LWE Room 25 Y11 Geography (BJT) Room 26 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Drama - STA/ABO Room 17 Y11 GCSE PE - Component 2 - MBE Room 18	PETXI Maths Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Geography - BJT Room 26 Y13 Maths - DPK Room 17 Y13 Sociology Room 22 Library Self Study - DH LRC Y11 Food, Prep and Nutrition - GBN CP2	PETXI Science Y11 (Invite Only) Room 18 Y11 Computing (Paper 1) - JTN CP2 Y11 Maths - HIGHER - DPK Room 17 Y13 Law - MDS Room 26 Y13 History - RH Room 25 Y11 DT - CLE DT2

#### 4th April - End of term 4

Easter Break

21st April - Bank Holiday

#### 22nd April - Start of term 5

24th April - Y10 Parents Evening

28th & 29th April - D of E Silver (Y10)

6th - 9th May - Isle of Wight (Y9 Trip)

8th May - Y8 Parents Evening

9th May - Y13 Leavers & BBQ

#### 23rd May - End of Term 5

#### 2nd June - Start of Term 6

25th June - Y13 Prom

28th June - Wrenn 50th Anniversary

2nd-11th July - D of E Award

7th & 8th July - Transition Days

8th July - Y9 Graduation

**18th July Last day of Term (1:30pm Finish)**

More information and dates for the rest of the year can be found on our website:

[Wrenn Term Dates](#)

## **PROUD TO BE WRENN**

"AMBITION AND EXCELLENCE WITH CARE FOR ALL"

### **Wrenn School Contact Details**

General enquiries: [enquiries@wrennschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wrennschool.org.uk)

Wrenn School Doddington Road Site: Doddington Road, Wellingborough, NN8 2JJ

Wrenn School London Road Site: London Road, Wellingborough, NN8 2DQ

Wrenn School is operated by Creative Education Trust, which is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales no 7617529.

Registered Office: 67-68 Long Acre, London, WC2E 9JD

Creative Education Trust is a charity, regulated by the Secretary of State for Education.

Copyright © 2022 Wrenn School. All Rights Reserved.

The use of this website is subject to this [Legal Disclaimer](#).