

Celebratory news from across the Koinonia Federation



## Newsletter

### Message from the Federation Executive Co-Headteachers

#### WE ARE ONE!

As we end the first half term of 2025 we have so much to celebrate and share in this edition.

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and students who made our first ever cross Federation and C of E Greenwich primary schools Equality, Diversity and Inclusion event such a success! It truly epitomised one of the key strands of our vision:

We were so very proud of the beautiful artwork displayed from all our Year 5 classes. The buzzy atmosphere in the exhibition hall was felt by all. There was excitement in the air as everyone enjoyed viewing the artwork. Some more reflective quiet time was held in the Nursery where pupils and parents could take part in some creative prayer activities. The event ended with all students and visitors in our large main hall for the performances from across the Federation including our talented secondary choir. As one parent wrote to us it was " a much-needed reminder that we can achieve a lot coming together as one. The togetherness was felt in the room." We are looking forward to planning and hosting more activities like this in the future...watch this space!

We hope you also enjoy reading about all the varied and engaging enrichment activities that have taken place in such a short space of time this half term. We are very fortunate to be able to provide so many different opportunities for our pupils across our phases and campuses that develop their skills and knowledge of the world.

We hope everyone across our Koinonia community enjoys the half term break- the sun is shining today and we hope it continues to bless us next week too.

Best wishes,

Claire Harrison and Victoria Wainwright



# Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Event

The recent EDI (Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion) event at St. Mary Magdalene, Peninsula campus was a wonderful celebration of our vibrant and diverse school community. The event, which featured performances and Year 5 artwork, brought together students from both the primary and secondary stages in a powerful display of unity and creativity.

One of the standout moments was the opening performance by the secondary student choir. Their heartfelt singing filled the hall with warmth and energy, setting the tone for the rest of the event. Our primary pupils also performed dances and read out poems that beautifully blended cultural movements from around the world, showing the rich variety of traditions that make up our school.

The Year 5 students from across our campuses as well as St Margarets School were a central part of the event, proudly showcasing their artwork that celebrated the core values of the EDI initiative. Their colourful and imaginative pieces, displayed around the primary hall, explored themes such as equality, respect, and love for one another, reflecting the spirit of our Federation Christian ethos. Each piece offered a unique perspective, and together, they sent a powerful

message about the importance of understanding and embracing diversity. The event was a huge success and really showcased the wonderful work that goes on within the Koinonia federation. A special thank you goes to the parents, staff, and pupils who made this event possible. Your support, creativity, and dedication helped bring this celebration to life. We would also like to extend our gratitude to St. Margaret's Primary School for their involvement and collaboration in this event. It was truly a community effort, and together, we have strengthened the message of unity and inclusivity that we hold dear at the Koinonia federation.

The feedback we have received from our pupils and parents showed how much the EDI event was appreciated. Many parents and pupils shared how impactful the event was in promoting understanding and respect across cultures and backgrounds. A common theme in the responses was how the event gave everyone an opportunity to learn from one another and feel valued. We are proud to see that the values of inclusivity and unity continue to resonate strongly within our community, guiding us in our mission to make everyone feel welcome and supported.

Miss Mittra and Mr Gayle



# Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Event

We were really proud to be mentioned in the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education publication, which is sent across the Diocese!



## SDBE SPOTLIGHT

### SCHOOL FOCUS

#### KOINONIA FEDERATION'S 'WE ARE ONE' EVENT

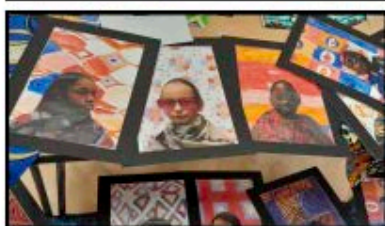
At the beginning of February, the Koinonia Federation hosted the 'We Are One' event at St Mary Magdalene Peninsula. The event brought students, parents and staff together to celebrate equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).



Pupils, staff and parents from St Mary Magdalene C of E in Woolwich, St Mary Magdalene C of E Campus on the Greenwich Peninsula and Christ Church C of E Primary in Greenwich came together with St Margaret's Plumstead for this special event. The evening included a range of events, performances and refreshments which reflected on and celebrated EDI.



At the exhibition, Year Five pupils shared their wonderful artwork and writing with hundreds of visitors. The displays featured a variety of works including silk screen printed T shirts, self portraits and handmade jewellery. The pupils were also able to discuss their understanding of diversity. One pupil commented that diversity is 'when people respect others beliefs and looks'. Another stated, 'everyone is different and has unique skills. We can all learn from our different cultures'. Pupils from St Margaret's had reflected on equality and climate justice. Advocating for eco justice across the world, the pupils demonstrated their deep understanding through inspiring artwork and powerful letters. During the exhibition, visitors were able to vote for their favourite pieces and enjoy delicious refreshments.



The exceptional pupils from St Mary Magdalene Secondary Choir opened the performances which included Bhangra dance and poetry. There were also artistic responses to 'what does EDI mean to us' and a moving group performance of 'We Are One'. The event closed with the announcement of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Work award which was awarded to Powell Class from St Mary Magdalene Peninsula.



The event was an incredible celebration of the children and young people, their families and school community. One parent shared how much they had enjoyed the evening and hoped to join in future events which celebrated diversity at the school. Congratulations to everyone who participated in the inaugural 'We Are One' event. As another parent commented, 'we are looking forward to another event next year!'.



# PRIMARY

## Arts & Crafts Club

At Peninsula the Arts & Crafts Club so far this term have been doing:

### Pointillism Art

We explored pointillism, creating unique images using cotton wool buds.

### Tie dye

We got creative with tie-dye, crafting vibrant spiral-effect t-shirts.

Miss Bryan



## Lego Project

At Christ Church, Mrs Turner, the Emotional Support Literacy Coordinator has been leading on a 'Lego Project' with Y5 children. Jamie, Amira, Ayden and Reggie have demonstrated our value of patience as well as the spirit of teamwork whilst assembling a 'campervan'.

Ayden: 'It has taken us ages to make the campervan'.

Amira: 'I liked working together as a team'.

Reggie: 'I felt proud to make it'.

Jamie: 'I liked that my mum came to the Collective Worship and saw the Lego project'.



## Nature Explorers Club

Peninsula Nature Explorers Club at the primary level is a vibrant and engaging group that nurtures a love for the natural world among young learners. Through hands-on activities, outdoor adventures, and creative projects, children develop an appreciation for plants, animals, and the environment around them.

The club encourages curiosity and teamwork, inspiring members to explore topics like biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability in a fun and interactive way. By fostering a sense of responsibility for nature, the club aims to instil lifelong values of care and respect for the planet.



# PRIMARY

## A Touch of Red

There was a sea of red in the Peninsula primary hall as staff and pupils wore red on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February and brought in tins and cans for the school food bank. Your show of love and generosity is most appreciated by the school community.

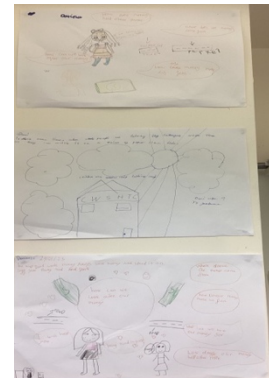
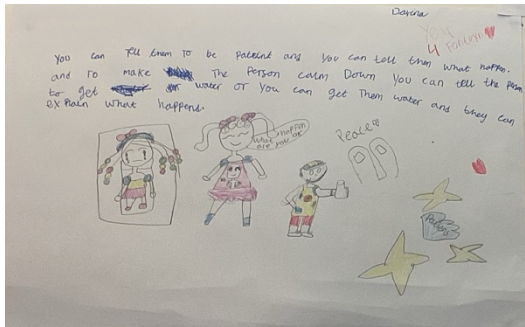
Mrs Ajayi



## PHSE Club

PSHE club has given our year 4 children in Woolwich an opportunity to discuss physical and mental wellbeing. Some of our discussions and suggestions were focused around being respectful, showing kindness and empathy to others and building healthy and positive relationships. Dami and Ademide also referenced our school ethos – 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. This was emphasised as an important feature for a thriving and flourishing friendship. We look forward to running this club next term with our year 5 children.

Miss Okungbowa



## Science Workshop

A huge thank you to all the parents who joined us for our recent science workshop in Reception. The children had an amazing time exploring and experimenting at the different stations! They were captivated by the little paper gliders and helicopters, watching them swoop and glide through the air. Squashing empty bottles to launch tiny mice as high as they could brought squeals of delight. And they were fascinated by the way food colouring spread out in milk when touched with washing-up liquid.

While the workshop focused on making predictions, it was clear the children were thoroughly enjoying the hands-on experimentation and discovering how different materials behaved. Thank you again for helping to make this a fun and memorable learning experience!

Mrs Bdeir



# PRIMARY

## Number Day

### Christ Church

Celebrating the power of numbers in style! Year 2 students had a blast dressing up for Number Day, bringing math to life in the most creative ways. 🧮 ✨

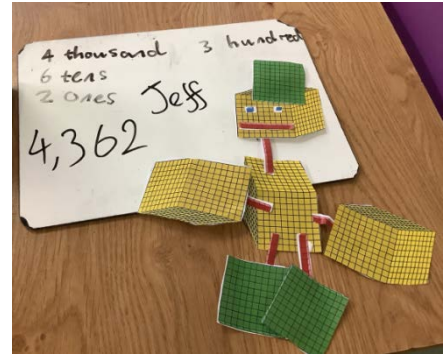
Which is your favourite costume?

"My favourite part of the day was voting for the best number day outfit." Esmee Tr. 2

We thoroughly enjoyed creating base 10 robots as part of our number day fun. Can you work out whose robot has the greatest value?

"I liked sticking on all the dienes to make my robot." Daphne Yr.2

Miss Akin



For number day, Year 6 looked at the connection between art and maths. KS2 children also took part in a nationwide Times Table Rockstars competition.

In year 6, we looked at illusions and how this is linked to angles and perception. We created our own illusion and produced impossible triangles. We also had some really creative outfits.

Miss Stock

### Woolwich

Our Reception class had an exciting time celebrating Number Day! The children came dressed in fantastic number-themed costumes, embracing the joy of numbers in a fun and interactive way.

As part of the celebrations, they worked together to create numicon cityscapes, drawing structures of various heights. They challenged themselves to make the tallest buildings, they traced around them and measured their heights.

It was a fantastic day filled with learning, laughter, and lots of number fun.

Mrs Bdeir



# PRIMARY

## Mental Health Week

### Woolwich

The Nursery children have done a variety of activities linked to the theme Mental Health Week. From starting nursery, in September last year, they have been learning about our different feelings and how we feel each day when we come to school. The children loved making the emoji's and talking about what each emoji meant from happy, excited, confused, funny, loving and sad.

The children listened to a song about Wellbeing and the simple fact that we should always talk about the way we feel to our family, teachers and friends.

They also listened to the story The Colour Monster and coloured the different feelings monsters afterwards.

Some of the children enjoyed doing the emotion puzzles to.

Mrs Turner



### Peninsula

For Children's Mental Health Week, Orchard class looked at the story of the 'Worried Sparrow'. We discussed who we can talk to when we are worried and have something on our minds.

We made hanging sparrow mobiles for our class calm down area, as it can help us focus and stay centred.

Miss Baptise



### Parachute Game

Year 1 children at the Woolwich campus had a fantastic time working on their turn-taking and communication skills. Everyone engaged in the parachute game and worked together really beautifully. Lyron said he did not want the game to end. Michelle said the game was fun! Keep up the great team work, year 1!

Miss Minlah, Mrs Amao, Miss Reid and Miss Okungbowa

# PRIMARY

## Mudchute Farm

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, Stephens Class went on a trip to Mudchute Farm. The children had a great time exploring Mudchute Farm and identifying animals. We looked at their features and decided if the animals we saw were birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals or fish (BRAMF). This trip was linked to science and we recapped some prior knowledge from our Plants unit last term, by identifying the deciduous and evergreen trees around us.

We rounded off our trip with a walk under the River Thames and talking about where we live in the UK, which links to our Geography unit this term.

### Student voice

"The best part was seeing the pigs."

"I loved the squirrel, it came really close to us."

" I liked walking under the river!"

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> January Year 1 at Christ Church had an awesome time on our trip to Mudchute farm. we named all the animals and worked out which classification they were from. It was a little rainy but we danced through the rain! we had help from a few parents which the kids really liked.

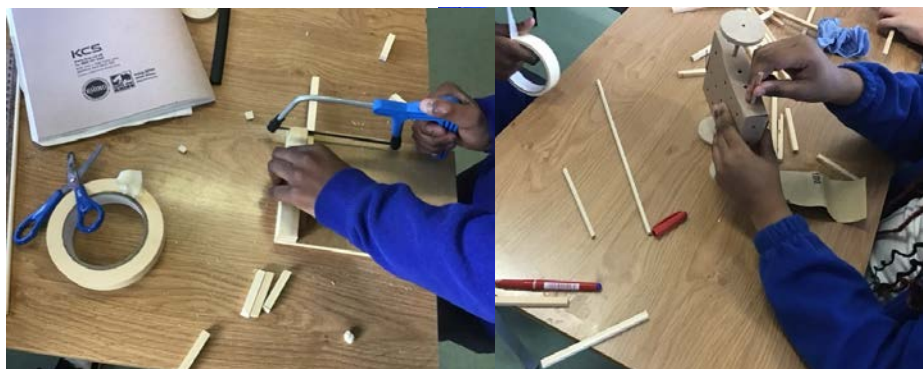
Mrs Nutton & Miss Pre Kouadio



## DT

Year 6 at Christ Church had great fun making motorised cars. They researched the best ways to make the car aerodynamic then designed and made their own versions. The children accurately measured the wood, safely used the saw and glue guns and then used previous knowledge to create an electrical fan so that the car could move. Maths, DT and science all rolled into one AMAZING!

Miss Stock





# PRIMARY

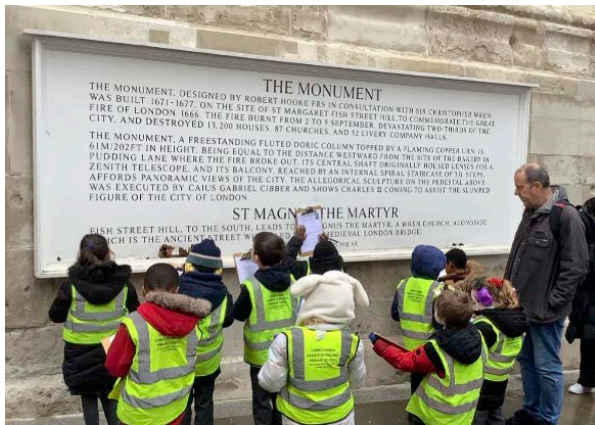
## Monument Trips

Exploring history and learning through adventure! Year 2 students from Christ Church travel along London Bridge to the Monument to learn about the Great Fire of London. 🏛️🔥

"I loved looking way up high to see the Monument. It was a beautiful view." Sasha

Year 2 Potter and Dahl, went on our trip to the Monument in central London. This was to see where the Great Fire started and how it was commemorated. We loved our journey there on the DLR! When the children arrived at The Monument, they did a sketch of it and had to answer different questions about the fire. It was a lovely morning out!

Miss Akin, Mr Hodgson and Miss Trainor



## Peninsula School Travel Working Party

The school travel working party meets every half term. It comprises of Travel Ambassadors in Years 4, 5 and 6, school Councilors in Year 5 and a Parent Governor.

In our last meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, we looked at the TfL Stars website to see the information already uploaded as well as looking at the results of the parent and staff travel survey. Leading on from these, workshops need to be arranged for pupils about anti-social behaviour and pedestrian road safety and also share information about car sharing and bike schemes. The next meeting scheduled to take place is Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Mrs Ajayi

# PRIMARY

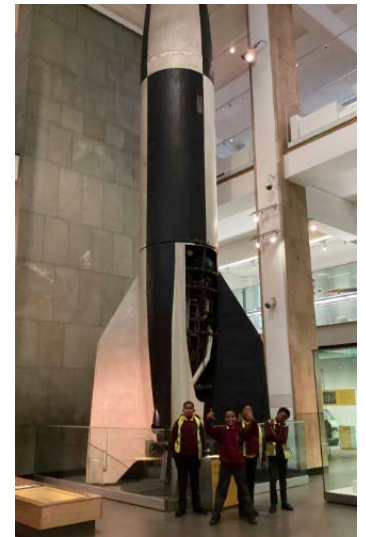
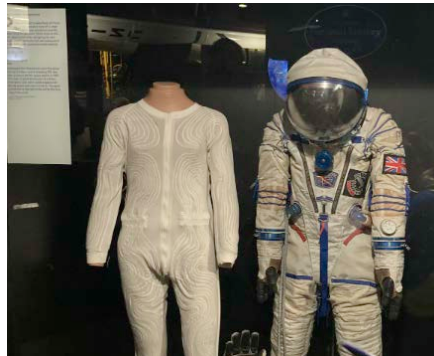
## Year 5 Science Museum Trip

For Science Y5 have been learning about the Solar System. To reinforce our knowledge and bring this wonderful topic alive we visited the Science Museum.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January the Year 5 cohort (St Mary Magdalene Peninsula, Woolwich and Christ Church) went on a trip to the Science Museum to view the "Exploring Space" Gallery.

We saw many artefacts from NASA and we even saw a piece of rock from the moon!

Year 5 Team



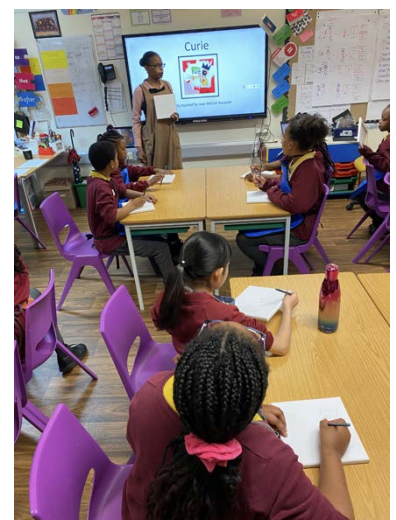
## Green Cards

At Christ Church there has been lots of Green Cards given out in Spring Term which children and staff are really proud of. The outcomes have been shared with Parents and Carers in the Friday's Celebration Collective Worship.



## Developing skills in Art across the Koinonia Federation

Ms Ewusi-Akins has been inspiring our children with her knowledge of Art. The Y5 children have created their own version of the Union Jack using the colours of the flags that represent our families. The new versions of the flag represent both our British citizenship and our heritage. They first created a collage which was then transferred onto canvas bags and T-shirts.



# PRIMARY

## Leprosy Workshop

The children in Reception participated in an engaging and educational workshop about Leprosy. They listened attentively to the story of Bella, a little girl from India who is living with leprosy. Through Bella's story, the children gained insight into her life, her challenges, and the support available to her.

Following the story, they learned some important facts about leprosy, including how it affects people and how others can help. To deepen their understanding, the children experienced what it might feel like to have limited hand function. Using gloves, they practised handling objects and discovered how tricky it can be when fingers don't work as they usually do.

The session ended with an exciting challenge from the presenter: on Friday, the children were encouraged to wear gloves while doing their daily routines to better understand the difficulties faced by people with leprosy. Additionally, they were invited to bring in donations to support those affected by the disease.

It was a meaningful experience for the children, fostering empathy and encouraging them to take action to make a difference in the lives of others!

Mrs Bdeir and Miss Kuijper

The Year 3 & 4 pupils got to take part in an educational workshop about leprosy. They learned key facts about the diseases, its causes, symptoms and treatments. Some children were picked to build a tower with lego wearing different types of gloves to experience what people with leprosy experience on a daily basis. The workshop raised awareness and the children gained a deeper understanding of the condition.

Miss Smith & Mrs Ajayi



# PRIMARY

## Year 5 & 6 CREST Event

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> January, some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils, including science ambassadors went to a CREST event at Plumstead Manor School, where we worked with several other primary schools from the London Borough of Greenwich. Miss Wainwright kindly drove the pupils to the school and once the pupils got there they took part in lots of team building activities.

Pupils looked at 'Machine learning' and they were challenged to design a household product that uses machine learning. Pupils designed a robot which would detect intruders.

Pupils then presented all their ideas to the other schools and even used the internet for some inspiration!

I think we definitely have some budding computer scientists, design leads and software leads in the making. Well done to Christ Church pupils; Floriana and Rolex, Woolwich pupils: Zemirah, Songen, Andrew and Flora and Skilah, Timmy, Aaron, Elsa, Janelle and Jeshurun for taking part!

Miss Mittra



# SECONDARY

## UKMT Intermediate Challenge

At the end of September some of our Year 9 and 10 pupils took part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. This prestigious national competition is designed to encourage mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills among students, pushing them beyond the standard curriculum.

We are delighted to announce that our students performed very well, earning 1 Gold, 6 Silver, and 19 Bronze awards. A special congratulations to Anu Alaga, who achieved the highly coveted Gold award, which is a fantastic accomplishment!

Well done to all participants for their hard work and perseverance. Their achievements highlight their problem-solving skills and talent for mathematics."

Mr Pigott

## KEW Gardens

As part of their preparation for this year's GCSE Art exam, which explores the theme of "Gathering," Year 11 students visited Kew Gardens on Friday, 7th February. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to investigate how nature, science, and art intersect through the act of collecting, preserving, and documenting botanical life.

Renowned for its global contributions to plant conservation, Kew Gardens showcases the importance of gathering and safeguarding biodiversity. Students explored the Millennium Seed Bank, which protects plant species from extinction by collecting and storing seeds from around the world.

They also engaged with Kew's vast living plant collections, herbariums, and archives, witnessing firsthand how species are gathered, classified, and preserved for future generations.

In addition, the visit encouraged students to reflect on the broader meanings of "gathering"—from the physical collection of plants to environmental conservation and the interconnectedness of ecosystems. This immersive experience provided inspiration for their creative projects, helping them develop new artistic perspectives for their GCSE exam work.

Ms Anderson



# SECONDARY

## Pottery Workshop

On January 29th, Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to participate in a pottery workshop led by visiting artist. This hands-on session allowed students to explore clay techniques, develop their creative skills, and gain insight into the 3D artistic process.

The workshop is designed to inspire and support students considering Art for GCSE, offering them a unique chance to learn from professional artists.

Ms Anderson



## Year 7 - Medieval Castle Competition

Our Year 7 students recently took part in an exciting History competition, where they were challenged to design and create their own Medieval castles. The results were amazing. The majority of students showcased incredible creativity and attention to detail in their designs.

A huge well done to all who participated—your castles truly brought history to life! Here are some standout examples of their fantastic work.

Miss Liagki



# SECONDARY

## Careers Week 10th-14th February

The Secondary Phase has been busy celebrating Careers Week from 10th-14th February. Throughout the week, teachers delivered engaging career-focused tasks linked to curriculum learning at the start of lessons.

The week kicked off with Year 10 students representing Saint Mary Magdalene at Charlton Football Club. They presented their ideas on making the club more sustainable just before the Greener Game at the stadium on Saturday. This presentation was delivered in front of the club sponsors and was filmed by Sky Sports as part of a feature on SMM's collaboration with Charlton Football Club on sustainability.

The students were fantastic representatives of the school, giving a clear, well-planned, and creative presentation that showcased their talent and dedication.

Mrs Awaleh - Chaces



## Sustainability a Charlton Athletic Workshop

Eighteen of our Year 10 students recently had the exciting opportunity to participate in a sustainability workshop, hosted by Charlton Athletic Football Club. The students were split into teams and tasked with coming up with innovative ways to improve sustainability at the club. Ideas ranged from reducing waste at match days and designing eco-friendly kits to creating social media campaigns to raise awareness about sustainability.

The team with the best ideas will have the chance to present their proposals at Charlton Athletics home ground on 8th February, just before their "Greener Game" event. The workshop was also filmed by Sky Sports, and a special feature on the collaboration will be broadcast soon.

This is a fantastic example of how our students are engaging with real-world challenges and making a positive impact on the environment. Well done to all who took part!



# SECONDARY

## Shine at Motivez Worksjop Grand Final

Our Year 10 students who participated in the Motivez workshop earlier this year recently took part in the exciting grand finale at the Knight Dragon offices, where they pitched their ideas for a new company focused on sustainability. The students presented a range of innovative and creative solutions, with the top prize of £200 awarded to a team for their brilliant concept—Thriftcycle, an app designed to help people recycle their clothes more effectively.

Each team did an outstanding job, showcasing well-researched ideas that addressed real-world sustainability challenges. This project highlighted the growing importance of careers in sustainability, as labour market trends indicate that this sector is expanding rapidly. With sustainability becoming an ever more relevant field, the skills and knowledge our students gained from this experience will serve them well in their future careers.



## Year 7 British Museum Trip

Our Year 7 students went on a trip to the British Museum to explore the Silk Roads exhibition. The visit offered a fascinating glimpse into the ancient trade routes that connected civilisations across Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

From intricate silk textiles and shimmering treasures to ancient maps and cultural artefacts, the exhibition brought history to life. Students marvelled at the rich exchanges of ideas, art and goods that shaped our world.

The day was not only educational but was also an inspiring reminder of the importance of cultural diversity and global connections.

Year 7 Team





# SECONDARY SPORTS UPDATE

## KS4 Bowling Reward Trip

Our Y10 and Y11 pupils were taken to Hollywood Bowl in the O2 as a reward for their excellent conduct throughout the Autumn Term.

Well done to all pupils who were invited, keep up the good work!



## Football Results – Blackheath Cup

Our Y7 Football Team have made it to the semi-finals of the Blackheath Cup. We will now wait to hear who they face in the semi-final. Well done to all the pupils who have represented the team this year!

The Y11 Football Team won their semi-final against Crown Woods and have become the first SMM Football Team to reach the Blackheath Cup Final! This is an excellent achievement. We will now face either St Thomas More or St Dunstan's in the Final.

Well done boys!

## Indoor Cricket

The SMM Cricket Team have been working hard at their Thursday club with Mr Mudge and got their second victory of the season with a win against Deptford Green. SMM won by 25 runs!



## Netball Tournaments

Our Y7 and Y8 Netball Teams competed in a well-attended Greenwich Borough Netball Tournament throughout January.

Congratulations girls on some excellent performances throughout the tournaments!



## Basketball Club

Our Basketball Clubs for Y7, Y8, Y9 and Y10 have been very well attended. We have plenty of fixtures coming up on Spring 2 and we hope to see more of you at the clubs.

A special mention to the Y9 and Y10 boys who attended a trial weekend for Greenwich Titans Basketball Club!