

The last few weeks of 2025 have been busy, exciting and purposeful. While learning continued, Year 11 mock examinations took place, UCAS applications were submitted, and the pace of the rebuild stepped up, we still found time for fun and festivities.



One of the highlights of the season was our annual Carol Service, where students from across the school filled the wonderful setting of St Mary's Church with beautiful music and inspiring readings. It truly is a special occasion. Alongside this, house events played out in less-than-ideal weather, and rewards trips, competitions, performances, visits and much more, have all added to the richness of our students' experiences.

Our sixth form deserves particular recognition for the way they in which they shape this time of year for others. Yet again, they spent hours preparing for the annual Christmas market, which brought such cheer across the school, modelling generosity and community spirit. This term has also highlighted the generosity of our families. Thanks to your donations, we were able to deliver over 100 Christmas shoeboxes to Tyndale Rotary Club and support Teckels Animals Sanctuary.

As we reach the final weeks of our three-year rebuild, it feels important to pause and recognise what our community has achieved during this time. Working in a school that has been noisy, shifting and frequently interrupted has been challenging. Yet staff and students alike have shown remarkable adaptability and good humour throughout, helping us to maintain our high standards and levels of student support in the face of rerouted lessons reshaped spaces and disrupted routines.

As we prepare to move into *Our New Home*, there is real excitement about the fresh start ahead and the opportunity to shape what our new normal will be together. Thank you to everyone — staff, students and families — for the resilience, patience and commitment that have brought us to this moment.



I am very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school and celebrating the start of our next chapter together with students, staff and families.

May I wish you and your families a peaceful holiday.

Hannah Khan
Headteacher



KLB Carol Concert

St Mary's church in Wotton under Edge welcomed over 80 KLB students on Tuesday for our annual candle-lit Carol Concert. Students in Junior Voices, Senior Voices, and KLB Orchestra have been working tirelessly with staff since September to prepare carols and songs, both traditional and contemporary, spanning 500 years of Christmas music.



The concert began in candle light with Senior Voices at the back of the church to sing *Ding Dong Merrily on High* in stunning four-part harmony. Sebastian in year 7 then filled the church with a beautiful solo verse of *Once In Royal David's City*. Later in the programme, Senior Voices sang the 16th Century carol *Gaudete* 'a cappella', with soloists Fin in year 9 and Imogen, year 12, singing the solo verses. KLB Orchestra tackled Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* with delicacy and charm, and accompanied the choirs singing *Little Town* by Cliff Richard and *Christmas Lights* by Coldplay. The whole church came together to sing the congregational hymns with warmth and spirit.

Bible readings weaved the story of Christmas through the programme; well done to Arabella (year 7), Ralph (year 8), Oliver (year 9), Suzie (year 10), and Tammy (year 12) for their captivating readings.

Thank you to Revd Lesley Hewish and all the staff at St Mary's Church, and to KLB Friends for providing festive refreshments before the concert.

Mark Smith, Head of Music





Rotary Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's appeals for items to fill shoeboxes in support of the Rotary club charity. Your generosity meant we were able to fill 108 boxes full of gifts and toiletries to pass on to members of the Cotswold Tyndale Rotary club. These will now be delivered to families in Eastern Europe to spread some Christmas cheer.



The Christmas Market



Weeks in the planning and hours in the preparation, this year's Christmas market was a spectacular end to the term with the sixth form tutor groups once again rising to the challenge of planning and running a stall.



We had more bakers than ever taking over the lovely cooking spaces in the Berkeley building making cookies, brownies, cupcakes, muffins, cookie dough and gingerbread for several evenings running up to the market.

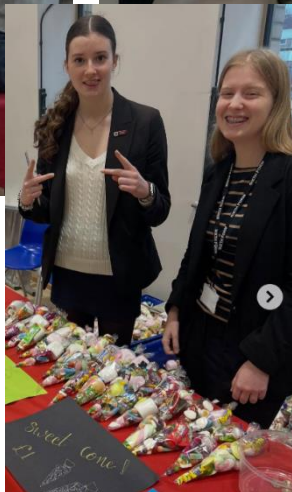


There were also games and activities aplenty with 'beer' pong, giant Jenga, the fabulous human fruit machine, glitter tattoos, guessing games and a tombola. When the rain subsided, Santa and his trusty reindeer sidekick delighted the younger students with flights around the site in his sleigh. The sixth form were also joined by enterprising year 7s and DT students from year 8 selling their creations.

As ever, talented musicians from across the school kept the crowds entertained with festive tunes.

Thank you to everyone involved for helping to create such a festive end to the term.

J Campion, Head of Sixth Form



Spirited Arts Competition 2025

Last term the whole of KS3 took part in a competition called 'Spirited Arts'. The competition was run as a collaboration between the RE Department and the diversity work we have been doing in school. The competition theme was **Living in a Diverse World** and students were encouraged to write a poem or produce a piece of artwork with their interpretation of this theme.

With over 700 entries, we were impressed with the effort and original ideas that went into so many pieces of work, and the great explanations to accompany them. We really enjoyed judging the entries.

A huge well done to our winners, **Miriam S** in first place, **Anna S** and **Alex K** in second place and **Suzie B**, **Ella G** and **Danny H** in third place. The winners received certificates and Amazon vouchers. Please have a look at some of the winning entries below:

Miriam, Year 10 - The Wave

Miriam describes her impressive model as a cross-section of a wave of good people coming together to overcome evil. The quotes on the swelling wave contain the voices of famous and less well-known people from across the globe who have fought for equality, peace and justice.

Fill your mind with compassion Gautama Buddha

If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy Nelson Mandela

You can always give something, even if it is only kindness Anne Frank



The 'surf' of the wave is made of white hearts to represent kind people and the overall compassion that is needed for people to come together to fight against the bad things scarring our world.



Anna, Year 10 – The Bloom of Unity

Anna's work shows that we are all connected, no matter where we are from or what we believe. The background shows famous architecture, flags and symbols to show that everyone is part of this human community.

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success Henry Ford

Alex K, Year 9

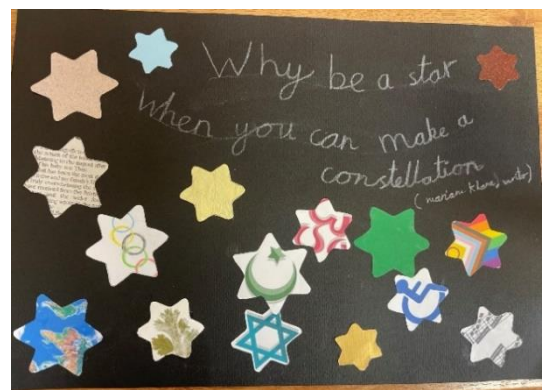
Alex's entry is based on a quotation by the author and activist Mariame Kaba,

Why be a star when you can make a constellation?

Alex says that each one of us is different just like each star in a constellation; and we are all stars in ourselves due to our talents, what we believe in and fight for, and who we are. The stars are different sizes to show that humans are different and the colours of the stars all have significance too.

Many students also received commendation certificates for their ideas and effort.

Kate Williams, RE teacher



Year 7 RE Trip to Bristol Hindu Temple and Clifton Catholic Cathedral

This month we took our year 7 cohort to a Hindu Mandir and the Catholic Cathedral at Clifton. We would like to thank both places of worship for accommodating our large groups, for making us feel welcome, and for giving us a tour and a talk about their respective faiths.

At the Mandir Sanatan Deevya Mandal, the Hindu Priest, Mr Vyas, gave a warm welcome and engaging talk to students about the nature of the sacred spaces at the Temple, and also an overview of some key Hindu beliefs and practices.

Highlights included a talk about the plurality of the Hindu worldview: students were surprised to encounter images and symbols from other faiths at the temple, such as Jesus and Guru Nanak alongside images of Hindu deities such as Shiva and Vishnu. Mr Vyas explained how in the Hindu worldview, all faiths lead to God. Students were able to see a wide variety of murtis (images of the gods) and how they are treated with respect within the Hindu tradition.

Our students asked a number of intriguing questions ranging from the nature of Puja (worship), rules about the Mandir, and the nature of the Divine. Mr Vyas was very complimentary about the year 7s, their knowledge and their behaviour.

Namaste!



Left: Students asking questions and listening to Mr Vyas at the shrine in the Mandir, where offerings are made such as fruit, flowers or money.

Right: Sophie H ringing the bell upstairs at the Mandir to signal the start of our talk.

Bells are rung as part of Hindu Puja (worship).



Two examples of murtis (images of the gods) at the Mandir. On the left is the goddess Durga and on the right the god Ganesha.

Durga symbolizes divine feminine power (Shakti), strength, protection, and the ultimate victory of good over evil.

Ganesha's symbolism represents wisdom, intellect, and the overcoming of obstacles.



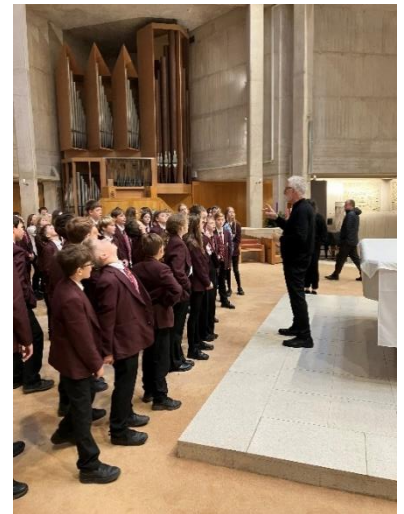
At Clifton Cathedral (The Cathedral Church of Saints Peter and Paul) students were warmly welcomed by Deacon Paul who gave an interesting talk about the building, its use within worship and also by the wider community. Students were encouraged to ask questions about the Cathedral including the meaning and symbolism behind the stunning stained glass windows (connected to Creation and Pentecost), the Stations of the Cross and other aspects of the building.

Students were able to tour the Cathedral and see aspects of the interior including the font, the alter and the chapels at the Cathedral. Deacon Paul also explained the nature of the sacred at the Cathedral, including the Tabernacle and the importance of Holy Communion for Catholics and Christians generally. Students experienced the superb acoustics and appreciated the modern architecture. Deacon Paul commented on our students' respect, good behaviour and the deep questions that many asked during the visit. Our thanks to Deacon Paul for allowing us to use the Apostles room for our lunch.



Left: An example of the beautiful stained glass windows at the Cathedral, representing Creation, showcased by Neveah B and Brooke E.

Right: Deacon Paul talking to students and answering questions about the Holy Communion and Transubstantiation - the Catholic belief that during the Eucharist (Communion), the bread and wine are miraculously transformed



into the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, while keeping their outward appearances (taste, texture) of bread and wine.



Left: Near the Nave, is the Lady Chapel, dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ. The statue of 'Mary the Woman of Faith' is a simple design to reflect the deep significance of this woman as the Mother of God.

Right: One of the unique Stations of the Cross at Clifton Cathedral. The image has been created out of concrete, and special Papal permission was required for its installation.



The department would like to thank both the Mandir and the Cathedral, and wish all involved a lovely and restful Christmas break.

A Jones, Head of RE

First Aid

Even in the colder weather, it is important to drink plenty of water and children who stay hydrated are far less likely to suffer with headaches and tiredness. Please remind your child to bring a refillable water bottle to school. We are unable to sustain the cost of supplying cups from First Aid.

May we also request, in the interest of safety, that students do not bring their own hot water bottles into school.

Thank you for your support.

First Aid Team

Young Artist and Photographer Competition

The theme for this year's Rotary Club Young Artist and Photographer competition was **Happiness in Nature**. The aim of the competition is always to discover and celebrate new young talent, and students are encouraged to interpret the theme however they wish.

This year saw a particularly strong standard of entries, particularly in Art, with lots of our year 7 students entering for the first time. There are two age categories, 11 to 13 and 14 to 17, with the entries being judged on technical merit, content and composition, imagination and style, and relevance to the theme.

The competition was judged by local artists. Jane Lampard, and Rotarian, Andrew Easey, came in to view the work and hand out certificates and prizes to the winners. The winner of Art in the 11 to 13 category was Florence Hatton in year 8, and the winner in the senior category was Sophia Morwood in year 11. In the Photography, Jasmine Marshall in year 9 won in the younger age category with Evie Barnes in year 12 taking first prize in the seniors.

Well done to all our young artists and thank you to the artists and members of the Rotary who help to inspire and support our talented young artists.

T Chilman, Art Teacher



CyberFirst Girls Competition Results



Year 8 girls took part in a national cyber challenge to see who could find the most solutions to tricky puzzles and conundrums.

Our top scoring team (P Carpenter, E Bradbrook, A Heeley and I Nassif) achieved a total of 5970 points and will be receiving their first place prize soon!

Girls in year 7 will be pleased to hear that the competition will be back again next year.

H Ferris, IT Teacher

Every year, IT, computing and computer science students across all key stages take part in the Bebras challenge, a national competition to solve logical problems using computational thinking. All students who achieve a gold certificate (the top 10% in the country) will be invited to a coding challenge later in the year.

O Dobb (Elites 16 - 19)

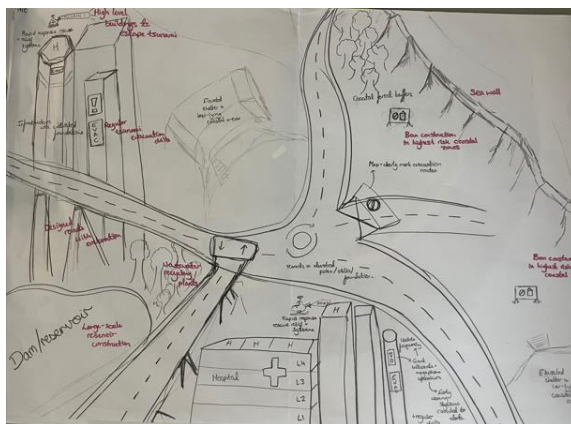
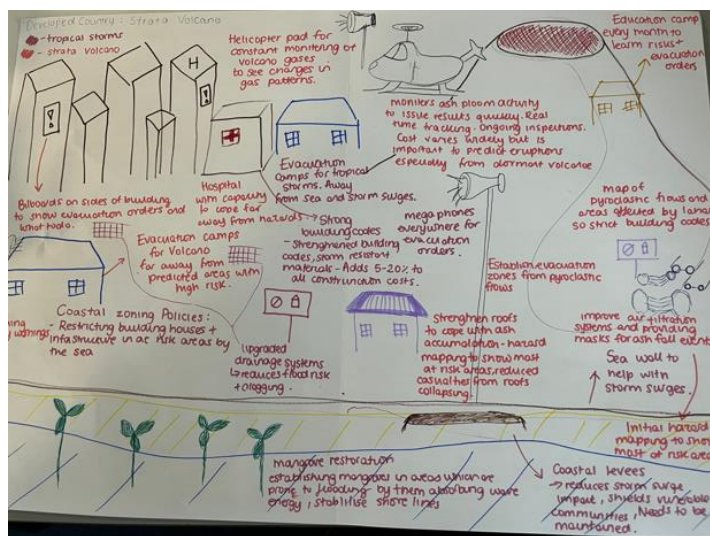


Congratulations to all but especially to Henry and Lucy in Year 9 who not only came joint first in the school, but tied for first in the whole country for their age group by receiving maximum marks!

Students who wish to register their interest for the coding challenge in term 4 should speak to their IT/computing teacher. For those who just missed out on best in school, the competition will be back at the start of term 2 next year. Best of luck!

H Ferris, IT Teacher

Year 12 geography students have been looking at how to manage tectonic disasters.



The students were tasked with choosing how best to protect their own town from a tectonic event from a variety of options. They had to justify their choice, considering factors such as the level of development of their town and the strengths and weaknesses of their defences. Students also needed to consider that their town might experience meteorological dangers alongside tectonic ones, making this a multi-hazard zone. They had to decide how to mitigate the impact of these disasters.

The thoughtful designs the students created were impressive. Well done to the geographers who have made such a fantastic start to their A level course.

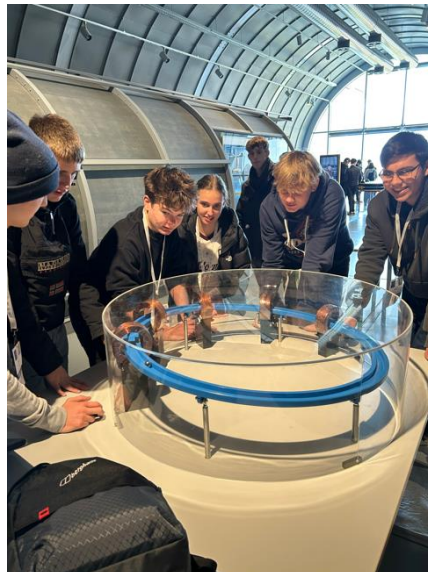
C Slade, Geography Teacher

Trip to CERN 2025

At the end of November, the Physics department had the pleasure of taking 37 year 13 students on the annual trip to Geneva. This is commonly referred to as the CERN trip, although we now do much more than visit CERN!

We began by singing Happy Birthday to Ollie at 3am in the school carpark before heading to Gatwick. Once we landed in Geneva, we spent the afternoon exploring the city, taking a boat taxi and visiting the History of Science Museum. Here there are many interactive exhibitions, which bring to life much of our A level physics course. We then enjoyed a dinner together at our hotel followed by a quiz and some table football.

The following day, we took the double decker train to Lausanne where we visited local shops and the largest gothic church in Switzerland. Some of us climbed up the winding stairs to the top of the Cathedral Belfry for the magnificent view across the city and Lake Geneva. We then travelled to the EPFL University to visit the Swiss Plasma Centre. Here we received an outstanding tour of their Tokamak Fusion reactor and a behind-the-scenes look at the research undertaken. You can have a taste of this experience with their online virtual tour here: <https://www.epfl.ch/research/domains/swiss-plasma-center/virtual-tours/>. We finished the day at the Christmas markets in Geneva. Students (and staff!) enjoyed the various stalls and food available along with the traditional decor and entertainment.



For our final day (saving the best until last) we visited CERN. Here we were given a guided tour of the Data centre and the Anti Matter Factory (our PostDoc tour guides explained the aim of the experiments: to determine if antimatter behaves as predicted - opposite to normal matter). Students were then free to explore the Science Gateway centre and visit the interactive exhibitions: Discover CERN, Our Universe, and Quantum world. A small group of students attended an additional tour of the ATLAS control room and the Proton Synchrotron (PS) The PS first accelerated protons on 24 November 1959. It was fascinating to see a piece of physics history brought to life on this tour.

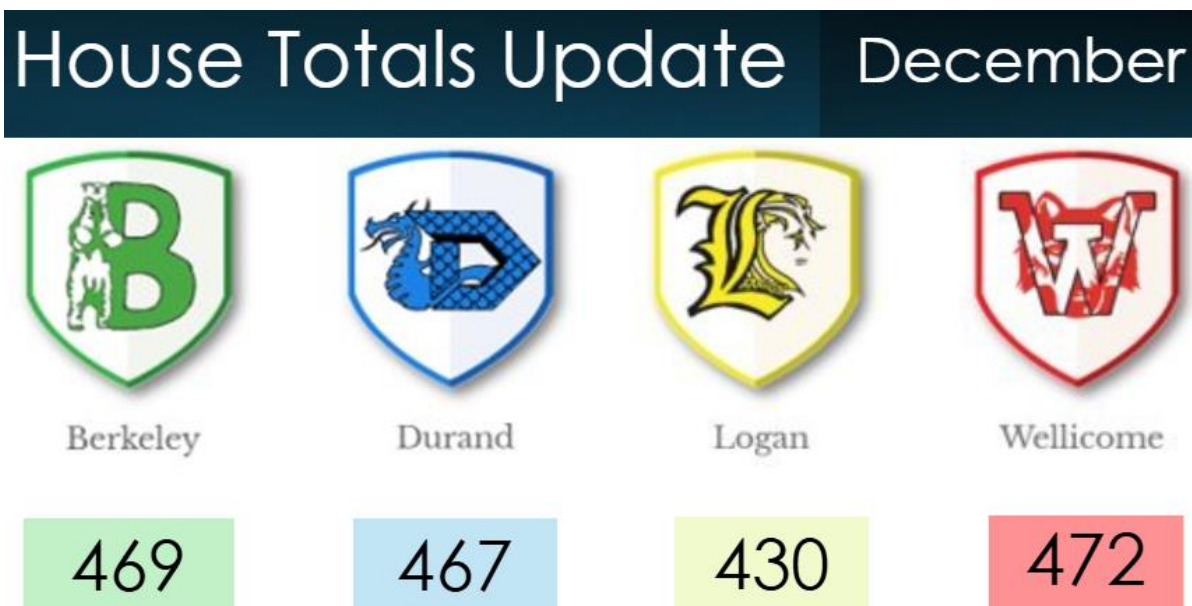
I would like to thank Mr Verber, Mrs Temple and Mrs Anderson for their support and enthusiasm during the trip and all the students for their excellent behaviour, puzzling questions to our tour guides, and their passion for physics. I look forward to running the trip again with our current year 12 cohort of budding physicists. Below is a review from some of the students:

We found our trip to CERN both thrilling and educational. We visited many places including the History of Science museum, Swiss Plasma Centre, Lausanne, Geneva and of course CERN. One of the most interesting parts was seeing the Antimatter factory where we had a tour and learnt how Antimatter is made. We got to experience about 6 or 7 modes of transport including getting the boat across Lake Geneva! We spent our evenings in the mall and Geneva's famous Christmas Market. Overall, it was an amazing opportunity and we're very grateful to the staff who took us" Bea and Hannah, Year 13

A Cozens, Head of Physics

Houses Update - It's All Change at the Top!

Wellicome have risen from 4th place at the start of the year to now being out in front - an excellent display of resilience and determination. However, their title is not safe as there are just five points between the top three houses, so it's all to play for. Let's see what fun and games the new year brings!



The main earnings of House Points this term have come from the KLB Christmas No1 Competition, which saw an amazing 9ACO team effort take the win for Logan.

The last week of term has seen plenty of activity including House Panto Rehearsals, PE House Matches, Christmas Cracker Joke Competitions and Blind Drawing. The results of these competitions and the Eco 2-Week Challenge will be added to the totals in January.

As a reward for Wellicome being the leaders at the end of term 2, they have earned themselves a House Colours Day in January!

K Wyndow



Library News

2026 National Year of Reading



Although we are enjoying all the Christmas excitement and activities around school, the library is already looking ahead to the New Year. Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson, has announced that 2026 will be The National Year of Reading. The press release from the Department for Education states that this joint initiative with the National Literacy Trust is designed to: *"kick start a reading revolution. It will reverse the trend as just [one in three aged 8 to 18](#) said they enjoyed reading in their free time in 2025."*

At KLB, reading for pleasure is already an integral part of the curriculum with individual reading time built into English lessons, some of which happen in the library. We are always looking for new ways to promote reading and inspire students and will link in with the national campaign throughout the year to do this – watch this space!

Spark! Book Awards 2026

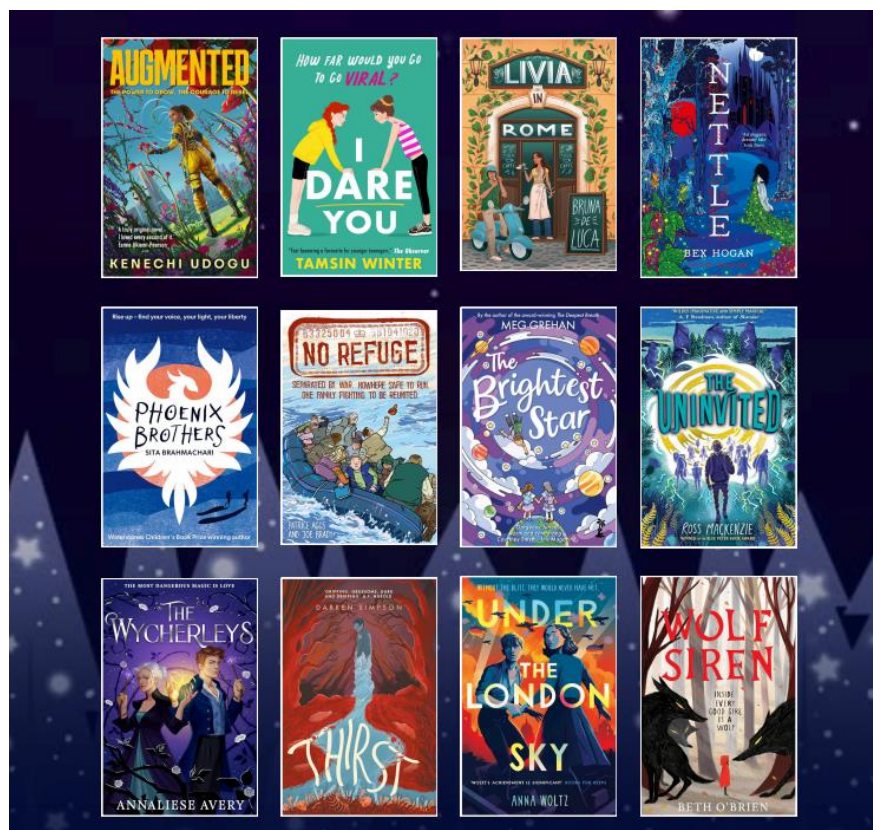
We are excited to announce that we will be taking part in the Spark! Book Awards for the first time! This club will be open to all students in year 7 and year 8 and will meet once a week during lunchtime. There will be plenty of activities to take part in before deciding which book deserves our vote from the shortlisted titles.

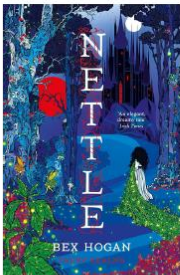


The Spark! Book Award is run by a registered charity, in partnership with The Open University Reading for Pleasure Practice Coalition, with the aim of engaging students to love reading. Their website states, *"we are dedicated to our mission that all children should be buzzed about books, from early years all the way to secondary and beyond"* and *"ensure everyone can see their diverse communities reflected in the books we choose."*

A longlist of twelve age-appropriate books have already been chosen and are shown on this poster, together with an activity sheet. Any students interested in joining the club next term may like to complete the activity sheet so they have a head start on getting to know what the books are like.

The shortlist will be announced on 23 January and the club will begin after this date. Details of the first meeting will be advertised in school after the holidays and a sign-up sheet will be available in the library at the issue desk.





11+ LONGLIST

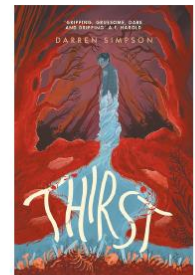
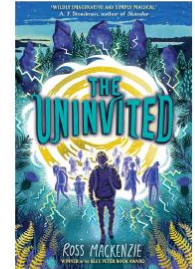
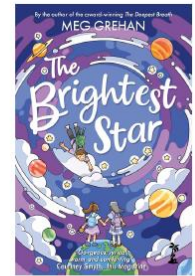
Guess the book title from the emojis and predict which 4 books will make the Spark! shortlist.

Name: _____

Class: _____

My Shortlist Predictions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



WANTED! YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!

The library is a busy well-used space, which is always popular for reading, research, completing homework and borrowing a book or two. It is vital that we keep the shelves tidy, the issue desk open and the resources available during these busy break and lunchtimes.

After the Christmas break, we will begin the recruitment process to find friendly and reliable students in year 8 and year 9 to become student librarians. Duties will be carried out during break and lunch times and each student librarian will have a regular weekly slot.

Any energetic, enthusiastic and polite students who are keen to help their peers and staff please call in to the library to pick up an application form after the holidays. These will need to be completed and submitted to the librarians by the end of January with interviews taking place soon after.

Merry Christmas!

L Hill and N Dix, Librarians

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD - DIVERSITY QUIZ

1. In Japan, what is a popular meal that many families eat on Christmas day?
2. In Venezuela (specifically Caracas), how do many Christians travel to early morning church services between December 16-24?
3. In Norway, families traditionally hide their brooms on Christmas Eve. Why?
4. In Italy, who is the old woman believed to deliver gifts to children on the evening of January 5th (Epiphany Eve) instead of Santa Claus?
5. In India, what item do people like to decorate their homes with?
6. Which Island nation officially banned Christmas from 1969 to 1998?
7. Which country celebrates Las Posadas on Christmas eve to mark the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem?
8. This country's food traditions including serving 12 dishes for good luck for the coming twelve months. For Catholics it is supposed to reflect the twelve disciples.
9. In which country does a folk tradition says mischievous hobgoblins come up from the ground during the 12 days of Christmas to wreak havoc.
10. In which country is straw a traditional decoration where it is often spread on the top of the table and then covered with a white tablecloth?



Good luck! Answers can be found on page 18.

K Williams, RE Teacher

Rotary Youth Speaks – A Debate

On Wednesday 3 December, the Berkeley Theatre was full of the confident voices of our fabulous year 8 debaters taking part in this year's Rotary Youth Speaks - A Debate competition.



We were grateful to have three great judges offering a breadth of expertise: Caron Bell, ITV West News reporter; Mr Thomas, our very own Deputy Headteacher; and Tina Moran from Cotswold Tyndale Rotary Club.

Around 20 members of year 8 spoke brilliantly, on topics ranging from lowering the voting age, to Christmas being the best holiday. Some of our young speakers also coped with losing a team member on the day and persisted spiritedly in their efforts.



It was a great evening with the winning team announced as Annie Heeley, Bonnie Mason and Amelia Troughton who gave developed and convincing arguments on the motion Technology Makes us Less Sociable. Congratulations girls and well done to all our fantastic speakers.

E Cornish, English Teacher

Christmas Film Night

Following the success of our Halloween event, our Christmas film night saw over 80 students – some of them fresh from cooking for the market – fill the Theatre for hot chocolate, popcorn and that modern Christmas classic 'Nativity'. There was much singing and some year 12 students left inspired to stage their own nativity!

J Campion, Head of Sixth Form



December Diversity Books

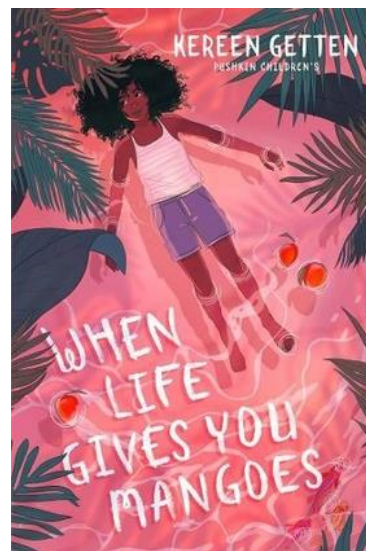
Each month we are sharing two books recommended by students in our recent diversity book project in RE.

When Life Gives you Mangoes by Kereen Getten

Nothing much happens in Sycamore, the small village where Clara lives - at least, that's how it seems. She loves eating ripe mangoes fallen from trees, running outside in the rainy season and escaping to her secret hideout with her best friend Gaynah. There's only one problem: she can't remember anything about the previous summer.

When a quirky girl called Rudy arrives from England, everything starts to change. Gaynah stops acting like a best friend, while Rudy and Clara roam across the island and uncover an old family secret.

As the summer reaches its peak and the island storms begin, Clara's memory starts to return and she must finally face the truth of what happened last year.



We Were Girls Once by Aiwanose Odafe



Ego, Zina and Eriife were always destined to be best friends, ever since their grandmothers sat next to each other on a dusty bus to Lagos in the late 1940s. But over half a century later, Nigeria is a new and modern country. As the three young women navigate the incessant strikes and political turmoil that surrounds them, their connection is shattered by a terrible assault. In the aftermath, nothing will remain the same as life takes them down separate paths.

For Ego, now a high-powered London lawyer, success can't mask her loneliness and feelings of being an outsider. Desperate to feel connected to Nigeria, she escapes into a secret life online. Zina's ambition is to be anyone but herself; acting proves the ultimate answer, but it comes at the cost of her family. And Eriife surprises everyone by morphing from a practising doctor to a ruthless politician's perfect wife.

Their shared past will always connect them, but can they – and their country – overcome it?

K Williams, RE Teacher

Enriching Cooking Experience

This term, Wednesday's sixth form enrichment group have been developing their culinary skills and confidence and have made a variety of dishes including curries, breads, pasta, sauces, stir-fries, mince pies and Christmas cakes.



S Dring, Food and Nutrition Teacher



Key Stage 3 Rewards Trip

Our KS3 Rewards Trip to Gateway Ice Rink in Cirencester was a fantastic morning celebrating students' hard work and positive behaviour. The session was filled with laughter, determination and plenty of impressive skating as students took to the ice with confidence and enthusiasm.

After working up an appetite, everyone enjoyed a well-earned treat of hot chocolate and churros to warm up at the end. While most skaters glided with ease, Mr Slade found the ice more challenging and needed the help of a Blue Whale support to get around — much to everyone's amusement. A memorable and well-deserved rewards morning for all involved.

C Slade, Head of Year 7



Horticulture News

Oscar, Tom and Thomas have made sloe balsamic vinegar and sloe syrup, and hand-made labels for their jars.

Emma Taylor-Roach, Horticulture Teacher



Safeguarding Messages

'Tap Out' Challenge

We would like to make parents and carers aware of a social media trend called the 'Tap Out' challenge, which some students in school have recently attempted after seeing it on TikTok.

The challenge involves one young person putting pressure on another's chest or neck until they "tap" to signal they want it to stop. Although it may look harmless online, it can be dangerous. Pressure in these areas can quickly reduce oxygen to the brain and may lead to fainting, breathing difficulties, seizures or, in rare cases, more serious injury. There have also been deaths linked to this trend both in the UK and internationally. People can lose consciousness before they have the chance to tap out.

To ensure all students understand the risks, we are speaking with all year groups in assemblies this week. Our aim is not to alarm but to inform and keep everyone safe.

If you have any concerns, please contact your child's Head of Year or a member of the safeguarding team.

Local support services

Let's Talk Well – emotional wellbeing support and counselling for young people aged 9–25 and their families
☎ 01594 372777 | Text 07520 634063

GDASS – confidential support for anyone affected by domestic abuse ☎ 01452 726570

Children's Services

This is the front door for children's services, including social care, early help support and advice if families feel they need support or if there are concerns about a child's welfare.

Gloucestershire Children & Families Front Door ☎ 01452 426565 (out of hours: 01452 614758)

South Gloucestershire Access & Response Team ☎ 01454 866000 (out of hours: 01454 615165)

Online Safety

For many children, Christmas means new devices, games, or apps, and more screen time than usual.

We encourage parents to:

- Set up new devices **together** with your child, including privacy settings and parental control.
- Be aware that many games include **chat and messaging functions**, which can expose children to people they don't know
- Agree clear boundaries around:
 - Screen time
 - Where devices are used (for example, not overnight in bedrooms)
- Keep conversations open and calm. Let your child know that if something online makes them uncomfortable, they can tell you without fear of getting into trouble.

F Bailey, Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead

Answers to Christmas Around the World Diversity Quiz on page 14

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. KFC | 6. Cuba |
| 2. Rollerskates | 7. Mexico |
| 3. To prevent witches and evil spirits flying away on them | 8. Poland |
| 4. La Befana, a friendly witch | 9. Greece |
| 5. Paper star | 10. Lithuania |

Sixth Form Christmas Rugby

The annual Christmas rugby match between year 12 and 13 kicked off our festive events quite literally, with boys' A and B teams as well as a girls' match on Wednesday afternoon. Muddy Santas and other nativity favourites kept a sizeable crowd of spectators entertained while we sustained ourselves with hotdogs. Year 13 won all three games, but most importantly, it was great fun and the costumes were spectacular – although they didn't all survive the match intact.

J Campion, Head of Sixth Form



Boccia Friendly with Winterbourne Academy

This term, KLB students had the pleasure of taking part in a friendly Boccia game against Winterbourne Academy.



Our students showcased many of the KLB values throughout the game, representing the school with pride and positivity. They played with focus and fairness, supporting each other and their opponents alike. It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the game, demonstrating determination and respect while having fun.

Beyond the sport itself, the event was a wonderful opportunity for our students to meet new friends and build connections with their peers from Winterbourne Academy. The smiles and laughter during the afternoon reflected the true spirit of a

friendly competition. The game ended with Winterbourne winning the match but we are looking forward to a rematch in the New Year.

Well done to all involved for making the Boccia game such a memorable and enjoyable experience!

J Morris and A Penfold, PE Teachers



U12 County Hockey Tournament

It was a great experience for the year 7 girls at the U12 county Hockey tournament at the start of December. The girls won one, drew one and lost three. They grew stronger as the day went on and showed some great skills and teamwork!

S Prosser, PE Teacher



Lunch time Clubs

Term 3

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Boccia
Cotswold
Pavillion/SH
(JMO – invite
only)

Girls Table
Tennis
Cotswold
Pavillion

Girls Table
Tennis
Cotswold
Pavillion

Recreational
Dance
Cotswold
Pavillion

Recreational
Badminton
Sports Hall
(GCA)

After School Clubs

Term 3

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Street Dance
Cotswold
Pavillion
(sign up only)

Boys Hockey
Year 9-11
(RHD/BRC)

Netball
Year 9,10,11
(LMW/LCJ)

Badminton
Y9,10,11
Sports Hall
(LCB until
15.45)

Table Tennis
Y7-11
(external
coach)
Cotswold
Pavillion

Cross
Country
(all years
GD)

Boys Football
Year 8 & 10
(JDU/LGW)

Girls Football
Y7&8
(GCA)

Boys Hockey
Year 7/8
(JMO/LGW)

Netball
Y7&8
(SPR)

6th form Hockey
(RHD)

Football
Year 7 & 9
(JMO/RHD)

Girls Rugby
Field
(Gloucester
Rugby)

6th form
Football (JMO)

Basketball
All years
(JDU)

Sailing Inclusion

I recently had the incredible opportunity to represent Great Britain at the **World Sailing Inclusion Championships in Oman**, an international event that brings together sailors from around the world to celebrate inclusion in sport.



The event began with three days of training, where I learned how to work closely with my sailing partner, Kate, who is blind. Together, we practised communication and safety skills, including what to do if the boat capsized, helping us build trust and confidence as a pair.

One of the highlights of the week was the welcoming and friendly atmosphere. Sailors and supporters from many different countries came together, creating a strong sense of community and shared learning. I also helped with preparing and maintaining the boats, and was amazed to see turtles swimming near the pontoons while we worked.

The racing itself was challenging but rewarding. We improved with each race and finished 13th out of 30 teams, making us the highest-placed British team in our class. At the closing ceremony, I proudly joined the British team on stage to receive a team award recognising strong performances across the championships.



The event was a demonstration of the power of inclusive sport and teamwork. The championships were not just about competition, but about learning, friendship, and showing how sport can bring people together.



While in Oman, all competitors had a sightseeing day laid on, and I took a mini Berkeley along to enjoy the day.

Daniel Sadler, Sixth Form Student



✦ What a Wonderful (and Wonderfully Busy) Term it's Been!

KLB Friends have had a truly action-packed term, filled with community spirit, festive fun, and fantastic fundraising. From cheering on students to hosting magical seasonal events, it's been a whirlwind — and we couldn't have done it without you.

Events and Activities

This term we have proudly supported and organised a whole host of events, including:

- Refreshments and hot dogs at the Year 7 and 8 Rugby Tournaments
- A delicious Hog Roast at the Wotton Round Table Fireworks
- Our first *sell-out* Christmas Wreath Making Workshop
- Wine & Water Tombola at Wotton's CUTE
- Carol Service refreshments
- The Year 7 Disco
- And of course, every Parent–Teacher Evening

Your support at each of these events helps us raise vital funds for the school — thank you.

80:20 Club — KLB Friends

A huge thank you to everyone who has already joined our 80:20 Raffle. There's still time to sign up — new members are welcome at any point.

AGM Update

At our September AGM, the following committee members were re-elected:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Chair: Ciara Knight | • Treasurer: Ali Wiltshire |
| • Vice-Chair: Abi Watts | • IT Officer: Ben Cundy |

The role of **Secretary** is still open. If you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

Grant Successes

A special thank you to **Vicki Kershaw**, who continues to work tirelessly behind the scenes applying for grants. Her most recent success secured funding for new headset microphones for the music department — just in time for their production of *Les Misérables* in the Berkeley Theatre this March.

Funding Requests Supported This Term

We're delighted to have contributed to a range of departments and clubs, including:

- **PE Department:** Donations towards Netball, Basketball, Hockey, Rugby and more
- **All Small Clubs:** £50 each towards equipment
- **DT Department:** Funding for a brand-new 3D printer

Christmas Wreath Workshop

A heartfelt thank you to the incredible team of hardworking elves who gathered and prepared all the materials for this magical event.

Led by **Alison Trayling**, **Kate Cropper** and their merry band of helpers, the evening was a festive triumph. Guests created beautiful handmade wreaths with expert guidance, all while enjoying mulled wine and mince pies. It was the perfect way to welcome the Christmas season.

Find Us Online Visit our website: <https://www.klbfriends.co.uk/>

How You Can Help

There are so many ways to get involved and support KLB Friends:

- Come along for a drink and see what we do — we meet every 4–6 weeks at The Swan Hotel, Wotton
- Make a one-off or monthly donation through Scopay
- Volunteer at events
- Join the 80:20 Club

Thanks to your generosity, we've raised **nearly £4,000** this term — and donated even more back to the school.

Get in Touch, Get Involved!

We would love to welcome new faces and fresh ideas. **Email:** klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk

Have a wonderful Christmas and here's to an even more successful year of fundraising in 2026.

The KLB Friends Committee

What's on in JANUARY?

The Keepers is a community hub supporting the residents of Wotton and surrounding areas. It is here for everyone. Either come along to one of the organised groups below, or just pop in for a chat and a cuppa - whenever we are open. Come as you are, bring what you can and take what you need.

Monday

Parent Support Group - a support group by parents for parents. 9:15am - 10:45am

Citizens Advice - to book an appointment call 0800 800 0510/0511 or just drop in. 5th and 19th January 10am - 2pm

Age UK - a social group for those who are 50+. 11am - 12:30pm

Digital Drop-in - any help on anything digital. 12th and 26th January 11:30am - 1:30pm

Keepers Kidz - board games, craft and toast available. Children to come with an accompanying adult. Also runs through the holidays. 3:15pm - 4:30pm

Menopause Support Group - a peer support group for those affected by menopause. 5th January 7pm - 8:30pm

Chair Yoga - join in with some gentle, supportive yoga. Open to all. No booking is needed. Pay As You Feel. Followed by refreshments (optional). 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Tuesday

The Keepers' Garden - the garden is open - come along to plant, dig, weed, sit or just chat with our gardener. Refreshments provided. 10am - 12pm

Sing 2 Remember - sing together, share memories and make friends. Come and join this supported, dementia-friendly singing session. Just turn up. 13th and 27th January. 10:45am - 11:45am

Tuesday Lunches - come and join us for a meal and chat. Open to all and Pay As You Feel (PAYF). Spaces are limited, so to book a place please call 07585 466418 or pop in to find out what's on the menu! 12:30pm - 2pm

The Keepers' Car Club is also running on Tuesdays to provide transport from your home to the hot lunches. Places are limited. To book, please call 07585 466418 or pop in.

Wednesday

Drop In Café - all welcome on a Pay As You Feel basis. 10am - 12pm

The Keepers' Car Club is also running on Wednesdays to provide transport from your home to The Keepers. Places are limited. To book please call 07585 466418 or pop in.

P3 Drop In - help with a range of issues e.g. housing, debt and benefit support. No booking needed. 10am - 1pm

Health Visitor Drop In - bring your baby in to get advice from a Health Visitor 7th January 10am-12pm

Gloucestershire Real Nappy Project will be visiting, a great chance to find out about washable nappies. 7th January 10:00am - 12:00pm

Stroud Foodbank - offering emergency food and essentials along with support and advice. 10am - 11:30am

Men's Shed - talk about the projects they're working on and discuss yours. 14th January 10am - 12pm

Talk Club - a talking and listening club for men to help keep mentally fit. 7th and 21st January 7pm - 8:30pm

Stroud District Council Housing Officer Drop In - pop in and talk to Becky. Weekly on a Wednesday 10:30am-11:30am

Thursday

Lloyds Bank - drop in for basic transactions. No cash services are available. 9:30am - 3pm

Wotton Area Breast Cancer Support Group - anyone touched by breast cancer is invited to drop in and meet others who know just how it feels. 15th January. 10am - 11am

NHS social prescriber's Drop In - help to connect and grow in confidence. Just come in, no appointment needed. 11am-1pm

Rethink Welcome Group - mental health group through referral. Every Thursday. 1pm - 3pm

Spanish For Beginners/The Terrified - informal Spanish conversation group. Just drop in. 7pm - 8:30pm

Age UK Dementia Support - Practical advice from professionals for anyone suffering with Dementia (or their families and carers). 15th January 2:15pm-3:45pm.

Age UK Help Session - drop in for assistance for those who are 50+. 22nd January 9am-11am.

Alzheimer's Society Advice Drop In - Practical advice for anyone suffering from Dementia (or their carers) 8th January 1pm-4pm

Community Autism Support and Advice (CASA from GRCC) - book a one hour advice and support session for autistic adults, and friends and family of autistic adults. Thursday 22nd January 11:30am-3:30pm
To book go to: cal.com/casaris or email them at infocasa@grcc.org.uk

OPENING TIMES

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:
9.00am - 4.00pm

Wednesday and Friday:
9.00am - 1.00pm
CLOSED on BANK HOLIDAYS

For more details please go to our website:
www.thekeepers.org.uk
Call: 07585 466418 or Email:
thekeeperscommunityhub@gmail.com
or pop in

CALENDAR EVENTS

Closed Days:

We are closed on 1st January, New Year's Day

Warm and Well - a drop in session to ask any questions you have about your energy tariff, how to make your house more energy efficient, energy saving tips and more!
Thursday 22nd January 2:15pm-3:45pm

Friday

The Keepers Tots - a session for babies, toddlers and their responsible adult. 9:15am - 10:30am

The Keepers' Garden - the garden is open. Come along to plant, dig, weed, sit or chat with our gardener. Refreshments provided. 10am - 12pm

Soup & Roll Fridays - Join us for freshly made soup (flavour changes weekly), all welcome on a Pay as You Feel basis. 12:00pm-12:30pm

It's important to us that everyone is included, the Hub is accessible to all and we work in collaboration with other local organisations.
www.thekeepers.org.uk Reg Charity No. 1192121