



Heathland Charity Week 2024



The Heathland School is not only known for its amazing academic successes but also its excellent extra-curricular programme; the most inspiring one must be its Charity Week.

This took place in the last academic year during the summer term from 8th of July to 12th of July.

During the week staff and students put in a huge effort to raise money by participating in tutor group events such as: cake sales, photo booths, sponging the teacher, competitions such as table tennis and FIFA and creative events such as face painting or henna designs, along with multiple other activities that each group thought of itself.

The aims were to see which tutor group raised the most money, and ensured everyone tried their best. The overall winning tutor group was 8 Jenner who raised £511.75 within the week!

As well as tutor group activities, there were also whole school events including the Year 7 and 8 disco, basketball, football and dodgeball tournaments, a 10km sponsored run and as always, a main event featuring staff in the bhangra competition!

A very popular fundraising event was the ice cream van, queues were long every lunch time and a large proportion of the money from this went towards the charities. The non-uniform day was vibrant, and students dressed in their own clothes for the day!

Most importantly, the final three charities were selected by the school council. The local charity was Inspire Hounslow they will use the money to continue to support disadvantaged people within the local area.

The national charity was The Salvation Army which will use the money to continue to support those who are homeless, and the international one was The Oesophageal Fund which will use the money to continue to deliver treatment for those suffering from cancer in Ireland.

These charity weeks showed immense generosity, kindness and compassion!



Pictured l-r: Denislav Karov; Ryan Dougui; Noor El-Sharawy; Prateek Kapoor; Alham Attaie

Year 12 BTEC Business trip to Harrods

I recently had an incredible experience during my visit to Harrods in Knightsbridge.

The journey to get there was enjoyable, and I loved exploring the various departments.

As part of our recruitment and selection coursework, we were required to test our interpersonal skills by interacting with the staff members in different

departments. This also helped us learn about their job roles and Harrods' day-to-day operations. During our visit, we also had some free time to browse around by ourselves. I even tried on some very expensive pieces that I wouldn't have had the chance to do otherwise.

Despite the rain, this trip was amazing, and I gained a lot of knowledge about the history and operation of Harrods.

I highly recommend visiting Harrods, as it provides a fun-filled day experience. I only wish we had more time to spend there.

Alisa Rattansi, 13 Adam

Word Millionaires

Literacy is a huge predictor of a student's progress; evidence suggests that reading frequently can reap significant rewards for students. Just 20 minutes of reading per day means students are likely to perform better in exams. Two years ago, The Heathland School introduced the Accelerated Reader programme as part of its mission both to improve literacy and promote reading for pleasure.

Students in Years 7 and 8 take an online reading test at the beginning of each academic year to establish their reading level and are encouraged to read books they will enjoy. After finishing a book, they can



Caption: Araika Puri and Khushi Yellenki

do an online quiz which checks understanding and gives them

points towards their individual reading target. Staff monitor

their progress throughout the year and reward students who meet their targets.

Last year, we had our inaugural word millionaires who enthusiastically demonstrated their passion for reading and have enabled themselves to broaden their horizons through reading. Many congratulations to Araika PURI (8SH), Saffa AJAZ (8TU) and Khushi YELLENKI (8SH) for their phenomenal achievement in reading over three million words.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss
Ashan Khehra, 12 Palmer

Dive into Filmmaking: Discover the Magic of Media Studies!

On Tuesday, June 11th, the University of East Anglia hosted an inspiring Zoom workshop for A Level Media Studies students titled "The Filmmaker's Toolkit," led by Dr. Alec Plowman (pictured: right).



The session provided invaluable insights into the art of filmmaking and emphasized that great storytelling transcends the tools used to create it.

Whether you're a budding filmmaker with an iPhone or have access to professional-grade equipment, the key takeaway from the workshop was clear: gear is not everything. Dr. Plowman highlighted the importance of understanding film storytelling, mastering the principles of collaboration, and making the most of the equipment you must tell stories that resonate with your audience.

Miss Rowland and I found the workshop extremely inspiring and would like to use this opportunity to encourage all students interested in Media and Film to explore existing films and media for inspiration and to start their own projects. With most exams finished, now is the perfect time to begin your mini film projects and practice your skills.

We would like to encourage all students to challenge themselves to explore different media genres and perhaps create their own projects over the summer. Whether it's vlogging, interviewing, filming challenges with

friends, or any other creative endeavour, now is the time to let your creativity shine.

One major point discussed in the session was the importance of practicing filmmaking by completing multiple projects. By watching films and vlogs critically, you can learn to implement techniques and key elements used by your favourite filmmakers. For example, some of my favourite content creators include Miniminter, Beta Squad, Zoe Sugg and Alfie Deyes, and I enjoy TV shows like 'The Office', 'Abbott Elementary', and 'Brooklyn Nine-Nine'. Watching these with a critical eye can help you understand and apply their filming styles in your own work.

Consider how the filming and editing styles of your favourite directors and content creators have evolved over time and why.

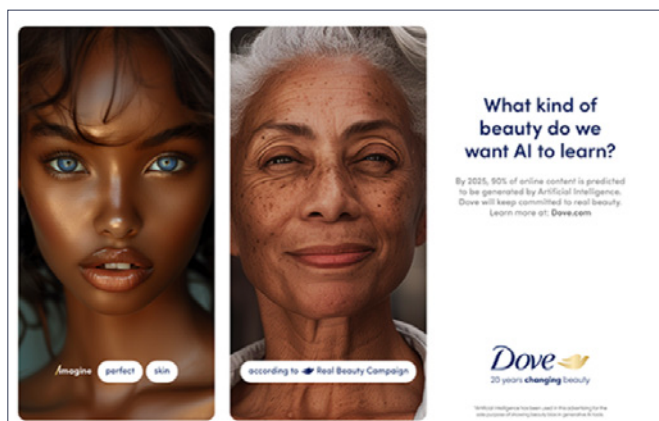
I've been creating mini vlogs featuring candid time-lapses and b-roll of friends and family going about their daily activities, along with short interviews. This is not only fun but also educational; it has helped me better appreciate the coursework process for Media Studies as our Year 12s begin their projects.

Additionally, it's essential to stay



informed about new developments in Media. For instance, did you know that Dove has become the first beauty brand to commit to never using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to represent women in its advertising? Keeping up with such news can provide fresh perspectives and ideas for your own projects.

For more information on Media Studies, please speak to me or Miss Rowland. We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students to our Media Studies Club in September. Together, we will watch and analyze a variety of media, including films, TV shows, music videos, and podcasts.



The prestigious Heathland House Cup

The House Cup is a monumental competition that runs throughout the school year.



In 2024, Malala House, led by Mr. Rivers, won the cup, after 4 years of Parks dominance.

The House Cup is a way for students and staff to interact as teams, earn house points and most importantly, have fun. There are many events to take part in; house dodgeball, pumpkin decorating, table tennis, chess, badminton and more. House photography is a popular competition, and the theme this year is the "natural world".

This broader theme is set to gain an insight into student and staff's differing views on the "natural world".

As always, this competition is a great way to encourage creativity in our school community and could be the spark that ignites the flame of student's future career pathways.

Pictures taken are always stimulating and moving, representing the dedication in the students and staff.

This year, a new competition was launched: The House Poster Competition, students are asked to create posters for the events throughout the year, and the best posters will be used around the school site. We are looking for posters to promote the following events:

- Halloween Pumpkin Carving
- STEM poster
- Staff Bhangra
- Sports Day

One of the most enticing days of the year, and where many house points are achieved, is Sports Day. Every year, all year groups are buzzing with excitement, whether they are taking part in events or spectating, making this event the pinnacle of the school year. Students' athletic abilities are put to the test throughout the action-packed day! There were many activities in which pupils could take part in, namely relay racing, javelin, shotput and many more.

The most important part of the House Cup is unity. Getting together and taking part in competitions as a house creates community and friends. Each year we create an exciting environment where everyone can have fun and enjoy themselves before the start of a new academic year.

Therefore, the House Cup is vital for The Heathland's community, and I wish the best of luck to all the House's this year!
Lehansa Wannaku Mudiyansele,
12 Gresham



Speak Out Challenge Event: Empowering Students to Face Their Fears and Rise

Year 10 students had the opportunity to practice their oracy, communication and presentation skills by carrying out speeches to their peers, during The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge.

The workshops were led by a Speaker's Trust trainer, and they created a positive space where students were expected to develop their public speaking skills, through group work and feedback. The event struck the perfect balance between being humorous and light-hearted, while also allowing for deeper discussions on serious topics that students raised as important, including racism, loss, and teenage life. It showed that conversations about real issues can be both engaging and enjoyable.

A highlight of the event was a speech by Adam Alladin, a student with a deep passion for discipline and its role in his dream career as a Cricketer. In an interview, Adam explained, "Discipline is required to be successful". His speech was not only well-organised but also a great demonstration of the public speaking techniques which students had been learning in preparation for their speeches such as metaphors, facts, statistics, and personal anecdotes. Adam's speech highlighted the real value of the skills taught during the Speak Out sessions. He expressed that if he were asked before this event to give a speech, he "couldn't do it" but after this session became more "open minded and can go further".

Many students found the activities engaging and would recommend running it again for young people, with Zaarah Ahmad noting how the event helped her learn more about



her peers. "I got to learn about people who I've never talked to before" she expressed. The event also allowed students to step out of their comfort zones and for the first time, many applied the skills they had learned in a real-world setting; whether in higher

education, careers, or personal growth. Furthermore, Sarfraz Ali found that the activities helped improve his public speaking and speech duration, which at first lasted thirty seconds but with practice, lasted two minutes.

One of the most inspiring moments came from Mr Davies, a trust speaker with 12 years of experience, who discussed the common fear of public speaking. "A lot of kids are afraid of speaking in front of others," he said, "but my mindset changed when I heard FEAR defined as 'Face Everything And Rise.'" This message resonated with many students, encouraging them to overcome their anxieties and realise their potential.

Overall, the Speak Out event was a success: and many students built confidence, connected with their peers and overall was a very enjoyable experience! Students will now be selected for an Assembly Final where a winning student from each tutor group will be asked to 'speak out' and share their speech in a Year 9 assembly. The winner of this next round will then be taken to the regional final where they will talk in front of a large audience of speaker from around London.

Afrah Anam, 12 Dickens

Celebrating achievements at Senior Prize Giving



The 2023/24 Senior Prize Giving was an evening to remember. We celebrated the successes and valuable contributions of the Year 11 and 13 cohorts, and congratulated them as they went into the next phase of their lives. Held in the school's Main Hall, the evening recognized not only academic excellence but also leadership, community involvement, and dedication. Mr. Rose, the Headteacher gave an inspiring address. He spoke about the rich history of The Heathland School, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. He talked about the founding of the school, mentioning the important milestones and how some buildings were named after former teachers because of their importance, such as Jack Watts and Geoffrey Samuel and paid special respects to our more recently retired Headmaster, Mr Pattar. Mr. Rose reminded the students that the tradition the school stands for encompasses more than simply academic success but involves instilling a sense of community and helping students continue to go beyond expectations.

During the evening, subject awards and special awards for leadership and service to the school community were presented. Students were selected through a rigorous process that takes into consideration both academic performance and extracurricular contribution. After the formal prize-giving and speeches, the evening continued with a buffet in the drama studios where students, parents, and staff, mixed socially, reflecting on the evening's events. Mr Rose concluded by advising the Year 13 students to aim high, exhibit a sense of service, and to always do their best, taking the core values of the Heathland School with them into the next stage of their lives.

Banuli Ilandari Dewage 12 Palmer





Girls Your Time Sports Leadership course

This year we had a fantastic group of 10 year 9 students completing a sports leadership course.

Through this course, they have been completing modules reflecting on different types of competitions and what girls think of them, their own journey of sport, communication and then planning an event of their own. Along the way we have

had the girls get involved as sports leaders in some borough competitions to build their confidence before running an event of their own, a Netball house competition with the year 7 girls. Below is what one of our students thought:

Anandita Yadav - 10 Turner

This has been a great experience and I feel proud and privileged to have been a part of this upheaving course. Throughout it we had exciting opportunity to help out at the various netball events; even arrange one on our own - for the year 7s- which was a golden success. We all cherished the skills and memories which we gained. Finally, I would like to thank: everyone who participated, all PE staff members who encouraged us, in particular Miss White, who helped us at our every step!
#YourTimeLeadershipProgramme

Term dates 2024



Autumn term dates 2024

Half Term:

Monday 28 Oct - Friday 1 Nov 2024

INSET Days

Friday 22nd and Monday 25th November

Christmas Holiday:

Monday 23 Dec - Friday 3 January 2025

Spring term 2025

Monday 6 January - Friday 4 April 2025

Monday 6th January INSET Day

Half Term:

Monday 17 - Friday 21 February 2025

Easter Holiday:

Monday 7 April - Monday 21 April 2025

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22 April - Thursday 24 July 2025

Tuesday 22nd April INSET Day

Half Term:

Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May 2025

Maths Changers



Year 10's and Year 11's have participated in the UKMT Maths challenge last term. Over half of all participants have received bronze, silver, or gold certificates. Both Aarushi Ayinaampudi (above) and Aleksander Mandradzjew (below) qualified for the Pink Kangaroo and Maclaurin Olympiad follow up rounds.

A special congratulations to Aleksander for earning a Certificate of Distinction, awarded only to the top 25% of students taking part in the hugely competitive follow up round.

Well done!

