



Volunteer Rangers at Hounslow Heath

As part of our enrichment programme, we are currently volunteering with the park Rangers at Hounslow Heath. We weren't sure what we were walking into — but it's safe to say it turned out to be a lot more enjoyable than we expected.

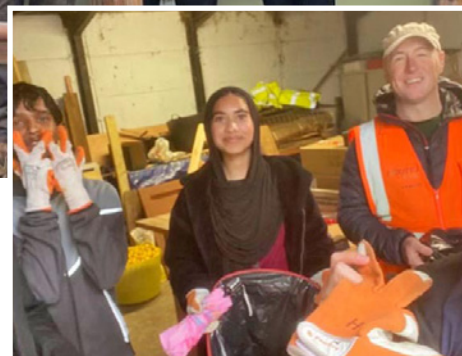
We spend our time outdoors getting involved in a range of hands-on tasks that help maintain and improve the Heath. From learning about local wildlife to practical conservation work, every session is different. It's also a great excuse to be outside, even when the weather tries its best to convince us otherwise.

One of the highlights of the experience is working with Garry, whose energy, humour, and passion for Hounslow Heath make every session memorable. He always explains things clearly and somehow manages to keep us motivated even when the task involves a lot of litter picking and tool cleaning. Working alongside Hussain, Rubama and Ayaan has also made the experience more fun — especially when we're trying to figure out what we're actually meant to be doing and



pretending we definitely understand the instructions the first time.

We are really enjoying the experience so far and are excited for the upcoming sessions. Volunteering at Hounslow Heath has given us the chance to learn new skills, contribute to the local environment, and spend time outdoors — even if we



occasionally argue about who's doing the hardest job.

Nillam Rashid, 12 Palmer

Hounslow Dragons Den Social Enterprise

On Friday 15th May we took part in the Hounslow Dragons Den Social Enterprise Competition there were 12 schools that made the final cut.

We came 2nd.

The winners had created a product and an App to deal with Period Poverty. An honourable 2nd Place.

Their presentation was very good, they worked very hard and the combined efforts of Btec raised over £500 for the school Breakfast Club.

Students in Year 12 Btec that made it happen:

- Yusra Islamzadeh
- Abdullah Vohra
- Harleen Kaur
- Karina Dhaliwal
- Tamanna Chopra

Mrs M Fideli





Year 12 Biology – Natural conservation workshop

Earlier this year, some of our Year 12 Biology students took part in a Natural Conservation Workshop at Pevensey Road Nature Reserve in Hounslow.

Led by the charity Habitats & Heritage, the workshop introduced students to the iNaturalist app, enabling them to identify local plants and animals while contributing valuable data to global scientific research and conservation efforts. They also learned how to identify birds by their calls, songs, and photographs using the Merlin Bird ID app.

In addition, students explored the rich and colourful world of British botanical folklore, discovering how plants have featured in stories, traditions, and beliefs since ancient times.

Protecting biodiversity begins with understanding the natural world around us, sharing knowledge of the remarkable

variety of life on Earth, and recognising the importance of its conservation. Our students embraced these principles throughout the workshop, gaining new skills while making a meaningful contribution to the study and protection of local wildlife.

Dr Khanzada

Visit to Imperial College London's New Starters in Synthesis and Catalysis Event

I had the great opportunity to attend the New Starters in Synthesis and Catalysis event at Imperial College London.

Listening to the wide range of presentations delivered by researchers on the interesting work that their PhD students were developing was an incredibly exciting and insightful experience for me. As someone who wants to study chemistry and is extremely passionate about the subject, I was thrilled to get a glimpse into the current work that is being carried out in this field diverse field of science.

The experience consisted of nine, half-an-hour talks by lecturers from a variety of universities which carry out the cutting-edge development in chemistry. The research was mainly focused on, as the name suggests, synthesis and catalysis, two topics which



have a wide range of real-world applications from drug development to sustainability and energy efficiency. Furthermore, since it was hosted on the Imperial College London campus, I had a great taste of what listening to lectures in university will be like which I found valuable in cementing my goals of higher education. Talking to the current, undergraduate chemistry students there also

interested me as they were happy to give me advice on applications and interviews at Imperial, something that was very helpful.

Overall, I found that the event was a superb opportunity to find out more about up-to-date developments in chemistry as well as discover more about university life at Imperial.

Samrath Mahl (12AD)



STEM WEEK – Science fair

Friday the 13th of March was the well-awaited science fair.

We took part in the science fair, preparing our topic on space! Whilst we were presenting our project, we saw many other people presenting their interests of science displayed as detailed and hard work brochure; volcanoes, photosynthesis, electricity and more. From our point of view, science has various topics and some of these were well presented.

We would like to say very well done to the other contestants and people and people who presented, and we cannot wait to do it again next year! Whether we win or not, in the end it's all about having fun and taking advantage of our curious minds while we can.

Faithful, Gauravi, Melisa (9/E)



How did trade even work before the internet?



I recently attended an LSE taster lecture on economic history, and it got me thinking about something I hadn't really considered before, how long-distance trade even worked without things like the internet.

They talked about medieval trade routes like the Trans Saharan route and the Silk Roads, and how even with loads of political barriers, trade still managed to happen.

What surprised me most was how much it all depended on trust and networks, especially since merchants were taking huge risks just moving goods.

There was also this idea of a one-sided prisoner's dilemma where one trader could basically cheat without losing anything,

which made me wonder how trade didn't just completely break down. Apparently, reputation and being cut off from future trade was a big enough punishment to stop that, and there are even old letters of traders complaining about people cheating, which I found quite interesting.

It made me curious, do you think TRADE has actually changed that much today? Like, are contracts and laws just a more formal version of trust and reputation, or do they work in a completely different way? And were traders back then more affected by politics than they are now or is it just different today?

Would be really interested to hear what you think!

Harpreet Kaur (12DI)



Neurodiversity Celebration Week

We were delighted to celebrate Neurodiversity Celebration Week at The Heathland School during the spring term.

This was a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate the diverse ways in which our students think, learn, and experience the world.

As part of the ADHD Foundation Umbrella Project, our school hall was transformed with a colourful display of umbrellas in our school hall. Each umbrella symbolised the unique strengths and differences within our school community, creating a powerful visual reminder that every student is hugely valued in our school community.

Students also took part in special PSHE lessons, where they explored the meaning of neurodiversity and developed a greater understanding of neurodivergence. These sessions encouraged empathy, respect, and appreciation for one another's individuality. To further raise awareness and support, we held a cake sale which raised funds for the ADHD Foundation. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and kindness shown by our students throughout the week and to those who helped to make the week a huge success.

At The Heathland School, we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where every student feels valued,

supported, and celebrated and want to thank our students for getting involved in activities

to raise understanding and awareness of neurodiversity.
Mr A Walters



Women in Surgery talk



As an aspiring medicine student, I found the Women in Surgery talk to be very informative — meeting a surgeon who specialised in urology really strengthened my desire to positively impact patients' lives by alleviating their pain, while taking on intellectually stimulating problem-solving. The doctor we spoke to had studied in prestigious institutions, undergone valuable placements in a variety of hospitals across

London and told us about the unforgettable experiences she had while engaging with the ever-evolving science of the human body. Overall, the talk was beneficial to my application for medicine, as I learnt how a surgeon balances clinical duties with research — which is directly transferable to life in sixth form, where we balance our schoolwork with our extra-/supra-curriculars. Thank you so much for the opportunity!
Sadhna Vijay Anand (12DI)

Heathland Retained Borough Chess Crown in 2025



Following our dominant victory in 2024, the Heathland School Chess Club returned to Springwest Academy for the Hounslow Borough Chess Tournament 2025. This year's competition was even tougher, with more schools joining and the margin of victory razor thin.

Heathland held their nerve, securing the championship by just one point. The team's resilience and determination ensured we remained on top, proudly defending our title as Borough Champions 2025.

A highlight of the tournament was Prabhkaran Sangha's outstanding performance. He came within a single point of claiming the individual title of Borough Chessmaster, showing remarkable skill and composure throughout the rounds.

Despite fierce competition, Heathland once again proved its strength, thanks to the dedication of the Chess Club, the guidance of Mr Rose and Mrs Rajput, and the teamwork fostered by advanced players coaching beginners.

Team Roster

- **Players:** Rhys Fender, Arman Jadoon, Gajendra Kulkarni, Zalaan Khan, Prabhkaran Sangha, Prateet Kapoor, Deven Mistry, Oscar Boardman
- **Substitutes:** Ishamel, Harov
- **Staff Support:** Miss Chalal-Ferguson, Dr Peters (chaperones)

Special thanks to Springwest Academy for hosting the borough tournament and

Jack Petchey's Achievement Award



This year, students have voted for 9 students to win the Jack Petchey's Achievement Award.

This award is given to pupils who are role models and very kind to their peers. All students received a certificate and badge in assembly as well as £300 to spend on our school.

Well done to all winning students who will be invited to a formal ceremony at Cineworld Hounslow in November.

Miss L Paugoy

providing a welcoming environment for all competitors.

With back to back victories in 2024 and 2025, Heathland now sets its sights on achieving a historic third win in a row at the next championship.

By all team members of the Heathland School.

Prateet Kapoor (10JE) Oscar Boardman (11AD)

Homerton College University of Cambridge

I had the opportunity to take part in the Homerton College University of Cambridge Biology Challenge with my friend Saood Khan, where we created a project answering the question: Can new life be created? I'm really happy to share that we won Runner Up – Best Audio Category. It was such a fun experience and definitely something different from what I'd normally do.

For our project, we decided to make a song, which meant combining creativity with science. To make it the best it could be, we did extensive research into the topic and worked hard to turn complex ideas into something engaging and easy

to understand. Through this, I developed stronger research skills, teamwork, communication, and learnt how to present scientific ideas in a creative way.

Experiences like this are valuable for my future, especially as I hope to study something medicine-related at university. It's helped me build skills that are important in healthcare and science, such as problem solving, collaboration, and critical thinking. Most importantly, I genuinely had fun doing it and it reminded me that stepping outside your comfort zone can lead to great opportunities.

Sujeeth Koram (12KE)





▼ A Show to Remember: Annie Jr. Takes Centre Stage

This year's school production of *Annie Jr.* was a truly outstanding performance that showcased the incredible talent, dedication, and teamwork of our students and staff.

From the opening scene to the final bow, the cast captivated the audience with their confident acting, energetic dancing, and beautiful singing.

Every performer embraced their role with enthusiasm, bringing the much-loved characters to life and creating an unforgettable experience for everyone watching.

Annie Jr. was more than just a musical; it was a celebration of creativity, perseverance, and community spirit. Everyone involved should be immensely proud of their achievements, as they delivered a memorable production that will be remembered for years to come.

Miss E Evans

Yr7 Rugby Tournament

Shoutout to the following Y7 boys who smashed their second rugby tournament of the year and yet again lifted a trophy after beating Y8 teams from Springwest, Bolder, and Cranford:

- Joseph Achene 7HO
- Robert Haulica 7BA
- Nathan Kudjoe 7KE
- Kiyan Badoe 7JE
- Alex Pirvu 7TU
- Arham Raja 7HO
- Muhammad Ahmed 7DI
- Nelson Emmanuel Enya 7GR

Player of the tournament was joint captain Jo (HO) who ran the show and scored crucial tries to beat Cranford and Bolder which made the difference, as we beat Springwest on try difference in the end after drawing with them.

These boys were half the size of the Y8's but held their own and stood their ground and showed strength, resilience, and cohesion using their speed and agility to outwit bigger players. Super proud of the team and hopefully they can go and win the London Youth Games next month!

Mr H Allen

Netball Success!

A massive congratulations to the Year 7 Netball Team for successfully qualifying for the Borough League Semi-Finals! This is an incredible achievement and a true reflection of the hard work, dedication, and teamwork the girls have shown throughout the season.

A special shoutout goes to: Martha, Annalisa, Kemaia, Eliza G, Mercy, Akgshara, Yasmine, Chhavi, Belishia, Ameer A, Fransatu

The team has continued to impress with their determination, resilience, and positive attitude both in training and during matches. Week after week, the girls demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, communication, and commitment to improving

their skills on court.

Their success did not come easily — it has been earned through consistent effort, focus, and teamwork. Every player played a crucial role in helping the team progress this far.

They played their semi-final match on Thursday 30th of April. The girls played with confidence and determination, holding, and maintaining the lead through all of their matches. Sadly, they were beaten in the final few minutes of the last quarters, but they have trained and worked astonishingly hard this season.

They will have another opportunity to take the Borough title next year — and we have no doubt they will come back even stronger!

Miss L McDonald



Culture Day

Culture Day was a fantastic day, which let everyone express themselves and their identities! I thoroughly enjoyed the day as I got to see everyone in clothes from their different home countries around the world.



It was interesting seeing what everyone chose to wear especially with the cultural values and meaning behind the clothes and items everyone decided to wear.

I wore an abaya with traditional red Arabic patterns on it, as this is something we wear back in my home country. On my head, I also wore a keffiyeh, which is a scarf that is tied on your head and most Arabic countries identify themselves with this traditional scarf. Wearing these clothes made me feel significantly connected to where I am originally from and made feel like I had the chance to represent.

I enjoyed the day through the interactive PSHE lesson we had in the morning where we got to discuss and investigate different cultures, words and the meaning behind culture and identity. It allowed me to also be educated on what other people's cultural traditions are, the stories behind people's home countries and ethnicities but also



the significance behind music, art, and food within culture. It was also extremely fun because as a class we got to discuss our favourite parts from our home countries and our culture.

It was a day that I will always remember and love to look back on as I got to talk, represent, and uphold my cultural values and feel connected to where I originally am

from. Culture Day is important especially for a diverse and open school like The Heathland School as it allows everyone to represent and enjoy their culture, but also explore other people's identities. Hopefully, we will have many more in the future to look forward to and enjoy just the same!

Sara El-Awdeh, 12 Palmer

Year 9 Science Show with The Royal Institution

Year 9 students enjoyed an exciting science show from The Royal Institution, exploring the topic of energy through a range of engaging demonstrations.

The show featured fire, rockets, and flying tin foil, bringing scientific concepts to life in a memorable way. Students enthusiastically answered questions from the presenter, and several volunteers took part in the demonstrations.

The event was a fantastic opportunity to reinforce learning while showing students how exciting and engaging science can be.

Miss M Mackison-Brown



▼ Cold War - History presentation

Year 10 and Year 12

On the Monday, 6th of June, Mr. Timmis' father visited our school to retell his story in both West Berlin and the military during the Cold War.

He recounted how in 1953, while working for a charity supporting British soldiers in West Berlin, he was arrested by the Stasi, aged just 18, because he accidentally photographed an East German military building. He explained how he was apprehended by a plainclothes officer and was later shocked to see a former Nazi as his interrogator.

After a gruelling 19 hours of questioning, he was finally safely freed. This story shone

a new light onto the authoritarian nature of the early East German state, one which we had not learnt about in class.

After this, he told his story of being an officer in the army, then later working with the RAF. In both jobs, it was focused on preparing for a potential Soviet invasion. Despite being in West Berlin, he was strictly forbidden from socialising with the West Berliners. This was a surprising contradiction of the positive relations we had previously learnt about between West Germans and the Allied soldiers.

On a lighter note, we learnt about a young Mr Timmis visiting West Berlin on holiday

to see the Berlin Wall. As he rode the train, Mr Timmis could notice the drastic wealth disparity between East and West, even at the age of ten.

At the end, we had the opportunity to ask many questions, with contributions coming from students and staff.

Overall, this insight into the life of someone involved in Berlin during the Cold War was helpful to our knowledge of Cold War Tensions. It showed us the personal experience of a man's life in the 'two Germanys'. An interesting contrast from the perspective of military and political leaders, as learnt in our lessons.



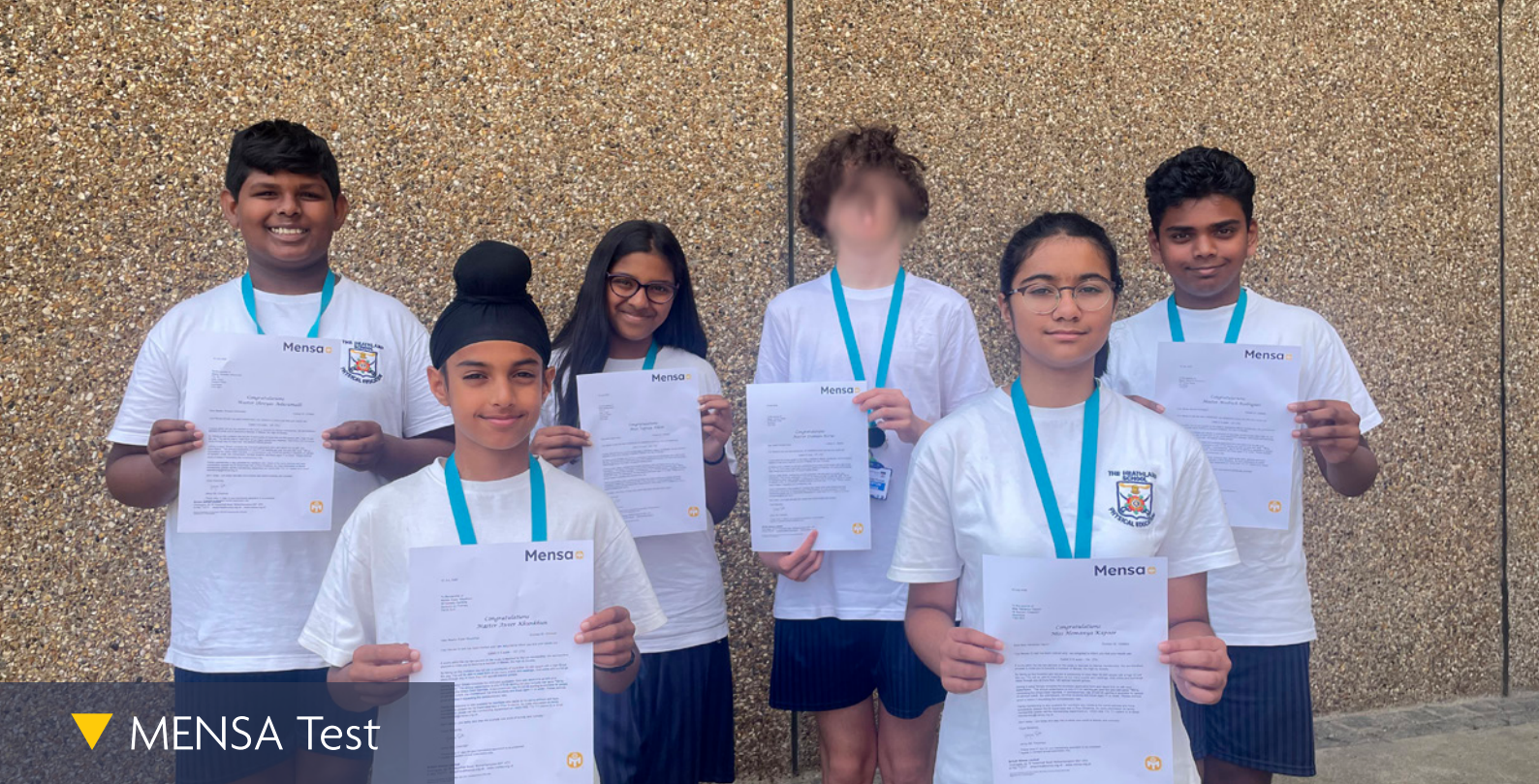
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Mrs M Mackison-Brown



▼ MENSA Test

On Monday 11th May, 39 of our Year 7 students sat the MENSA IQ Test. 6 students qualified in the top 2% IQ scores in the country and are now eligible for a MENSA membership.

The MENSA IQ Test includes questions that challenge even the smartest of students.

"As a pupil who has sat the test, I can say that it is overall a very positive test that challenged me a lot."

Well done!
Miss L Paugoy

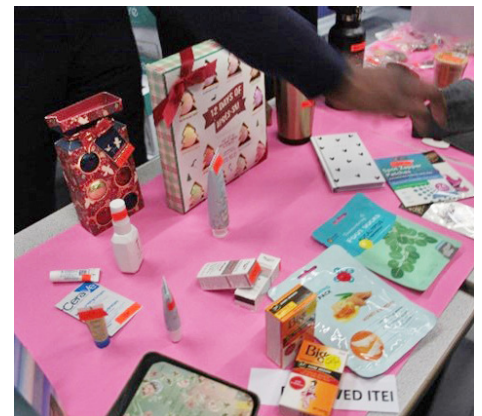
BTEC event Summer 2026

From 22nd to 23rd April 2026, Year 12 BTEC Business classes organised fundraising events so support their Social Enterprise business idea.

The event was attended by the whole school with all proceeds going towards THS Breakfast Club which supports the needs of our school community.

A good time was had by all at the event which offered food, drinks and lots of entertaining games over the two days. Between their business idea and the fundraising, they were able to donate almost £500. All those involved were very thankful for having the support of their teachers for such a meaningful cause.

Tiya Gola (12GR)



Visit to Sky Up Academy Studios

Our trip to Sky Up Academy Studios Osterley in May was an incredibly engaging experience that not only educated, but also greatly entertained us.

We started out our day with a guided tour of the location, where we saw the work environment in which films and TV get made. This allowed us to develop a better understanding of how our favourite media gets made, as well as the stunning landscaping, which set Sky Studios apart from other production spaces that I have personally seen. This familiarised us with their workplace, should we ever hope to return some day.

After was our specialised media-making session, where we were split into four groups

and tasked with making our own film trailers along with the help of industry professionals Sky's personal cutting-edge equipment.

Within the timeframe that we were given, my group had organised itself so that we each had our roles (such as editor, actor, director and camera operator), and with the help of our guide, began to work on a trailer for a dramatic thriller.

From mirroring these roles within the industry, we gained experience with what it's like to work on a film set, as well as building up valuable skills, like communication, creativity and collaboration.

Getting to watch everyone's completed trailers at the end of the day together was just the cherry on top to that already unforgettable trip. As someone who is aiming for a career within the media industry, this experience was invaluable to me, but even if filmmaking specifically isn't exactly something that you quite had in mind, there were so many other aspects of the trip which would definitely aid in the transition from education to the creative side of world of work.

Ligia Trujillo-Ravinger (12 JE)



▼ Queen Mary University of London Open Day

I attended the Queen Mary University of London Open Day and came away with a completely different view of what accounting is.

Before today, I thought accounting was mainly about numbers, financial statements, and profits. However, one of the most interesting things I learned was how much the profession is changing.

We discussed AI and how, although it can automate tasks, it can't replace critical thinking, judgement, or the ability to make decisions. Instead, the real skill is knowing how to use AI effectively.

I was also surprised to learn about the role accountants play in sustainability.

We talked about greenwashing and how accountants are involved in measuring carbon footprints, checking environmental claims, and helping businesses report accurately on their impact.

It wasn't something I had ever associated with accounting before, but it showed me how broad and important the

profession really is.

Another idea that stood out was that accounting is no longer just about profit.

Businesses are increasingly being held accountable for the "3 Ps" — Profit, People, and Planet. It was interesting to see how accountants help organisations balance financial success with their responsibilities to society and the environment.

I also attended a session on the Flying Start programme and was impressed by the opportunities it offers.

The chance to gain experience with PwC while studying and make progress towards the ACA qualification is an incredible opportunity for students looking to get a head start in their careers.

Overall, the day challenged a lot of my assumptions and gave me a much better understanding of where accounting is heading. It was great to see how technology, sustainability, and

business all connect within the profession.

A big thank you to everyone

at Queen Mary for such an insightful day.

Harpreet Kaur (12DI)

Term dates 2026-27



Autumn Term 2026

Wednesday 2 September to Friday 18 December 2026

INSET Day 1 Wednesday 2 September

INSET Day 2 Thursday 3 September

Friday 4 Sep First day for Year 7 and 12

Monday 7 Sep All pupils in school periods 1 – 2

Half term: Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2026

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4 January to Thursday 25 March 2027

Half term: Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2027

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12 April to Friday 23 July 2027

Bank holiday: Monday 3 May 2027

Half term: Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2027