

Newsletter to Parents March 2021

Edited by Charles De-Wind (Communications Prefect)



Herschel Grammar School



Parents and all visitors to the school should enter the building through the main reception area at the front of the school. Please do not use the pupils' entrance. Safeguarding our pupils on the school site is a priority.

Newsletter to Parents Highlights

Year 7 Interform Competition

Winners: 7E



Year 7 took part this half term in an interform art competition focused on KINDNESS. Some lovely pieces were created and 7E won the competition.

by Mrs Barton

Follow us on

twitter 

@HerschelGrammar

for our
latest news, reminders and
useful retweets!

Message from Ms Rockall, Headteacher

I'm writing this on Tuesday 30th March, the warmest day of the year so far. The pupils are back in school, sitting in the sunshine at lunchtime and enjoying being together again. It has been a challenging and difficult winter, but today I'm optimistic for a brighter future.

However, it will be one in which one of our longest serving members of staff will be absent. Anne Lyons, our lovely Catering Manager, is retiring from the role she has had at Herschel for 24 years. Anne is one of our many staff who always go the extra mile. Some of her accomplishments are catering for our annual Christmas lunch where she provides a fabulous meal for over 600 pupils and staff complete with table cloths, crackers and serviettes; working with Jamie Oliver on his healthy school meals campaign and supporting other Slough schools to improve their school meal provision.

She has had an absolute understanding of the correlation between having high quality food and pupils' ability to learn; no child goes hungry under her watch. In recent years she has also worked with our pupils to support Slough Outreach, a homeless project and the Slough Foodbank. Very little goes to waste in our school kitchen. If we can't use it in school it goes to community projects.

Such is her energy that we doubt that she will be putting her feet up during her retirement. A new first granddaughter will, I'm sure, fill lots of her time. I know her team, the staff and the pupils of the school are going to miss her, and will want to join me in wishing her all the best for her future.

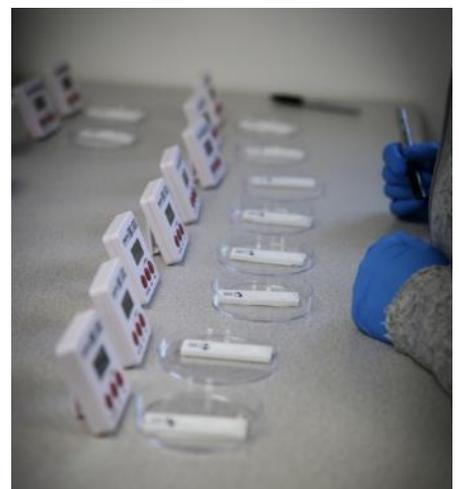


Anne Lyons

I hope all your families have a restful Easter break and I look forward to our pupils returning to us safely for the Summer term.

COVID testing at Herschel

Thanks to all our science technicians and site staff for managing all the lateral flow tests at Herschel!



Young Enterprise



'Light up the moment, play the memory'

iura

We are iura, Latin for 'rights', which embodies our company belief that everyone's rights should remain sacrosanct. Our main goal is to raise awareness about domestic abuse, a major social issue with devastating impacts.

OUR MOTIVATION

The recent lockdown restrictions have shown to be a catalyst for these incidents and pleas for help from domestic abuse victims and survivors exacerbated by 60%. This is truly a horrifying figure, and as a company we refuse to stand by and do nothing. Purchasing our products will help to spread awareness for these silent epidemics that thrive in environments of secrecy and shame, with a percentage of our profits going towards charities.

OUR PRODUCTS

We would like to offer you a selection of products that can act as a thoughtful personalised gift for a special someone or even to treat yourself; from henna decorated candles, to music glass plaques and resin boards.



 @iura.official

We are proud to announce that our Young Enterprise Team – IURA - won the SWiM Online Trade Fair held virtually on 11th March. All teams from the Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead area took part in the competition. They were given 10 minutes to walk the judges through their digital media presence and answer questions from the judges. They had to demonstrate how they were using their social media platforms to attract customers and to sell their products.

Our very own Year 12 team IURA was recognised as an ingenious hardworking team that is using a number of different social media platforms to connect with lots of followers and potential buyers. Congratulations IURA!!! Members of the IURA team are as follows:

Ria Nar
Karamna Khan
Prathosh Pirathapan
Zunaira Khan
Olivia Aguebor
Barbara Borrett
Nisha Jayamani

Gurkirath Johal
Tarnpreet Kaur
Ruqayah Rahim
Seema Jha
Tiara Magsumbol
Megan Canty

CyberFirst

We were eagerly awaiting the day of the semi-final, excited to compete since we had learnt a lot about computing, coding and cyber security; we had done well in the online qualifier and had enjoyed the experience. On the day of the competition we went to the computer room and attended the introductory meeting which gave us an insight as to what we would experience and how this will benefit us in the future. This was different from the previous round as we were actually face to face, making it easier to communicate and help each other with different challenges. Throughout the challenge, we were presented with a live leader board, which gave us a visual representation of how we were progressing. We started off really well ascending from 7th place to 2nd, to then be faced with adversity:

Nuha had to self-isolate! With Nuha temporarily off the website, we (Zainab, Shruti and Hameedah) had to strive to maintain our position on the leader board. We had a rollercoaster of emotions throughout this competition: from feeling elated to completely distressed, we did our best and managed to come into the top 5 schools of South England as a strong team.

Shruti: "Cooperation and communication carried us up the leader board to achieve our best outcome."

Zainab: "It was an enjoyable experience, and I learnt some useful skills that will be used in the future."

Hameedah: "It was a very great opportunity, and I am grateful to have taken part in this competition with some of my wonderful friends."

Nuha: "This competition was amazing and my knowledge on cyber and coding has increased greatly."

Thank you so much Miss Wood for giving us the opportunity to partake in the CyberFirst competition – we have all learnt a lot and have enjoyed it.

Science Challenge

by Shreyanshi Mandal, 10E

The Science Challenge is the annual science communication competition launched by the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) - the student union at Imperial College London. Every year many schools take part in it. This competition requires the demonstration of communication skills through scientific debates and reasoning by today's young scientists in order to convince the public about the science that affects their lives.

Based on two key attributes - Science & Communication - this competition is an excellent opportunity for all the students pursuing their future professions where scientific communication would play a pivotal role. I was elated to take part in this. Out of the several exciting topics listed for this year, it was really arduous to select one where science could be impeccably moulded under flawless frames of communication. Finally, my decision went with the most relevant topic of the present time, COVID-19.

During my research on this topic, I learnt a lot beyond school closures and online classes as to how Coronavirus paralysed our lives across the globe. On one hand, the lockdown and shutting businesses taught me its relationship with economics while, on the other hand, every wail of passing ambulances reminded me of the tireless day and night services by all the key workers for saving precious lives. After the research, finally my essay stepped towards the conclusion on human resilience when society started receiving the first dose of COVID vaccine at the beginning of this year.

Ever since Miss Wood notified us about taking part in this competition, it was a remarkable journey for everyone whilst putting tremendous effort in a great variety of topics spreading into almost every branch of science.

May the odds be ever in your favour to all those who represented Herschel Grammar School by participating in the Science Challenge competition.

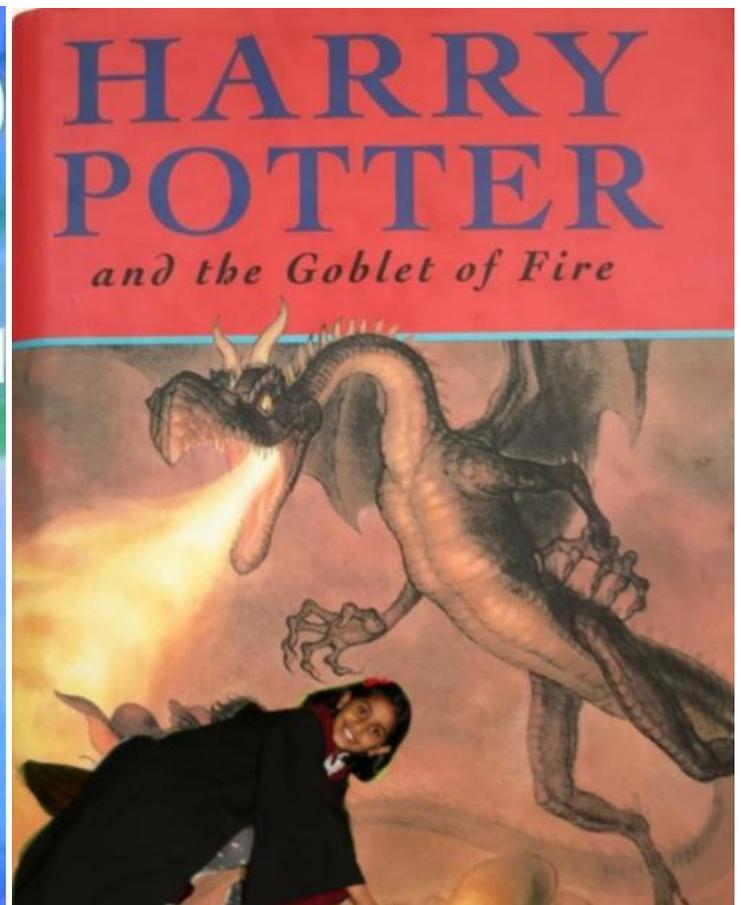
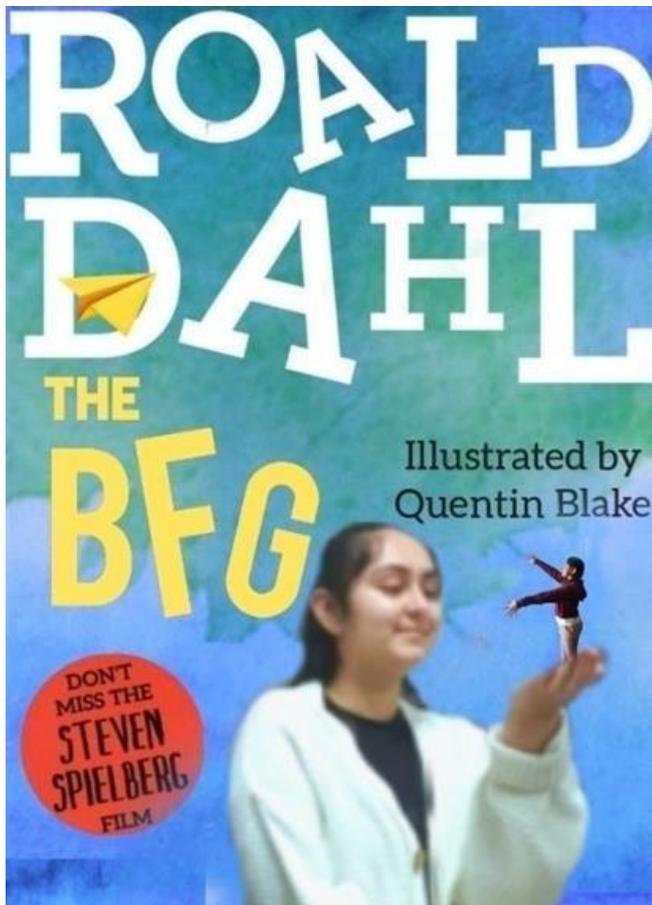
Wellbeing Wednesday

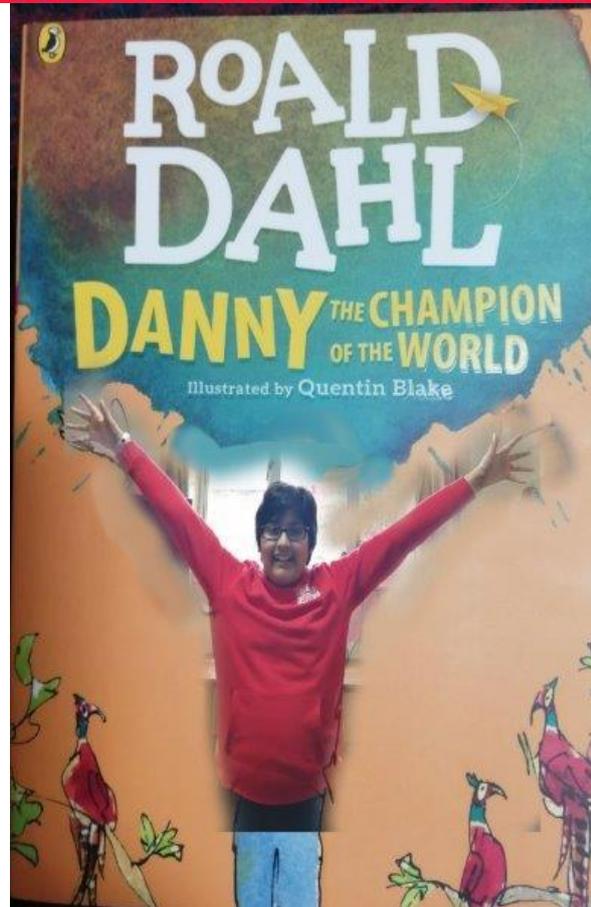
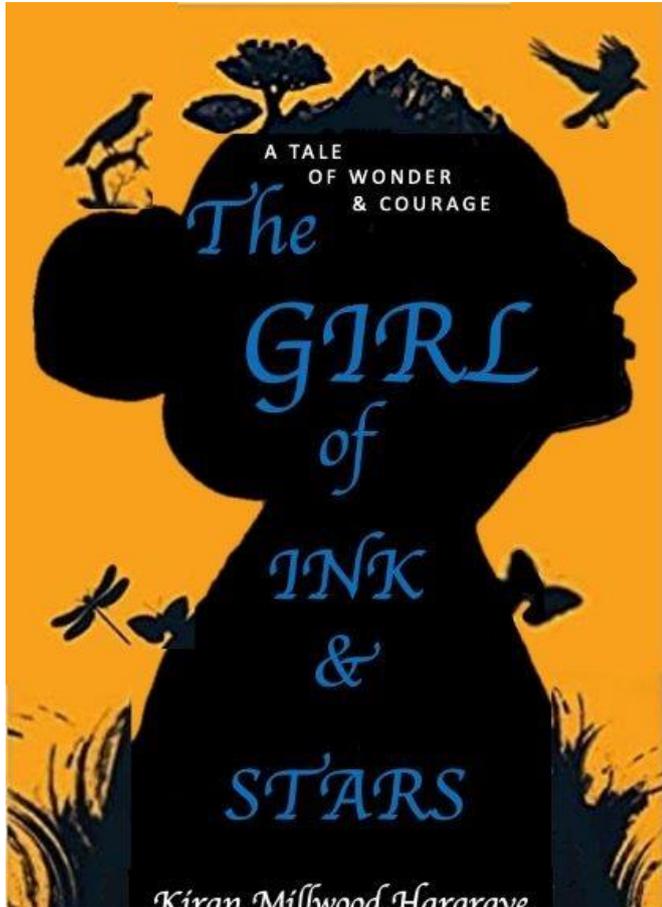
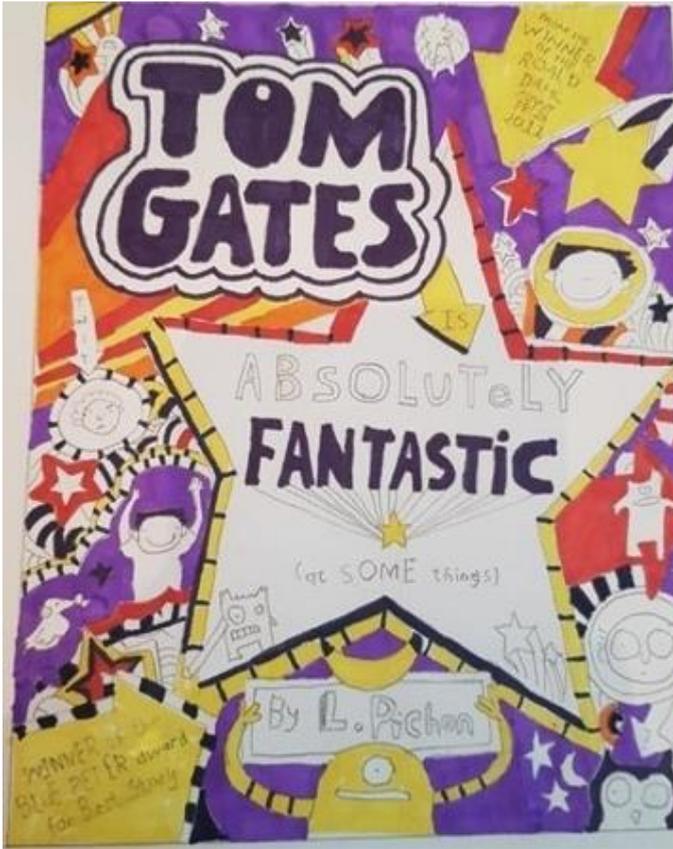
by Mr Whittaker

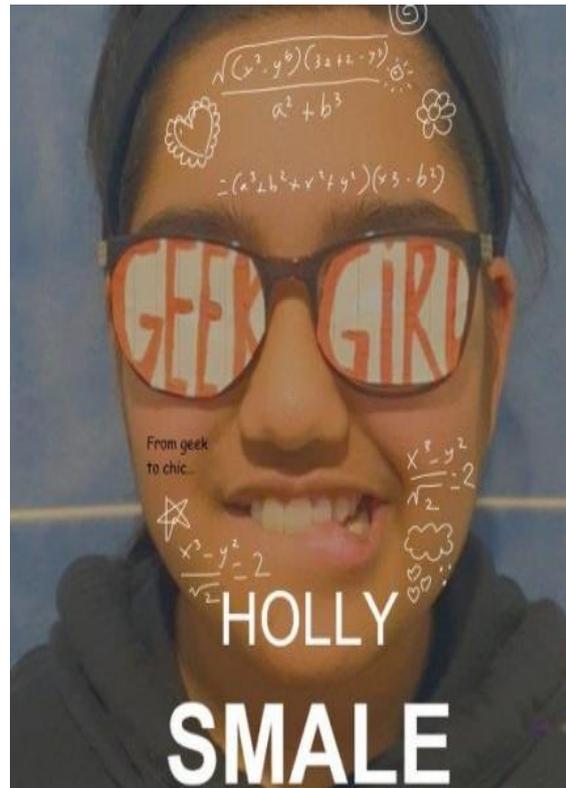
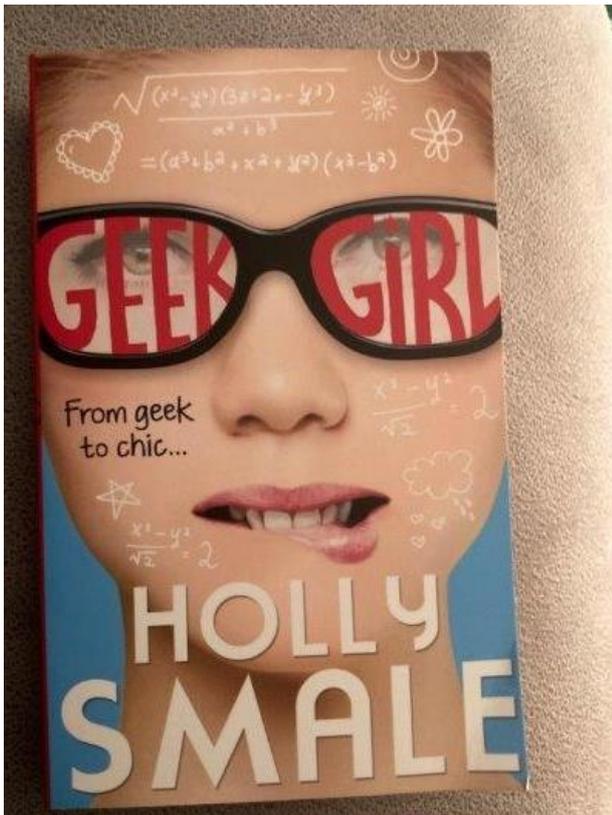


The afternoon of Wednesday 3rd March was 'Well-being Wednesday' and there were no formal lessons. As many pupils have found lockdown learning very stressful, we rebranded this time (1.50 to 2.50) and challenged pupils to avoid screens and electronic devices. There were a number of suggestions of activities and some pictures of these are shown.

World Book Day Designs







#Coping – Family life during the lockdown

[Click here](#) to find a useful document compiled by the East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group and available on their website.

Looking for Talent

We would love to hear about our students' achievements in the wider world. Please send a brief description of any such outstanding successes to talented@herschel.slough.sch.uk, stating the students' name and form.

We will celebrate them in forthcoming newsletters.

Mrs Smith, HPP Co-Ordinator

