



South York
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

FULFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2023

Headteacher's Welcome



Honesty

Empathy

Ambition

Respect

Tolerance

Values are so important. They are central to our school experience. When faced with difficult situations it is our values that allow us to try and make sense of them and plot a way forward.

The horrific incidents in Israel and Gaza are hard for anyone to comprehend, especially our children. The complexities around the conflict are immense; they sow division not only in the region but throughout the world.

We strive to ensure that our young people have the values taught at school and home to see such things through the eyes of humanity and not hate, and to commit to bring peace and understanding for the good of all individuals irrespective of race, religion or creed.

*"I many times thought Peace had come
When peace was far away"*

- Emily Dickinson

SPOTLIGHT ON...

ALTERNATIVE CURRICULUM DAY

A highlight of our Autumn Term is always the Alternative Curriculum Day which took place last half term on Thursday 19th October. This is a day where our students get to experience something different to their usual curriculum. The events vary across year groups and include trips, sessions from external providers, in-house workshops and other events which stretch our student beyond the realms of their ordinary classroom experiences. Year 11 students were all supported ahead of their mocks through an intensive English revision day - across the year group we saw really fantastic attention from the students, especially in the hour long Walking Talking Mock where they got to see what an exam paper would feel like in the real exam hall.

There is an enormous amount of organisation which goes into making Alternative Curriculum Day happen. A huge thank you to Mr Rosie for organising and co-ordinating everything. Also, a great big thank you to all the Curriculum Leaders and other staff who organised each of the events and took such an active role in making sure that every child had a great, enriching time during the day.

Look out for some Alternative Curriculum Day highlights in the next few pages.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Mr S Nesbitt

The Religious Studies Department invited Year 7 students to Leeds on 19th October for their Autumn Curriculum Day. The students all attended three places of worship across the city in celebration of faith diversity in Yorkshire. Students had one-hour presentations from religious leaders and elders of the faith centres. Students were encouraged to explore these different places of worship and to ask questions of religious practice.

Places visited:

Greek Orthodox Church, Leeds Grand Mosque, Bilal Mosque, Leeds Gurdwara, the Kadampa Buddhist Centre, Leeds Cathedral, Jamyang Buddhist Centre, the Leeds Islamic Centre, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Etz Chaim Synagogue, the United Hebrew Congregation Synagogue and also St Aidan's Church.

The students were, as always, a pleasure to be with and they represented the HEART values of the school to the highest standard.

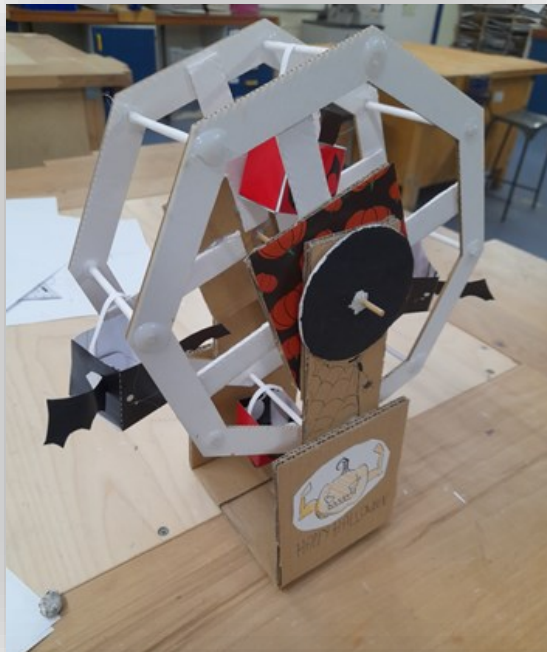


D&T

Mr A Jobson

Year 8 students took part in a range of STEM activities during Alternative Curriculum Day on 19th October. This was a busy and exciting day consisting of half a day with the Computing department tackling Hacking and Escape Room challenges: so much fun! The second part of the day involved students developing team building skills, whilst working on practical problem-solving skills in D&T.

Students worked fantastically to produce some highly imaginative pneumatic or mechanical animated concepts, which were intended to highlight a particular issue or to promote the content of a specific event.



DRAMA

Mrs C Windrum



For Alternative Curricular Day, 50 Year 9 students enjoyed a trip to the York Theatre Royal.

Students experienced a backstage tour and were fascinated to discover the history of this beautiful theatre. Students also participated in a devising workshop which really tested their skills of creativity and they worked with the artistic director to take a piece from page to stage. Finally we worked with the chief electrician to design a lighting set. The smoke machine was a particular hit! This was truly an 'alternative' look at drama, giving students such a brilliant insight into the real world of the dramatic arts.

(clockwise from top left) Students listening to the artistic director; Sam, Riley, Connie, Livia, Mia, Liv and Evelyn on stage; Ibrahim and partner in the devising workshop; Louis and Noah taking to the stage.



DRAMA

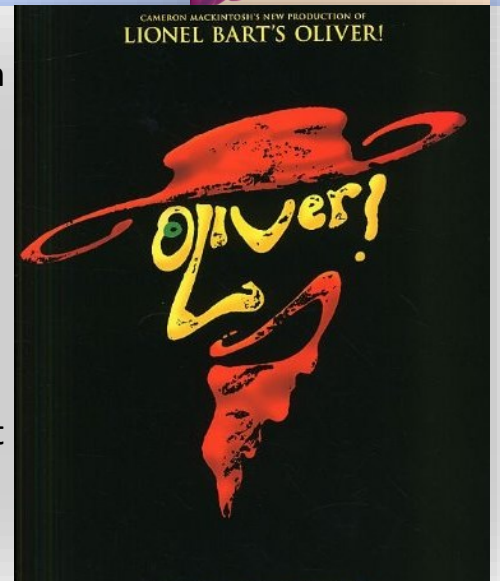
Mrs C Windrum



Rehearsals are well underway for this year's school production "Oliver!" We have been very impressed with the attitude of the cast and they have worked really hard learning the first few songs and dances. It is looking like it is going to be an amazing production.

Drama club, run by Mrs Cole, continues to be really popular. It is great to see so many people attending, using drama games and improvisation starters to explore characters and performance skills.

Y10 and 11 enjoyed a theatre trip to see "Metamorphosis" a physical theatre production by theatre company Frantic Assembly. The students were intrigued and challenged by the physical interpretation of the story.

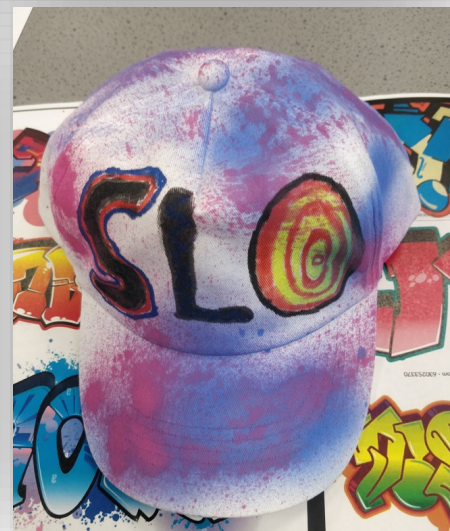


ART

Mr Rigg



Alternative Curriculum Day is always such a fantastic day for the Art department. It is great to see students exploring new sources of inspiration and new techniques.



ART

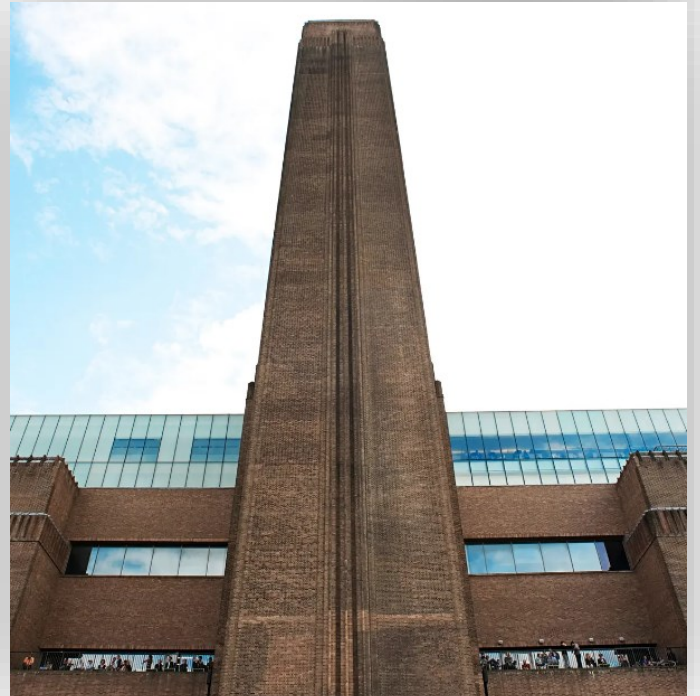
Mr Rigg



On Wednesday 11th October, A-Level Art and Photography students took a day trip to London to visit Tate Modern. After a short train journey, we took a scenic walk from London Bridge station to the museum, stopping



off for some tasty snacks at Borough Market on the way! Once we arrived at Tate Modern the students were greeted in the Turbine Hall by El Anatsui's giant wall hanging installation, which is made of thousands of recycled bottle tops. The students were tasked with researching the many artworks as part of their coursework, while responding creatively to the architecture of the museum using photography and drawing. Other highlights included a visit to the exhibition, *Capturing the Moment* that explored the relationship



ship between painting and photography before photographing the breath taking London skyline from the viewing platform on the 10th floor. The afternoon was spent on a street photography and location drawing task along the bankside of the river Thames before heading back to Kings Cross to catch the train back to York. Our A-level students thoroughly enjoyed the day and have returned full of inspiration and ideas for their coursework projects.



ART

Mr Rigg



Year 7 - Miss Hill's class

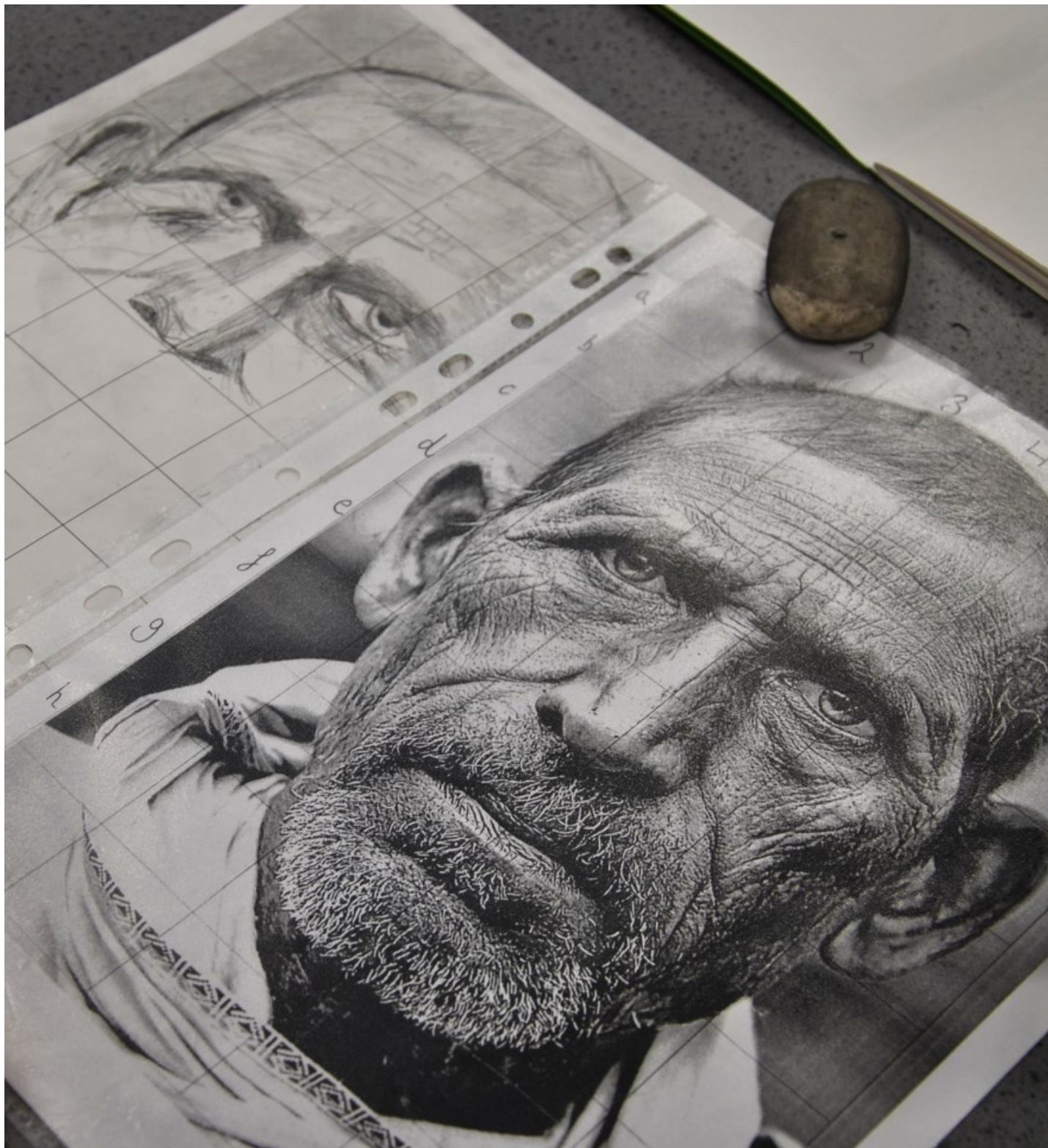


ART

Mr Rigg



Year 8 - Mrs Howson's class

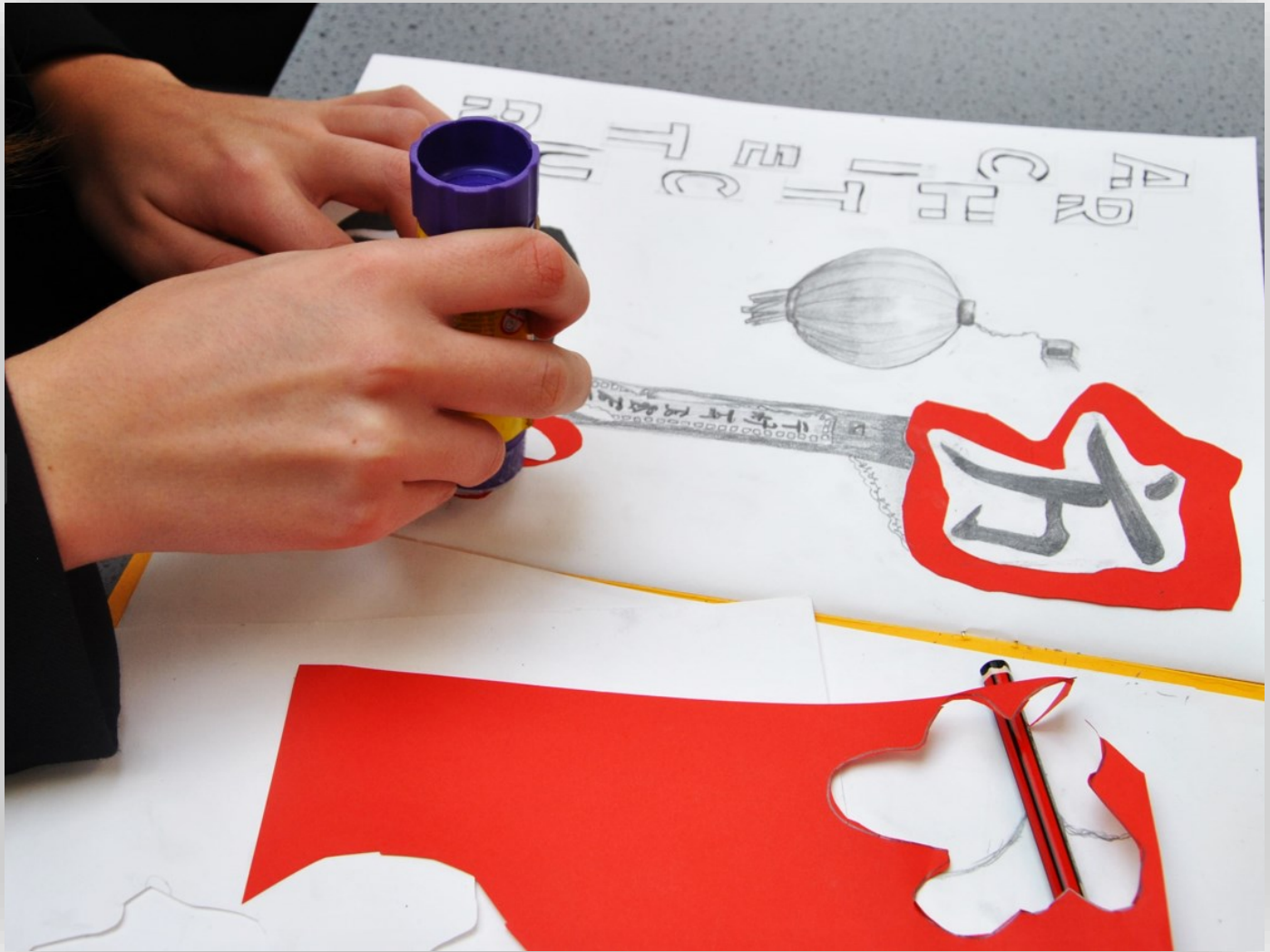


ART

Mr Rigg



Year 8 - Mr Rigg's class



Year 10 Miss Hill's class



ART

Mr Rigg



Year 11 - Mrs Howson's class



ART

Mr Rigg



Year 12 - Mr Rigg's class



ART

Mr Rigg



Year 13



COMPUTING

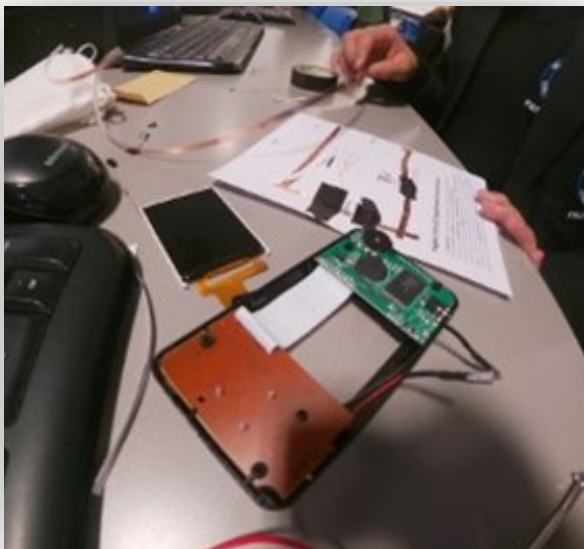
Mr P Dring

Well done to everyone who entered the Summer of Code competition and a huge congratulations to Ceon Gurung who won a national award (and a build-it-yourself-programmable hexapod which I reluctantly handed over as a prize!)

Thank you to the [Digital<all> Charity](#) for sponsoring our **STEM Club** launch event where students mended hand held games consoles as an introduction to the crossover between electronics and computing.

We've now launched the First Lego League robotics competition for younger students and the First Robotics competition for older helpers. You can follow our progress here: <https://sway.office.com/tlj073LIBRHvLPXI?ref=Link>

The next step is to launch the CanSAT competition where we'll design, code and launch a drinks-can-sized satellite using an arduino and raspberry pi pico and radio transmitter to beam scientific measurements back down to earth. I'm looking for a small group of keen students (boys and girls age 14+) who'd love to be part of that competition.



COMPUTING

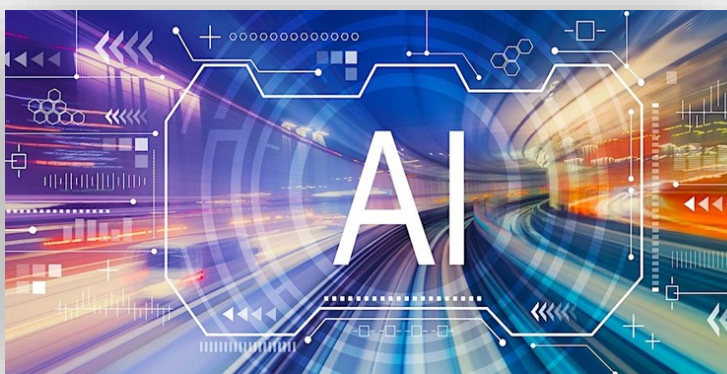
Mr P Dring



I've been really impressed with the creativity and talent of students at **Game Dev Club** and we've had some brilliant entries to the [DressCode Halloween game design competition](#). Fingers crossed for another winner from Fulford this time! Quite a few of our students have expressed an interest in work experience placements in the animation / games / visual effects industry so if you have any contacts in the York / Leeds area please get in touch.



On 12th October some of our brilliant Y12 Computer Science students took part in a Youth Summit on Artificial Intelligence to inform this year's Royal Institution Christmas Lectures. The



actual talk will be filmed in York on Thu 14th December and will be on BBC4 between Christmas and New Year: you can [book a free ticket](#) if you're interested in being in the audience and taking part.

COMPUTING

Mr P Dring

We're delighted to announce that Fulford School has nominated as a CISCO Networking Academy which means we can offer industry standard training, support and accreditation to students (and parents) who want to turbocharge their digital employability skills. Anyone who is interested can access a [Cyber Security Essentials](#) or [Python Essentials](#) courses for free, to work through at your own pace.



Well done to all the Y8s who took part in the Alternative Curriculum Day challenges and a huge thank you to Miss Hughes who organised a brilliant trip to Bletchley Park to take part in code breaking challenges and find out more about the origin story of the cyber security industry. I can't believe we got to press buttons on a real-life, working enigma machine (more on this later in the newsletter!).

If you enjoyed the escape room and hacking challenges in Alternative Curriculum Day and you're a Y8 girl we hope you have taken part in the CyberFirst Competition 2023. Students will work in teams of 2-4 to solve puzzles, at home in groups. The competition starts on Mon 20th November and ends on Wed 29th November. Find out more [here](#).



Please do get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions: dringp@fulford.york.sch.uk



MATHS

Miss Hughes

Year 8 Visit to Bletchley Park - Friday 20th October

The Mathematics Department took some Year 8 students on a trip to Bletchley Park on Friday 20th October. The excursion was purely an enrichment opportunity and had great links to the content of the Year 8 Alternative Curriculum Day which took

place shortly before. Students had an amazing time touring round this iconic place, taking part in a workshop to investigate the use of codes and ciphers throughout history and enjoying the rare opportunity to use a WW2 Enigma machine. Everything we saw was very informative, interactive and steeped in such important history. The students were brilliantly behaved and asked great questions throughout the day.

Congratulations to the winners of the best Codebreaker booklet: Alexis Denton, Millie Hatfield and Ella Liu.

Here are some photographs of the incredible things we saw at Bletchley Park.



Alan Turing's office



Alan Turing sculpture in slate

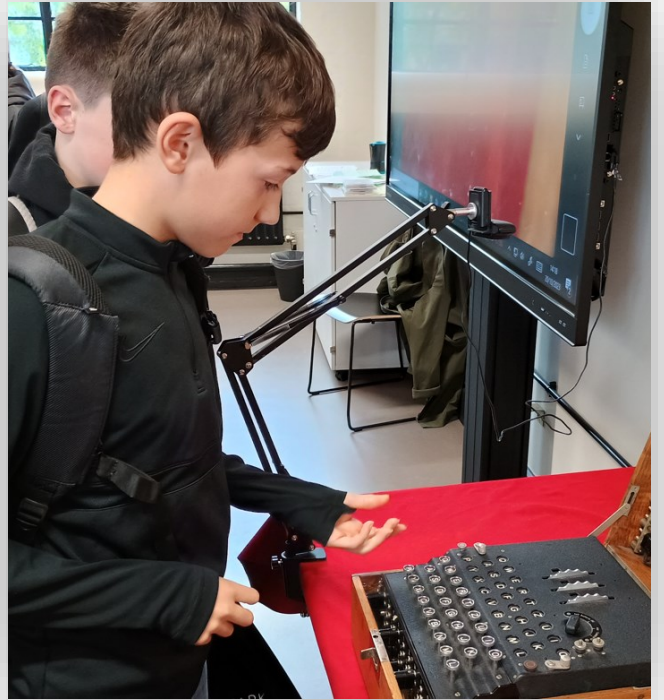
MATHS AND HISTORY

Miss Hughes and Miss Bowen

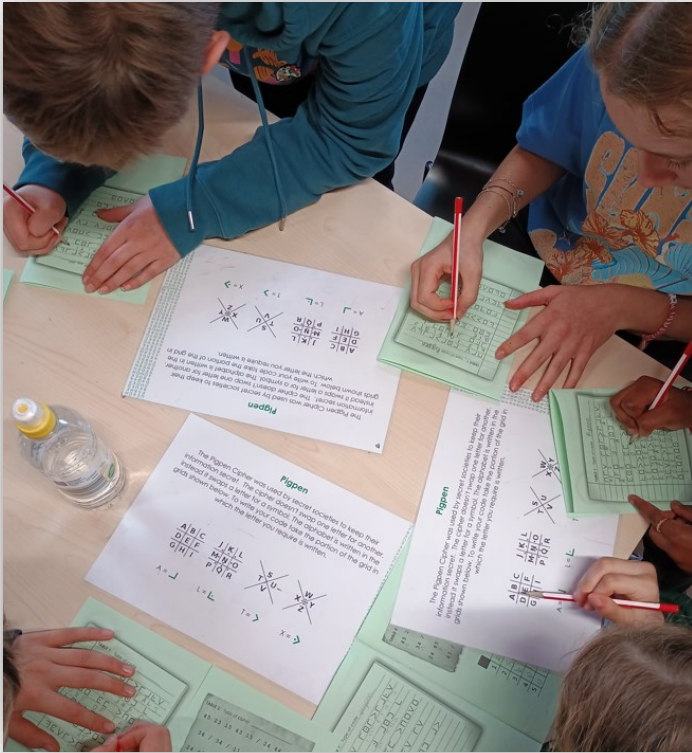
Alan Turing's teddy bear



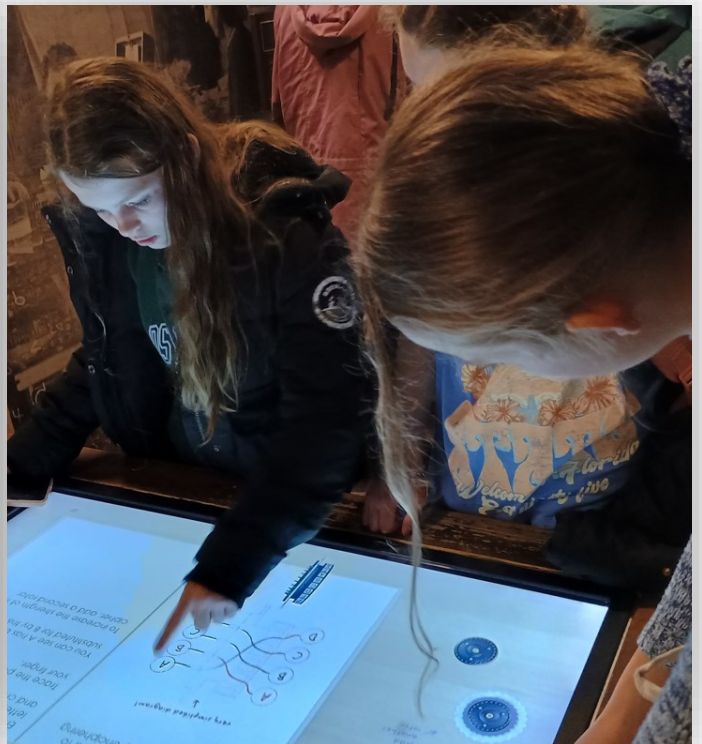
Dylan and the Enigma machine



Code breaking workshop



Grace figuring out some Enigma code writing



MATHS AND HISTORY

Miss Hughes and Miss Bowen

Group outside a hut



Nuala trying out an old phone



Jhanvi and a pioneering Bombe machine in Hut 11A

