



FREWEN COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

October 2024

Dear parents,

As autumn sets in, I can't quite believe it's time to write my first newsletter.

It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know students, staff, and so many of you too, over the last seven weeks. The warmth of welcome that I have received from all I have met is testament to the family feel and the 'magic' here at Frewen. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Cheese and Wine event; thank you for your lovely comments and feedback, we are hoping to host similar events over the course of the academic year.

It was a real pleasure to share the start of term with fellow 'newbies': students, staff, and a new Governor. All have settled into life at Frewen very quickly and it is extremely heartwarming to see big smiles as I walk around the school site.

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FREWEN COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

October 2024

This half term has been a busy one: we have seen a routine inspection from the Home Office regarding international boarders; multiple Prep School sporting fixtures and activities (which they've performed superbly in and with great sportsmanship – well done Prep!); Year 7 and 8 team building days at Rye Water sports; a number of trips, including an exciting overnight trip to the National History Museum to explore dinosaurs at night; and a Year 11 Design Technology visit to Brooklands.

I'm excited to announce the development of our brand-new Sixth Form centre, due to open during the second half of the Autumn term. The new centre will be based in the Wilderness, situated to the left of the Prep School, providing our Sixth Form students with two dedicated teaching classrooms, a dedicated study room, and common room, kitchen area, and a dedicated Sixth Form outdoor space.

Alongside the Sixth form development, we will also see some exciting changes in the Prep School including: redevelopment of the hall, upgraded IT facilities, a dedicated intervention room, a dedicated outdoor storage and boot room, and an upgraded frontage.



FREWEN COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

October 2024

I look forward to sharing photographs and further details of our Sixth Form and Prep School projects in the Christmas newsletter, along with news and updates from the second half of the Autumn term.

After the half term break, we enter the November examination series and mock examinations; I know that our students will use their time effectively to revise and prepare for these over the half term break.

I look forward to welcoming our boarders back on Sunday 3rd November and our students back on Monday 4th November. Until then, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term.

With best wishes,

Mr Mark Loveday
Headmaster



FREWEN COLLEGE

6th Form News

By Joanne Hambleton

New digs for 6th Form Students

We are excited to be imminently moving into our new sixth form centre, which has moved to a different building over the road from the main school site.

This new space will have a student common room, with brand new kitchen facilities for the students to use. Two classrooms and an independent study area. There is also an outside space which some students will help to design and landscape to make it a lovely usable space. Especially in the warmer months.

This new study centre will allow a designated space for our sixth formers to study alongside sixth form staff and help develop their independence.

The site team have been working tirelessly to transform the space and we are very excited to move in after half term.

Parents will be invited to an official opening later in the year for you to see the new space



FREWEN COLLEGE

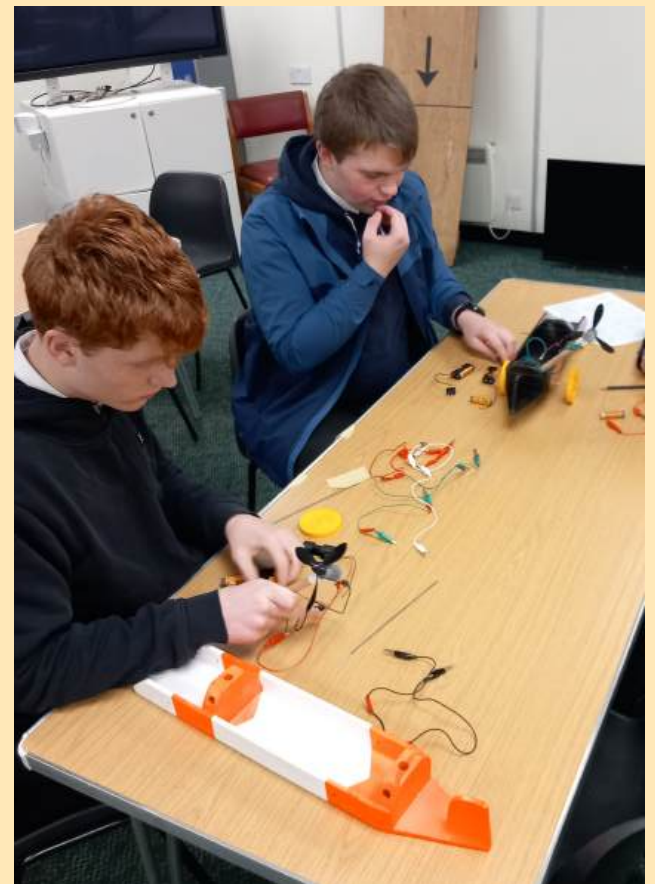
Design & Technology

By Marea Saunders

Brooklands Museum Visit

On Friday 11th October, we took all the students that are currently studying GCSE Design & Technology to Brooklands Museum in Surrey

The students took part in a workshop to design, make and test a propellor driven model electric car. The students had an unlimited budget to make their cars, but the aim was to get the lowest £ per metre per second. The students were encouraged to try different combinations of batteries, wheels and connectors. The cars were timed over a 3 meter track and then students were required to calculate the cost of their car, the speed, and then the price per metre per second.





FREWEN COLLEGE

Design & Technology

By Marea Saunders

After the workshop, students were able to explore the Aircraft Factory and Motoring world exhibitions. The volunteers at the museum were very good at explaining, getting our students to try out some of the tinsmiths skills by making a small model aircraft in and allowing our students to sit in some of the planes. Some students also had a go at designing their own sustainable aircraft on a huge screen

The students were able to see real life examples of the development of materials and technologies in the design of products, which is a key concept in the GCSE course. Some of our Y11 students were also able to use the visit to carry out research for their GCSE coursework looking at how the museum made their visit comfortable and engaging.





FREWEN COLLEGE

Design & Technology

By Marea Saunders

DT Club wants your bottle tops



We would like any plastic HDPE bottle tops you have from things like milk bottles, fizzy drinks or water bottles

Please bring to DT



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day took place on 3rd October and, to celebrate, the English Department dropped our usual curriculum to take part in the celebrations. This year's theme was counting, so we decided to focus on haikus and syllables.



The haiku is a traditional Japanese poem. It is a three-line poem with seventeen syllables, written in a 5/7/5 syllable count.

Often focusing on images from nature, the haiku emphasises simplicity, intensity, and directness of expression. We decided to focus on Autumn. We are particularly lucky in Frewen to have such beautiful grounds and be able to witness the change of the seasons up close.



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

Autumn is pritty
colourful leaves cling
to trees.
autumn paths are
here!




By Amelie Pienaar

By Daniel Osborn

The leaves go orange.
Halloween is through autumn
fire works are on.

By Lizzie Evans

Cooling Winds, Autumn colours
Say good morning to the change
Love Autumn, I do.





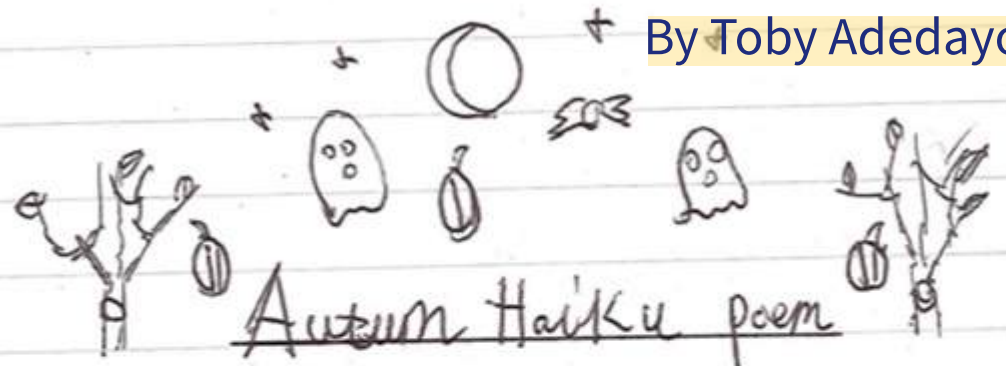
FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

Halloween is here,
Loud fireworks are so near,
Winter is soon here.

By Amelia-Rose Odogwu



By Toby Adedayo

Autum is pretty
Halloween is a dark fright
pupkin is sticky

My autumn hot drink
with
Pumpkin spice coffee/milk
That will be six pounds


By Ethan Ross



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

V vocabulary		"Steve was in seventh heaven". Change the words 'in seventh heaven' so the sentence still means the same thing.
I infer		What can you infer from the circus from the pictures on the flyer?
P predict		Predict what will happen in the next chapter
E explain		In your own words explain why freak shows were banned.
R retrieve		Retrieve the word that means the same as deformed.
S summarise		In two sentences summarise that has happened in this chapter.

A VIPERS question board showing the key skill questions in practice.

As part of our continued drive to develop the English curriculum at Frewen, this year we have introduced a concept called VIPERS.

VIPERS is a mnemonic, or memory strategy, that focuses on essential reading skills. It is especially helpful for our students because it makes it explicit what skill they are using. We have embedded VIPERS in our schemes of work from year 7 upwards, so that the dyslexic friendly strategy of overlearning helps our students remember the skills. At the start of the year, we asked the students to create VIPERS posters and some of the results were amazing!



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

Vocabulary
words and the meaning of words

Infer
an educated gess

Predict
guessing information to make a gess

Explain
giving information to some one

Retrieve
looking for something in the text and taking the information

Summarise
making the story smaller guessing the key information

Vocabulary
The collection of words someone knows

Infer
an educated gess

Predict
to read the text and see what could happen next

Explain
to be able to understand and tell someone about something

Retrieve
to get bits of information from the text

Summarise
pick the key bits and shorten

Vocabulary
means words and the meaning of them

Infer is an educated guess

Predict working out what will happen next

Explain
trying to tell someone understandin the

Retrieve
Finding information

Summarise
telling someone a story in a short way



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

Colourful Semantics

Working collaboratively with the SALT Team, Year 8 have been using colourful semantics during English to help them construct sentences more confidently.

As Miss Driver says "Colourful Semantics is a colour coding system for word meanings that helps students develop their sentence structure and grammar. Some other benefits of colourful semantics are that it expands vocabulary, helps answer 'wh' questions, and can help with reading comprehension and storytelling".



Time for a quick break:
Year 8 students having fun with Spelling Bee





FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

Functional Skills and Assistive Technology

As we gear up for the Functional Skills exams, Year Ten students have been honing their ability to use assistive technology.

At Frewen College, every student is

assessed for their normal way of working and has their exam access arrangements sorted out accordingly. Amongst the access arrangements commonly used are reading pens, dictate and Claro Read. Students can also benefit from human readers and scribes where allowed. If you have any questions about access arrangements do get in touch.



Logan Lyward and Ed Nevey using AT to assist them with a practice paper.

At Frewen we use the Edexcel exam board for Functional Skills English a link to the website can be found here: *Edexcel Functional Skills in English | Pearson qualifications*



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

GCSE English



With the mock exams now in sight, the focus for Year 11, this half term, has been the Language GCSE. We have been analysing what it takes to achieve a

Year 11 setting the standard

Level 4 or above and looking at the relevant mark boundaries and student exemplars to improve our grades.

Oscar Bracken says, “I feel like my grades are slowly going up. My latest grade was a level 7 which I was really happy with.”

Frewen use the Eduqas exam boards for both GCSE English language and literature. Links to the websites, with loads of useful resources, can be found here:

GCSE English Language | Eduqas

GCSE English Literature | Eduqas

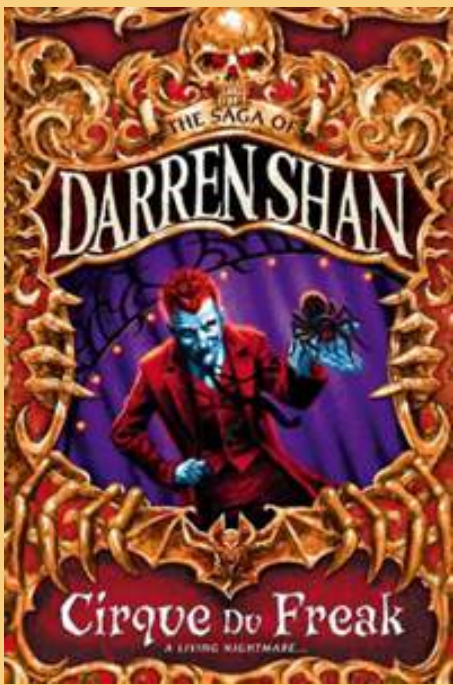


FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

A Selection of our Autumn term Class Readers



This term, year 10 have been reading a novel called 'Cirque du Freak: A Living Nightmare', which tells the tale of an ordinary schoolboy plunged into the vampire world.

Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience.

'Cirque Du Freak' by Darren Shan Year 10

Darren – a spider freak – 'falls in love' with Madam Octa – an enormous tarantula owned by Mr Crepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong, and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.

Ed Nevey says, "What I really like is the colourful characters and the twists in the plot, it feels like something is always about to happen".



FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

A Selection of our Autumn term Class Readers



This half term year 9 have been studying the novel 'Stone Cold'. With the central theme of homelessness, the story follows the protagonist, Link, a young 16-year-old homeless boy and the antagonist Shelter, an ex-military murderer. This is a tense and exciting thriller which portrays what life is like on the streets of London when a serial killer is on the loose.

'Stone Cold' by Robert Swindells
Year 9

Aidan Hopkins says, "one of the really interesting things about this book is it shows you what it is like to be properly homeless."

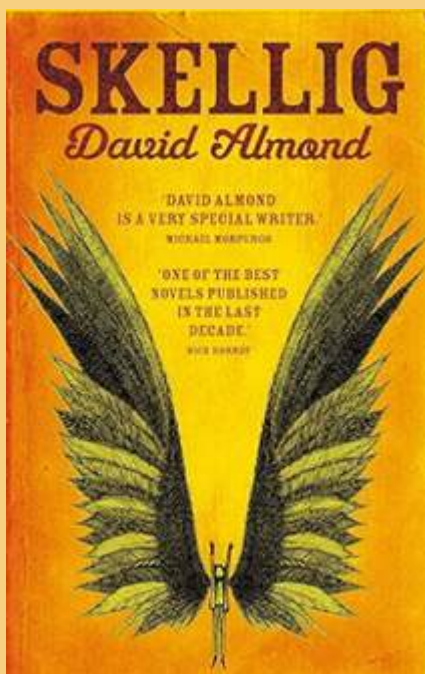


FREWEN COLLEGE

English

By Rebecca Lowe

A Selection of our Autumn term Class Readers



'Skellig' by David Almond
Year 8



Year 8 have been studying the novel 'Skellig' by David Almond. This novel is about a boy named Michael who moves to a new house with his family and discovers a mysterious being in his garage. Michael and his friend Mina try to figure out if Skellig is human or from another world



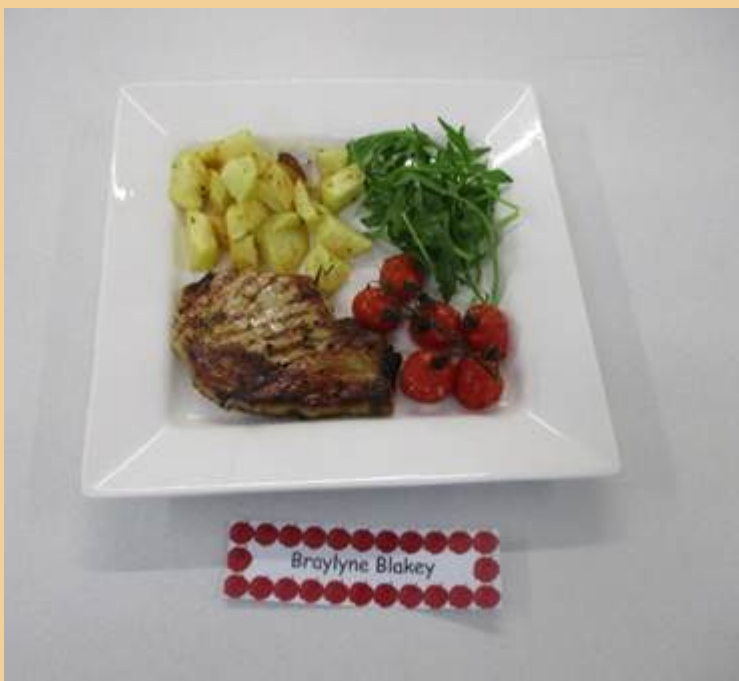
FREWEN COLLEGE

Food & Nutrition

Claire Beaumont

It's been a lovely start to the autumn term. The Year 7's have settled enthusiastically into learning the skills, the claw and bridge grips, where to find the equipment in the room and how to wash and dry up their equipment! Parents, please note that they are becoming very good at the latter skill.

The Years 8's and 9's re revisiting skills and learning new ones, stretching their repertoires and discovering different tastes.



One of Year 11's dishes - pork chops marinated in lemon and rosemary (from the herb garden), Parmentier potatoes, roasted tomatoes on the vine with a rocket garnish and poached pears for pudding.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Food & Nutrition

Claire Beaumont

I would like to welcome the Year 10's to the Hospitality and Catering course and welcome back the Year 11s to the subject. These older pupils are now cooking two dishes in one double period so are really stretching their organisation skills.

Move over Master Chef, there's a new gang in town!

Just a reminder that I have sent recipes that KS3 have made this term to the students' school email address and that if any of them does any cooking at home please email or send me a photo of your cooking so that I can put it up on our display board.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Autumn works in the gardens

With a busy autumn and winter season coming up in the gardens, here are a few of the highlights of the season so far;

Sowing seeds of perennials

The polytunnel is filling up with autumn sown seedlings, these are mostly perennials, they will be planted out in the borders next Spring. As the weather gets colder, we will bring in more tender plants and container grown plants.

Moving established perennials

Autumn and the cooler temperatures provide the opportunity to transplant some of the herbaceous perennials to new locations. Any plant of interest is labelled up during the summer months ready to be relocated in Autumn. This is also a great way to increase the number of plants you have as many of the clumps can be divided up into smaller sections, also a very cost-effective way to increase plant numbers. Most herbaceous perennials can be treated in this way.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu



Some examples include; Yellow loosestrife, eupatorium and goldenrod (pictured left to right). These plants can be dug up as a root clump and they will survive for ages out of the ground before being replanted.

Leaf clearing

As the leaves change to autumn golds and browns and they inevitably fall we will be very busy leaf clearing! The fallen leaves never go to waste, they are collected and composted for use as a leaf mould mulch. It is not only important to clear the leaves for health and safety reasons from paths and hard surfaces but leaves from lawns need to be cleared to stop the grass from yellowing and becoming susceptible to disease.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Mulching



Following from leaf clearing, this is the finished product (pictured) a rich leaf mould compost that can be used to mulch beds and borders, trees and shrubs. The compost helps to improve soil structure and texture and provides some nutrients to the plants. An invaluable resource in the gardens.

Relocating the Tropical Border





FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Relocating the Tropical Border

The tropical border, located at the back of the main house has been relocated to the area adjacent to the chess garden and parkland. Looking at the plants located in this area already, it would suggest that this area used to be a tropical border, so this is also a restoration project. All the perennial plants were dug up, including canna lilies and red-hot poker and planted in the new location.

This work has been completed to make way for future works in the kitchen and to the back of the main property, once this work is completed the plan is to transform the area by the kitchen into a kitchen garden to provide fresh produce to the kitchens, it seems like the perfect location. Please go and look at the new border if you have time, it is quite substantial and hopefully will be filled with many temperate and tropical species next summer.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Tree Works



Chainsaw season is upon us. This provides an opportunity to fell any diseased trees, carry out tree works to removed dead branches, to carry out tree pruning such as crown thinning, canopy raising and basal growth removal.

The biggest project, continuing from last season, is the chestnut avenue. It has been cleared of all old fencing and debris, lower leams and basal growth has been removed, there is much work to do including the removal of dead branches and clearing a fallen oak from the avenue to completely open the area again.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Harvest Time



It was a very successful year for the squash and pumpkin plants. I grew a variety of different types including Queensland Blue, Turk's Turban, Crown Prince, and delicata squash. Most of these have been given to the kitchens to make soup, chutney and salads..

We have even successfully grown some luffa in the greenhouse! They are drying out nicely and hopefully they will be sold as gifts at a Christmas market. They're great for exfoliating or giving your frying pans a good scrub!





FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Seed Collecting



This is the perfect time of year to collect seeds from all the annual and perennial flowers that have been growing over the summer. They are very easy to collect, especially sweet pea and calendula. The garden team have been working with the SaLT team and students to collect wildflower seeds to sell at a local market to raise money for a day out. There's a plan to make Christmas wreaths from plants found in the gardens and sell those too.





FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

What does it mean?

Annual = a plant that completes its life cycle in one growing season, from germination through to flowering and setting seed.

Biennial = a plant that completes its life cycle over two growing seasons. In the first year the plants put on leafy growth and stems and in the second year it flowers, seeds and dies.

Perennial = a plant that lasts for many growing seasons (or at least more than two) they can be woody plants like trees and shrubs or small like herbs and alpines. They will flower every year once mature.

Herbaceous perennial = as a perennial but the visible parts of the plant, leaves and stems, die back at the end of the growing season and the plant survives as a root clump, bulb, tuber, corm, or rhizome also known as underground storage organs.

Crown thinning = in tree pruning, the process of removing some branches from the treetop to open space, reduce weight and remove any dead branches.

Canopy raising = in tree pruning, the process of removing the lowest branches of the tree to make space underneath for access and safety.



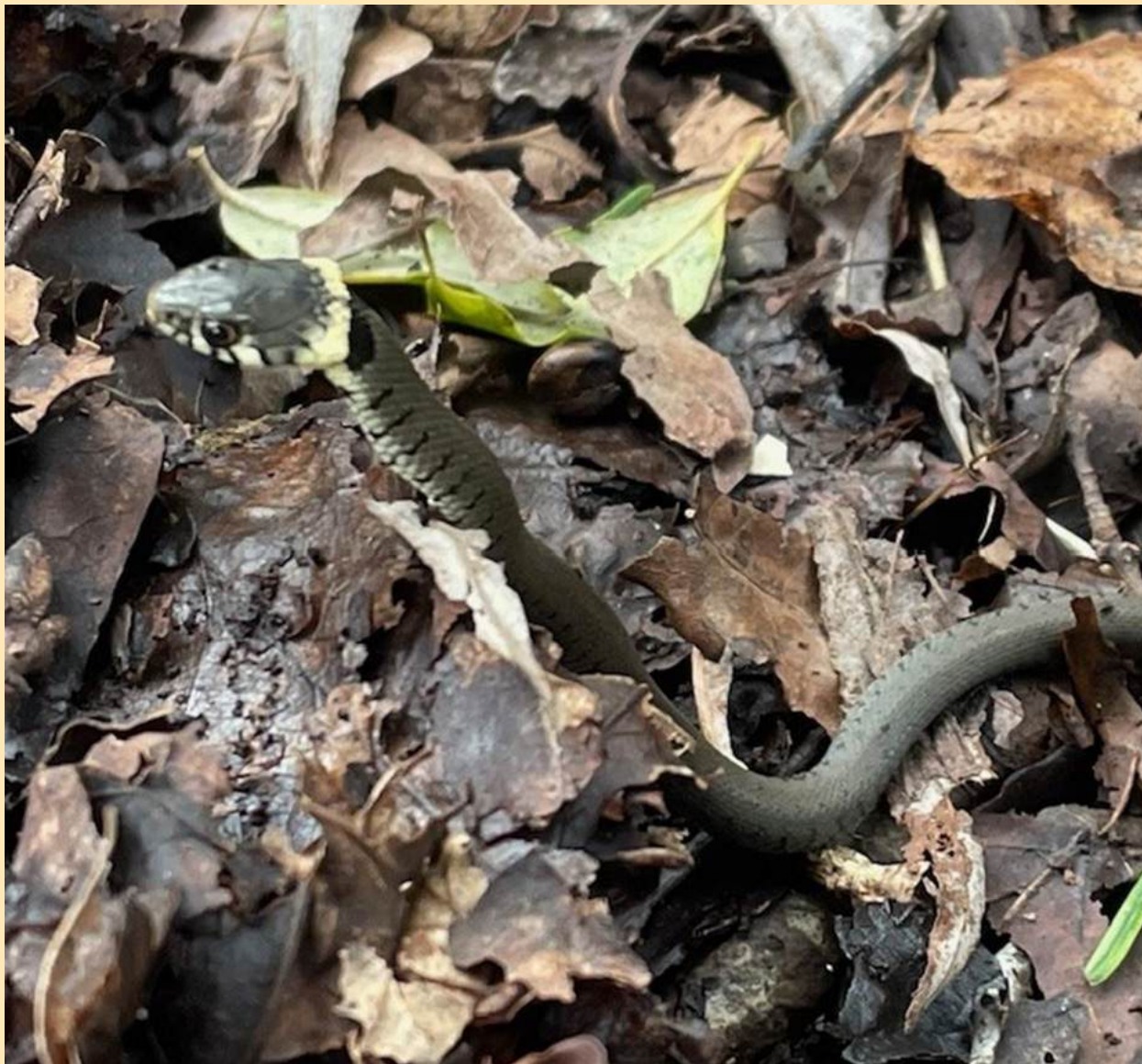
FREWEN COLLEGE

Garden

Daniel Le Cornu

Wildlife at Frewen!

I found this beautiful Grass Snake found in the compost pile. I carefully relocated it. They are completely harmless although this one did raise itself up in a defensive posture as it didn't really like to be disturbed.





FREWEN COLLEGE

ICT

Steve Booth

Digital Skills

In ICT this term the Year 11 students have continued their Digital Skills course by moving on to a unit all about mobile devices. They need to perform a number of tasks including setting up a mobile device for a client and understanding the main features and specifications of devices. To support this the students researched and purchased mobile phones from eBay (with a £10 budget per phone). The pictures show students with their chosen phones which were of variable quality! They are now in the process of assessing and testing their purchases.





FREWEN COLLEGE

PE

Joanne Hambleton

Sunshine & Showers

We have managed, in between some heavy rain, to enjoy the school pool this term; the students have really enjoyed being able to swim. It is now shut down for winter and we plan to reopen it again in the Spring term.



We will be offering swimming in Term 2 during games lessons where we will go to Rye Pool. Parents whose children have signed up should have received an email.



FREWEN COLLEGE

PE

Joanne Hambleton

Team Building Days

Both Year 7 and 8 have taken part in the first term team building days, these are a good opportunity for students to get to know each other, enjoy being outside and try something new.

Year 8 were blessed with some lovely warm weather, and they had a fantastic session at Rye Water sports doing Windsurfing and games on the giant paddleboards. We spent the afternoon at Camber Sands where we had fun on the sand banks and creating sand art.





FREWEN COLLEGE

PE

Joanne Hambleton

Team Building Days





FREWEN COLLEGE

PE

Joanne Hambleton

Team Building Days

Year 7 showed grit and determination on their rearranged teambuilding day where the weather was a bit more hit and miss! We spent the morning in the woods enjoying playing games and taking part in a nature scavenger hunt, we then took to the water in a cold and rainy windsurfing lesson. I was amazed by the student's resilience and determination.





FREWEN COLLEGE

PE

Joanne Hambleton

Team Building Days



Well done to all of the students that took part. It was a wonderful couple of days, so many student pushed themselves out of their comfort zone. We are super proud of you all.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Speech & Language

Amanda Smith & Lisa York

DLD Awareness Day

Friday 18th October is DLDday 2024. DLD stands for Developmental Language Disorder. It is a hidden condition which affects around 1 in 14 people. It is normally diagnosed in childhood, but it is lifelong and doesn't go away. People with DLD have problems organising conversation and have difficulty using and understanding language. Imagine what it must be like to get through the school day where there is a lot of talk, and you were struggling to understand and use language.

DLD AFFECTS PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD REGARDLESS OF AGE, GENDER OR ETHNICITY



**#ThinkLanguage
#ThinkDLD**

RADLD.ORG **RADLD** THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LANGUAGE DISORDER SPECIALISTS

1 IN 14 PEOPLE HAVE A HIDDEN CONDITION CALLED DLD



**#ThinkLanguage
#ThinkDLD**

RADLD.ORG **RADLD** THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LANGUAGE DISORDER SPECIALISTS

SUPPORT FROM TEACHERS AND THERAPISTS MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE



**#ThinkLanguage
#ThinkDLD**

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Speech & Language

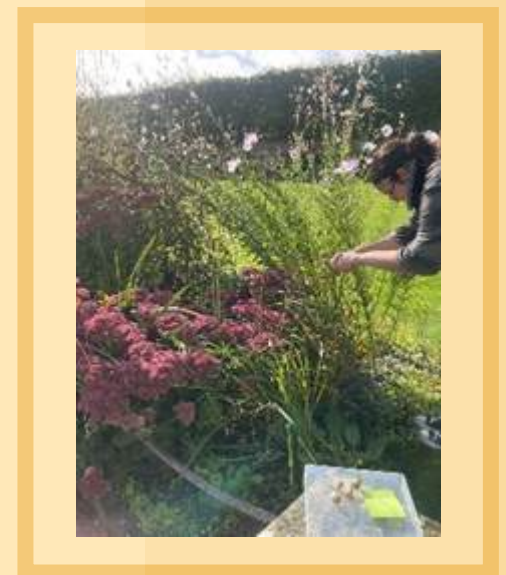
Amanda Smith & Lisa York

DLD Awareness Day

Some students in their Speech and Language sessions have been looking at DLD and are in the process of making a small flyer that will give ideas on how to support their friends diagnosed with DLD including strategies such as: slowing down speech and checking understanding, using actions to support speech, taking turns to talk and asking for help. These flyers will be placed in the leaflet holders on the Speech and Language board for students to take.

Seed Collecting

The speech and language therapy department are working with the gardeners at Frewen College to support some of the students to collect seeds



to sell at the village hall and school events. where they will get to practise their functional communication skills in a different setting. The students have said how much they have enjoyed learning about the different flowers we have here at Frewen.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Speech & Language

Amanda Smith & Lisa York

Reward Shop

The Speech and Language Therapy department are now responsible for the running of the rewards shop where students can exchange their value points for rewards. This will be run by students on the Speech and Language caseload. The shop was open on Friday 4th October, it was well attended, and our students were fantastic at practising their social communication skills by greeting and serving the customers. The reward shop will be open again after half term.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Lisa York on her recent graduation from the Open University with a BA (Hons) in Childhood and Youth Studies. What a wonderful achievement, we hope you are as proud of yourself as we are of you.





FREWEN COLLEGE

Science

Scott Wassell

Welcome to a new academic year in the science department at Frewen College.

The Year 7's have had their first opportunity to take lessons inside the lab.



We can also see them working with a gas pressure experiment where they get to crush cans.



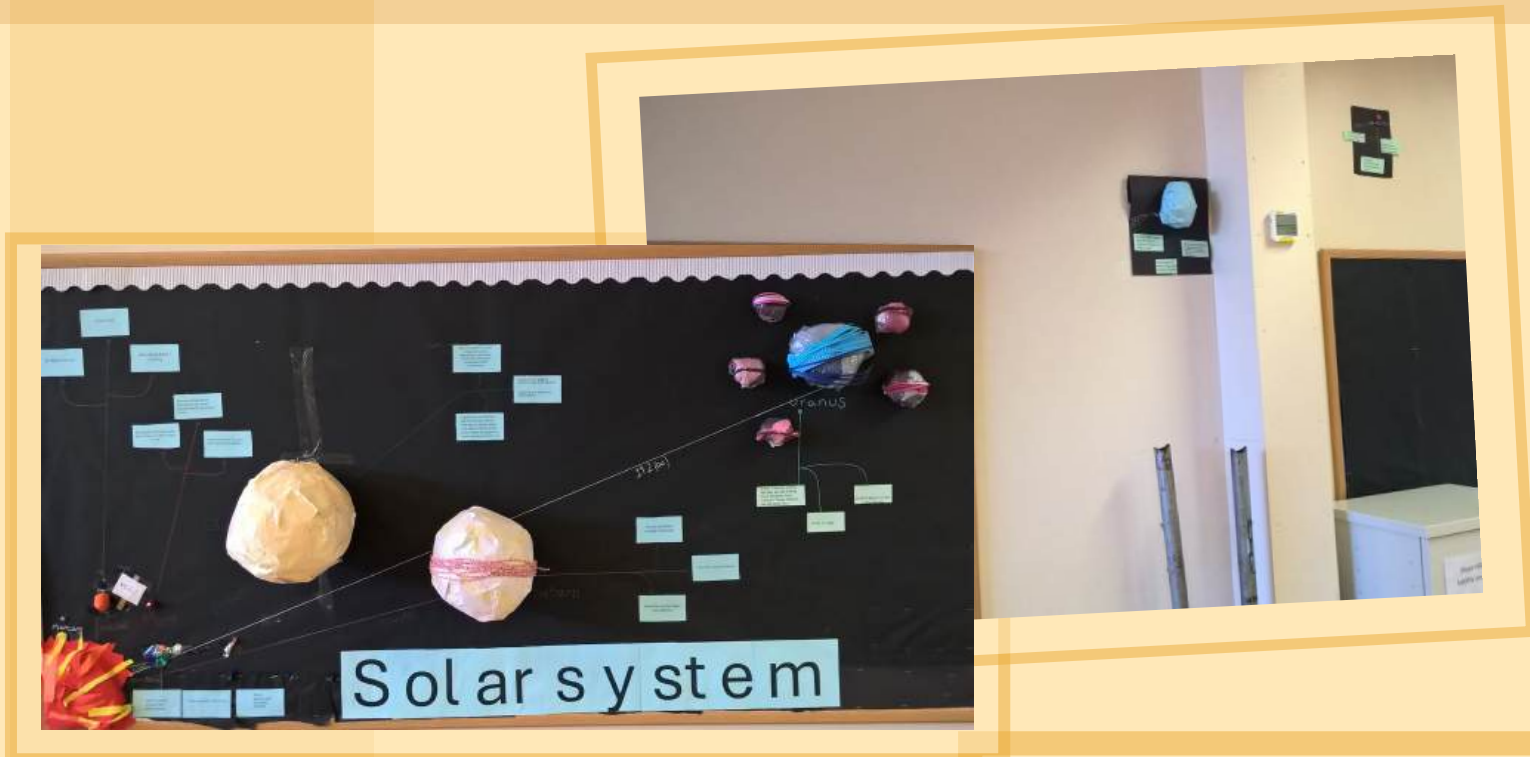


FREWEN COLLEGE

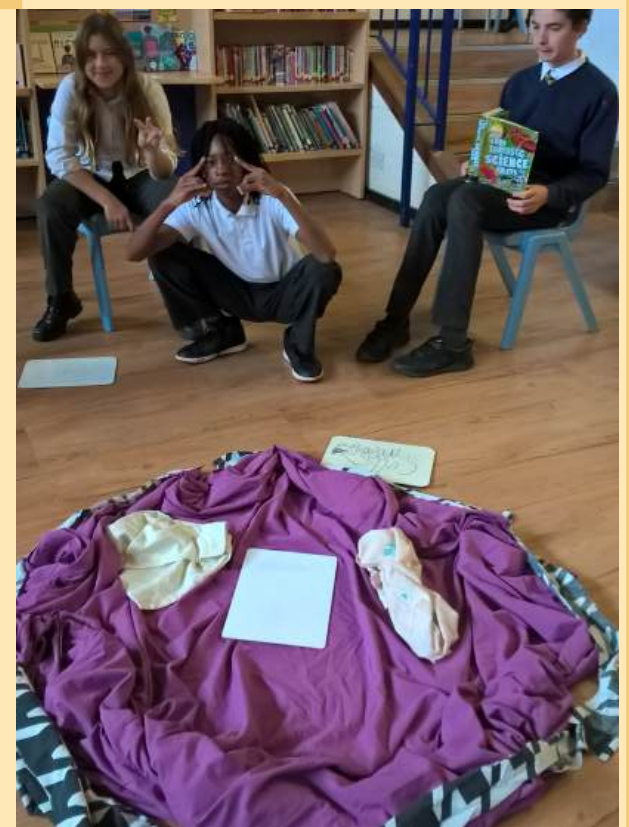
Science

Scott Wassell

The Year 8's have been working on a space topic and recently made a solar system display board for the auditorium



The Year 9's have got outside the lab to model the sub-cellular structures found in cells





FREWEN COLLEGE

Science

Scott Wassell



Both in animal and plant cells.

The Year 10's have been busy undertaking several of the required experiments needed for their GCSE's since coming back from the summer holidays. They have recently done the ever-popular heart dissection.





FREWEN COLLEGE

Safeguarding

Hazel McCalvey

We are aware that most young people use group chat to communicate, while this can be a great way for young people to keep in touch it can also present with problems.

On the next page, we have attached information from the National College about Group Chat.

After half-term KS3 students will be completing a 'PhoneSmart' course as part of their tutor time programme. This will help support our young people develop safe use of their phones.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

GROUP CHATS

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be great for connecting with others, there are several risks posed by these tools.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Teens are often trying to find their place in their social group. Unfortunately, group chats can sometimes lend themselves to unkind comments being shared freely, putting people down to make their peers laugh – often creating a vicious circle that encourages others to join in. Being bullied so publicly – in front of friends and acquaintances – can also amplify the hurt, embarrassment and anxiety that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: for instance, starting a new group, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one person doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss events that exclude them – for example, sharing photos from a day out that they didn't attend.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by a child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some apps have features that cause messages to disappear after they're viewed, so children may be unable to report something they've seen, as it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

Group chats can feel more private and protected, allowing children to share inside jokes and video calls with a smaller group of friends. It's important to remember that while the chat's content is private between those in the group, individual users can easily share material with others outside of the group, or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something a child intended as private becoming public is higher if there are strangers in the chat.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely for children to communicate with people they don't know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards everyone present. It's wise for young people to avoid sharing personal details and remember that they have no control over what others do with the material they send into the chat.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications they tend to generate. Every time someone sends a message, each member's device will be 'pinged' with an alert. This could result in hundreds of notifications a day. This is often highly distracting, and young people's fear of missing out (FOMO) can cause increased screen time as they try to keep up with the conversation.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for young people to compete for social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse which could upset others. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave in this way. If the child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block whoever sent the material, report that person to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could put a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise that it's OK for children to simply leave any group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure children understand the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school, or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their identity to gain a child's trust and serve their own ends – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure the child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and why they should never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a device bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of the group chat while disabling notifications – and that it would be healthier for them to do so, avoiding a situation where they could feel pressured to respond.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Sources: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11-18/its-talk-about/socialising-online/group-chats/> | <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>



FREWEN COLLEGE

Attendance Matters

Hazel McCalvey

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

In August 2024 the Department for Education (DfE) updated their guidance on attendance, and this has become mandatory guidance for all independent schools. Part of this includes sharing attendance with the DfE, including the reasons for absence.

How YOU can help us:

- Telephone or email the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence. absence@frewencollege.co.uk
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and send a copy appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help.



FREWEN COLLEGE

Attendance Matters

Hazel McCalvey

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

DAYS ABSENT

Percentage of attendance

0 - 2 Days Off = 99 – 100%

4 - 7.5 Days Off = 96 – 98%

9.5 - 17 Days Off = 92 – 95%

19 + Days Off = Under 90%

80 + Days Off = Under 50%



FREWEN COLLEGE

Dates for your Diary

Hazel McCalvey

Make a note on the calendar

Tuesday 5th November (AM) - GCSE English (paper 1)

Wednesday 6th November (AM) - iGCSE Maths (paper 1)

Thursday 7th November (AM) - GCSE English (paper 2)

Friday 8th November (AM) - iGCSE Maths (paper 2)

W/C 18th November – Year 11 Mock Exams

Wednesday 4th December –
Sixth Form Christmas dinner starting at 6.15pm

Wednesday 11th December – Christmas lunch