



WSSC

NEWSLETTER

A Message From The Headteacher

Welcome to the winter edition of the school newsletter.

As the Christmas holiday approaches, I would like to thank everyone for their support throughout what has been a very rewarding term.

As shown in the following articles, a great deal has happened at Wickersley School over the last term and we will continue to be relentless in our drive to ensure that our students have the very best educational opportunities.

There have been a number of excellent achievements this term; one of my highlights has been how well our Year 7 students have become part of the Wickersley family. The summer school and induction activities really gave our young people a chance to learn about the Wickersley Way and settle into school life quickly. We know it is crucially important to get this transition right and we appreciate the support of parents and our primary feeder schools in helping make this work so well.

I want to congratulate all of our students on their hard work and positive attitude this term - they really are a pleasure to work with. Thank you to all parents, carers and families for your ongoing support.

A Message From The Headteacher

The combination: home, school, and students here at Wickersley will prove to be unbeatable.

I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable Christmas break, and a happy and successful New Year.

Mr Hardcastle

Wickersley Pledges

“WE SUPPORT OTHERS”

We are proud of all of our Wickersley students who have completed Pledges to support their personal development.

Most recently, students in KS3, KS4 and KS5 have been set and have achieved Pledges such as 'We get involved', 'We support others' and 'We plan for our future'. Each of these tasks are part of all students pursuing aspirations to be the best version of themselves.

Students are currently completing 'We show empathy' in their bid to develop their understanding and consideration of people, things and places which may differ.

All students have completed at least one Pledge thus far with the vast majority achieving all pledges set at their key stage.

We anticipate many students achieving their bronze level in the coming months.

Ashton and Jacob Crofts



Izzy Crookes



Zara Wilcock



English



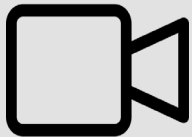
This term, Y9 students have been studying the novel *The Lord of the Flies*.

Students have designed their own masks to represent the concepts and themes of the novel as the boys descend into savagery.

Maths



2055 HOURS SPENT



1394 VIDEOS WATCHED



49.539 QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Since the start of October our Y11 students have been taking part in the 6 Week Revision Challenge in the run up to their mock exams.

This entails the completion of maths questions in a daily task from Mon-Fri for the 6 weeks on Mathswatch.

The statistics are staggering showing that our Y11s are working super hard to make progress with almost 50,000 questions completed!



Wickersley Panto 2021

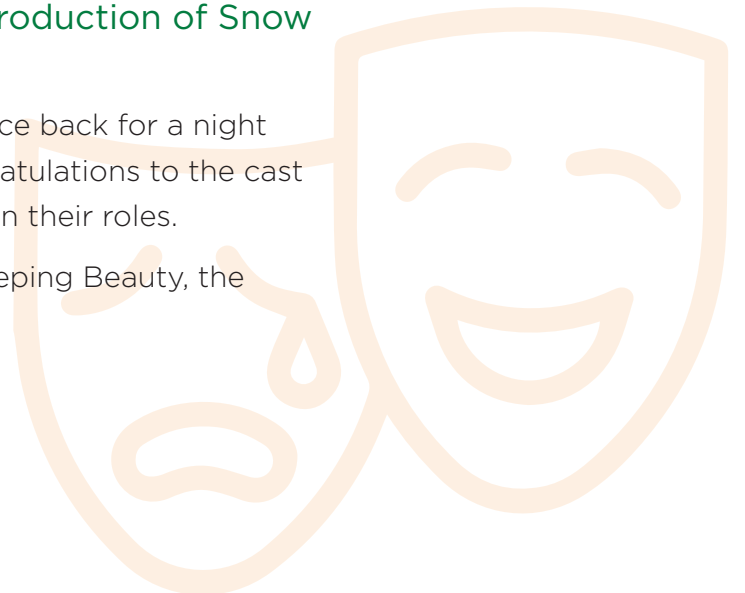
ROBINSON CRUSOE and the CARIBBEAN PIRATES



Panto returned to the Wickersley stage with Robinson Crusoe and the Caribbean Pirates, two years and two days after the curtains closed on our production of Snow White back in 2019.

We thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our audience back for a night of magic, music, mystery and monsters. Congratulations to the cast members from Year 8 to Year 13 who dazzled in their roles.

The work starts now on next year's show - Sleeping Beauty, the pantomime of your dreams!



Science



Some of our Year 13 Physics students took part in the Y13 Challenge paper from the British Physics Olympiad.

The paper was based on the common curriculum for Year 13 students.

It involved problem-solving and contained questions that relate to A Level (or equivalent) topics to stretch thinking into the applications and ideas rather than to keep to the content of the syllabus, preparing students for further work, or for interview practice.

All students achieved a certificate for their efforts and Jack Crosthwaite did well enough to achieve a Merit.

Well done to all!

Four of our Chemistry students were invited to take part in this year's Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench Challenge.

Sixteen schools in South Yorkshire took part and the results were incredibly close. Only three marks separated the top 10.

Well done to Hill House School and Notre Dame who tied for first place.

The students were awarded £20 for taking part - they decided to use this to purchase twenty selection boxes which they are donating to a local charity.

The students involved were Amogh and Renee from Y9, Daisy from Y10 and Samuel from Y11.



Film Studies



Y9 Film Studies students enjoyed an early morning screening at Cineworld of the latest instalment in the James Bond film series – No Time to Die.

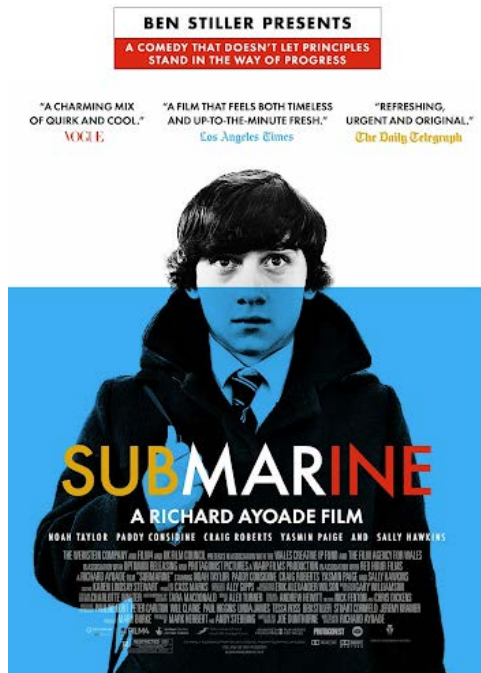
Students then used their knowledge of the movie as they explored the British film industry in lessons. They have learned about different career pathways and discovered the skills needed by individuals who work in different film production departments.



Prior to this, Y9s learned about the key elements of film form including cinematography, sound, mise en scene and editing through a study of superhero films.

To demonstrate their understanding of these elements, the students recently planned, shot and edited their own superhero trailer using iMovie.

Film Studies



Y10 Film studies students have made a terrific start to the GCSE course.

Beginning with Richard Ayoade's Submarine, students explored aesthetics in British Independent cinema through this coming of age romcom. Pupils have also explored Tomas Alfredson's Swedish horror film, Let the Right One In, as part of their study of a Global, non-English language film. After Christmas, students will begin creating their own horror film!

FILM CLUB

Congratulations to Daisy Hardwick in Y7 who has won the Into Film Club Review 500 competition with her excellent review of Disney's Cruella.

Review 500 gives film club members the chance to get creative and adds a new dimension to their film watching. Once they've watched a film, we encourage our club members to log in and post a review on the relevant film page on the Into Film website. To be eligible for Review 500, reviews should be no longer than 500 words, and all eligible submissions are judged by the Into Film Team.



Daisy has received a certificate and a £10 Amazon voucher.

Film Club takes place once a month in CA1 and is always open to new members.

Performing Arts

The Y10 Performing Arts students recently travelled to Leeds to see *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*.

They are studying the groundbreaking musical as part of their coursework where they are approaching it through practical work as well as looking at the production team and how the musical was created.



Social Science

Health and Social Care students have been writing their pen pal letters to elderly care home residents, showing the importance of communication and interaction.

Our Y12 Child Development students are now accessing the work placement element of the course. They are able to apply their theoretical knowledge as to how children learn to the early years provisions that they are gaining practical experience in.



CITIZENSHIP

Y11 citizenship students have all completed citizenship action this term, which involves working as a group to raise awareness or campaign for change.

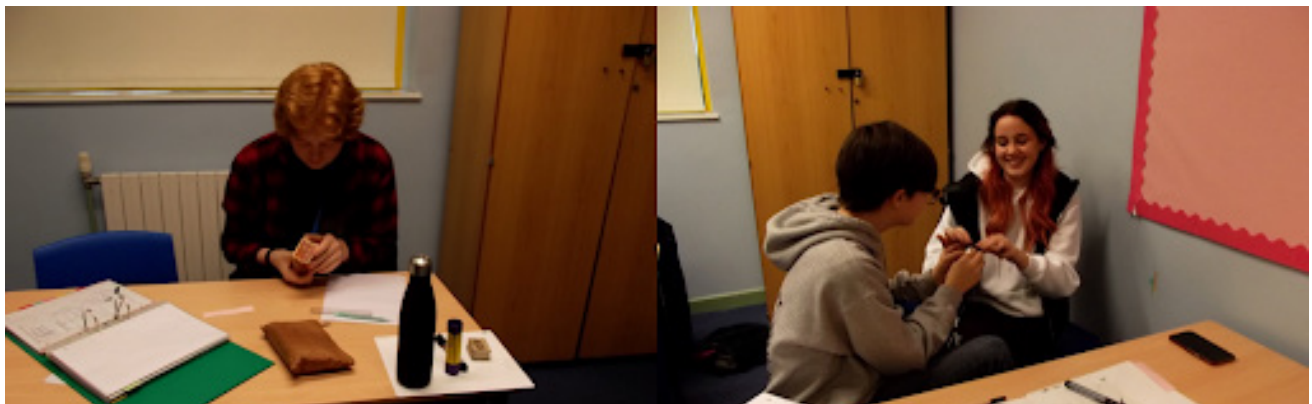
This year's projects included; encouraging 6th form students to register to vote, making socially distanced care packages for a local care home, raising awareness of LGBT representation in parliament, speaking to sports teams about reporting racism and creating a video for younger students about hate crime.

Humanities

A LEVEL PHILOSOPHY

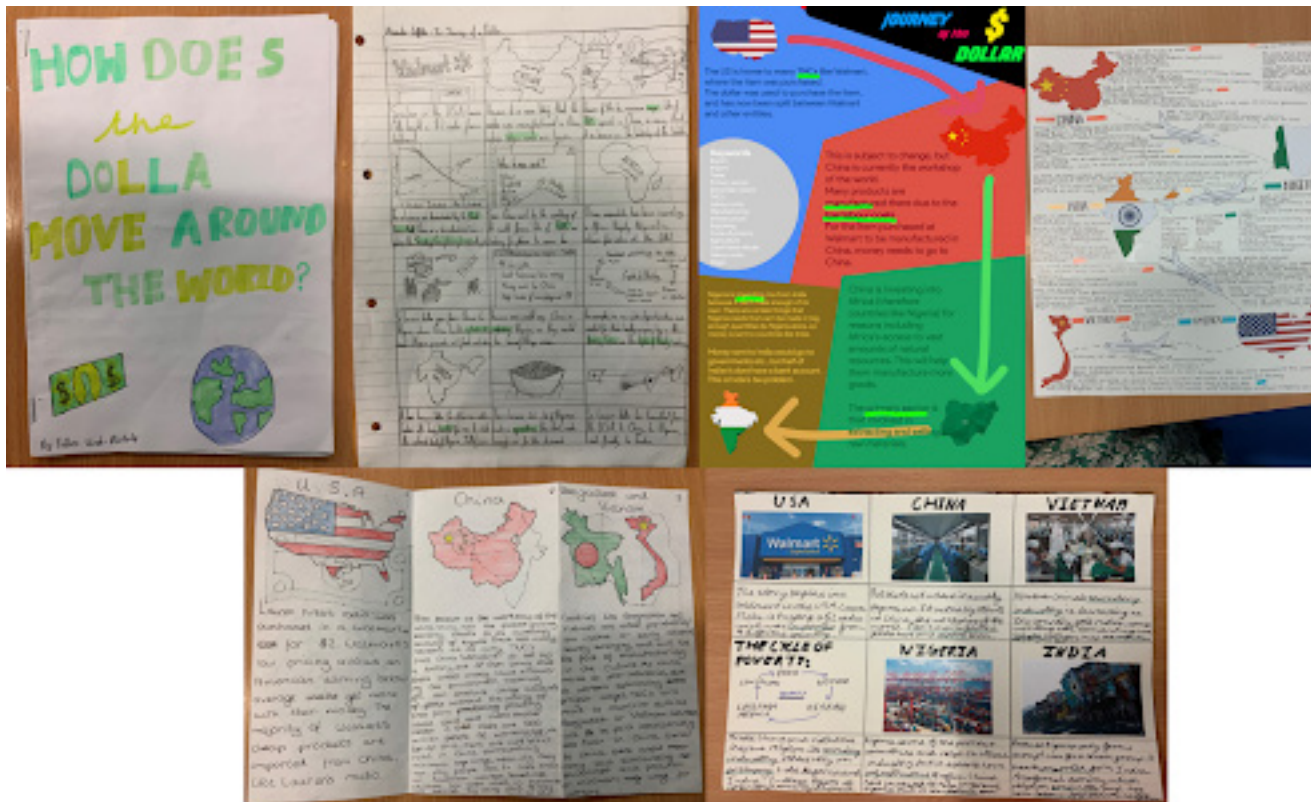
Students in Year 12 Moral Philosophy have been learning about two different ethical theories: Utilitarianism and Kantian Ethics.

Pictured here are students gaining an understanding of 'reasoning' by trying to solve some practical logic puzzles.



Humanities

GEOGRAPHY



Following our recent topic, 'Follow the Dollar', focusing on globalisation and how money moves around the world, Y9 students have been set the challenge of turning their new found knowledge into a story to show how money may move around the world, and the connections between different places.

We would like to congratulate the many Y9s who have risen to this challenge in a superb way and have worked hard to complete their work to an extremely high standard.

Special mention must go to the following students who have produced work of a truly exceptional quality. Well done!

- Jacob Barnett
- Faith Evans
- Marlie Charnock
- Neve Michael
- George Williamson
- Elliott Moody
- Kaitlan Patel
- Alexandra Griffiths
- Isla Stancliffe
- Oliver Bradley
- Katie Marples
- Bluebell Miller
- Elise Stevenson
- Phoebe Dabbs
- Mollie Winter
- Iqrah Qayum
- Fallon Wood-Noble
- Eleanor Marsh

Humanities

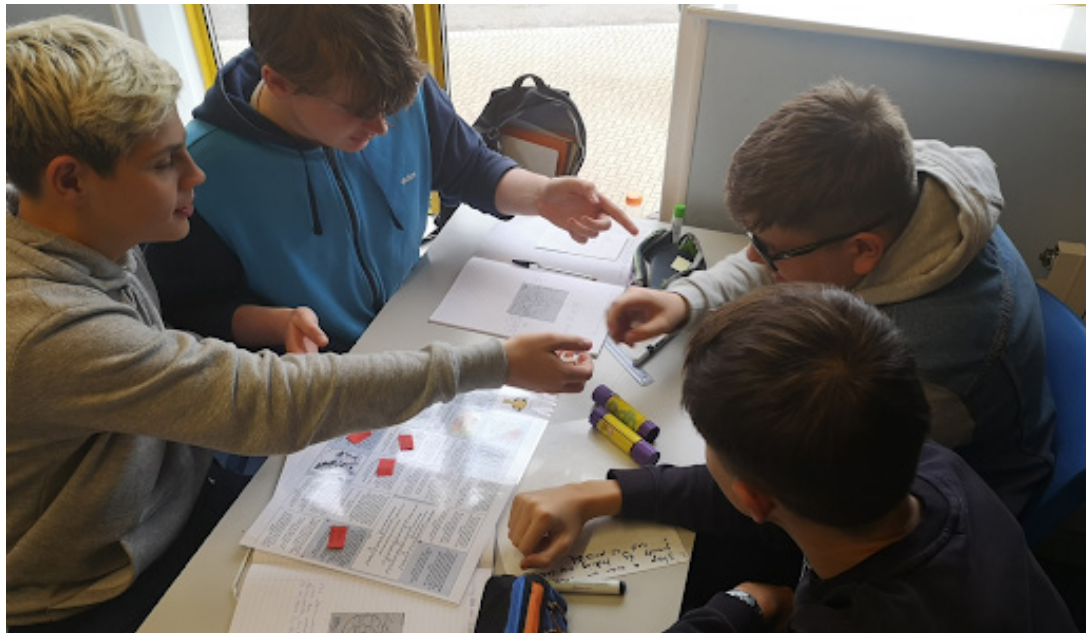
HISTORY

In History, Year 10 students have been deepening their understanding of the development of trench warfare on the Western Front by challenging each other to a race to end the War before Christmas.

Students had to use their Historical knowledge to analyse how each event led to the Stalemate in 1914. The game was won by the player who managed to win the war by Christmas, however, students soon realised this was no easy task and led to the horrific conditions of trench warfare.

Following this, to further students' understanding of what it was like to experience the horror of living in the trenches, students were tasked to research the conditions of a British trench.

YEAR 10



Pastoral/Wellbeing

Year 11 now have a common room to use; more things will be added to make it a more comfortable, relaxing space but it is great that students now have an exclusive space to relax and spend time together during the school day.

Year 11 have just completed their mock exams. Students have been working hard to prepare for these and the vast majority have really applied themselves giving their best. We are proud that they are showing maturity in their approach to their final exams.



Wickersley Rotherham United FC - football scholarship. The team are currently top of the table with five wins from five most recently overcoming a strong Stoke City team. A review of the season so far follows.

22/09 Derby County FC Away

Our first game of the season saw us travel to Derby County with a squad of just 11 players. After leading 3-1 at half time, we ended up let 2 poor goals in which resulted in us drawing 3-3 after 80 minutes. In the last 10 minutes of the game, we finally killed the game off by a winning goal from James Hardman after creating several one on one chances. For the last few minutes of the game we held on to secure the win.

29/09 Port Vale FC Home

Our next game was our first home game of the season. After an impressive pre season at home, the boys knew how to handle the big long pitch of Wickersley and capitalised on the space in behind by scoring 3 goals in the first 20 minutes to leave us 3 nil up. After some poor defending we went in 3-2 up at half time. The second half became like a basketball game as it was end to end and the goals continued leaving us 6-4 up with 5 minutes to go. As we did in our previous game, we conceded in the last few minutes but managed to hang on to the victory finishing 6-5.

13/10 Barnsley FC Home

The next game at home was against a local rival in Barnsley FC. This was a game where we started on the front foot and were again 3-1 up at half time due to a Louie Seddons goal and James Hardman double. We were in control of the game but again gave away a sloppy goals which left us 3-2 up with 60 minutes to go.

PE

FOOTBALL CONTINUED

After a few changes, we managed to score 2 more goals due to Zac Wilson and Jay Stone which helped us to see the game out 5-2 and move to the top of the CEFA Northern league.

10/11 Stoke City FC Home

In our last home game, we made hard work of this game by again not being clinical enough in front of goal after creating lots of chances to see the game off. This seems to be the story of our season as we have created lots of chances just not been ruthless enough to finish them off. After being 1-1 up until the 85th minute of the game, we managed to score a winning goal thanks to Reuben. This kept our unbeaten run in the league to 4/4 and we still sit top of the league.

The Y8 Boys football team have had a great start to the season and continue to conduct themselves impeccably in training. Fixtures have taken a step back for the winter but they still remain in the Rotherham Schools Cup and were narrowly beaten in extra time in the English Schools cup against King Egberts in October.

2	ESFA English school cup			Y8 BOYS 2021/22 season
3	Rotherham schools Cup			
4	Friendly			
5				
6	Fixtures	Date	Results	Scorers
7	Wath away	17/09/21	WON 3-0	Kay , Lyne x 2
8	Mcauley away	22/09/21	WON 4-1	Lyne, Cooke, Walker, Sedgwick
9	Oakwood away	06/10/21	WON 5-0	Lynex2, Walkerox2, Cooke
10	King Eggbert away	12/10/21	LOST 2-1	Walker
11	Brinsworth away	20/10/21	LOST 4-3	Sedgwick, Ward x2
12	St Plus away	TBC Nov	WIN - Bye	

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Enrolments - over 250 students have enrolled onto courses this year (Bronze to Gold) making us one of the biggest DofE centres in the North of England.

Students are busy working on their skill, physical and volunteering sections before the expeditions that will take place throughout summer 2022.

TABLE TENNIS

The Table Tennis club continues to be a popular extra curricular club which is open to any year group on Thursdays.

Mr Gill is taking eight students to compete in the South Yorkshire regional competition at the EIS in Sheffield next week. The U13s and U16s teams will face stiff competition against other schools in a bid to reach the Yorkshire regional finals if successful. The English Institute Of Sport in Sheffield is a very inspirational place to take sport enthusiasts to, let alone compete at. You just never know who you are going to bump into.

GIRLS RUGBY


On Tuesday 23rd November we hosted a girls Rugby session with coaches and first team players from Rotherham Titans.

74 girls came along to play from seven different schools across Rotherham. The students got to try out their skills in Rugby and develop their understanding of the game. There will be more sessions held like this later in the academic year.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL DAY

Y8 and Y9 pupils were recently given the opportunity to take part in a wheelchair basketball session.

It was led by Steve Greatorex who coaches for Wakefield Whirlwinds. We also had Wickersley's own Hayley Cassin (Y9) as the assistant coach for the day as she plays for the club. Pupils were taught the basics of working the specialised wheelchair, as well as the adapted skills and rules which allowed pupils to play a competitive tournament against one another. The pupils represented the school tremendously well and really enjoyed the session, so much so that we are running a second day in December to build on the pupils' current skills and experience.



PE

DANCE TRIP

At the end of November, 30 Dance students travelled to London for two days to experience the magic of the West End.



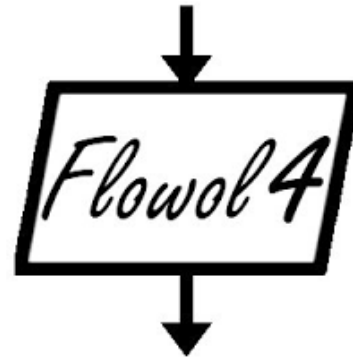
Students got to watch 'Mary Poppins' and '& Juliet' and see how the lighting, set and costumes all came together in productions of that size. They also got the opportunity to go to the famous Pineapple Dance Studios and take part in dance workshops with cast members from both of these shows where they learnt repertoire from the 'Supercalifrag ilisticexpialidocious' and 'Roar' numbers. In addition to all of this, students were able to experience some of the sights and sounds that London had to offer including the London Eye and Covent Garden. For some students this was their first visit to London and for others their first experience of the theatre. A great time was had by all during the action packed trip!



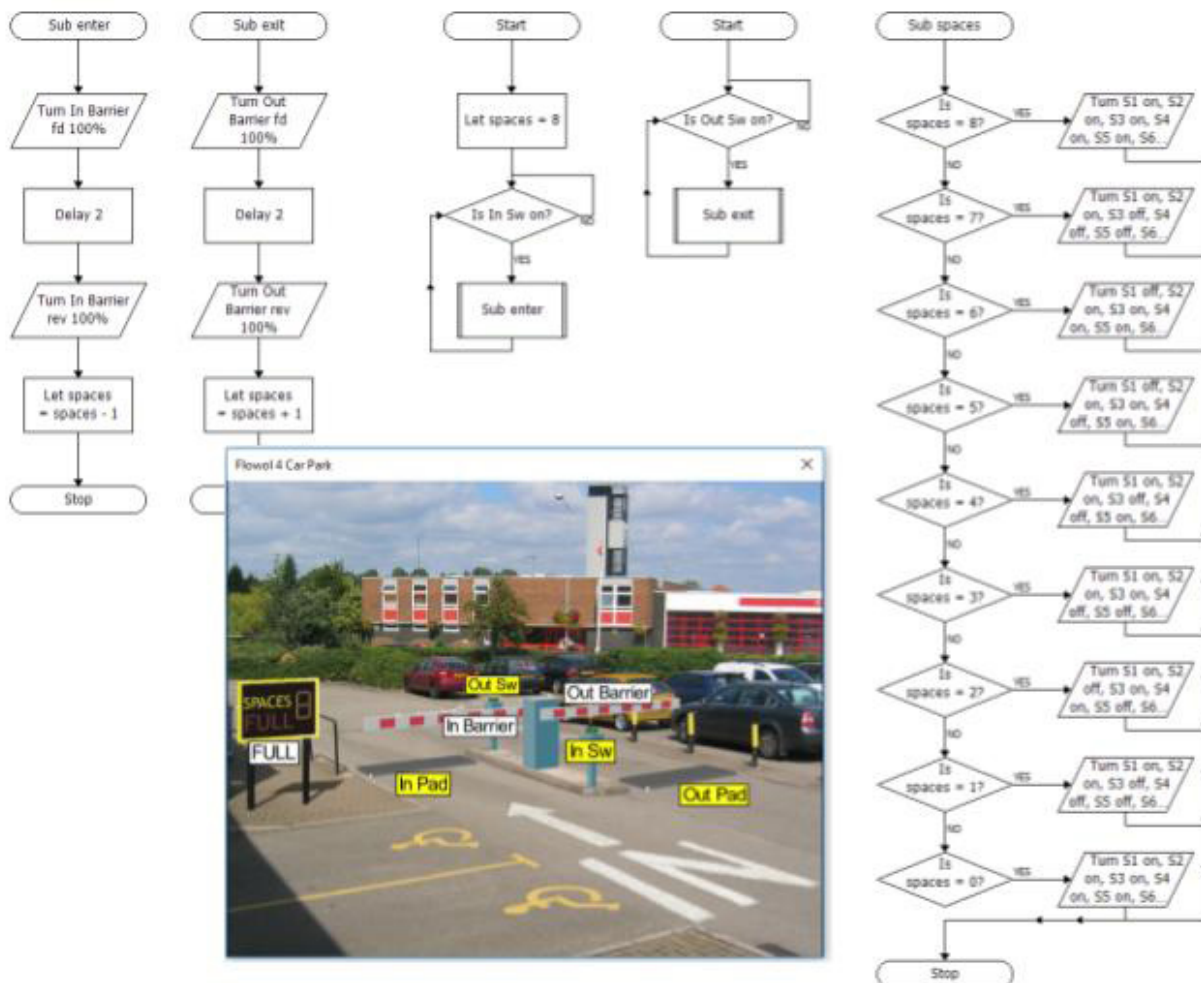
ICT AND COMPUTING

In Year 8, students are working on the fundamental skills required to create computer programs.

Using a tool called Flowol, students worked on logical reasoning and problem solving skills to design programs for real world control systems such as traffic lights. Students created flowcharts, applying key programming constructs such as sequence, selection, iteration and subroutines.

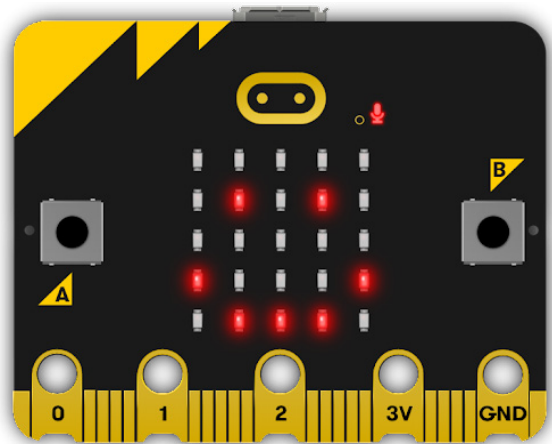


Example work from Michael Jenkinson, controlling entry and exit barriers at a carpark along with a sign showing the number of spaces available.



ICT AND COMPUTING

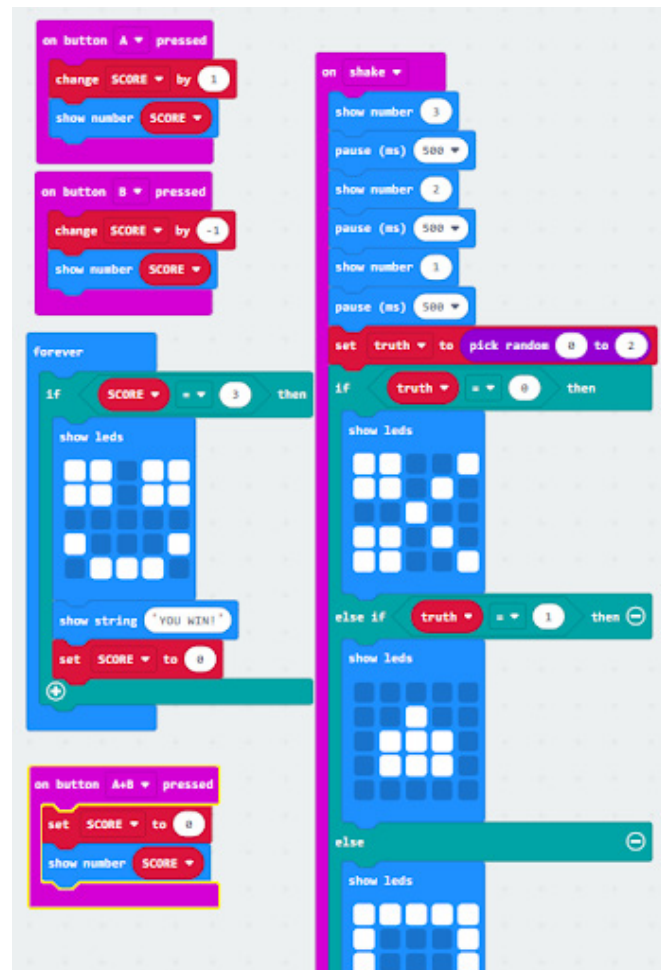
Students in Year 8 are currently applying their logic and problem solving skills to create programs for the BBC Micro:bit.



Using a block based coding interface, students are writing programs, taking input from the devices buttons and sensors, performing processing and delivering an output via the 25 LEDs.

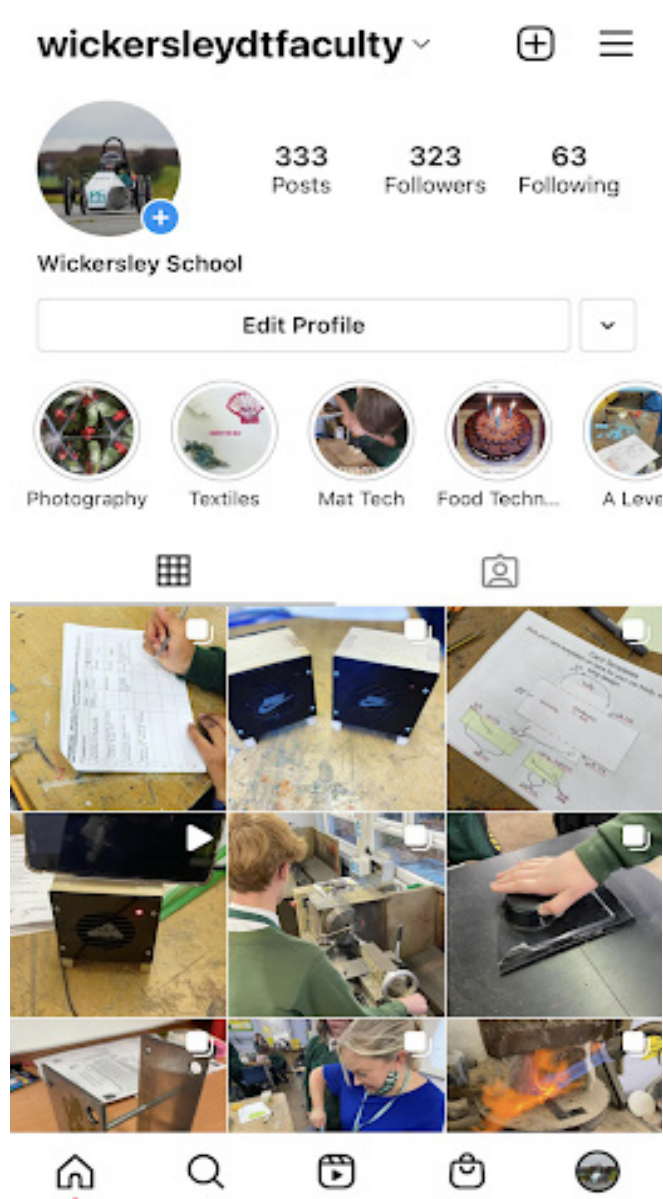
This is laying a strong foundation for text based programming using Microsoft SmallBasic later in the year.

Example work from Cameron Bryan - a rock, paper, scissors game on the Micro:bit.



A hugely successful launch of the D and T faculty Instagram page over the last 12 months has seen the faculty reach over 325 new followers, with pupils, parents and other schools in the UK all taking the advantage of looking at the outstanding work completed in the faculty on a daily basis here at WSSC.

@WICKERSLEYDTFACULTY




You will see through Instagram we have the opportunity to not only share the odd great piece of work, but share multiple posts on some days, showing the progress the pupils are making here at WSSC.

If you have access to Instagram, please give us a follow and have a look at the posts and give them a like.

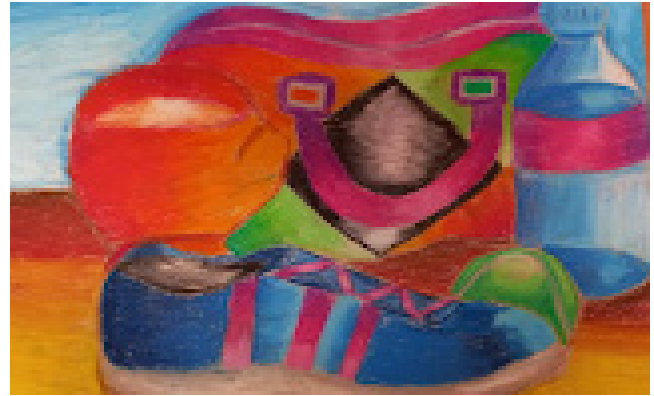


**FOLLOW
US**

A green megaphone icon with sound waves, positioned below the text 'FOLLOW US'.

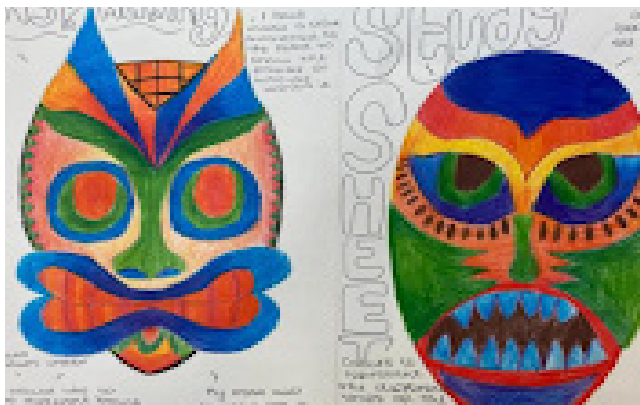
ART

Y7



Y7s have been making sporting still life compositions using oil pastels.

Y8



Y8s have been making tribal masks this term - some lovely designs have been created and some confident and creative outcomes have been constructed.



Y9



Y9s have been making a range of studies linked to the Urban theme. Students have researched the artists Paul Kenton and Andrea Joseph and presented their work in the form of study pages in their sketchbooks.

Well done!

Y10



FINE ART



Y10 Fine Art Students have been producing a range of natural form studies using a range of different materials.

We are proud of the lovely work that they have been producing lately.

Well done, Y10!

A LEVEL ART



STUDENT VOICE

ECO-COUNCIL



On Tuesday 16th November the five Eco-Council teams from across the five secondary schools came together for a day of collaborative learning and campaigning run by local charity, Hope for the Future.

Hope For The Future is a climate charity which works to equip communities, groups and individuals across the country to communicate the urgency of climate change with their local politicians.

So far HFTF have taught the Eco-Council students how to campaign for change and what campaigning looks like as well as introduce them to their local politician through a Q and A session. The young activists all met and took part in a very interactive and collaborative day of campaigning through craft and writing activities as well as learning about how these campaigns are met and addressed in Parliament. It was an extremely productive and proactive day of campaigning and it was also fantastic to see so many aspiring students from across the five schools connect so well.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

A strong and proactive cohort of students have been selected to represent the school as School Council who endeavour to help make their school the best it can be by listening to and encouraging change where necessary.

Allowing students to have a say on how their school is run and what opportunities, suggestions and changes could be made is vital in order to create an inclusive climate at Wickersley School.



Various meetings, surveys and discussions have already started and they are due to meet with the Headteacher, Mr Hardcastle, very soon to discuss these and see if any suggestions can be turned into reality. They continue to act professionally and represent their peers brilliantly.



FOR MORE NEWS AND UPDATES,
VISIT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AT

WWW.WICKERSLEY.NET



HAVE A GOOD HOLIDAY!

