



Lipson Co-operative Academy

Sixth Form Newsletter – December 2024

A few words from Mr Mee – Head of Sixth Form.

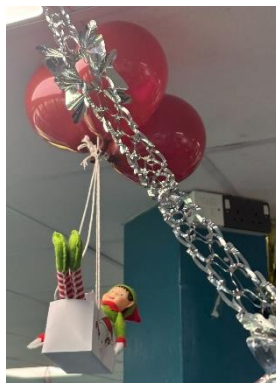
As we approach the end of the term, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The term is so fast, that it's important to reflect on some of the incredible achievements, and celebrate the hard work the students put in day in day out.

The last couple of weeks I've especially been proud of our Year 13 students, who recently received their PPE results. These results not only showed strong performance across the board but also highlighted key areas for improvement, which has allowed subjects to complete Individual Learning Plans for students. We are confident that our students will continue to grow and excel in the lead-up to the March PPEs and then be successful come the summer.

Furthermore, Year 12 had a successful assessment week, with many students showcasing their potential and making significant strides in their academic journey. The positive results are a testament to their hard work and perseverance.

To top it off, in addition to several applications for universities and apprenticeships, two of our students have received interviews at Cambridge, with another securing an interview at Oxford. This is a remarkable achievement and reflects the high aspirations of our students and something we are proud to say that Lipson can achieve. Amongst all the important stuff, the sixth formers have had great fun with our two elf visitors, who have been causing carnage across the common room, and making me the number one enemy with the cleaners!

As we move forward, let us continue to support each other and aim for excellence. I look forward to seeing what the new year will bring as our students strive to reach their goals. Wishing you all a restful and joyful holiday season!



Attendance - A polite reminder that all students are required to be in school registration for 8.38.

Should a student continue to be late within a week, this may result in students losing their reward mornings on a Friday. If students are unable to attend due to illness please can the parent/carer email sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk or contact Student Services.

All external exams will be completed by Friday 27th June for Year 13. Please do not book any holidays before this time.



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Seas Your Future -

Following on from the assembly by Seas Your Future 29 applications have now been submitted and students will hear in the new year if they have been successful. There will be a meeting for students and parents /carers mid January where details of the voyage and kit lists will be explained. We are so thankful that 7 students have been sponsored for this once in a life time opportunity.



**SEAS
YOUR
FUTURE**

Devon Wednesday Football -

The footballers have been brilliant since September, they have won some fantastic games and lost a couple, but the spirit they show to compete as a team has been brilliant!

Still loads of games left to push towards the top of the league! Special mention to Max Roberts who has been the glue of the team on many occasions!



Phantom of the Opera –

Year 12 Performing Arts students are heading to London on Wednesday to watch Phantom of the Opera. They're also getting a backstage tour, where they will hopefully meet some of the cast. More information and photos will follow in the next newsletter. Thank you to Mr Rogers for organising such a memorable experience.



Year 13 Biology – What a busy term they have had..... as well as practicals and PPE's

They braved the elements and ventured to Bantham for a *sand-tastic* field trip! Despite a bitter NE wind trying to buffet their efforts, the students persevered, learning how to survey the dunes, calculate the slope, and successfully identify a variety of unique sand dune species. The trip also gave students a chance to develop their teamwork and leadership skills, making it a day of both academic and personal growth. A truly *dune*-forgettable experience!

Then last week Our Year 13 students had a roar-some day at Paignton Zoo, exploring the importance of in-situ and ex-situ conservation, education, and advocacy in protecting biodiversity.

It was a great opportunity to see their recent classroom theory in action while exploring real-world conservation efforts!





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Media Studies - I had the absolute pleasure of working with my Yr 12 Media studies students as we attended this prestigious and very inspiring Film Festival.

The Aesthetica Film Festival is a BAFTA-Qualifying event and a hotbed for fresh ideas and talent discovery. It's a destination to experience the power of and craft of cinema. Aesthetica is a key festival to explore new cinema and original filmmaking which our students were able to engage with it in a Virtual capacity.

Live Masterclasses from industry professionals such as creative directors for Film 4 & BBC Film enabled our students to get under the skin of film making and get a flavour of what is like to be part of the Media/Film Industry. Webinars & Live chats discussing topics such as inclusivity, equality, environmentalism and mental health were all thought provoking and certainly struck a chord with our students.

The Short Films and Animations available, have provided enjoyable viewing and provided our students with valuable ideas and concepts that are sure to help them develop their own films and continue their love for the medium.

As expected, our students have been mature and continue to show how much of an asset they are to Lipson and all engaged with the Virtual Festival fully. I have no doubt that today has been of benefit to their learning.

Quotes from Yr 12 Media Students about the day really does some up the experience:

"Mindblowing short films" "I got loads of inspiration for my own short film, can't wait to start filming"

"I now know what I want to do...!" "So emotional, so real, so heartfelt"

"I think the Aesthetica Film Festival has given me a much more open and wider insight into media and film"

The Way We Live – Plymouth University Film Making Workshop Consuela, Dylan, Milena, Consuela and Madison joined Professor Lizzie Thynne (University of Sussex / Feature Film Producer & Director) for two

exciting, hands-on workshop days during the half term break. They all learned about the art of storytelling through filmmaking. The students had the opportunity to create material for a short film inspired by visionary filmmaker Jill Craigie's classic feature film *The Way We Live*, which captured the hopes and dreams of people in post-World War II Plymouth.

The workshop was led by Imperfect Cinema (filmmakers and University of Plymouth Film Lecturers Allister Gall and Dan Paolantonio), alongside Poet & Creative Writer Rachel Gippetti. Students all got the chance to explore and experiment with crafting their own

stories about life for young women in the city today and bring these to life in brand new short films which will be shown at the Jill Craigie Cinema in January 2025. The students should be commended for getting involved with this during their holiday as they got a

great deal from the workshops and further proves that taking up opportunities offered outside of school can lead to enjoyable and enriching experiences.

Year 12 Cinema Trip – This was a powerful and emotional experience for all who attended. *Back to Black: The Amy Winehouse Story* is a biographical drama that chronicles the life of the iconic singer, focusing on her struggles with fame, addiction, and personal turmoil. The film was engaging, upsetting, and deeply inspiring, offering a visceral look into Amy Winehouse's troubled yet remarkable life. The students were fully

fully engaged throughout the film, reacting to the emotional and often intense moments. The atmosphere was respectful and attentive, with many students visibly moved by the portrayal of Winehouse's struggles providing moments of silence after key scenes, reflecting the impact of the film. The film served as a fitting tribute to her legacy, reminding the audience of her undeniable artistry while also raising awareness of the complexities of mental health and addiction to the students watching it. Our students enjoyed their time at Everyman Cinema the cinema's atmosphere contributed to the overall impact of the movie, making it a memorable outing.



Aesthetica 2024.

Aesthetica is the destination for independent cinema. We welcomed filmmakers, game developers and VR experts from around the world to the 2024 edition of the festival both in person in York and online. There's still time to enter a world of incredible films by having a virtual pass and watching the local Official Selection online. All films available online until 31 November.





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Student Leadership Team - It has indeed been a long term, it has been stressful and demanding but we all have pulled through. Thank God!

As a Leadership Team we have tried to put a few things in place and we are looking towards a few more next term. Before Christmas, we are having a pyjama/festive day just in celebration of this Yuletide season as a fundraiser.

- After Christmas, we hope to organise a whole school Talent Showcase to give the students the opportunity to express their hidden talents. Raffle draws would take place during the showcase to raise money for the school and sixth form.
- A peer tutoring programme would be started to serve as an aid for students preparing for their GCSE's.
- A bake sale to raise money for AGE UK.

We hope to achieve more than we have outlined, as always, we can't overemphasise the need for that positive mindset as we work really hard in the coming terms.

Stay positive and remain determined!

Sixth Form Leadership Team

AGE UK – I am pleased to announce that 12 students were successful in their AGE UK interviews and will start a 6 week work placement based at Mount Gould. We are so excited for you and thank you to giving back to our local community.

Cohort 1 – 6th Jan – 14th Feb (Grace, Dylan, Maura & Milena)

Cohort 2 – 24th Feb – 4th April (Sienna, Hanieh, Lillie & Eri)

Cohort 3 – 22nd April – 6th June (Ryan, Nicole, Aiden & Summer)

Key Dates

6th Jan – First day of term

23rd Jan – Sixth Form Open Evening / UCAS Internal Deadline

29th Jan – UCAS External Deadline

30th Jan – Higher Degree Apprenticeship Assembly

17th Feb – Half Term

24th Feb – Back to school

3rd Mar – Year 13 PPE's

17th Mar – Year 12 Assessment Week

Careers - To date we have submitted 20 UCAS applications! The three students who applied for a place at Oxford/Cambridge have all received invitations to interviews - huge congratulations to you all! A number of our students have received at least one conditional offer with most receiving 3 or more conditional offers!

Deadline for UCAS applications is Thursday 23rd January. Please see Mrs Lincoln to book an appointment or see any of the sixth form team if you need more advice.

Congratulations to students applying for apprenticeship with Babcock who have received the confirmation that their application has been successful in reaching the next stage of the application process.

The weekly vacancy report is shared in google classroom confirming local apprenticeships that are available. Here's a couple of websites that may be useful:

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/browse-apprenticeships>

<https://www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk/youth-hub-apprenticeship>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>



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Ted Wragg Trust Christmas Lectures – On Wednesday the 11th December 70 Year 12 students spent the day at Plymouth University as part of the Ted Wragg Christmas Lectures joining the other Sixth Forms in the Trust. Students had a choice of 13 subjects ranging from Chemistry to Architecture to Fine Art to Podiatry to Law, they then had university seminars in their chosen subjects. They learnt how to decorate a Christmas tree with a visual impairment for Optometry; migration of red crabs in Marine Biology; making products for a Christmas market for Tourism and depending who you write Christmas cards to, could help you in a natural disaster for Geography and Sociology. Students also had a campus tour and met current students at the university to answer their questions. The students are looking forward to the next conference at Plymouth Marjon in the Spring.



Ted Wragg TRUST



UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH





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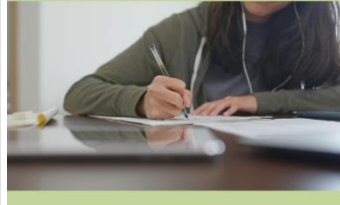
Art and Photography – First week in December was the start of our 'Gallery and Research' week. Year 12 and 13 students headed out to the Box Plymouth to see the amazing selection of contemporary and traditional work which includes the installation work of Osman Yousefzada's exhibition 'When Will We Be Good Enough' and works from Turner alongside the 'Planet Ocean' exhibition. The following day we headed to Bristol with our Yr 12s and visited the Spike Island exhibition space, The National Wildlife Exhibition at Bristol Museum and the Arnofini Gallery which hosted a variety of video, photography and painted works from a selection of renowned artists. Dylan was delighted to have his picture taken outside the home of Wallace and Gromit's Aardman Animation studio.

iStudy - It is open every school day from 8am until 5pm. All the chrome books and resources are available for you to use. I know a lot of students find it beneficial to complete the work before they go home or to use the space to work with their friends.

Revision – With BTEC exams in January a copy of this revision technique booklet is available for all students in their google tutor classroom. It has 18 effective ways to revise, such as Buddy Up, Brain Dump and Interleaving. Remember if you are struggling with revision or how to plan an effective revision timetable pop in and see Mrs Harris.

Revision Techniques

A guide to effective revision using the latest research.
Exams Preparation at A-Level



5. MAKE THE MOST OF MARK SCHEMES!

Students often use past papers to plan and answer questions, BUT, do they always follow up with self-assessment and analysis of the mark scheme? The answer is no!

Mark schemes can be used in several ways, it could be simply to assess a practice question the student complete in exam conditions. Or student may look to mark schemes to help plan a question they are struggling with. Or you can use a mark scheme as a model, then try and create a different question and mark scheme which follows the same patterns.

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6. SUPERCHARGE YOUR VOCABULARY

Keywords and embedded subject vocabulary is the key to higher grades!

Find 6-7 keywords for a subject, or an individual topic, using a glossary in your textbooks, the index at the back or go through your exercise book to find them.

Write down the definitions for the words you have found, then see if you can define them in your own words.

Challenge yourself to use each word in a sentence, then check your answer afterwards.



PERK Awards – Each term the Sixth Form team select students who have gone above and beyond the school values, this term the winners are:

Prepared – Anna Lane, Charlie Caley, Beatrice Harrison Tate and Liam Gallagher.

Engaged – Alfie Blight, Oceana Dawdry, Osman Abedin and Madison Baddock.

Responsible – Bethan Thomas, Eri Olugbeminiyi, Krystal Foster and Xander Cave

Kind – Evan Ashton, Milena Lescinschi, Max Roberts and Lola Mumford.

Congratulations all.

