



BEACON

shining a light on our school

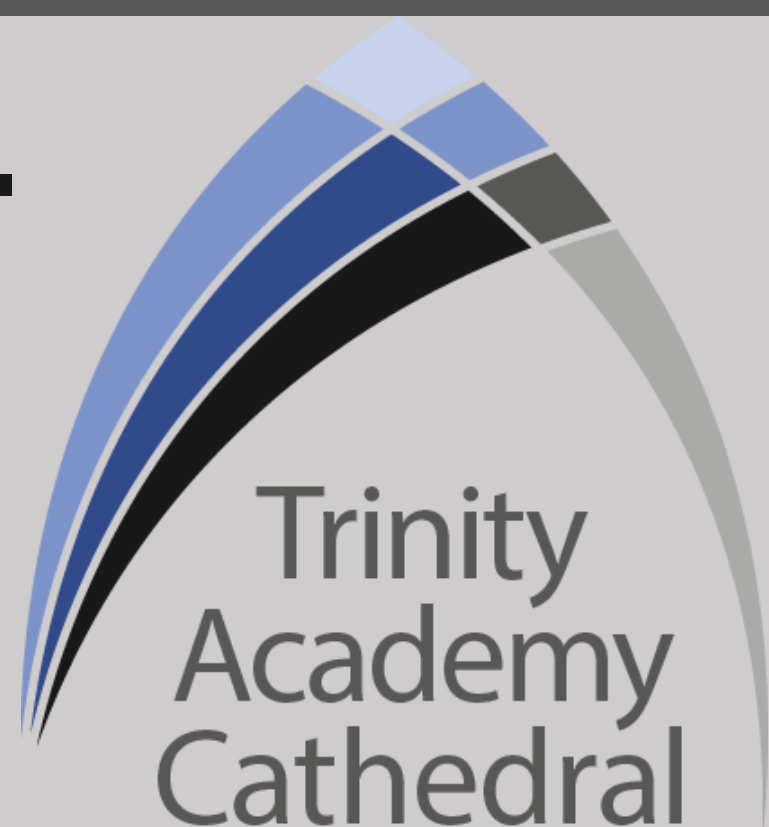
WINTER 2025/2026



THE TEENAGE BRAIN NEEDS...

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

"I can do all this through him who
gives me strength"
Philippians 4:13



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM



Chaplaincy

CHRISTMAS IS AN IMPORTANT TIME OF YEAR FOR CHRISTIANS ACROSS THE GLOBE. AS WAKEFIELD'S ONLY CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, THE PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS HELP TO REMIND OUR COMMUNITY OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him... This is the verdict: Light has come into the world.

John 3:16, 17, 19a



SPOTLIGHT ON

Cathedral Citizens



CATHEDRAL CITIZENS IS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TRINITY ACADEMY CATHEDRAL AND CITIZENS UK. THEY ARE A PEOPLE-POWERED ALLIANCE WHO TRAIN PEOPLE FROM DIVERSE COMMUNITIES ACROSS BRITAIN IN COMMUNITY ORGANISING. THEY BRING EVERYDAY PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO EMPOWER THEM TO MAKE CHANGE.

This year, a group of students have been working together to form Cathedral Citizens; a student-led organisation that aims to make change in Lupset. They are working with our feeder primary schools, community organisations and Wakefield Council to deliver tangible change in our local community.

They started out their campaign with a listening exercise which was conducted at the end of the last academic year. This took place during Morning Preparation. Prep Tutors asked their groups to discuss and answer the following questions:

- What would make your life better in your local area?
- What frustrates you about where you live?

From this exercise students involved in Cathedral Citizens, found the top three issues were; improving road safety, making streets safer with more street lighting and to reopen Thornes Park greenhouse.



Meeting with Simon Lightwood



The Cathedral Citizens arranged a meeting with our Member of Parliament, Simon Lightwood. Simon spent an hour talking to our students about their concerns and hopes for the area; specifically asking about what he could do to help.

Simon was very positive about the work that the students are doing and was incredibly helpful in suggesting next steps. He was delighted to be able to share news of the government's 'Pride in Place' fund which is going to provide Lupset with £2 million each year.

The Cathedral Citizens said they would want to work with Simon to deliver change for our local area.

citizensUK



SPOTLIGHT ON

Cathedral Citizens

Road Safety Campaign



The students of Cathedral Citizens first task this year was to pick which issue they wanted to work on. This was improving road safety on the Lupset estate. The students decided on three main locations which they felt unsafe at, during their walk to and from Trinity Academy Cathedral and settled on the crossroads at Dewsbury Road, which many of them and their friends cross on the way to and from school.

From this, students discussed why they each felt unsafe in this area. Many of them stated it was due to lack of pedestrian crossing at the left-hand side of the road. This allowed the students to understand specifically what they wanted to campaign for.

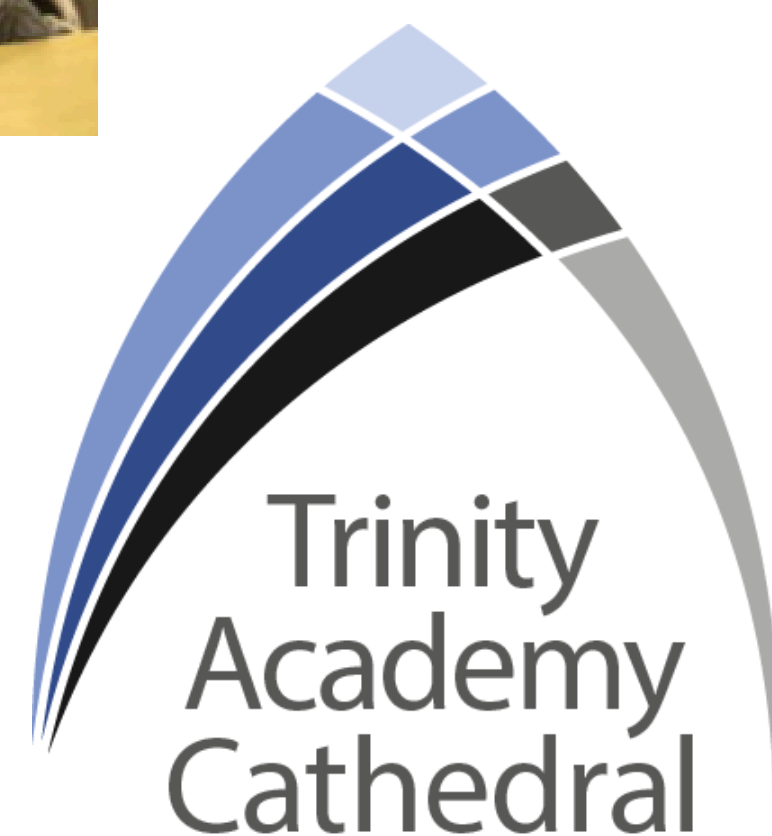
Recently to move the campaign along students met with a local councillor, Matthew Morley, who leads on Planning and Highways. Councillor Morley, met with the students a few weeks ago, where the students presented him with their campaign and evidence for why they want safer roads within this area. From this, the students asked Councillor Morley for his help. Councillor Morley believed that the students were right to worry about this issue and believed it needed to be addressed. He took the students presentation to show at his next meeting on road safety, to allow and help the campaign to move forward.

Councillor Morley is now currently working with the students of Cathedral Citizens on the issue, and we are looking forward to meeting with him after Christmas to discuss the outcome of his meeting with the council. The students have also been invited along to attend a council meeting and meet the mayor in due course.

The future steps of Cathedral Citizens involves continuing to work with Councillor Morley on their road safety campaign. As well as working with the local primary school, Snapethorpe, on new issues which students at Trinity Academy Cathedral and Snapethorpe have in the local area. Cathedral Citizens are looking forward to meeting students in year 5 and 6 at Snapethorpe after the new year to start discussing ideas.



citizensuk



COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY

Cut your carbon

Our Earthshot ambassadors launched the annual Cut Your Carbon campaign. This encourages us all to make small, practical changes that reduce their carbon footprint. Everyday actions—such as walking or cycling for short journeys, reducing energy use at home, and choosing reusable items—can make a big difference when we all work together. This initiative is designed to help students understand the impact of their choices and empower them to take positive steps for the environment.

We invited students, staff, parents and carers to join us in this effort by modelling eco-friendly habits at home. Simple measures like turning off unused lights, avoiding single-use plastics, and supporting local produce can help create a greener future for our children. Together, we can show that sustainability starts with community action and that every contribution counts towards protecting our planet.

You can still take part in this campaign until the end of January. Complete the six challenges at home with friends and family. Students can collect a challenge sheet from chaplaincy. At the end of the January, we'll count how many of you joined in and add up the estimated carbon saved!



☐ Make 3 evening meals plant-based across the month.



☐ Make 3 journeys active across the month.



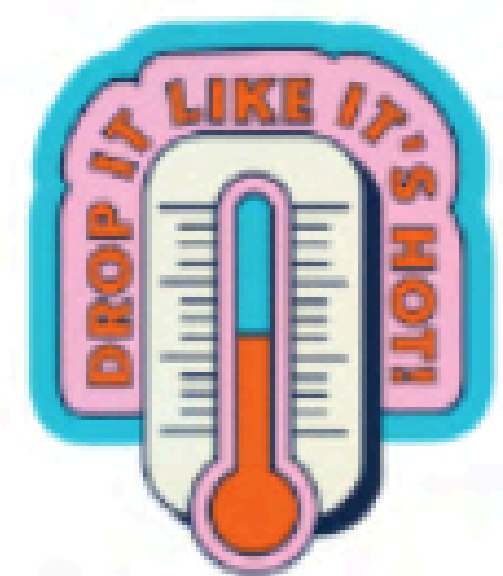
☐ Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week.



☐ Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for three washes across the month.



☐ Have a 'device-free' day.



☐ Drop your heating by 1°C for a week.

Earthshot



COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY

Eco Cafe Success

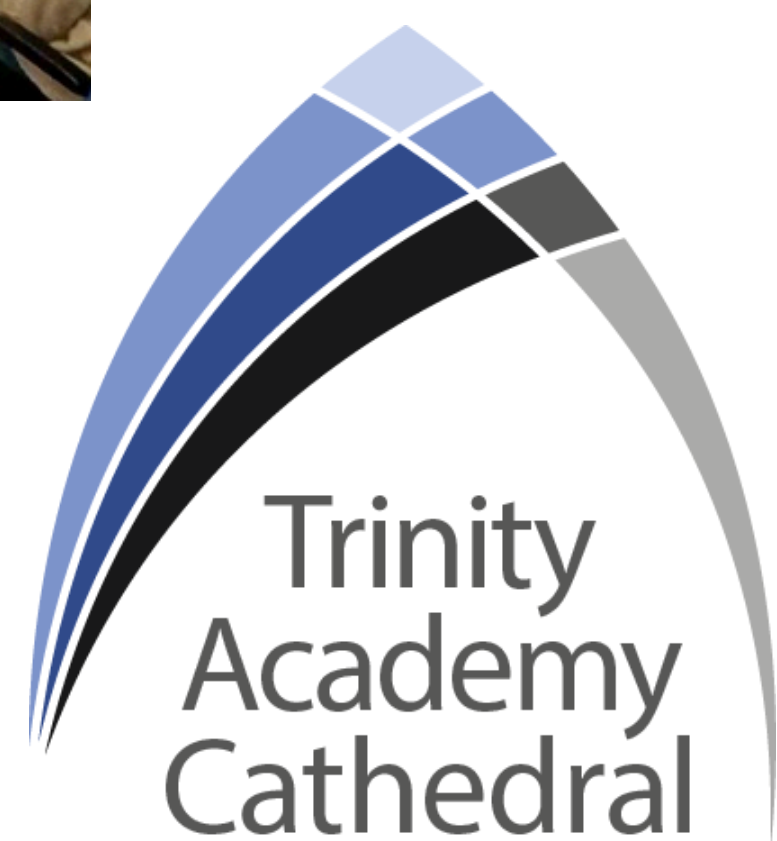


Our Next Gen Leaders and Earthshot Ambassadors recently hosted a fantastic Eco Café, bringing together members of our local community alongside our staff for an afternoon focused on sustainability and community spirit. The event aimed to raise awareness about Just One Tree, a brilliant initiative where just £1 funds the planting of a tree in areas affected by deforestation. We also supported our local hospice in Wakefield, highlighting the importance of caring for both people and the planet.

Our guests were treated to carols from our very own CAPA Juniors. The café featured raffles and eco-themed quizzes to inspire people to enjoy a greener Christmas. Guests enjoyed delicious refreshments while learning practical ways to reduce environmental impact during the festive season. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed—your involvement helps us take meaningful steps toward a more sustainable future and be courageous advocates for our planet!



Earthshot



COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY

Next Gen Leaders

Starting the journey together

On Tuesday 7th October 2025, our students proudly began their journey as part of the NextGen Leaders programme at the Welcome Event. The day was packed with energy and excitement, kicking off with fun team-building activities that encouraged collaboration and creativity. The event introduced students to the core themes of leadership and community impact, exploring the skills and values needed to design and run a successful project. This was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to think big, share ideas, and start shaping their vision for the year ahead.

A special credit goes to our school for the enthusiasm and commitment shown by every participant. Their willingness to engage and learn demonstrates the leadership qualities that will help them thrive in this programme.

I can't wait to see the incredible projects they will develop and the positive impact they will make. This is just the beginning of an exciting journey—well done to all involved!



Golden Connection: Pensioners Party Returns



The Next Gen Leaders are thrilled to announce that they will soon be hosting their second community event through their inspiring project, "Golden Connections". This time, the spotlight shines on the much-anticipated Pensioners Party, a celebration designed to bring joy, laughter, and togetherness to our local senior community.

Over the past few weeks, the team has been working tirelessly behind the scenes, designing invitations, contacting party-goers, organising the venue looks festive and inviting.

The dedication and enthusiasm of the Next Gen Leaders have been inspiring. Every detail has been thoughtfully planned to create an atmosphere of warmth and celebration.

With so much effort already put in, the team is confident that the upcoming event will be a huge success. More than just a party, it represents the spirit of community, kindness, and connection that lies at the heart of the Golden Connection project.



COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY

Parliament Week



Youth Parliament

MAKING OUR MARK

This year's Parliament Week was a huge success, launched by Miss Toney during Collective Worship and continued in Form Worship with an inspiring message from Wakefield's very own MP, Simon Lightwood, encouraging students to get involved with the Youth Parliament.

We are proud to announce that our school received a special shout-out for having the highest number of nominations for Youth Parliament in the area—a fantastic achievement! A big congratulations to the 11 students who put themselves forward to stand as Members of Youth Parliament (MYP). Your commitment to making a difference is truly commendable.

Following their nominations, these students attended a Manifesto Workshop, where they learned how to craft their manifestos and explored the responsibilities of the role. It was an exciting opportunity to develop leadership skills and understand how young voices can shape the future.

We are incredibly impressed by their enthusiasm and dedication to creating positive change. This initiative reflects our school's commitment to empowering students and encouraging active citizenship. Well done to everyone involved—you are helping to shape tomorrow!



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Collective Worship

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD TO WAIT FOR SOMETHING IMPORTANT? HOW DID IT FEEL?

ADVENT, FOR CHRISTIANS, IS A SEASON OF WAITING, PREPARING AND HOPING. WAITING CAN BE EXCITING, UNCOMFORTABLE, DIFFICULT – BUT IT CAN ALSO SHAPE US, TEACHING PATIENCE AND GIVING US FOCUS.

“Advent” comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning arrival or coming, and is the period of four weeks leading up to Christmas. In many churches around the world, on each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas a candle is lit representing one of the values of advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. A final candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning – the Christ candle, representing Light.

Throughout the season of Advent, Christians deliberately take time to focus on each of these values. Whether you are celebrating Christmas as a religious festival or as a cultural one, Advent invites all of us to pause and to think about what we are waiting, preparing and hoping for, and to think about how we are waiting – what's our attitude like? Are we impatient or are we taking the opportunity to prepare ourselves well for what lies ahead?

Our collective worship theme for this term has been love. Jesus taught us to love our neighbours as ourselves; love is what binds our community together. For Christians, the central theme of Christmas is love – it is about God's love for the world in sending his son so that we may experience hope, peace, joy and love. Our students have been taking part in activities putting these values into action in partnership with the Cross Project and the work of our Chaplaincy. Students have been creating cards and decorations for local care homes, the hospice and local residents. Our school community has been invited to reflect upon the values of Advent and how they might put them into action. We will continue with this theme for our Christmas services, taking place on the last day of term with Rev Philip Hobday (our Chair of Governors and Dean of Wakefield).

In what can be such a busy time, Advent invites us to pause and to reflect: where do you find hope? How could you be a peacemaker? What brings you joy and how can you share that with others? When do you most fully experience love? How can you put these values into practice yourself this Christmastime?



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Matthew 22:37-39

EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Chaplaincy Visit to the Archbishop



As part of their journey towards achieving the Archbishop's Award, pupils enjoyed an inspiring day run through our school chaplaincy. The visit began at 10am with a warm welcome and a fascinating tour led by Br Ryan, giving students a unique insight into the life and history of the community.

At 11am, pupils gathered in the Refectory for an engaging Q&A session, where they had the chance to ask thoughtful questions and learn more about the Brethren's way of life. This was followed by the Midday Office and Mass in the Upper Church, a reflective and memorable experience shared with the Brethren.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch in the Refectory, joined by Br Ryan and Br Jude. Throughout the day, pupils took part in fun and meaningful activities led by Vanessa, all designed to support their Archbishop's Award and deepen their understanding of faith, service, and community.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to meet the Brethren, explore their traditions, and reflect on the values that underpin the Archbishop's Award. A truly enriching experience for all involved!



"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit".

2 Corinthians 3:18



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

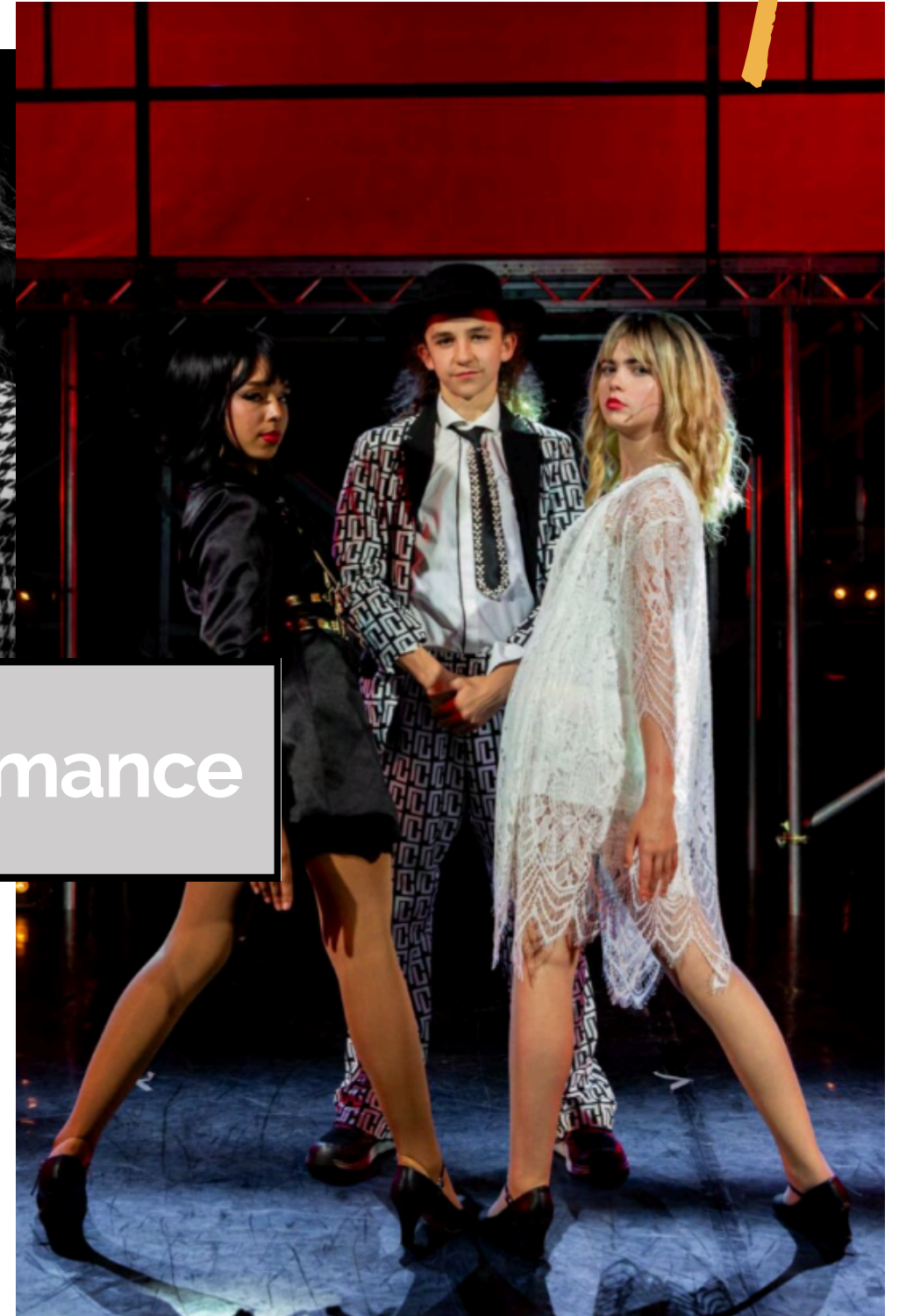
CAPA Catch Up



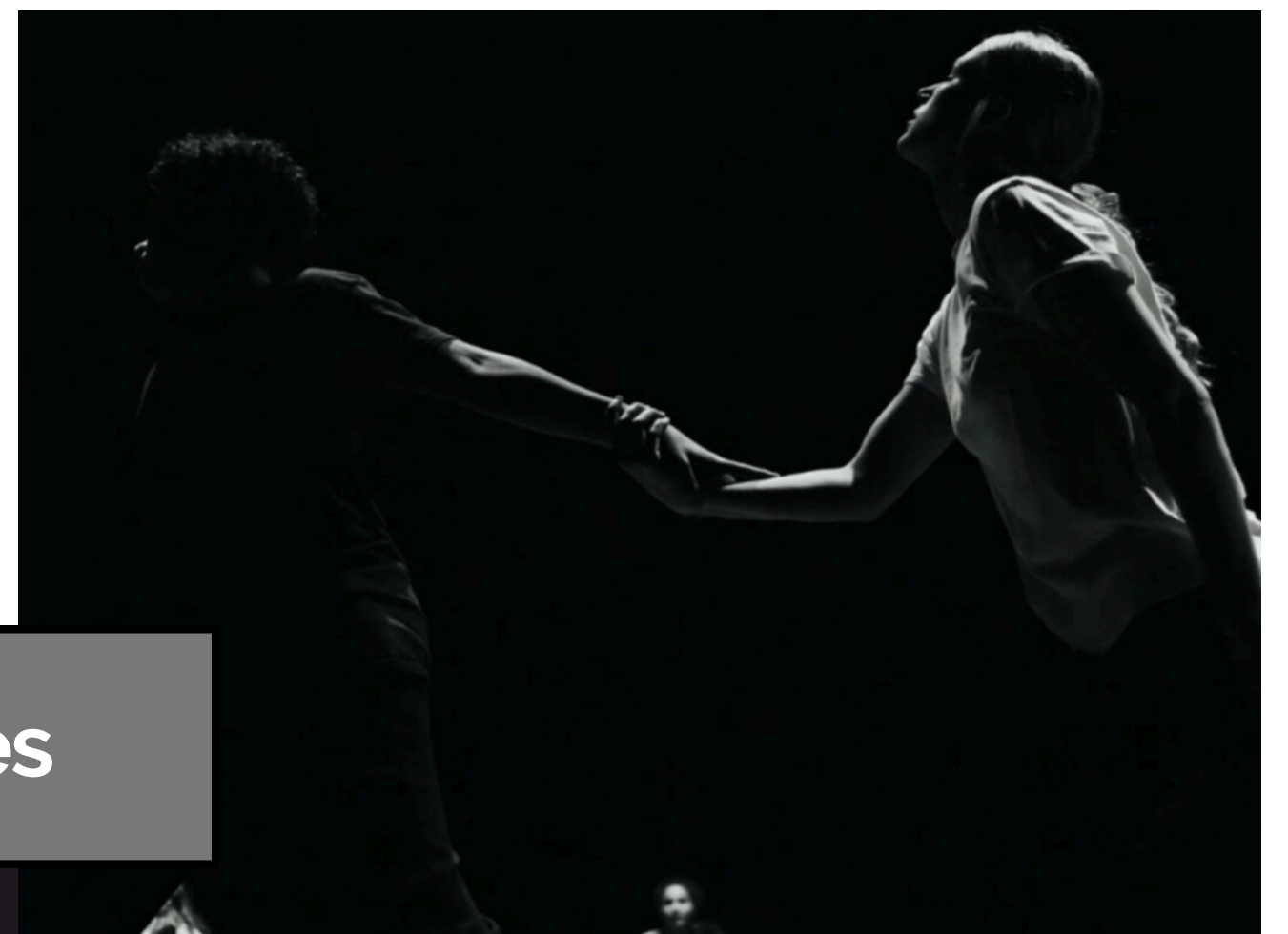
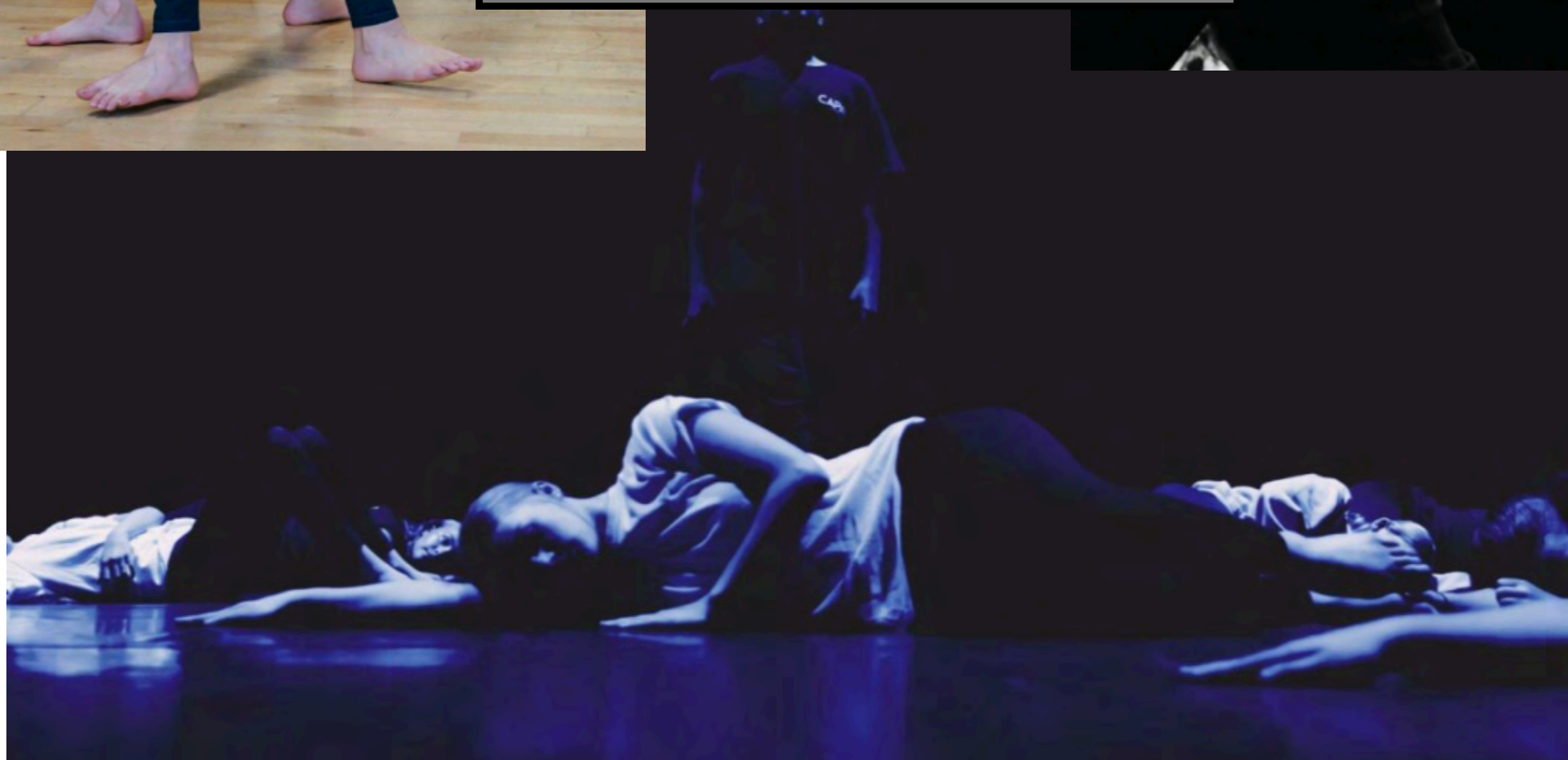
Mary Poppins
Performance



Chicago Performance



Making Moves

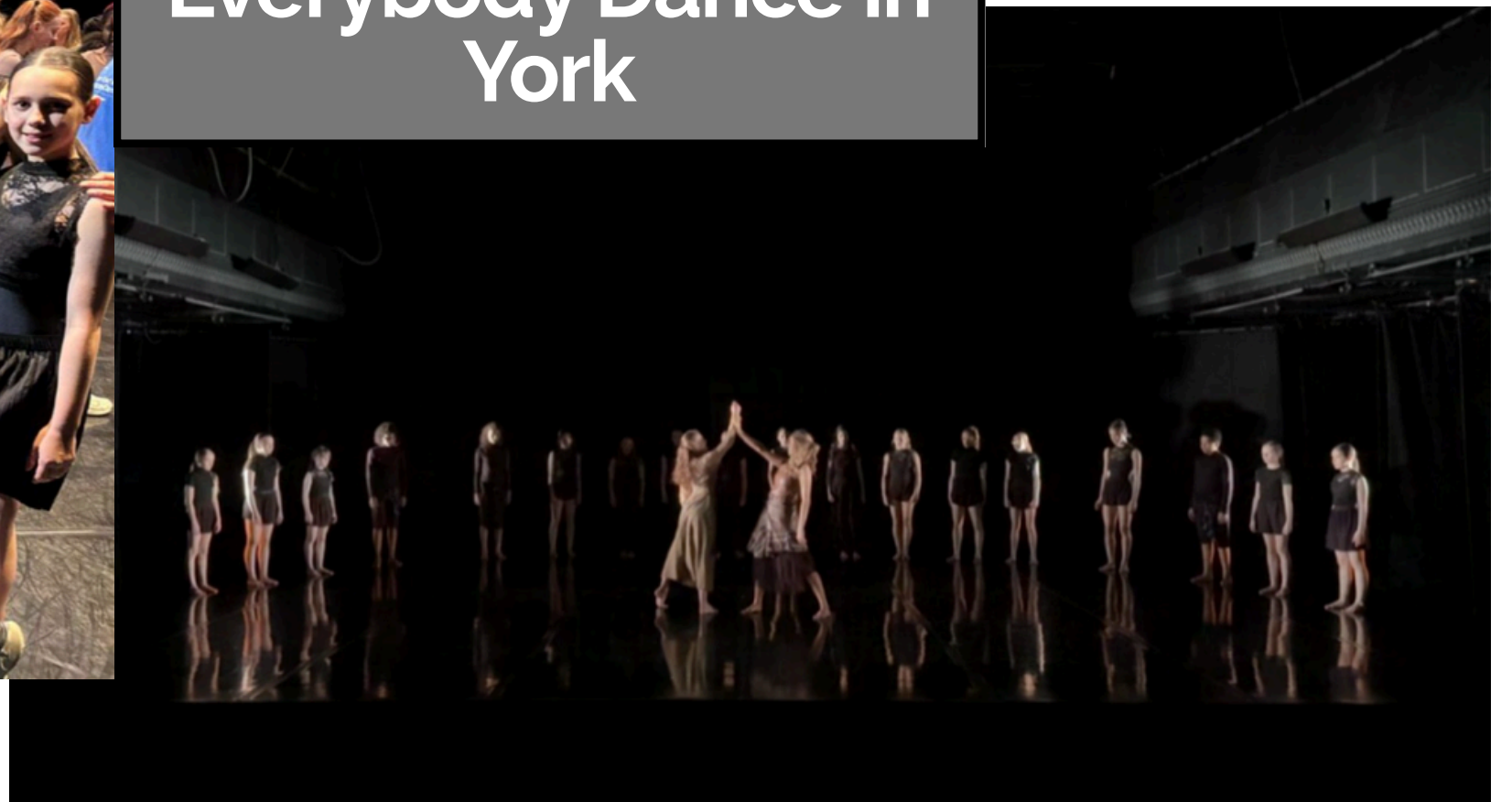


EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

CAPA Catch Up



Everybody Dance in York



Speak up! Workshops



Christmas at the Cathedral



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Focus on your future



Y9 - Medicine - Not just Medics

A group of Year 9 students attended a day out to Leeds University for the "Medicine - Not Just Medics" programme. Students participated in sessions showcasing STEM careers with varied paths into healthcare like radiology, microscopy, and drug design. Students were able to take part in some great interactive activities such as using an ultrasound device to check bone structure in their wrists.

Careers Fair Y9-11

Our Careers Fair gave students the opportunity to explore a wide range of future pathways. They spoke directly with employers, colleges, universities and training providers about careers, courses and apprenticeships. Students left with increased confidence about their next steps and a clearer sense of the opportunities available to them



Lloyds Skills Builder Workshops - Y7-11

Lloyds delivered some fantastic Skills Builder workshops across the entire school, supporting students to strengthen their communication, teamwork and confidence while learning about real workplace expectations and having the opportunity to speak to real employees.



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Focus on your future



BBC Bitesize Careers Tour - Y7-10.

Students took part in the BBC Bitesize Careers Tour, exploring a range of creative and technical industries available to them within their local area. They heard real life career stories from our guests from Jet 2, Leeds First Direct Arena and the BBC. They had the opportunity to ask questions, with Year 7 & 8 asking some particularly impressive ones. Guests commented on how engaged our students were. Feedback from students themselves was also very positive, with many saying how much they enjoyed the event.

C4 Creative Careers Workshops

4 Schools delivered an interactive workshop for Year 7. This gave students a behind the scenes look into the creative industries, including TV, media and digital content. They did this through fun, interactive tasks. It introduced them to careers they may not have otherwise known about and helped broaden their horizons, especially with Channel 4's offices located in Leeds.



Access to Sheffield Y9-11

Year 9: Ten of our students have been accepted onto this highly competitive programme this year. Their first 'Welcome' event takes place this month and they have two further experience days planned before September. These experiences will give them real insight into life at University of Sheffield and the opportunities available to them in the future.

Year 10 & 11: Students have recently explored future opportunities working independently, with university staff and student ambassadors. They have taken part in 2 subject tasters and also worked on their revision and research skills, to help with their GCSE's and future studies.



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Reading Rewards



Reading Homework

Years 7, 8 & 9 are set reading homework each week using the online platform Sparx Reader. The expectation is that students read and gain 300 Sparx ReaderPoints (SRP) each week.

What is Sparx?

Sparx Reader is an engaging and supportive online reading platform that helps students to practice reading regularly, to set them up for success at secondary school and in life beyond.

Accessible

Sparx Reader works on any device, so students can access books from anywhere. Students can access dyslexia-friendly fonts, colour overlays, and reading rulers.

Personalised

Students are offered fantastic books at their level from a wide range of texts.

Reading with understanding

Students complete regular quizzes as they read, encouraging them to read actively and carefully.

Our ebooks include contextual definitions for every word, helping readers understand the text and build their vocabulary.

Engaging

As they read, students answer regular questions, helping them to stay engaged in the story. Readers earn Sparx Reader Points (SRP) and can compete with others to climb the league table.

For more information on Sparx, or how to support young readers scan the code below.



Our library, plus yours

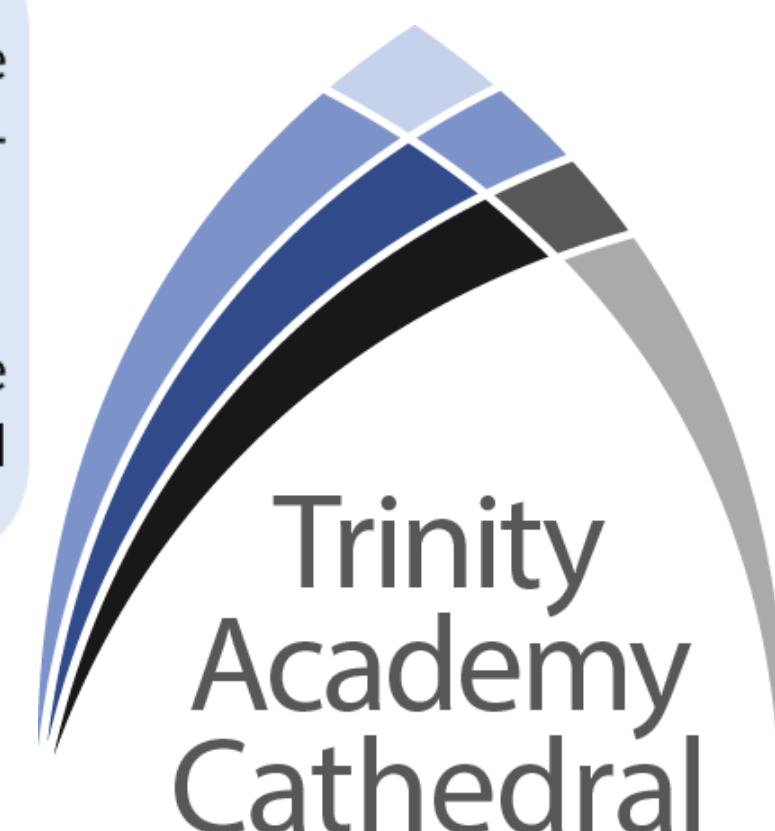
Sparx Reader gives all students access to a rich range of books at home, with quizzes throughout to support engaged reading. Gold Readers can add **any book** and earn points by keeping reading logs.

Impact

So far this year our students have spent over 4,000 hours reading on Sparx and have completed over 2,000 books. Our highest-ranking points scorer has achieved in excess of 30,000 (SRP).

New for this year, we have introduced an individual rewards scheme to run alongside the class Sparx Champions League, in which students can cash in SRP's for prizes and experiences.

Time spent reading had a greater impact on achievement than any other school activity. **Miller (2009)**



DEPARTMENT SHOWCASE

Art and Design

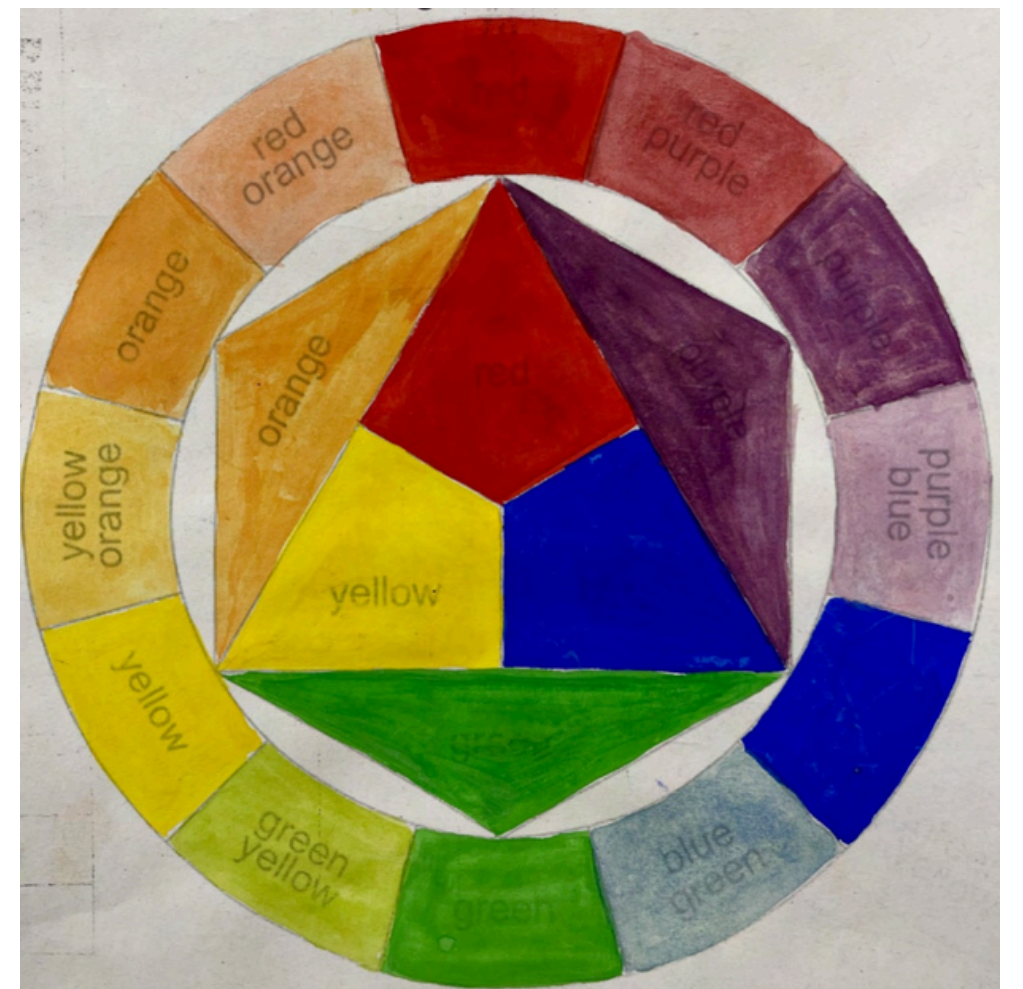
KEY STAGE THREE IS BURSTING WITH COLOUR

This term, KS3 students have been pushing artistic boundaries while exploring the fascinating theory of colour. They discovered how we see colour, how it is formed through artistic mediums, and the relationships within the colour wheel.

Year 7 and Year 8 confidently created their own watercolour colour wheels, mastering colour accuracy, consistency, and application. Year 9 extended their knowledge by experimenting with tints, tones, and shades, exploring a more diverse range of colours to deepen their understanding of colour harmony and contrast.

In response to their initial colour theory findings, Year 7 went on to painting bold abstract portraits inspired by Picasso, applying expressive colour choices to convey emotion and individuality. Year 8 embraced the energy of Pop Art through the iconic styles of Roy Lichtenstein. Year 9 concluded with intricate mandalas influenced by mosaic design, combining precision with imaginative colour placement.

These projects celebrated creativity and cross-curricular links, proving how art connects and enriches wider learning while encouraging students to think critically and creatively.



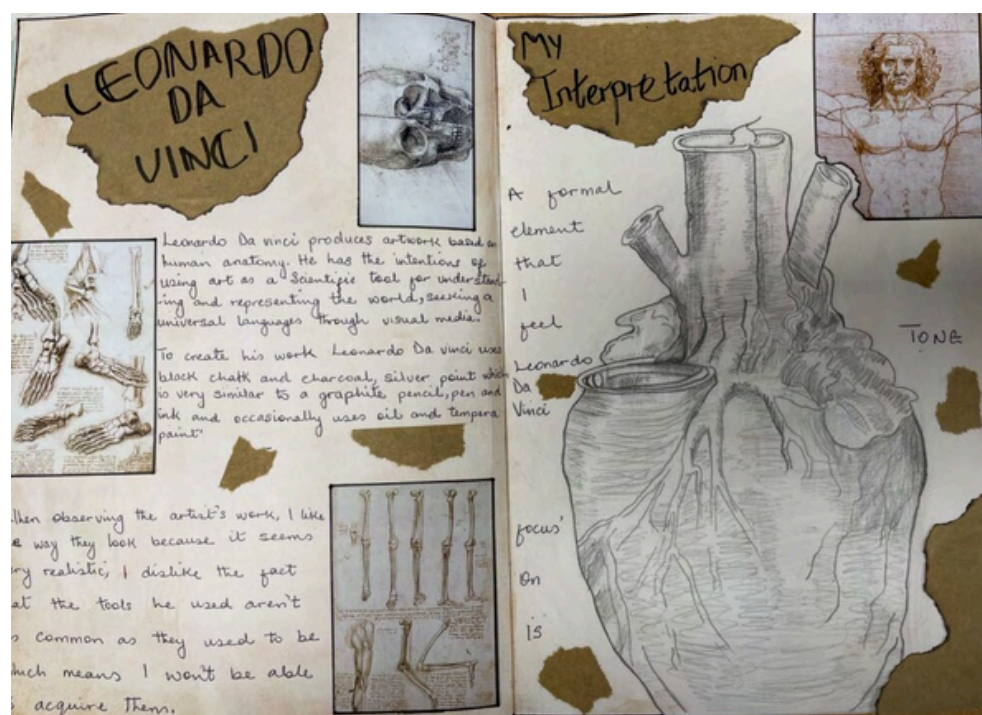
DEPARTMENT SHOWCASE

Art and Design

Year 10 are exploring new horizons!

Our new Year 10 cohort launched into their introductory project on human anatomy and natural forms, bursting with creativity and ambition. Students have researched artists, created interpretations, gathered their own primary sources and experimented with mixed media to develop unique large-scale outcomes.

It has been fantastic to see our students confidently apply their KS3 knowledge to their sketchbooks, presenting work in a truly artistic style and setting the tone for an exciting GCSE journey.

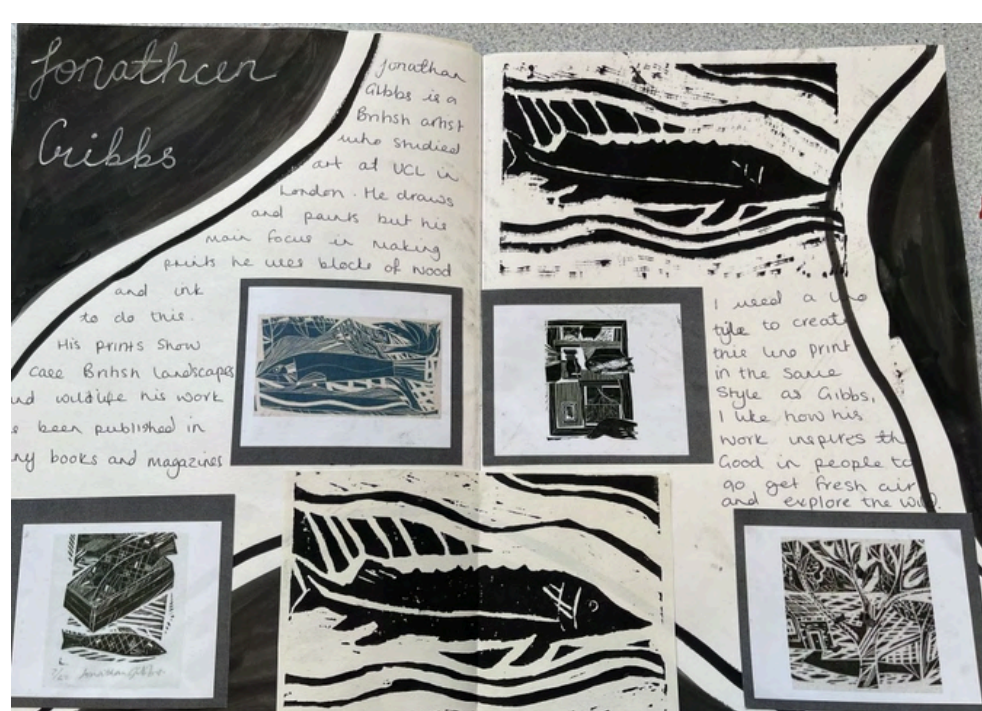
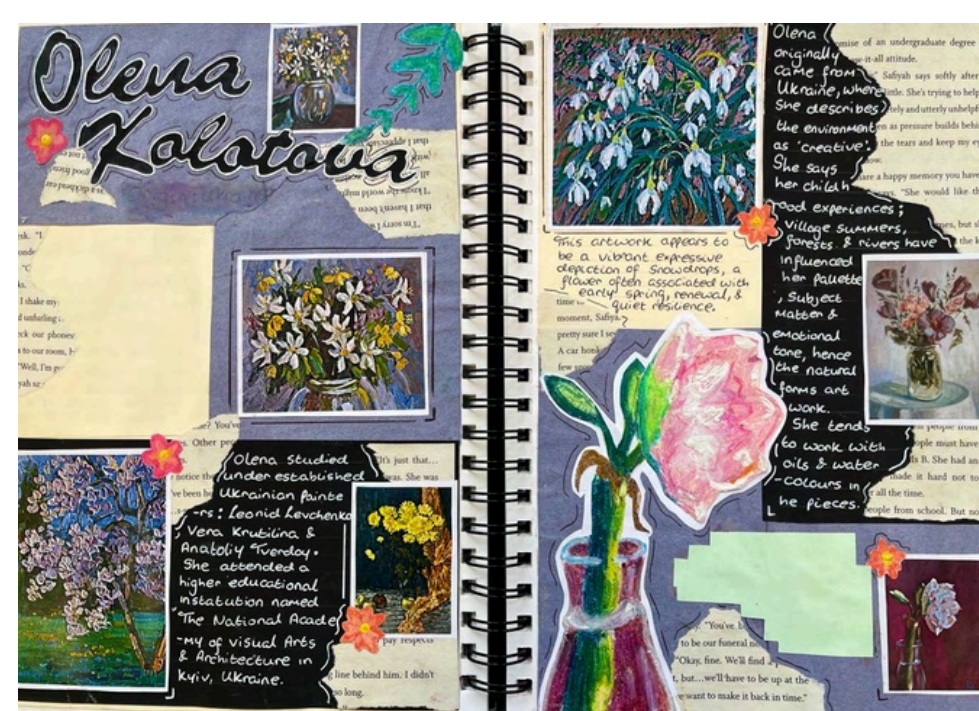


Year 11 are showing resilience and dedication!

Year 11 have shown incredible resilience as they approached the completion of their Human Emotion project. Their work demonstrates depth, narrative, and technical skill, weaving together art movements, artist influences, and personal interpretation.

Students have worked exceptionally hard both in lessons and at home, attended voluntary P7 sessions every Tuesday and Wednesday, and pushed themselves to meet their final deadline. We are so proud of their commitment and creativity when we reflect on the outstanding portfolios produced throughout this component.

Now it's time for a well deserved break before their exam component arrives like a surprise gift from Santa on the first day back in January!



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Sports Round-Up

Primary pyramid games

A great afternoon at our TAC pyramid games. Year 5 pupils from Snapethorpe, The Mount, Flanshaw, Lawfield, and Methodist took part in Kabaddi and Boccia. They all demonstrated excellent teamwork and communication skills. Congratulations to Lawfield who were our overall winners, managing to finish undefeated in both sports. A special thank you to our sports leaders who were extremely helpful with our visitors, explaining rules and encouraging throughout.



District netball

Year 8 student Obia showed an exceptional performance during her netball trial and successfully made it onto the U13 Wakefield District netball team. Well done Obia!!



TAC football

A great win for our year 8 boy's footballers against Akworth, a late goal from Max C sealed the 2-1 win!!!

The first game of the season for our year 7 and 8 girls football team saw us dominate Horbury in a 4-2 win!! Aisha was given the captain's armband and coached her team all the way through - well done girls.



Facilities

Over the summer trinity academy cathedral had an amazing transformation, with a newly installed astroturf and MUGA. Looking forward to teaching some great lessons on here!



EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Sports Round-Up

Netball Update

A tournament for both year 7 and year 8 girls saw a successful afternoon for both teams. The year 7 team demonstrated some excellent play and teamwork, and our year 8's came home in second place. Overall cathedral finished third, an outstanding result!!



The first game of the season for our brilliant year 8's against Woodkirk, coming home with a 9-2 win and even a couple of debuts.

A great start to the season for our year 9 and 10 netballers who dominated both games, showing excellent teamwork and dedication. With year 9 winning 7-3 and year 10 winning a whopping 15-0, we are excited at what's to come later in the year.



Another game for the year 7 and 10 students this week against Woodkirk, with some great netball being displayed. Year 10 girls won an immense 17-0, while our year 7's came out with a 4-0 loss but with lots to take from the game. Well done girls!

