



LYMM
HIGH SCHOOL

FOUNDED c.1592



Hall Together,
p.8

Have you bought
your raffle tickets
yet?

The Code Show,
p.14

Students explored
the world of digital
creativity.

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: OCTOBER 2025 · WWW.LYMMHIGH.ORG.UK



AFRICAN ADVENTURES

Afritwin is Lymm High's partnership with a school in Kenya.

A group of our students embarked on a truly unforgettable journey to Kenya – a trip filled with learning, service, friendship and adventure, writes Mr Powell.

From the moment we arrived, the students were immersed in the rich Kenyan culture and way of life.

Visiting rural communities, they witnessed first-hand the

challenges many families face: homes built from simple materials, lack of clean water, limited access to food, and schools with only the most basic resources. Despite these hardships, the warmth and

SCHOOL NEWS

resilience of the local people shone through at every turn.

School experience

One of the most meaningful parts of the trip was volunteering at a local school, where our students rolled up their sleeves to help with construction and repair projects. They worked hard painting classrooms, fixing desks, helping to build a shaded outdoor learning area, and even learning a spot of tiling and grouting.

It was inspiring to see our young people take such pride in contributing to a project that will benefit generations of Kenyan students to come.

As they worked side by side with local children and teachers, real friendships began to form. Language and

lifestyle differences quickly faded as everyone bonded over shared laughter, songs, football matches, and the simple joy of working together towards a common goal. These connections were a powerful reminder that kindness, teamwork and understanding can bridge any divide.

Rest & Recuperation

“Highlights at the hotel were

“We were made to feel welcome wherever we went and the hospitality at our hotel was so lovely. The staff were friendly and helpful and made our stay comfortable.”



being able to enjoy a swim at the end of the long, hot, dusty days in school”, says Ms Hill.

“The karaoke evening that Ms Tunstall organised was just brilliant and Mr Johnson's quiz night was very entertaining, I learnt a lot from the staff round!”





A highlight was the school experience, says Ms Hill. “It was so rewarding and we had the warmest of welcomes with singing and introductions”.

The Lymm students were really thrown into teaching and tiling a classroom from day one. Everyone involved themselves responding to the requests from the staff and students at Angallo Academy, and firm bonds were made straight away.

“We were very struck about the numbers in the nursery classes compared to the grade nine class, over 50 to four students”, says Ms Hill.





Safari

The trip also included a breathtaking African safari, which gave the students a chance to see Kenya's stunning wildlife up close. Giraffes, elephants, zebras, lions, rhinos and cheetahs – the animals didn't disappoint! The excitement of spotting these majestic creatures in the wild was a magical highlight for everyone.

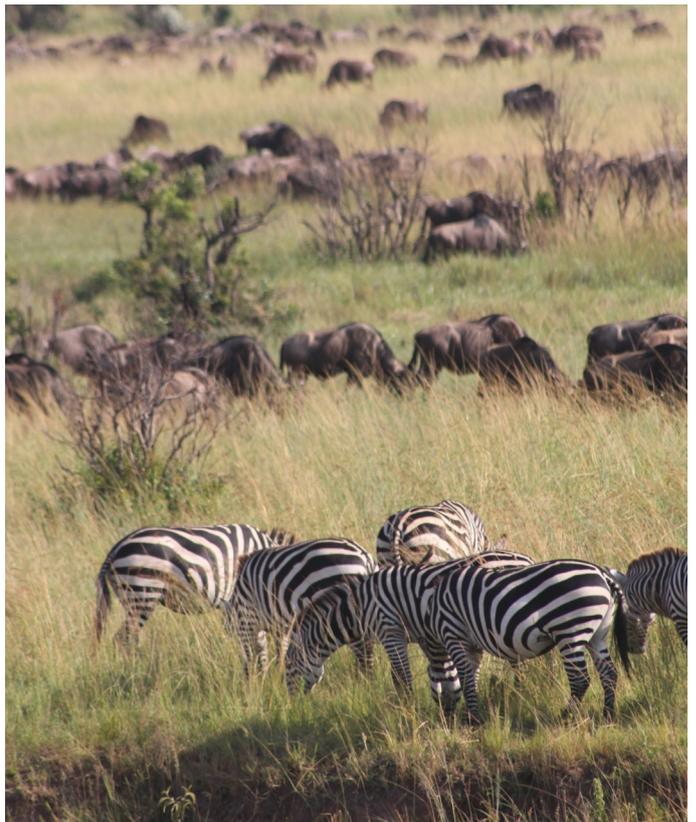
"The safari was unbelievable", says Ms Hill. "Our guides were so well informed and we managed to spot a lot of the Big Five and The Ugly Five!"



This journey was about so much more than travel. It opened the students' eyes to different ways of life, taught them the value of giving back, and created lifelong memories and friendships. The experience sparked reflection, compassion and a deep appreciation for what we often take for granted. We return with full

hearts, new perspectives, and a renewed sense of purpose.

Signed-up students are now preparing for the 2026 trip. The July 2028 trip will be launched next September. For more information on Lymm High's Afritwin scheme, [click here](#).





LYMM HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS

WE WILL ROCK YOU



SHOW DATES
(NOVEMBER 2025)

TUESDAY 25TH
WEDNESDAY 26TH
THURSDAY 27TH
FRIDAY 28TH

7.00PM
MAIN HALL

ADULTS **£12**
UNDER 18/
CONCESSIONS **£6**

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AND MIS OFFICE
(THE OLD SCHOOL SHOP)

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Joël Penkman

WORKSHOP

The Visual Arts department run a visiting artist programme to provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of different techniques, materials and processes.

On Tuesday 14th October, Year 10 students studying GCSE Fine Art had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a full-day art workshop led by Joël Penkman.

Joël is a professional artist and illustrator whose work focuses on the theme of food, which is the same theme our students are currently exploring in their coursework projects. She is best known for her beautifully detailed paintings of sweets, desserts and everyday treats, which she creates using a traditional medium called egg tempera – a method dating back to the Renaissance that involves mixing pigments with egg yolk.

Her work combines a sense of nostalgia with a contemporary precision, celebrating the beau-

ty in simple, familiar foods. Joël's pieces have featured in exhibitions, publications and commercial projects, and she has worked with major brands such as McDonalds, Waitrose and *The Guardian*.

The day began with an introduction from Joël, who spoke about her career, her artistic process, and the realities of working as a full-time artist. She shared valuable insights into the different ways artists can earn a living, from commissions to illustration and design work. This advice was particularly inspiring for students considering future careers in the creative industries.

After her talk, students began photographing a colourful selection of sweets and cakes in the



style of Joël's work, focusing on lighting, composition and presentation.

Joël then demonstrated her painting techniques, showing how she builds up colour and texture. Students spent the remainder of the day creating their own food-themed artworks, applying the new techniques they had learned.

The workshop was a great success, with all students fully embracing the chance to learn from a professional art-

ist. The resulting paintings look fantastic and will form an important part of the students' current coursework projects.

It was an inspiring day that encouraged creativity, technical skill, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be a working artist.

A huge thank you to Joël Penkman for sharing her time and expertise and well done to all the Year 10 Fine

Art students for their enthusiasm and hard work!

For more information about Joël Penkman, [click here](#).

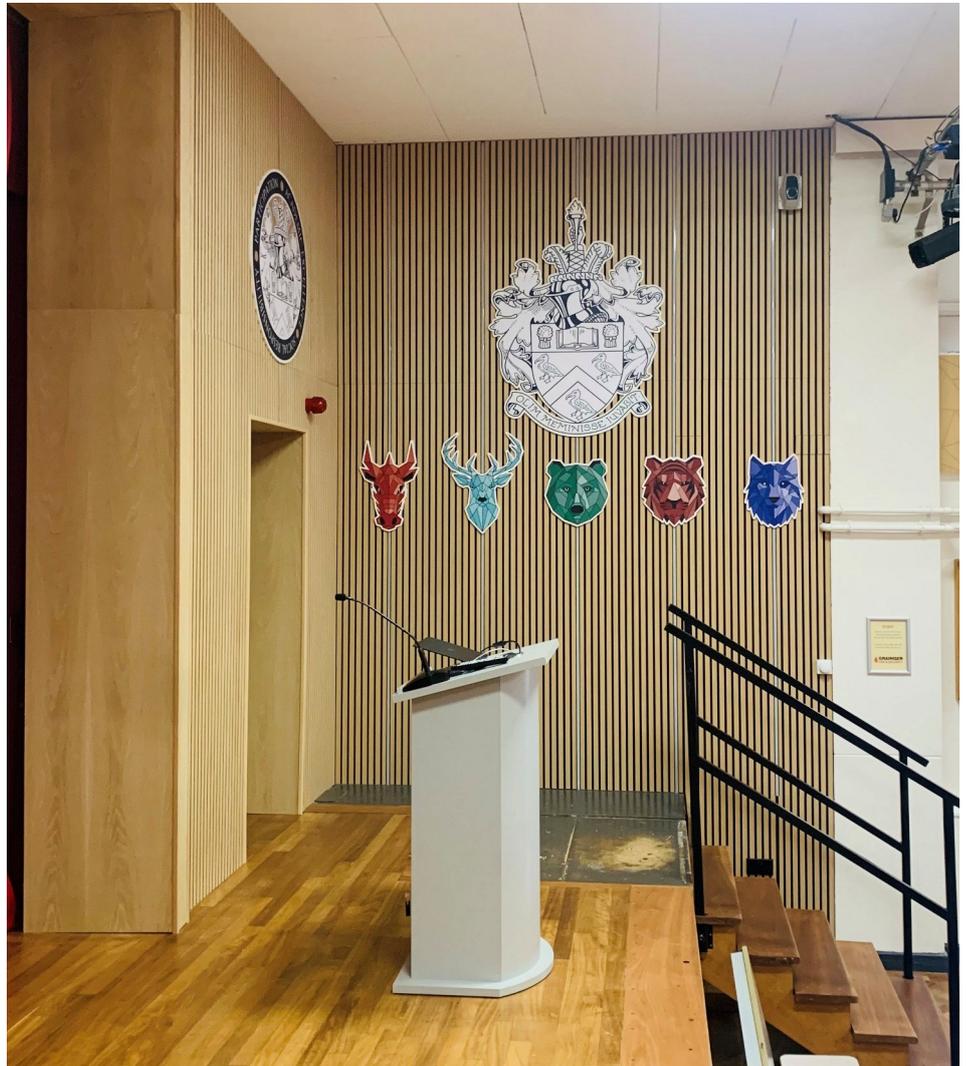
HALL TOGETHER NOW

There's just over a month to go until our online raffle is drawn. Have you bought your tickets yet?

This fun and easy way to raise funds to support the transformation of our Main Hall will go towards upgrading the theatre lights and sound system.

So far we've sold a total of 1355 tickets. We have also had two very generous donations from our beloved Alumni, which has boosted our total raised so far to over £1700!

Online raffle tickets can be bought for £2 each, and you can buy as many as you like. Anyone over the age of 18 can take part, and they don't need to be linked to Lymm High School, or indeed Lymm.



The raffle will close at noon on Friday 12th December 2025.

Winners will be announced the same day.

The prizes include:

- 1st Prize – £1000
- 2nd Prize – £500
- 3rd Prize – Hot air balloon ride for 2 people
- 4th Prize – DeLonghi bean-to-cup coffee machine
- 5th prize – Lifestyle photography session



Scan the QR code
to buy tickets
or [click here](#).

HAVE YOU ENTERED YET?

ENTER OUR HALL TOGETHER ONLINE RAFFLE

BIG PRIZE GIVEAWAY

CHECK CLASS CHARTS NOTIFICATIONS FOR MORE DETAILS AND
YOU COULD WIN

£500 CASH

OTHER PRIZES INCLUDE:

- 1ST PRIZE £1000 CASH
- 2ND PRIZE £500 CASH
- 3RD PRIZE HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE FOR 2
- 4TH DELONGHI BEAN-TO-CUP COFFEE MACHINE
- 5TH FAMILY PORTRAIT PHOTOSHOOT

SCAN THE QR TO ENTER



HALL TOGETHER

SCHOLARS BREAK GLOBAL STEM RECORDS

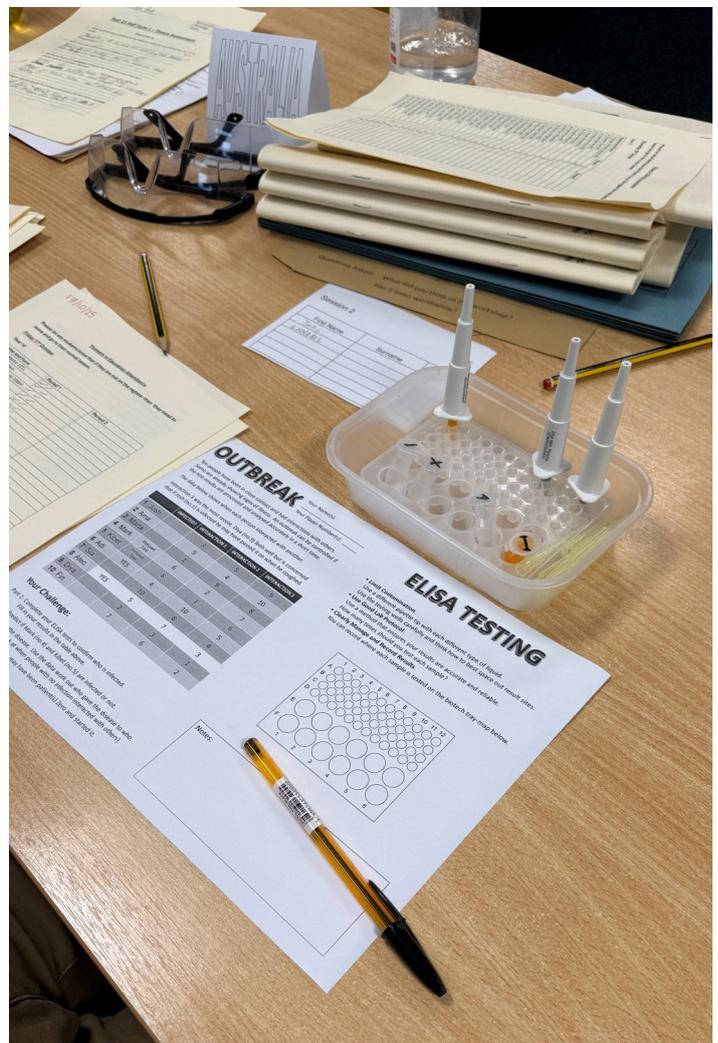
On Friday 17th October, students in Years 8–11 took part in a series of Thinkers in Education STEM workshops, designed to stretch their scientific understanding, teamwork and problem-solving skills under pressure.



The sessions challenged students to think critically and creatively while competing against thousands of students from across the world, writes Miss Cucuz.

Years 8 and 9 took on *CSI: Body in the Box*, analysing DNA and crime scene evidence to solve a missing person case. One of the Year 9 teams – Maya Basan, Amelie Hackett, Ella Donohue, Sam Martin, Holly Williamson and Sophia Bond – achieved an outstanding result, setting a new Key Stage 3 world record in a workshop that has seen over 4700 competitors take part globally. Maya also joined a very select group of students to achieve 100% in the final quiz, marking her as one of the top individual performers worldwide.

One of the Year 8 teams – James Purkis, Caspar Newns, Chloe Williams, Sophie Williams, Sophie Bennett and Emilia Da Costa – also impressed, setting a new record in the obser-



vation and deduction round and narrowly missing out on the overall win.

Students in Years 10 and 11 participated in *Medical Science: Pandemic*, investigating ways to prevent future pandemics and tracing the source of the Ebola virus. A Year 11 team consisting of Jessica Barnes, Evie Strangeways, Georgia Currie, Eliza Ottiwell, Eloise Taylor and Evie Nunnerley, set a new global record with 105,044 points, surpassing all previous scores from more than 10,000 students worldwide. This includes those in Years 12, 13, and even first-year university students from Oxford and Cambridge!

Workshop leaders praised our students for their focus, collaboration and resilience, commenting that their performance outshone that of many prestigious independent schools. These achievements demonstrate the exceptional scientific thinking and teamwork shown



by our students, placing them among the top-performing young scientists on the global stage.

BOWLED OVER

On Wednesday 22nd October, a group of students from Years 7 and 8 took part in an inclusive bowling competition, competing against other secondary schools across Warrington.

“The students had an amazing day and represented the school brilliantly”, said Mr Brownlow who accompanied the students to Tenpin.

“Their teamwork and enthusiasm were outstanding – and I’m delighted to say they won the competition!” As a result, the students have now qualified to compete in the national competition later in the year.

“The students were absolutely overjoyed with their success”, said Mr Brownlow. “I couldn’t be



prouder of their effort and achievement”.

Well done to Jake Cullen, Tyler Rhodes, Zack Chambers, Will Malpass, Lucas Neary, Aurora Owen, Elsa Sherlock, Bethany Haigh and Georgia Walters.



WATER AND WINTER SAFETY

On Wednesday 8th October, we welcomed the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service into school to speak with our Year 8 students about safety.

The team shared important advice on how to stay safe around water throughout the year, especially during the colder months. These valuable reminders, along with other winter safety tips, were shared with Years 7–11 during Form time the following week.

Key tips included:

Water safety in winter

- Never attempt to walk or play on frozen ponds, lakes or rivers – ice can be dangerously thin and unpredictable.
- Keep well back from the edge of open water, as wet or icy surfaces can be extremely slippery.
- If someone falls into water, do not go in after them. Call 999 immediately and try to help by throwing something that floats (such as a lifebuoy or empty container).

Visibility when walking home

- As the evenings get darker earlier, wear bright or reflective clothing so drivers and cyclists can see you clearly.
- Stick to well-lit paths and main routes, and avoid shortcuts through unlit or isolated areas.
- Don't use headphones; or if you do, only use one earbud and keep the volume low so you stay alert to traffic and your surroundings.

Bike safety

- Make sure your bike has working front and rear lights, and use them whenever visibility is poor or after dark.
- Wear a helmet and, if possible, reflective accessories such as armbands or ankle straps.



We encourage you to take a few minutes to talk with your child about these safety messages and how they can stay safe during the winter months.

SCOUTS WIN EXCLUSIVE AWARD FOR HIKING PROWESS

During the last weekend of September, Elliot Crook, Jasper de Glopper, Hector Oyler and James Swift all took part in the Cheshire Hike.

The Cheshire Hike is open to Scouts and Guides, and is a challenging, 2-day expedition completed in teams of 2–5 people.

The Year 10 students walked 55km across the 2 days carrying all their equipment and food for camping overnight.

“They all did an amazing job”, said Elliot’s mum Kara, “and even bumped into Mr Williams whilst walking through Delamere Forest!”

All four students were awarded the Brian Kershaw Award for completing all three age categories of the Cheshire Hike over the past 4 years. This makes it an ‘exclusive club’ for those Scouts and Guides who have covered the

three progressive route distances of 30km, 40km and 50–60km.

Despite their sore legs, they still managed to sport silly hats and smile for the finish line photo. Well done boys!





CODING, CREATING AND CELEBRATING TECH

One of the UK's top interactive digital coding exhibitions, The Code Show, visited Lymm High on Thursday 9th October. Students, staff, parents, carers and the wider Lymm community were all able to explore the world of digital creativity. There was also a museum of vintage computers as well as a model of the first electric car. Workshops were held for students throughout the day, and two of the attendees – Year 12 students Ryan Chakavarika and Kitty Schooler – provided this write-up.

Today we got the opportunity to experience the evolution of computers through The Code Show workshop. It offered a wide range of knowledge surrounding the history of computers, and how women played a major role in creating technologies such as stereos, Polaroids, typewriters and record players. We found the more modern Sinclair c5 (from 1985) – an electric peddle-assisted mode of transportation – fun to experience



and this showed a clear idea of how transport has advanced.

The show was led by an enthusiast who had gathered over 100 computers. He showed us around 67 of his favourite and most impactful computers through history. He then took us through a timeline of technology, starting with the stereo, a common piece of retro iconography. Guiding us through each piece and explaining its significance, he then had us interact with each item. We most enjoyed the typewriter, which we used to write a letter to our teacher. In this process we were able to put ourselves in the shoes of the people like our grandparents and older generations and gain a deeper understanding of how they worked. We found this fun and exciting as this was not an everyday piece of technology. We found it difficult to type without autocorrect and struggled with the ink running out.

We also had an opportunity to play retro games such as Donkey Kong and one of the original FIFA games, which only had three buttons on the controller!

As A' Level students studying IT, The Code Show proved to be very relevant to our course. In addition, this workshop further



developed our knowledge for our Cyber Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which links into the history of computing. For lower school and GCSE students, this workshop acts as a gateway to access knowledge to inspire them early on, helping kick start their career and find their interests.

“As a former GCSE computer science student, I believe that if I had had the opportunity to see The Code Show, it would have deepened my interest in the computer industry”, said Ryan.



APPRECIATING ART

Sixth Form students find their voice at ARTiculation Discovery Day.

A group of our students had the opportunity to take part in the ARTiculation Discovery Day at the Whitworth Gallery, Manchester – an inspiring event designed to develop students' confidence in public speaking and deepen their engagement with visual art. Hosted in partnership with the national ARTiculation programme, the day brought together students from across the region to explore the gallery's exhibitions, take part in dynamic workshops, and learn how to analyse and present artworks in a thoughtful and compelling way.

Throughout the day, our students engaged in guided activities that sharpened their observation skills, encouraged critical thinking, and challenged them to articulate their ideas clearly and confidently. They worked collaboratively, explored artworks in depth, and practised presenting their interpretations to peers –

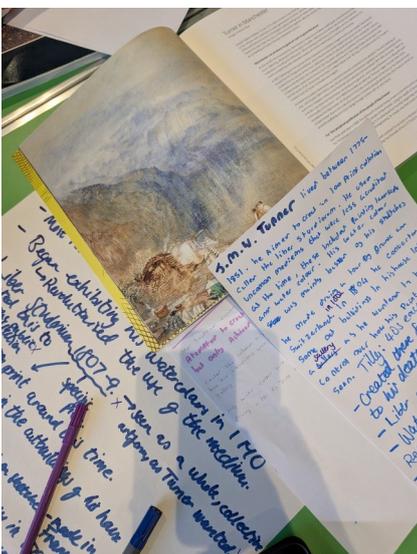
an experience that many described as “eye-opening” and “empowering”.

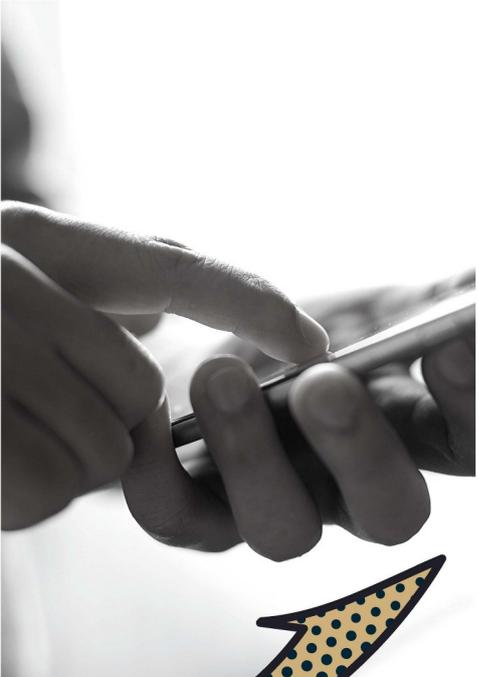
The ARTiculation programme is renowned for encouraging young people



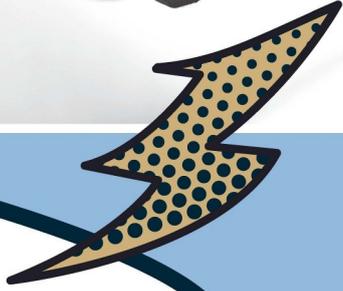
to find their voice – not just in art, but in how they see and understand the world. This experience also prepares students who may wish to take part in the national ARTiculation Prize, a prestigious public speaking competition focused on art and visual culture. Internal school heats for the competition will take place in school in the near future, in advance of the regional heats back at the Whitworth gallery in February.

We are incredibly proud of our students for representing the school with such enthusiasm, curiosity and courage. Opportunities like this not only enrich their appreciation for the arts, but also equip them with valuable transferable skills in research, communication and public speaking.





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BOOM!



POTTERING ABOUT

On Wednesday 1st October, 30 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in an exciting full-day ceramics workshop held in school and led by Andrew Hill.



Andrew Hill is one of the UK's most respected potters and a leading figure in Raku pottery across Europe. With over 37 years of experience and a career that has seen his work exhibited and collected throughout the UK, Europe and beyond, Andrew brought a wealth of knowledge, passion and skill to the workshop. It was a unique opportunity for students to learn directly from a professional artist whose work has inspired many in the world of ceramics.

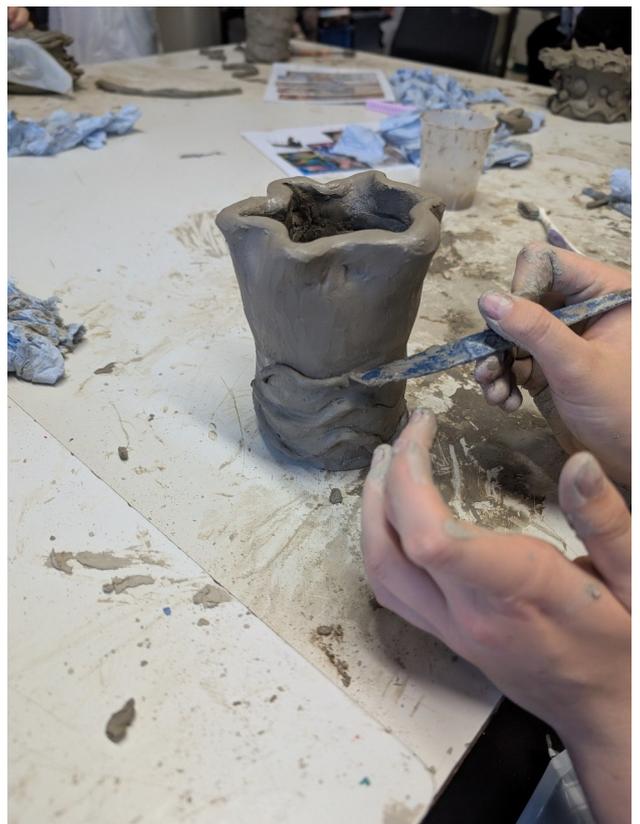
During the workshop, students were introduced to a variety of techniques involved in working with clay. One of the highlights of the day was the chance to experience clay throwing on a potter's wheel, this was a hands-on and often mesmerising process that many students had never tried before. Under Andrew's expert guidance, they quickly got to grips with the process, producing some impressive pieces.

In addition to wheel throwing, each student crafted their own coil pot, drawing inspiration from the theme of the ocean. They carefully shaped, built and decorated their pieces, exploring texture, form and surface design. The results were truly stunning, with every pot showing creativity and individuality.

Throughout the day, students not only learned new practical skills but also gained insight into the craftsmanship and creativity involved in ceramics. Andrew Hill's approachable teaching style and enthusiasm made the workshop a memorable and inspiring experience for all involved.

Miss Simms said, "The students should be incredibly proud of what they created, their pots look amazing and will hopefully be treasured for years to come".

For more information on Andrew Hill, [click here](#).



SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE SUCCESS

Huge congratulations to the 14 Sixth Form students who took part in this year's Senior Maths Challenge.

The competition, which brings together the brightest minds from across the country, is no easy feat. Students were tasked with solving a series of challenging mathematical problems that tested their problem-solving, logic and critical thinking skills. From intricate puzzles to time-pressured questions, it was a true test of their mathematical ability.

We are thrilled to announce that Year 12 students Ben Liput, Louis Matthews and Toby Williams earned Gold awards, a remarkable achievement that places them in the top tier of the competition.

A special mention goes to Ben, who qualified for the Gold British International Mathematical Olympiad (GoldBiS)! This is an outstanding achievement, as it means he will be representing our school in the next level of national competition, where he will face even more complex mathematical challenges.

The Senior Maths Challenge is part of a series of prestigious mathematical competitions, with the Senior Kangaroo and BMO1 (British Mathematical Olympiad 1) coming up on

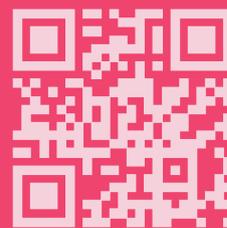


Wednesday 19th November. These competitions offer a chance for students to showcase their mathematical skills on a national stage, with the very best going on to compete in international Olympiads.

Taking part in these competitions not only boosts problem-solving abilities but also encourages students to think creatively, work under pressure, and push the boundaries of their mathematical knowledge. Being part of these challenges is a valuable experience, providing recognition for students' hard work and dedication.

We wish Ben the best of luck for the upcoming Senior Kangaroo and BMO1! We have no doubt you will represent Lymm High with pride and continue to achieve great things.

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THE ART OF LIVERPOOL



On Tuesday 30th September, Year 11 students set out on an exciting research trip to Liverpool city centre to gather vital primary research for their current coursework projects.

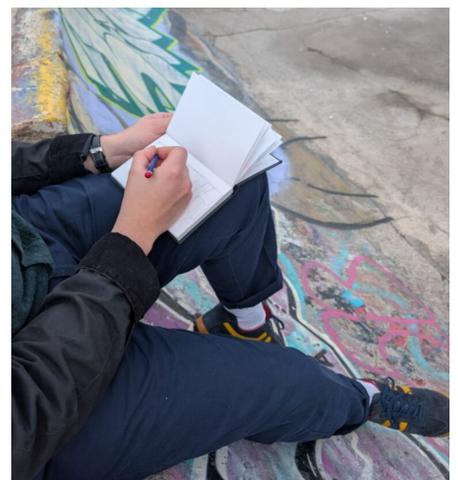
The day began with a visit to the Walker Art Gallery. With its grand architecture and an impressive range of exhibitions, the gallery offered plenty of inspiration for both Fine Art and Photography students.

A particular highlight was the John Moores Painting Prize Exhibition – a contemporary painting competition showcasing a diverse range

of innovative and thought-provoking works by emerging and established artists across the UK. This celebrated exhibition provided students with valuable insight into modern artistic practices.

While exploring the gallery, students took notes, sketched and reflected on the pieces that stood out to them or related to their current coursework themes.

The Photography students, who are currently working on a project based on archi-





itecture, found the interior and exterior of the Walker Gallery especially useful. From intricate design features to bold structural lines, the building itself became a subject for their photographs.

After the gallery visit, the group made their way towards Liverpool's historic Albert Dock area, continuing to document the city through sketches and photographs.

"The journey through the streets of Liverpool offered plenty of visual

inspiration, from urban landscapes to architectural details, making it an ideal setting for gathering primary research", said Miss Simms.

The trip was a productive and inspiring one, giving students the chance to experience professional art in a real-world context, and gather unique research material for their coursework.

We can't wait to see how this day trip influences the students' future work.



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING



Thursday
13th November 2025

5.00pm to 8.00pm



Scan QR to register your interest online

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LYMM
SIXTH FORM

BIG APPLE BOUND



professional teachers. Colleges also attend to look for prospective students.

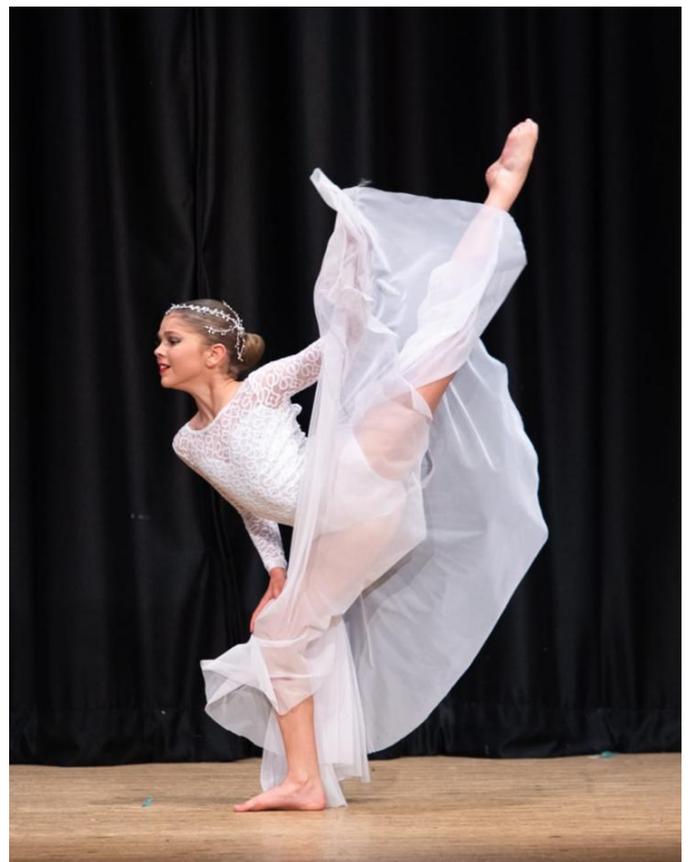
At the CYD convention, Darcey was spotted by The Joffrey Ballet School, which was founded in 1953 in New York City. It provides year-round, pre-professional training for dancers in both classical ballet and jazz/contemporary styles. The school is known for its diverse curriculum and is recognised for its strong emphasis on both technical skill and artistic expression.

“We have received an email to say she has been offered a scholarship to attend the summer intensive training programme in New York in August 2026”, said Mrs Swift. “We are absolutely thrilled, it's an amazing opportunity for her, and her work ethic both in and out of school is incredible. She trains with me up to six times a week at Danceworkz. I'm incredibly proud of her and she can't wait to go to New York. She is surely one to watch for the future.”

After being spotted at a dance convention, Year 9 Darcey Klass has been offered a scholarship from The Joffrey Ballet School in New York, studying jazz and contemporary.

It is Darcey's dream to go to Laine Theatre Arts when she is 16. “She has attended the Laine Theatre Arts summer school for 2 years running”, said Mrs Swift, “and this year she was awarded the commitment to the course award from Cristian Valle, which was incredible!”.

Mrs Swift took Darcey to the Can You Dance (CYD) Super Convention in Liverpool on 18th and 19th October where students take classes and lectures with some of the industry's most



WEAR IT PINK

On Thursday 23rd October, Lymm High Sixth Form once again donned pink to raise money for Breast Cancer Now.



In aid of
**BREAST
CANCER
NOW**
The research
& care charity

Ditching the usual uniforms, they rocked an incredible array of pink outfits – from bright pink hoodies and flashy socks to quirky pink accessories! Students chipped in £1 to support this fantastic cause, and the energy around school was buzzing all day.

At break time, the excitement continued with a lively game of Pink Bingo, where students gathered eagerly to shout out their numbers and compete for the prize.

It was a wonderful day full of fun, colour and generosity – a perfect way to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. A huge thank you to our amazing charities team (Imogen Magrane, Milly Gallagher, Isla Patterson, Sofia Naylor and Faith Lloyd) who



organised the event and made sure everything ran smoothly.

For more information on the Wear it Pink charity, please [click here](#).

SHOEBOX APPEAL

We are again supporting the Manchester Street Angels Shoebox Appeal to support those who are homeless and struggling in our community.

Students in Years 7–9 will be collecting shoeboxes, gifts and £1 donations for this wonderful cause. Shoeboxes can be filled with items for the homeless, elderly people, children, teenagers, adults or even dogs.

Please ensure all donations are brought to Form Tutors by Monday 17th November.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



U13 CRICKET SELECTION

Seb Jones has been selected to play for England's U13s Indoor Cricket team and travelled to India over the October half-term break to take part in an international competition.

The Year 7 student and his England U13s teammates did exceptionally well and won the tournament in Bangalore for the England Indoor Cricket team.

Seb has loved the experience and will now stay in the England Emerging Players Pathway for training with the potential of World Cup selection for September 2026 in South Africa.

“What an amazing experience”, said Miss Taylor. “Well done, Seb!” We’ll keep our fingers crossed for the World Cup selection!



OVER THE 'BLUE' MOON



Well done to Evie Turner-Richards who was a mascot for Manchester City at last Sunday's game. The Year 7 student had an amazing experience.



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LIVE ON AIR



At the start of October, Mr Williams was invited into the Cheshire's Mix56 studio for a live interview.

On the Morning Show with Phil Roberts, Mr Williams spoke warmly about the school's many recent achievements and gave a real sense of the passion and pride that drives both staff and students. You can hear the interview by [clicking here](#). From outstanding exam results, innovative teaching projects and a growing emphasis on wellbeing and extra-curricular opportunities, Mr Williams outlined why Lymm High is a place where young people are encouraged to aim high and explore their full potential.

Sadly the latest Department for Education (DfE) [perfor-](#)

[mance data](#) was published the next week, so Mr Williams wasn't able to share the good news that Lymm High is again the top performing school in Warrington!

In the interview, Mr Williams shared his hopes for the future: continuing to develop a learning environment that balances academic success with creativity, resilience and kindness. He talked about working to ensure students leave not only with great qualifications but also with the confidence and skills to thrive in whatever path they choose – whether that's further education, apprenticeships, or entering the world of work.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 13th
November**

Sixth Form Open Evening
(see p.23)

**Friday 14th
November**

Year 13 Mock Exams
begin

**Tuesday 25th to Friday
28th November**

School Production
We Will Rock You
(see p.5)

**Monday 1st
December**

Year 11
Mock Exams begin

**Wednesday 10th
December**

KS3
Celebration Evening

**Thursday 11th
December**

Year 13
Parents' Evening

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