



THE SPIRES COLLEGE SIXTH FORM NEWS LETTER

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Tips for studying in sixth form

1. Keep all notes organised from the beginning.
2. Use a study app (like flora) to help focus and motivation.
3. Utilise the resources in sixth form such as the whiteboards for peer work/mindmaps.

This Year

We are currently in the process of planning social events hopefully to happen before the end of the month. If there is anything you'd like to see please let a member of the leadership team know.

A message from the Director of Sixth Form



The sixth form is delighted to welcome our new Year 12 students. We have a number of very exciting opportunities in the pipeline to enrich the Sixth Form student experience this year. The last academic year was successful in so many ways. All of our Sixth Form leavers have fantastic next steps lined up with many going onto university or apprenticeships (including four students who are taking a gap year to travel the world before going to university). Our current Year 13 had a great time at the end of last year on our trip to London, work experience and next steps programme getting them ready for life beyond school. I am excited for the year ahead.

LONDON TRIP 2024

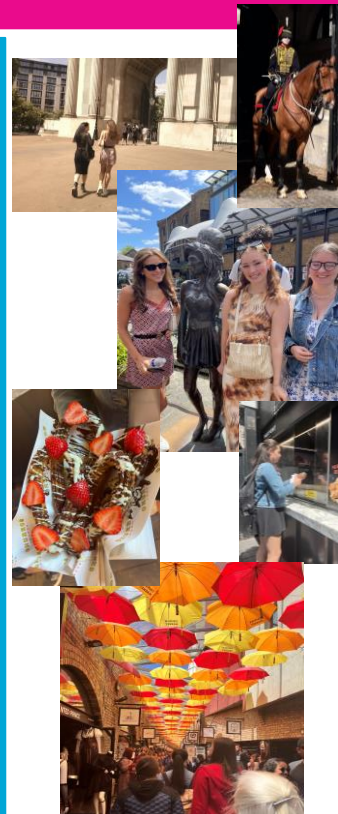
Before the summer, our students had the amazing opportunity to visit many interesting places as a part of our trip to London. Below is a description of the week written by our students.

Once we had arrived we began our week with a walk along the South Bank where we were able to get lunch from street vendors before walking over to the Tate Modern Museum. The Museum holds a variety of different art works including media, digital art, romanticism and modern art. We were allowed to explore the museum in groups and discuss the art that we were able to see.

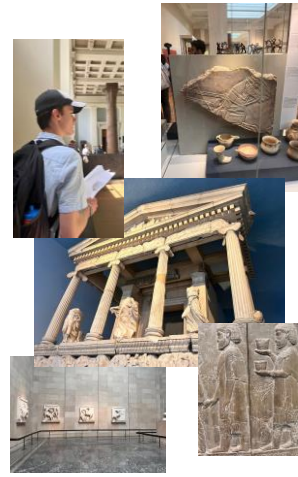


The evening meals on our trip to London allowed for us as a year group to reach outside our comfort zones and experience cultural food we may not have otherwise. The dim sum at Ping Pong restaurant allowed us to specifically adventure into texture as the dumplings provided a chewy and soft wrapper whereas the meat inside was tender and aromatic.

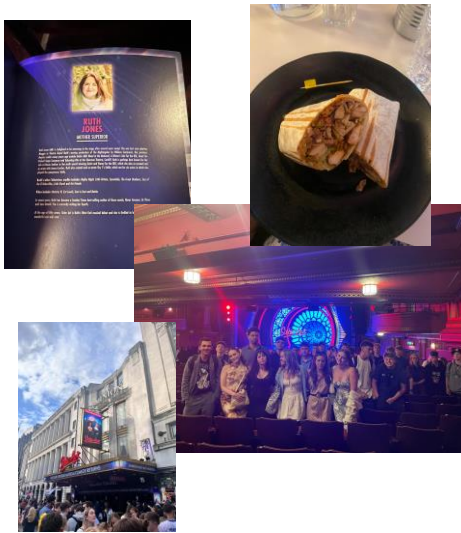
The next day we began by seeing the sites around Westminster; particularly interesting as it was the day of the general election. We then explored Camden Market. This trip was not only educational, exploring London's array of different cultures, but fun as well, gaining an insight into London's vibrant and busy street life. We had the chance in Camden market to explore the diversity of different food alongside the creativity of handmade gifts. A highlight for many while here was seeing the Amy Winehouse statue which felt extra special due for the film studies students who are studying her life story. Overall, Camden Market gave us the opportunity to experience life in the city and encounter a different culture to our own which I thoroughly enjoyed.



After our visit to Camden Market, we quickly moved on to the British Museum. It is an incredibly fascinating place; whether you normally enjoy History or not it is hard to not be interested in the artefacts on display. A common favourite exhibit was the Ancient Greeks and Romans as the vast array of intricate designs of pottery and large stone structures really is crazy. It appeared to be art which is unique and unlikely to be replicated by artists today.



Dinner for this night was at Mexican style restaurant, DF Taco. The food at DF Tacos led us to an exploration of bold and spicy flavours through the use of undeniably fresh produce and traditional Mexican spices which many enjoyed. After dinner and a short trip to Oxford Street we went to see the incredible musical 'Sister Act', which starred actress Ruth Jones known for her role as 'Nessa' in TV show 'Gavin and Stacey'.



On the last day of our trip we visited Schroders in London to network with industry professionals and enjoy a delicious rooftop BBQ. We met with a wide range of people including lawyers, Foreign Office delegates to Libya, scientists and people with careers in marketing. On the way back home, the day of the general election results, we were able to pass Downing Street just shortly after the incoming PM Sir Keir Starmer was welcomed into Number 10. It was a very interesting time to be in London with such a monumental election taking place while we were at the heart of the nation's capital.



WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

Through my work experience at Hatfield Nursery I was introduced to what a job in childcare would look like. During the week, I met many different children, with different needs and abilities as well as many different staff members. At the beginning of the week, I started by observing tasks that the staff made for the children and helping out the children if they were struggling. By the end of the week I was creating tasks for small groups of 3 - 4 children and guiding them through the activity. By doing this work experience, I was given the opportunity to work alongside professionals and experience what the environment of a nursery is like.

Bethany Gouldthorpe – Hatfield Nursery



During my work experience at Forgeway's research and development lab I was able to discover what a job in the chemistry industry would be like. I was able to learn how to use different equipment and by the end of the week I was completing tests on products for the chemists I was working with. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to create formulations to be tested, and I also had the chance to witness processes I have learnt about in theory in a practical environment.

**Lily Barnes
Forgeway**

I undertook work experience as part of my Pathways to Law course at Exeter University at Ashfords LLP. This helped me gain greater understanding of what it takes to make a successful career in the legal sector and how a law firm functions day to day. I partook in various activities and listened to talks from the legal and non legal departments within the firm, including family Law, Wills and Trusts, Estates and HR.



Manni Bell – Ashfords LLP