

STUDENT BLOG



FOR THE STUDENTS, BY THE STUDENTS



Extra-curricular clubs

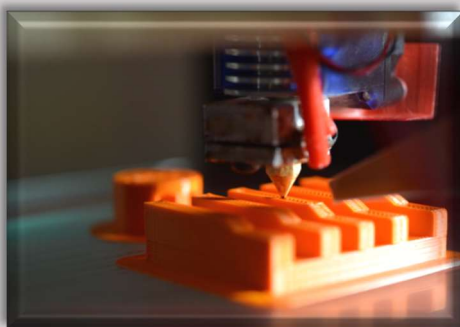
By Annabel 9C

This term many different clubs have been well attended. We really encourage you to join as many as possible to develop new skills and make new friends.

From creative to competitive here are some of the favourites from this term:

Debate Club:

Run by a year 9, this club allows you to argue with your friends over recent topics whilst learning how to be persuasive and gather information for the debate. This club is open to years 7, 8 and 9 in E7 on a Friday lunchtime.



3D Design club:

3D Design Club, formally known as CAD CAM club, runs every Thursday after school in T1/T2. This term students were given the opportunity to design and create whatever they wanted to. Some students created their own board game and more. This club is open to those in year 8 and 9 who sign up.

Home learning club:

This runs every day after-school in the LRC. It is a brilliant opportunity for students to complete their homework on the computers or desks with friends. Many students use this club to finish their homework when their parents cannot make it in time for the end of the school day. This club is open to all students.



Random Fact 1: Chainsaws were first invented for childbirth. It was developed in Scotland in the late 18th Century. It wasn't until the start of the 20th Century that we started using chainsaws for woodchopping.

Another fact: There's no such thing as a straight line. Zoom in close enough to anything and you will spot irregularities.

SPORTS

Netball

By Maya 9H

We have had such a good year regarding sports so far, all year groups have done extremely well, and we have a momentous year to look forward to.

Year 7 netballers came 3rd at their Southeast Berks tournament.

They played all their games amazingly and show much promise for the future.

Moving on to **Year 8**, they have had lots of friendlies, where they did extremely well! One of these was at Maiden Erlegh.

Onto **Year 9**, they have done very well playing in their swift league, with still several weeks to go, all three teams show extreme promise to place well. They also have played their SE Berks and the two teams entered did well as a good warm up for the rest of the year.

Year 10 have won their annual league after playing for weeks undefeated. Congrats to our district champions!



Year 11 most recently played Bohunt in their national cup and beat them 31-4. Well done, that is a score to be proud of and you can see all the work and training that has been put in.

Fun Fact: Hippos can't swim.

Hockey

By Gaurika 9G

In the face of dwindling daylight and lengthening nights, the essence of the sports world remains unyielding at The Holt, offering a spectrum from hockey tournaments to football fixtures along with cross-country races.

At the recent Berkshire All Day hockey Tournament at St Mary's, our school's **Year 9** hockey team displayed remarkable skills and teamwork, advancing to the finals, and securing a commendable fourth-place finish.



The game was a soggy affair as the rain accompanied our every move on the field. Off the field, we engaged in entertaining banana brawls, and the surroundings were filled with the aroma of delicious cookies that we personally attended to. Even though we were all thoroughly exhausted afterward, we had an amazing time. If you are up for joining us on this experience and think that Hockey is the sport for you grab a stick and feel free to swing by hockey club. The more, the merrier!

Lastly a big heartfelt thank you to Mrs. White for helping us be the best versions of ourselves on the field!

Did you know? You can die laughing. And some people have, typically due to intense laughter causing a heart attack or suffocation.

STUDY TIPS

By Amayra and Naksh (9G)

Why do we need to study?

Studying enhances your personal and intellectual growth. It gives you knowledge, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. With knowing these skills, you will be able to teach others around you and would have more opportunities and qualifications.

Why are study tips important?

Study skills can help you learn more effectively and efficiently. You will be able to absorb and retain more information quickly. This will lead to better grades and deeper understanding of the subject matter.



How can we find the right study tips and resources?

The right study tips will be different for every individual as some people might like to visualize and learn while the others might want to use flashcards and then memorize it. To find which way works better for you, you can read on these few tips we came along with...Some of our favourite and recommended study tips to use!

- *Find a good study environment as it helps to be in a more focused environment than a noisy place (also I do not recommend doing your homework or work on your bed I learnt the hard way)*
- *Try taking tests online about whether you are right brained or left brained this can help you see how your brain memorizes things easily.*
- *You can also try to make notes in distinct colours so that the next time you will come back to it, you would feel captivating.*
- *Try the spacing technique it works like when you do something in school that you do not understand revise that at home and then after 3 days quiz yourself on that topic then after 5 days quiz yourself repeatedly after a whole week quiz yourself again.*

Conclusion-

These small and easy study tips can easily change your study routine to be much more effective and they could also help you push your grades up all it takes is some effort and you can achieve the perfect grades!

Random Fact: A chicken once lived for 18 months without a head.

STUDENT BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

By Mma 9G

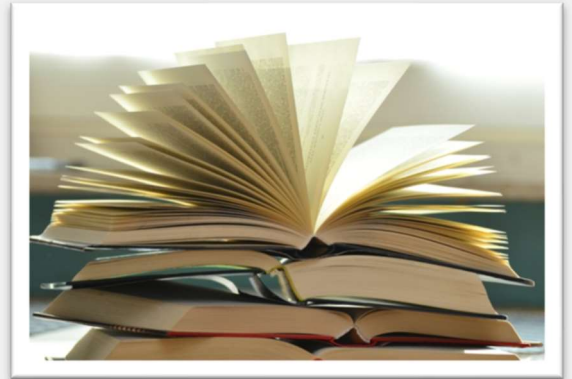
If you've been struggling to find a book lately or are bored of the one you've been reading here are couple of recommendations:

Fantasy:

- Ash Princess by Laura Sebastian
- Blood Heir by Amélie Wen Zhao
- Eragon by Christopher Paolini
- Gravemaids by Kelly Coon
- The Gilded Ones by Namina Forna

Romance:

- The Selection Series by Kierra Cass
- The Fault In Our Stars by John Green
- The Sun Is Also A Star by Nicola Yoon
- Every Day by David Levithan
- Someday by David Levithan
- Heartless by Merissa Meyer



Science fiction:

- The Darkest Minds by Suzanne Collins
- Mortal Engines by Phillip Reeve
- Slick by M.M Vaughan
- The Giver by Lois Lowry

Horror:

- Coraline by Neil Gaiman
- Asylum by Madeline Roux
- Frankenstein Mary Shelley
- The Girl From The Well by Rin Chupeco

Crime and Murder Mystery:

- A Good Girls Guide To Murder by Holly Jackson
- Murder Most Unladylike by Robin Stevens
- The Agathas by Kathleen Glasgow
- Tag You're Dead by Kathryn Foxfield
- One Of Us Is Lying by Karen M. McManus

Comedy:

- Diary Of A Confused Feminist by Kate Weston
- Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell
- My Lady Jane by Cynthia Hand, Jodi Meadows, and Brodi Ashton
- An Abundance Of Katherines by John Green
- Does My Head Look Big In This by Randal Abdel-Fattah

Hey, another one... Apples can float on water.

*These book recommendations are by Year 9 students and may not be suitable for a younger audience.

Ending our first blog with an interesting fact for you...
Snails have teeth. Between 1,000 and 12,000 teeth. Have a nice day :)