



Updates for the parents and community of The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form



## KEY DATES

### Swimming Gala Success

By Mr Shaw

On Friday 11th October, I took a team of Year 10 girls to the East Midland Schools Swimming Gala, held at Nottingham High School. The event was the regional qualifier for the English Schools National Swimming Finals that are taking place in Birmingham in November.

There were over 30 teams in attendance, competing in different age groups, representing 10 different schools. The girls had to compete in two events – 4 x 50m Individual Medley Relay and a 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay.

- 4th Nov - Start of Autumn Term 2
- 7th Nov - Years 9 & 10 Parent Information Evening
- 14th Nov - Year 11 Parents' Evening
- 14th Nov - Year 13 Oxford University Trip
- 19th Nov - Year 9 Languages Morning
- 21st Nov - Year 11 Careers Day
- 21st Nov - Year 12 Oxford University Trip
- 4th Dec - Year 10 Aspire Trip to Nottingham University
- 12th Dec - Year 8 Parents Evening
- 12th Dec - Year 13 Bank of England Trip
- 20th Dec - End of Autumn Term 2. School finishes at 12:30pm



(L-R: Holly, Poppy, Fern, and Sophie)



# Swimming Gala Success

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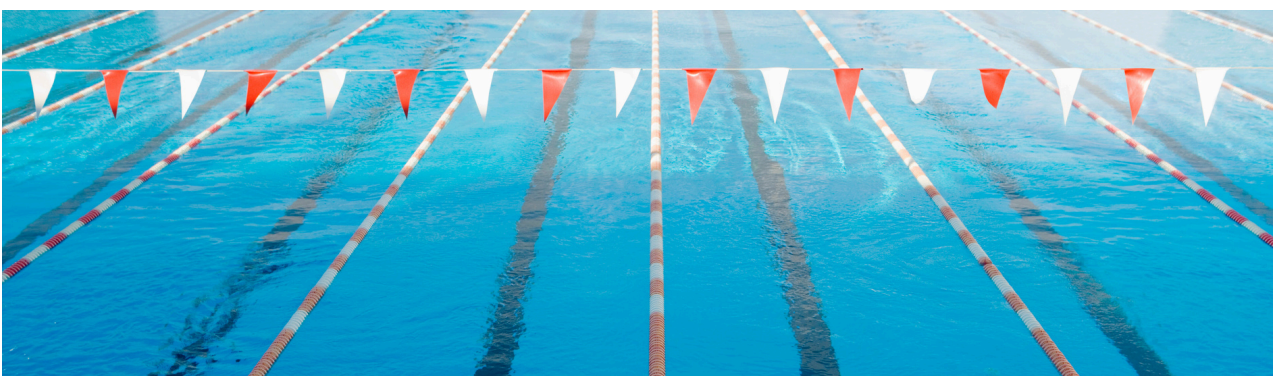
By Mr Shaw

First up was the Individual Medley Relay, in which each swimmer swims a different stroke. We had the luxury of going in Heat 2, which meant we knew the time we would need to beat to qualify as winners. Sophie led us off with the backstroke leg, powering off the wall at the start and getting us into a slender lead. The second leg was Poppy swimming breaststroke. She flew off the blocks and into the pool, effortlessly propelling herself through the water, generating a bigger lead with every stroke. As she handed over to Fern to swim the butterfly leg, we had a couple of seconds lead over our nearest rivals. Fern continued to swim with grace and fluency, maintaining our lead as she handed it over to Holly to swim the final leg. Holly was swimming freestyle and powered through the water towards the turn. As she kicked off the wall, with only 25m to go, we were still in the lead and we were now racing the clock. We needed to beat 2:17, the winning time of Heat 1. As Holly reached for the wall, we clocked a time of 2:13! A comfortable victory in the first event.

In the second event, the Freestyle Relay, we were in Heat 1 so would have to set the time for others to try and beat. In our heat were the team representing King Edward VI School, who were second to us in the first relay. A slight change of order to the team meant Fern was first to go. A brilliant start and first leg swim meant that we were right up on pace with the other competitors. As Fern handed it over to Holly, we had a marginal lead. Holly continued to swim with great speed and power and maintained our position in first place at the halfway stage. Sophie was next to enter the water and swim another fantastic leg, before handing it over to Poppy to complete the relay. Poppy was fast off the blocks, maintained an impressive stroke and held onto win the heat by 0.37 seconds. The girls were happy with their time and now we had to watch nervously as the second heat got underway. Stamford School was the big threat in Heat 2 and so it proved as they took control of the race. As their 4th swimmer completed the last 25m of her leg, the time ticked on. With the swimming reaching for the wall and stopping the clock at 2:03:16. With our time of 2:02:40, we had secured another victory and completed a successful gala.

We now must wait to see if our times are in the fastest 24 qualifiers across the country, to see if we get invited to the National Schools Swimming Finals to be held in Birmingham in November. Based on last year's qualifying times we stand an incredibly good chance and Mr. Shaw is extremely hopeful.

A great achievement for a state school, competing against several private schools, the girls were fantastic and a huge credit to the school.



# Year 5/6 Open Evening

By Mrs Angus

Our annual Open Evening for prospective parents was held on Thursday 19th September and it was delightful to welcome so many families to have a good look around the school and meet all of the staff. We are always proud to showcase the talents of the students and also share the extensive work that has been happening across the site over the past few months. Our beautiful new kitchen and servery opened its doors to all students at the start of this term and the catering team are busy planning menu updates - students and staff have certainly enjoyed sampling new dishes on offer.

We have two new outdoor seating spaces that have canopy covers, providing social spaces for all students during breaks and lunchtimes - we have lighting to be added to these over the half term break so that they will continue to be popular spaces in the winter months! Significant upgrades to the IT network continue and we are pleased with the additional classroom and changing room spaces we have opened in September. Look out for a more detailed update from Mr Griffiths on pages 11 and 12.

## Parent Teacher Association

By Mrs Ferguson

Dear South Wolds Academy Parents/Carers,

We hope this message finds you and your family well! As parents and guardians, we all share the same goal: to give our children the best possible education and experience during their time here at The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form. That's why we're reaching out to YOU with an exciting opportunity to make a real difference.

We are looking to create a brand new PTA to help raise funds for our kids, and for the school.

### What is a PTA?

A Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is more than just a group—it's a community of dedicated parents, teachers, and staff working together to enrich our students' educational experience. From organising fun events to raising much needed funds to ensure our children have the resources they need to succeed, the PTA plays a vital role.

### Why Join the PTA?

When you join the PTA, you become part of a powerful network that supports every student and teacher at The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form. You can:

- **Make a Positive Impact:** Your voice and ideas can help shape activities and raise extra funding for the school

**Be Involved in Your Child's Education:** Show your child that you value their school experience by being an active part of it

- **Build Connections:** Meet other parents and teachers who share your passion for our kids educational experience and their school community
- **Share Your Talents:** Whether you have a skill for organising, creativity, fundraising, or just want to lend a helping hand, there's always a place for you

### How Can You Help?

No matter how much time you have to offer, whether it's a few hours a month or just occasional support, your involvement makes a difference. Volunteering can be as flexible as your schedule and personal life allows.

Together, we can create unforgettable experiences for our children and support the amazing teachers who guide them every day. Your presence matters—our PTA is strongest when we work together, and we are excited to create a PTA together.

Please consider offering your help: Simply email: [rferguson@southwolds.uk](mailto:rferguson@southwolds.uk) and let's support The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form to make it the best school it can be, for our kids and for our community.

Rebecca Ferguson  
Governor

# Year 11 Study Skills Day: Empowering Students for Success

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By Mrs Sprake

On Friday 4th October, our Year 11 students participated in a dynamic Study Skills Day designed to equip them with essential tools for effective learning and revision. The day featured three engaging workshops focused on memory skills, sleep therapy, and organising revision, each aimed at enhancing students' academic performance and well-being.

## Workshop 1: Memory Skills

The first workshop delved into the fascinating world of memory techniques. Led by an outside provider, students learned about various strategies to improve retention and recall. Techniques such as mind mapping, mnemonic devices, and spaced repetition were explored, providing students with practical tools to enhance their study sessions. Interactive activities encouraged participants to practice these methods in real-time, making the learning process both enjoyable and effective.

## Workshop 2: Sleep Therapy

Recognising the critical role of sleep in academic success, the second workshop focused on sleep therapy. Miss Drewett, our mental health lead teacher, shared insights into the science of sleep, emphasizing how quality rest can significantly impact concentration, memory, and overall cognitive function. Students were introduced to strategies for improving their sleep hygiene, including establishing a consistent sleep schedule, creating a calming bedtime routine, and minimising screen time before bed. The workshop underscored that a well-rested mind is essential for effective studying and exam performance.

## Workshop 3: Organizing Your Revision

The final workshop centered on organizing revision to maximise productivity. Participants were guided through techniques for creating effective revision schedules, setting achievable goals, and breaking down complex subjects into manageable sections. The facilitator emphasized the importance of prioritisation and time management, encouraging students to adopt a personalized approach to their study habits. Practical tips, such as using digital tools and apps for organisation, were also shared, empowering students to take control of their revision process.

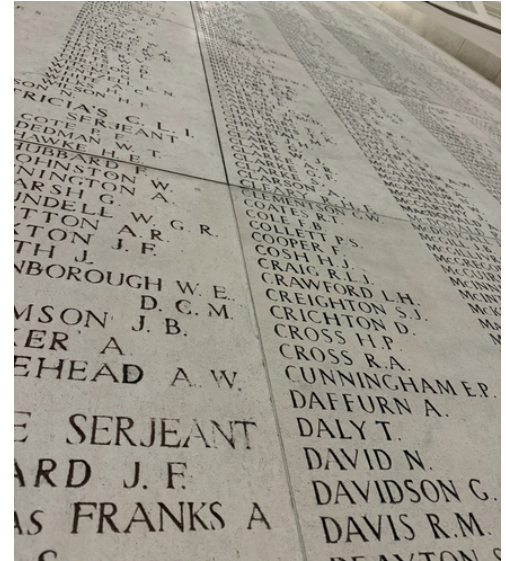
Overall, Year 11 Study Skills Day was a resounding success, fostering a supportive environment for students to develop crucial study habits. The combination of memory techniques, insights the importance of sleep, and strategies for organising revision provided a comprehensive toolkit for academic achievement. As our students prepare for their exams, the skills learned during this day will undoubtedly contribute to their confidence and success.

We encourage all students to reflect on what they learned and implement these strategies as they navigate their studies in the coming months. Here's to a productive and successful year ahead!

# Belgium Trip

by Mr Addis

On the 26th and 27th September, 48 of our pupils travelled to Belgium to visit the area around Ypres that formed the frontline for much of the First World War. Despite getting caught in traffic on the way out we managed to catch our ferry and after checking into our hotel went to the 'Last Post' ceremony, a nightly remembrance of the British and Empire troops lost in the area in WW1. This is a very sombre and thought-provoking event, fantastically observed by our pupils, which set the scene for the rest of our visit.



On the second day we started early visiting the German cemetery at Langemark, followed by the huge British Cemetery at Tyne Cot. Pupils had the task of finding a soldier that they shared a name with or who was from Nottingham. Pupils really enjoyed this activity and came away with many questions about their soldiers - we even managed to find a soldier who was actually a relative of the student researching them completely by chance!

We then moved into the beautiful city of Ypres, a city that was completely flattened in WW1 and rebuilt. We visited the famous 'cloth hall' in which there is a fantastic interactive museum about the part Ypres played in the conflict. Following this we went and tried (and bought) some Belgian chocolate - I hope some of it made it home to parents!

The third part of our visit on day two focused on the villages around Ypres that were fought over by the British and the Germans throughout the war. We visited Passchendaele, the sight of some of the worst conditions during the war to a wonderful museum that had mocked up dug outs and trenches. Finally, we went to Hooze (meaning high in Flemish), which ironically is the site of a huge crater! In this final visit we saw some examples of actual trenches and a very big hole created by an explosion after British troops had mined under a German viewpoint.



We then started our journey back to Keyworth, arriving home in the early hours. I would like to thank the pupils for their exemplary behaviour throughout the trip. It was a pleasure to watch them experience such an important part of our history. I would also like to thank the staff that supported the trip as it would not have been possible without their hard work (and lack of sleep!)

Year 8, watch out in the new year for information about how you might be able to come and visit Belgium in 2025.

# Year 8 Languages Art Competition

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## By Mr Reeves

We are delighted to share the results of the Year 8 Languages Department Art Competition, an event designed to foster creativity and language learning among our new Year 8 tutor groups. The competition, held from July 9th to July 12th, invited students to choose from five famous paintings, recreate them, and add details about the artists.

The overall participation rate was an impressive 77% of Year 8 students that submitted a carefully crafted drawing.

**\*\*8W\*\*** achieved an outstanding 100% participation rate, earning 4 points for their group.

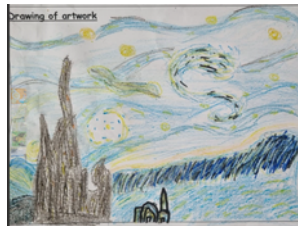
**\*\*8R\*\*** came in second with a commendable participation rate, earning 2 points.

**\*\*8Y\*\*** secured third place and earned 1 point for their efforts.

The competition saw exceptional contributions from many students.

We thank all the tutors and students for their enthusiasm and participation, making this competition a memorable and enriching experience for our Year 8 students. Special thanks to the languages team for organizing and coordinating this successful event.

Let's continue to celebrate and encourage creativity and cultural exploration at The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form!



## Summer Sports Day 2024

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### By Miss Smith

Sports Day 2024 was an incredible day filled with camaraderie, teamwork, and athleticism. A huge congratulations to everyone who participated, whether you were competing, cheering from the sidelines, or helping organise the event. Your enthusiasm and spirit truly made a great day!

A special shout-out goes to our Most Valuable Players (MVPs) who showcased exceptional talent and determination. Your hard work and dedication to your teams inspired everyone and set a great example for all. We would also like to extend thanks to all the staff and sixth form who contributed their time and energy to ensure the day ran smoothly. Your efforts behind the scenes were invaluable, from organising events to supporting participants and fostering a positive atmosphere.

Together, we created a day that highlighted the strength of our school community. We can't wait to do it all again next year.

# Summer Sports Day 2024 continued

By Miss Smith

## Year 8 Overall Scores

Placement	Points	Form
7th	16	R
6th	21	H
5th	22	K
4th	23	Y
3rd	24	W
2nd	30	T
1st	32	E

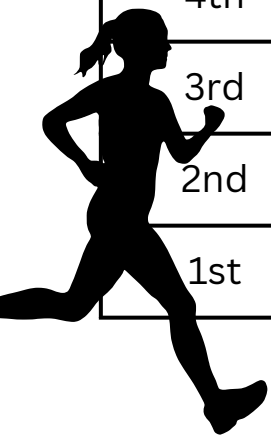
## Year 9 Overall Scores

Placement	Points	Form
7th	19	T
6th	22	Y
5th	24	E
=2nd	27	K W H
1st	31	R



## Year 10 Overall Scores

Placement	Points	Form
6th	11	E
5th	18	K
4th	21	H
3rd	22	R
2nd	23	T
1st	30	Y



## Year 11 Overall Scores

Placement	Points	Form
6th	10	K
5th	16	H
=3rd	21	E & R
2nd	27	Y
1st	31	T

# STEM Day: Wind Turbine Challenge

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By Ms Rowe

Following the STEM day in March for Year 8 and Year 9, we were gifted two engineering summer school placements at The University of Warwick from the Smallpiece Trust and GHD Foundation. Our two students Ben W and Kitty D, were carefully selected by Mrs Angus from all the student entries. Ben and Kitty have shared with us their experience at the summer school at Warwick University:

“The engineering course was super informative and fun. It allowed me to experiment more with how I approached different tasks and problems. It also taught me how to work effectively in a diverse team and some key skills for future engineering such as support structures and structural integrity. It was one of the most fun things I have done and I will do it again in the future.” **Ben (Year 9)**

“During the summer holiday, I was really lucky to have the opportunity to attend a 3 day engineering summer school, run by the Smallpiece Trust at The University of Warwick. Before heading off, I was nervous as I really didn't know what to expect and the prospect of meeting lots of new people and staying overnight in university halls was both exciting and daunting! But I didn't need to have worried as I had a great time, learnt lots and made new friends. Over the 3 days, we explored different types of engineering and were set practical tasks to complete and compete with in our groups.

## **Day 1 - Automotive Engineering**

Following an introduction talk we were set the task of building hydrogen cars. We learned how to turn water into hydrogen energy, had to find and buy materials to build a chassis and then put it all together to build the car and race it against the other groups.

## **Day 2 - Civil Engineering**

We started the day with a lecture about bridge structures and then went on in our teams to design and build our own draw bridges. It was a very long but successful 3 hours as my group's drawbridge both worked and held lots of weight! We then learned about aqueducts and got to design and make our own which got tested to see if they could transport all the water.

## **Day 3 - Robotic Engineering**

On the final day we built and coded robots to complete an obstacle course. We then pulled all of our group work together to create a presentation and each group took part in a showcase of all of our creations to end the amazing experience.

Every evening, we ate dinner together in the university dinner hall and got to chill out with quizzes, games, sports and even a Just Dance contest. I loved making so many new friends from all across the UK and we have stayed in touch since.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to have taken part in this fantastic experience and to have grown my interest and understanding in engineering.” **Kitty (Year 10)**

# Reading Updates

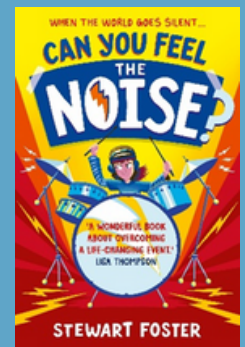
By Miss Mitchell

## Diverse fiction in the Library

We have curated a selection of the most popular diverse and inclusive books available. Books and stories that feature a diverse range of voices can help to develop empathy and inclusion, as well as to build a more realistic view of the world around us. They generally feature characters that are traditionally under-represented in teenage fiction. Here are my top 3 recommendations:

### Can You Feel the Noise? by Stewart Foster

An uplifting novel which celebrates resilience and determination, Sophie wakes up one morning to silence after losing her hearing. Her life changes drastically and she fears that she cannot take part in the Battle of the Bands anymore. However, she meets another deaf musician who encourages her to overcome her barriers and shows her that disabilities do not define us or limit us to what we can achieve!



### The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

An award winning mystery novel celebrating inclusion and diversity. Christopher is a brilliant person who is extremely analytical and starts to investigate the death of his neighbour's dog, Wellington. Who killed Wellington and why? Christopher will be pushed beyond his comfort zone while unabashedly telling the truth and going on an impossible journey. How comfortable are we to change and adventure?

### The Fights That Make Us by Sarah Hagger-Holt

This is a beautifully written read about LGBTQ+ history and standing up for what you believe in. When 12-year-old Jesse discovers an old diary, which recounts her cousin's involvement in the 1980s campaign against anti-LGBTQ+ legislation. This story follows Jesse and best friend Simran as they uncover the mystery of the diary and how it relates to their own lives and struggles.



# Reading Updates continued

By Miss Mitchell



## Starbooks Reading Reward Launch

I am delighted to announce that this term we will be launching our Starbooks Reading Rewards scheme for Years 7 and 8. Students are encouraged to borrow and read books from our library. We have an exciting range of fiction and non-fiction reads, there really is something for everyone in our diverse library collection.

Students will receive a Starbooks bookmark at school. For each book finished, students must ask parents and carers to sign their Starbooks bookmark to confirm they have finished reading their book. Students then need to return their book to the library and present their signed bookmark to the librarian.

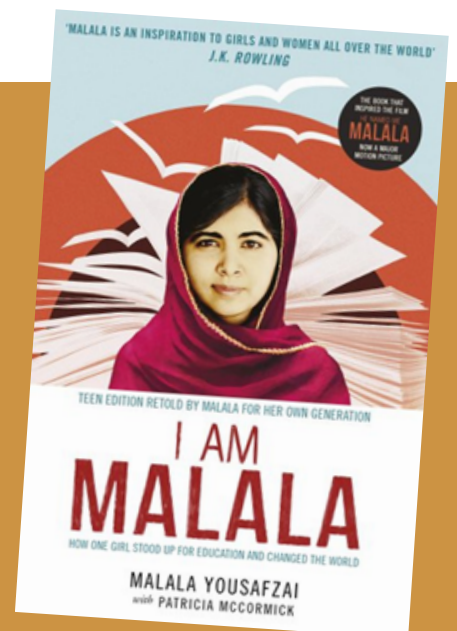
For each book read, students will receive a reward. We have lots of rewards available including rubber ducks and stationery. We are very excited to encourage reading for choice, for life and for learning through Starbooks Reading Rewards. Happy reading!



## My Book Review by Briana M (Year 8)

### I am Malala – Malala Yousafzai

'I am Malala' is a book full of powerful messages from a young girl whose life was twisted by evil men. Malala Yousafzai is a real person and she was shot at for wanting to learn. This book should be read by lots of people who take school for granted, you don't know how lucky you are until you have read this book.



# Site Investment at South Wolds

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## By Mr Griffiths

The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form were pleased to have been granted funding from Nottinghamshire County Council early on this year. This has allowed for interim expansion works that took place this summer to help us accommodate a growing numbers of pupils.

In what was described by some initially as “mission impossible”, it has been now renamed, based on outcomes as “mission incredible”.

Following lots of hard work over the summer holidays and into the first few weeks back in September, a very large group of primed and talented suppliers, school operations staff and EMET Trust staff, all collaborated beautifully to deliver something really quite incredible.

Firstly, we have had a major kitchen and servery area upgrade in order serve a greater volume and, eventually, a greater range of meals. This required a complete strip out of the previous kitchen, including drains, to provide newer and larger fittings.



A further two classrooms and two changing room blocks were installed, fitted out and opened. This is an interim step ahead of the envisaged permanent expansion here. Drains, water, power, data... the list goes on and on. Our second solar panel array was installed on these blocks which will make these buildings more than (electrically) self-sufficient, we love being sustainable!



# Site Investment at South Wolds continued

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By Mr Griffiths

The installation of two outdoor canopies including seating and, the soon to be installed lighting, has provided outside dining for over 200 pupils.



A new electrical substation has solved the current electrical power supply problems we had been experiencing and it has also future proofed for the future permanent expansion.

Over the next 12 months, our IT Team will be working around the school site to install new fast fibre cabling, new switches, new servers and state of the art fail-over & back up. This whole site upgrade is long overdue and, once completed, this work will make a huge difference to both staff and pupils. We are very excited about this!

Albeit this feels like a lifetime ago, the summer works are in addition to the lovely new sixth form block, opened back in February 2024.

This included our very first solar 50,000 kwhr array. This installation has generated 41,000 kwhrs to date, making this new fossil-fuel-free building more than self-sufficient power wise.

The rate of change here in the last 6 months has been, and still is, utterly incredible.

I am personally loving the energy this transformation has created here for our students and staff, who have been so unbelievably understanding in the aftermath of works.



# Spanish Exchange

By Ellis J (Year 13)



The Spanish exchange is the gift that keeps on giving!

I was paired with such a kind and inviting family, and that same year, my family and I went back to stay with them for a week in the summer.

This year, I went without my family for almost 3 weeks and then flew back with my Spanish exchange partner for 2 weeks.

The Spanish exchange is so incredibly beneficial, experiencing life as a local is an extraordinarily rare privilege - as I was steeped in its rich culture, my knowledge of Spanish and Spain in general drastically improved. It was such a fun experience and I'm already planning my next stay.

## European Day of Languages

By Mrs Pabari

On Thursday 26th September, it was the European Day of Languages. This is an annual celebration across Europe to celebrate language and diversity in the world.

We celebrated here in school with a tutor time quiz for Years 8 and 9 and a scavenger hunt for Year 7. They hunted for ways to say hello from around the world and got to know some teachers in school whilst also competing for points for the Tutor Cup.

**Witaj**

**Ni hao**

*Hello*

**Hej**

**BONJOUR**

**Hola!**

# Ethics & Philosophy Film Recommendations

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## By Mr Baines

### Twisters (12A)

Glen Powell is back and this time he's running away from a tornado. Haunted by a devastating encounter with a tornado, Kate Cooper gets lured back to the open plains by her friend, Javi, to test a groundbreaking new tracking system. She soon crosses paths with Tyler Owens, a charming but reckless social-media superstar who thrives on posting his storm-chasing advent



#### Philosophy and Ethics reference:

The film centres around how the emotions tie into our careers. Despite our dreams being exciting, the reality is often dangerous. Lots on effects of past decisions, determinism, and what the right thing to do is.

**Links to KS3 where we look at justice and the environment, deciding what is the right action. KS4 in our relationships and families topic. Then KS5 Meta Ethics.**

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### The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou (15)

While working on a documentary at sea, an oceanographer's work partner gets killed by a shark. Soon, along with a crew, he sets off on an expedition to exact revenge on the aquatic animal. A Wes Anderson film which gets you hooked on the idea of owning a red beanie hat.

#### Philosophy and Ethics reference:

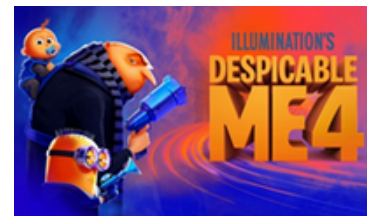
The life aquatic is interesting in its approach to dealing with loss, the whole premise is centred on revenge, but it turns out forgiveness is the best approach.

**Links to KS4 peace and conflict topic, as well as KS5 looking at ethical dilemmas, and KS3 where we look at what it means to be us in the worldviews topic.**

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### Despicable Me 4 (U)

Gru welcomes a new member to the family, Gru Jr., who's intent on tormenting his dad. However, their peaceful existence soon comes crashing down when criminal mastermind Maxime Le Mal escapes from prison and vows revenge against Gru. Gru finds himself discovering what it means to be a parent, but also his true self.



#### Philosophy and Ethics reference:

Despicable Me 4 asks what it means to be 'good', and whether we can truly give up our identity or alter it, regardless of a need for change.

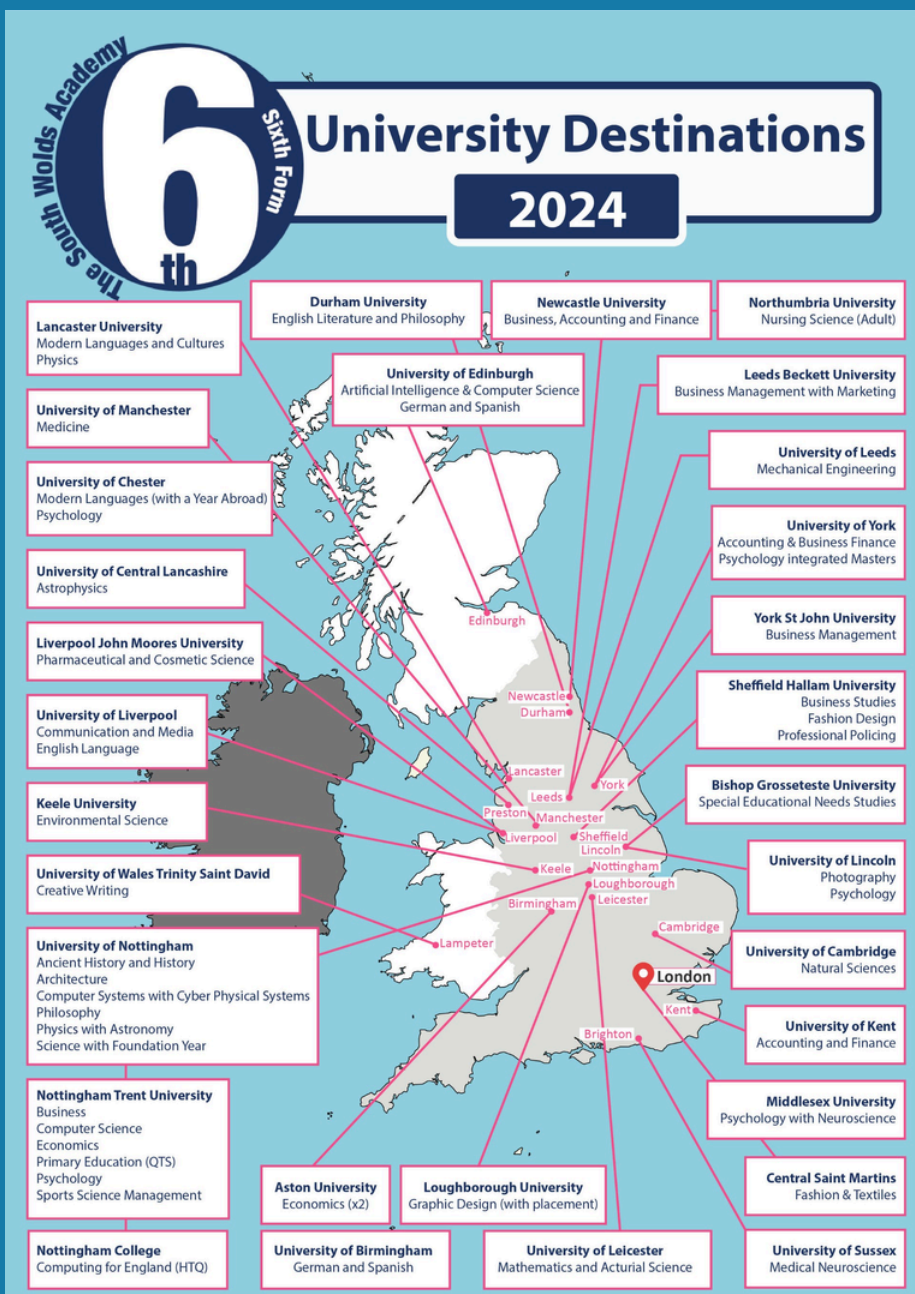
**Links to KS3 on morality topic, as well as Some Kierkegaard links in KS5.**

# Destinations

By Ms Capewell

We were very proud of all of our Year 13 students who collected their A levels results last month. Our top three performing students were Hagan Wong who achieved A\*A\*A\*A\* in Computer Science, Physics, Maths and EPQ, Iona Mclean who achieved A\*A\*A\*C in Spanish, German, English language and EPQ and Kacey Wilson who achieved A\*ACA\* in Maths, Further Maths, Spanish and EPQ. But success isn't just measured by the number of A\* and A grades. We are also incredibly proud of those students who passed their A levels despite experiencing difficulties in their lives. Some of our students struggled with mental or physical illness, some faced real struggles every day, but they made progress in their studies and passed their A levels, showing grit, resilience and determination. It's not appropriate to name these students but we recognise they are also top performers, and we celebrate their achievements too.

About 70% of the cohort applied to go to University and of those 54 students, 49 were accepted at their First or Insurance choice.



Students will be studying courses such as Astrophysics, Pharmaceutical Science, Creative Writing, Fashion Design and Artificial intelligence. We are particularly proud of two students who were accepted onto Medicine at University of Manchester and Natural Sciences at Emmanuel College at the University of Cambridge. High achieving students combined with thousands of applicants makes the admissions process for these courses extremely competitive. There are only 9500 medicine places available in the UK, with an acceptance rate of 16% it makes Medicine one of the most difficult courses to receive an offer for. The remaining students achieved places in Clearing or have decided on a gap year. We wish all of them well for the start of their courses and hope that they behave themselves at Freshers Week!

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# OMETV

OmeTV is another app which encourages users to 'make friends from all around the world'. People can search profiles by age and gender and send direct messages or photos. However, the app is primarily used for video calls. When using this feature, users are connected at random, although only their country of origin is shared. People can then either choose to move on to the next chat or can stay in that call for as long as they wish.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### STRANGER DANGER

While young people generally know not to share personal information with strangers, the safety of their home and the distance offered by technology can make them feel more relaxed and uninhibited. Combined with the fact that OmeTV provides a webcam function – and anonymity – it can be an easy way for groomers to gather information, ask to connect on other social media platforms, or potentially request intimate images.

### EXPLICIT CONTENT

Unfortunately, there are a lot of users who use OmeTV's webcam feature to expose themselves. While users can swipe to the next call quickly, it's not something that can be filtered out completely – so young people could easily be exposed to highly inappropriate images.

### REPORTING DIFFICULTIES

When video calling, the other person's username is often hidden and therefore they can't be blocked or reported. There is a 'Report Abuse' tab at the bottom of the video, but the speed with which calls can swipe past can make it difficult to use this system. There's also little evidence to suggest that offenders are dealt with appropriately (through warnings or account termination, for example).

### AGE VERIFICATION

17+

Although the site states that users must be 18 or over, there's no way to verify this, and it's easy to use an existing Facebook account to log in, or for users to set up a fake account. To access OmeTV, users simply need to press a button confirming they're an adult, which means it's likely many users will claim to be much older than they are.

### VIDEO RECORDING

REC

When young people are chatting live on a webcam, they could be coaxed by others into doing things they don't feel comfortable doing, or persuaded that no harm can come from it. What they don't know is whether the other user is recording them. These videos could then be used to embarrass or blackmail them, or they could be kept by a potential online predator.

### LIMITED PARENTAL CONTROLS

OmeTV has very limited parental controls. There is a 'safe mode', but this is of little practical use given that explicit content isn't filtered out. While the site lists several rules and regulations, there are few apparent ways to enforce them or restrict what users can see or do.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### FOLLOW AGE GUIDELINES

OmeTV has an age recommendation of 18 and over, which suggests the developers are aware that it may facilitate adult content. It's important to adhere to the age guidelines and try to restrict access to the app for younger users. If you find it on an under-18's device, talk to them about the potential risks and explain why they probably shouldn't be using it.



### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Maintain communication with your child about online safety and empower them to protect themselves. Simply deleting an app from their device impacts their independence and can cause resentment. Instead, highlight news reports of predators exposing themselves to children on the internet, and discuss what they should do if asked for explicit images.



### DISCOURAGE CHATS WITH STRANGERS

Remind your child of the dangers of talking to strangers online. The anonymity OmeTV offers, plus its webcam function, makes it an attractive place for groomers to network and create inappropriate content. Explain that your child may see something which upsets them – and that it's a crime for anyone to expose themselves to a young person online.

Hi :)



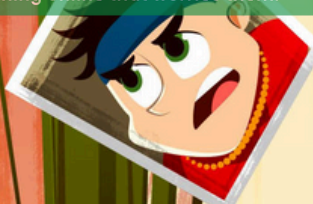
### ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Regardless of how responsible your child may be, it's essential to use parental controls on their device. It's easy for young people to get lured in by others, feeling they've built up a trusting friendship and being coaxed into doing things they wouldn't normally do. Ensure in-app purchases aren't enabled on their device, and emphasise that they can always talk to you about anything online that worries them.



## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://www.nofa.com/news/crime\\_police/man-exposes-himself-to-marrero-middle-school-students-in-online-chat-tv-station-reports/article\\_0f0b9e40-0819-51b7-ace4-6f627af129bb.html](https://www.nofa.com/news/crime_police/man-exposes-himself-to-marrero-middle-school-students-in-online-chat-tv-station-reports/article_0f0b9e40-0819-51b7-ace4-6f627af129bb.html)  
<https://www.wrtv.com/news/local-news/crime/indy-man-sentenced-to-15-years-for-owning-two-phones-with-nearly-2-000-files-of-children-being-sexually-abused> | <https://ome.tv/rules/>



Healthy Family Teams

# ADVICE LINE

**CALL 0300 123 5436**

Monday to Friday,  
9am to 4.30pm

A 'single point of access'  
Advice Line for parents,  
carers and healthcare  
professionals who  
want to speak to the  
Healthy Family  
Teams for advice or  
support, covering the  
0-19 years age range